

Dear servants of the liturgy,

It has been a joy to be able to visit so many of the parishes with Bishop Amos for the celebration of Confirmation. On behalf of Fr. Gruss and Deacon Montgomery—the other Masters of Ceremonies that travel with the bishop—please know how grateful we are for all who have worked so hard to ensure beautiful liturgies. Your diligence in filling out the new confirmation planning sheets is especially appreciated; they really help to make the liturgy flow smoothly.

Speaking of Fr. Gruss and MCs, his approaching departure for Rome means that we have a very large hole to fill in our MC schedule. Therefore, I am wondering if there are any persons—deacons or lay—interested in becoming MCs for Confirmations next year. I would envision 2 to 3 persons per deanery who would share the duties. If you are interested, or if pastors want to nominate someone, please e-mail me at Agnoli@davenportdiocese.org. We will set up training times and places once we have an idea regarding level of interest.

By the way, the Confirmation planning sheet can be found on our website. Please go to <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/ddo-offices/page7.html> and then scroll to the bottom of the page—where it is available in both PDF and Word formats.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

PARISH LITURGICAL LIBRARY

With the changes being made in priest assignments, this is a good time to look through your parish liturgical library and see what is in need of updating. Here is a list of important resources to have on hand:

The Eucharist

The Missal (Sacramentary) – updated in 2002, it is currently undergoing re-translation. As mentioned before, this is not a good time to purchase a new copy—since the re-translation will hopefully be available in a few years. The English version in current use is dated 1985.

The Lectionary – 4 volumes; updated in 1998 and 2000. Also currently being reviewed and revised—a process that is expected to take quite some time.

Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass – contains the texts for distribution of Eucharist outside of Mass as well as for Eucharistic Adoration and Exposition; 1973.

Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest – the 2nd edition of this ritual text has been released this year; however, we are still reviewing matters – so don't rush out and get one yet!

Other Sacraments

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – 1988 U.S. edition with National Statutes.

The Rite of Baptism for Children – 1973 edition, with changes made after *Code of Canon Law* promulgated in 1983.

The Rite of Confirmation – A pastor may rarely be the one to celebrate the sacrament, and it would be good for the catechist preparing individuals for confirmation to have access to the ritual text. The English translation of the Rite was approved in 1975. A new bilingual edition is available from the USCCB.

The Rite of Penance – 1974-5; note changes made by Pope John Paul II by his apostolic letter, a *motu proprio* called *Misericordia Dei* (2002).

Pastoral Care of the Sick – U.S. edition of all the texts needed for the sacramental care of the sick and the dying, including Anointing of the Sick and *Viaticum*, and rites used after death. There are two 1983 editions – one published before and the other after the promulgation of the new *Code of Canon Law*. It is the latter edition that you will want to have on hand. (A quick check will reveal which edition you have: if #14 reads “may be conferred” it is the older edition; if it reads “is to be conferred” then you have the right one.)

The Rite of Marriage – currently, the first (1969) edition is still in use in the U.S. The second edition was promulgated in Latin in 1991. Adaptations were completed in 1998. We are still waiting for the new English translation.

Other Rites

The Order of Christian Funerals – 1989 edition; Appendix for Cremation (1999).

The Book of Blessings – 1989 edition.

Optional Ritual Texts

While not strictly necessary for a parish to have, the following really ought to be part of a parish’s liturgical library:

The Book of the Gospels – revised in 2000.

The Lectionary for Masses with Children – for use in Masses where most participants are children, or for Children’s Liturgy of the Word, these texts are also being revised and a parish would do well postponing any purchase at this time.

The Liturgy of the Hours – 1986 edition.

Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 1990.

Order for the Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist – The Liturgical Press took the norms from *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass* and prepared a number of Eucharistic services; helpful if you don’t want to do all the preparatory work.

Resources

The Code of Canon Law – 1983; later additions by Pope John Paul II are included in the updated translation and commentary from the Canon Law Society of America – 2000.

The Ceremonial of Bishops – 1984 edition.

The major liturgical documents can be found in three texts from Liturgy Training Publications: *The Liturgy Documents, volume 1* (4th edition; an erratum for the *Norms for the Celebration and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States of America* is needed); *The Liturgy Documents, volume 2*; and *Eucharistic Documents for the New Millennium: Ecclesia de Eucharistia & Redemptionis sacramentum*.

I would also add *Sacramentum caritatis* by Pope Benedict XVI as an excellent resource.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CONTINUING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

IN OUR DIOCESE – RCIA: Beginnings and Beyond – July 19-22

A Beginnings and Beyond conference will be held in the diocese July 19-22, 2007 at St. John Vianney Parish in Bettendorf. The registration flyer was included with the December newsletter and is on the diocesan website. Please be aware that scholarships to the conference are available.

The Rensselaer Program of Church Music and Liturgy

This program, offered through St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, IN, is sponsoring two opportunities for liturgical formation:

Liturgy Intensive (four subjects offered: Ritual and Symbol; Liturgical Music; Intro to Sacraments; and Lay Preaching and Presiding): June 27-29

Gregorian Chant Institute: June 22-25

For more information, please visit their website: www.saintjoe.edu/academics/music

The Liturgical Institute of the University of Saint Mary of the Lake (Mundelein)

“The Second Annual Sacred Music Retreat will be presented by Fr. Samuel Weber, June 24-29. The retreat is designed for musicians who are serious about fostering sacred music and who desire to move beyond the understanding of music as performance to music as prayer.” Please see their website for more information: www.liturgicalinstitute.org

Cantor Express Institute is coming to Chicago!

Cantor Express Institute, sponsored by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM), will be held from Friday, June 29 to Sunday, July 1 at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary Conference Center located near Chicago, Illinois. The institute will be directed by respected and experienced faculty members Melanie Coddington and Mary Clare

McAlee. The program will include voice classes, reflections on the role of the cantor, and sessions on scripture, liturgy, and repertoire. The institute will also incorporate daily sung prayer and a Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. Parish members of NPM can apply their member discount to any member of the parish, so why not send several of your parish cantors for this intensive and life-changing experience? Register on or before May 29 to receive an advance registration discount. You may view complete program and registration information for NPM Cantor Express Institutes by visiting the NPM web site. You may also request a brochure by sending an email to npmsing@npm.org or by calling 240-247-3000.

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Calendar Advisory: December 8

This year, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception falls on a Saturday. Because this is our national patronal feast day, the day remains a holy day of obligation. Ritual Masses (weddings, funerals, confirmation) are not allowed. Weddings and funerals may be celebrated outside of Mass. If a wedding is celebrated within Mass, then only the prayers and readings of the holy day are to be used (no substitution is allowed; see the *Rite of Marriage* #11). After consulting with the secretariat of the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy, please be aware that the Mass for Saturday night is the anticipatory Mass of the Second Sunday of Advent.

The Month of May

May is traditionally regarded as a Marian month. Please recall, however, that the Easter Season should remain the primary focus in both prayer and in the liturgical environment. Popular devotions are to take their life from the liturgy, not overshadow it.

Sunday, May 13 is also Mother's Day. As a secular holiday, it should in no way overshadow the primary celebration of the paschal mystery. The Book of Blessings (#1724ff) contains an appropriate rite for parish use. The same applies to Father's Day, June 17 (See BB #1729ff).

Ordinary Time

As you begin looking ahead to ordinary time—and especially weekday celebrations—please remember that a wealth of Votive Masses and Masses for Various Needs and Occasions are available. You may also want to consider a number of rites from the Book of Blessings as the summer approaches, for example:

For new drivers, especially as school lets out: Order for the Blessing of the Various Means of Transportation.

Especially for rural parishes: Order for the Blessing of Boats and Fishing Gear; Order for the Blessing of Fields and Flocks; and Order for the Blessing of Seeds at Planting Time.

Since this is a common time for moves to take place: Order for Welcoming of New Parishioners; and Order for the Blessing of a Departing Parishioner.

INTERCESSIONS

Below please find three intercessions for each Sunday of the month. The first is an “intercession for life” provided by the USCCB. The second is an intercession for vocations, courtesy of the vocations office. Finally, there is an intercession written by a member of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission and inspired by the readings of the day. Please use and/or adapt them as you see fit.

June 3rd

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

That the Love of the Blessed Trinity might draw all women tempted to abort their babies to a deeper acceptance of God’s will and a growing love for the child in their womb; We pray to the Lord:

That all deacons, and their families, will be blessed for their gift of generous service to the People of God...

For the leaders of nations, that they will uphold and respect the dignity and value of every human life...

June 10th

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

That the Body and Blood of Christ, might free all bound by the selfishness of the culture of death, and implant in their hearts a love of all life; We pray to the Lord:

That all deacons who are in transition to priesthood may know the support of all the faithful as they prepare for a priestly life of service...

For a just and lasting peace throughout the world and within each of our hearts...

June 17th

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For young mothers: that their children might be well loved, nurtured and protected in their maternal embrace; We pray to the Lord:

For all baptized persons who are preparing to make permanent commitment through vows in marriage, holy orders, or in religious life...

For peace in Iraq and for an end to violence and terrorism in our world...

June 24th

THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

For all little children: that we might keep them safe from all harm, and treasure the infinite value of their lives; We pray to the Lord:

That those who have professed the vow of celibacy may witness their love of Christ in availability to His people...

For all those who live in lands without peace ...

In addition, it would be good to begin including Hai Duc Dinh and Joseph Sia, our seminarians, as they approach their ordination to the Diaconate on August 18.

“For Hai Duc Dinh and Joseph Sia, who will be ordained to the diaconate in August, that they will be blessed and supported in their call to serve the Lord and the Church, we pray to the Lord.”