

Dear companions at the Table,

As you have no doubt heard by now, a new influenza virus (known as H1N1 or “swine” flu) has begun circulating around the globe. Infections are being reported in numerous countries, but only in Mexico has the disease had a more severe course. In the US, individuals who have contracted this disease have had mild illness.

Almost three years ago, the diocese began to prepare for just such an occurrence. A group with medical, emergency management, and public health expertise convened and developed our *Policies Relating to Planning for Pandemic Influenza*.

The policy can be found at:

<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/disaster/disasterlibrary/PlanningPandemicInfluenzaUpdate04022008.pdf>. A summary of the policy (which can be copied and handed out) is attached with this newsletter.

The policy calls for an incremental response to a threatened or actualized pandemic. For example, since the policy was written, we have been at WHO Pandemic Phase 3; parishes should have implemented all the actions called for in Phases 0-3 (for example, communion ministers washing their hands). This past week, the WHO raised their alert level to 4 and then 5. Our office sent updates out as these events occurred. Those updates, as well as other information (including links to other resources) are at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/disaster/swineflu.htm>.

The severity of the disease caused by the virus also drives our decisions regarding interventions. It is important to note, that (so far) this is a mild virus—so the full list of interventions will most likely not be needed.

For those involved in liturgical ministry, you would do well to review the specific actions that should be implemented at this time—and begin looking ahead to what you may be asked to do, ensuring that you have the needed supplies for a more severe situation (e.g., plenty of hand sanitizer, masks, non-latex gloves, and food/water/medicine stockpiles as described in the policy).

We are NOT calling for changes in liturgical practice at this time. Rather, pastors and other ministers should remind their parishioners of the following:

Sunday Obligation: The Obligation to attend Mass on Sunday other Holy Days of Obligation, (Canon 1247) is the ordinary expectation of Catholics. Obviously, extraordinary circumstances such as sickness, travel, or severe weather excuse the faithful from this obligation. If you are not feeling well, especially during this time of concern, please stay at home and do not risk spreading infection to others.

Sign of Peace: Members of our congregations should not be offended if someone chooses not to shake the other person’s hand at the sign of peace. If you are ill (and still come to Mass), the appropriate response to someone extending a sign of peace might be to bow to them and say, “Peace be with you,” to avoid bodily contact or one might wave slightly at the other person.

Reception of Holy Communion: While it is the teaching of the Church that the Fullness of the Body and Blood of Christ are contained in the Holy Eucharist, under the form of the Host that is distributed at the Mass, the Church has also extended the privilege to receive communion in the form of wine. However, if you are feeling sick, please receive communion in the hand, and refrain from receiving communion under the form of the Blood of Christ.

Persons with Compromised Immune Systems: Persons who have been directed by their medical advisors that they are particularly susceptible to infection may choose to refrain from any practices by which they might become sick, including shaking hands, receiving Holy Communion on the tongue, drinking from the Precious Blood, etc.

Advice from the USCCB's Committee on Divine Worship is found at:
<http://usccb.org/liturgy/swineflu.shtml>.

This is a rapidly evolving situation; we will keep you informed as matters change and if there is a need for new interventions.

Deacon Frank Agnoli, MD, MDiv, MA
Director of Liturgy & Director of Deacon Formation
E-Mail: Agnoli@davenportdiocese.org
Phone: 563-324-1912 x255

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, 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*.

Update on Spanish Language Resources

The USCCB has been working on Spanish language texts for use in the United States. If a specific edition for the United States is not yet available, an approved edition from another country (e.g. Mexico) may be used until the US edition is ready.

The following resources are available now:

Order of Christian Funerals (bilingual and Spanish editions) – The Liturgical Press
Pastoral Care of the Sick – Liturgy Training Publications
Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest (2006; bilingual edition) – USCCB
Quinceañera – also available on USCCB website
GIRM – available in Spanish from LTP
Rite of Confirmation (bilingual edition) – USCCB

The following are approved and awaiting publication:

Sunday Lectionary (volume 1)
Weekday and Ritual Lectionary (volumes 2-4)

The following are still in the works:

Book of Blessings – awaiting *recognitio* in Rome
Rite of Marriage – awaiting *recognitio* in Rome
Roman Missal – not yet available
Rite of Ordination – not yet available for the US
Rite of Penance – translation for US in progress

“SING TO THE LORD” (PART 11)

What do we sing at Mass? Which parts are more important to sing? The US Bishops address these and similar questions in the next section of *Sing to the Lord*.

The most important parts to be sung are the dialogues and acclamations (the Great Amen and other acclamations during the Eucharistic Prayer and the Gospel Acclamation/Alleluia), followed by the litanies (*Kyrie, Agnus Dei*) and the Responsorial Psalm. Hymns are not the primary musical parts in Catholic liturgy (§§115-116). In fact, because they are rooted in the scriptures, the proper antiphons (entrance, communion) are especially esteemed (§117). In addition, the Bishops remind us: “Music arises out of silence and returns to silence” (§118). Therefore, music ministers need to remember that not every moment in the liturgy needs to be filled with music. A space for encounter with the divine is created by silence—and its importance “cannot be overemphasized.”

Liturgical Music Conference at Loras

Are you interested in this topic—or in music ministry in general? Then you may want to strongly consider attending *Sing to the Lord a New Song: Giving Voice to the Theology of Liturgical Music* at Loras College this summer. This conference, scheduled for June 24-26, will include Kevin Seasoltz, OSB—one of the leading Roman Catholic liturgical scholars in the world—as well as other speakers and opportunities to practice various musical skills. Please see the poster being sent with this newsletter, or visit their website for more information:

<http://www.loras.edu/liturgicalmusic/>

Our discussion of *Sing to the Lord* (available at: <http://www.usccb.org/liturgy/SingToTheLord.pdf>) will continue next month.

THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL

No new information to report at this point, but rather a reminder to our priests that they should be taking the time to familiarize themselves with the new Order of Mass, including practicing proclaiming these texts (to themselves; the new texts are NOT to be used liturgically yet). The USCCB also suggests the following (from their website):

In preparation for an effective proclamation of the Eucharistic Prayer, spend some time reflecting on the nature and content of the prayer. A more thorough study of the history and structure of the Eucharistic Prayer can be helpful to gain a deeper appreciation of the rite. Each work also provides a bibliography for even further study.

- *The Origins of the Eucharistic Prayer* by Enrico Mazza and translated by Ronald E. Lane (Liturgical Press, 1995).
- *The Eucharistic Prayers of the Roman Rite* by Enrico Mazza (Liturgical Press, 1989).
- *The Eucharist: Essence, Form, Celebration*, revised edition by Johannes H. Emminghaus (Liturgical Press, 1997).
- *Our Eucharistic Prayers in Worship, Preaching, and Study* by Raymond Moloney (Michael Glazier, 1985).

In addition, the homily of Pope Benedict XVI at the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, April 9, 2009, provides a reflection on several aspects of the Roman Canon.

UPCOMING EVENTSCONTINUING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

For more opportunities, see the Liturgy Events webpage at:
<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm>.

FORM/REFORM: The National Conference on Environment and Art for Catholic Worship
July 16-19, 2009; San Jose Marriott (San Jose, CA) <http://www.formreformconference.com/>

Theme: Know that a Living God is With You

Richly diverse in background, the participants at FORM/REFORM share a common dedication to shaping beautiful spaces that serve the liturgical life of the Catholic community. This conference is intended for all involved in a building and/or renovation project or in diocesan/parish liturgy or art and environment ministries—such as: Pastors and Parish Staffs; Parish or Diocesan Building and/or Liturgy Committees; Liturgical Design Consultants; Architects, Artists and Crafts People; Environment, Liturgy and Music Ministers.

North American Forum on the Catechumenate

The Forum will be returning to Davenport on July 24-25, 2009, for a workshop on Mystagogy. Please reserve those dates. The flyer and registration brochure are now available on the diocesan website under Liturgy Events (address above).

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Resources: Flu Outbreak

Here are some prayerful responses to consider as this flu outbreak unfolds:

Intercession for use at Mass:

For those affected by the influenza outbreak—for the sick and those who care for them, and for those directing our public health responses. We pray to the Lord.

From the Missal (Sacramentary): The following Masses for Various Needs and Occasions could be considered: (17) For the Nation / State / City; (18) For Those Who Serve in Public Office; (32) For the Sick; (38) For Any Need

From the Book of Blessings: Orders for Blessing of the Sick (chapter 2)

From Catholic Household Prayers and Blessings: See Part V (Prayers for Catholic Living, especially the Prayer in Times of Suffering and Need), Part VI (Prayers for the Church and the World), and Part VIII (God's Word in Times of Need).

INTERCESSIONS

(1) "Intercessions for Life" may be found on the USCCB website at:

<http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wolarchive.shtml>

(2) Monthly intercession for vocations:

On July 12, the men in our deacon formation program, along with one of our seminarians, will celebrate the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders. In anticipation of that celebration, it would be good to keep them in prayer:

For those men in our diocese called to Candidacy for Holy Orders, that God who has begun this good work in them would bring it to fulfillment. We pray to the Lord.

(3) Weekly intercessions from the Liturgical Commission:

May 31 SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

For the grace to listen to one another with respect and so grow in unity; we pray to the Lord.

June 7 SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

That, as children of the Father, we would be so filled with the Spirit so as to follow Christ in the ways of justice; we pray...

June 14 SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

That we would be members of the Body of Christ in the world, so our Amen would be true; we pray...

June 21 12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Impelled by the love of Christ, that we would compassionately reach out to the imperiled, the frightened, and the suffering; we pray...

June 28 13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(note: the evening Mass on Sunday is the Vigil for SS Peter and Paul)

For the grace to oppose death in all its forms; we pray...

POPULAR DEVOTIONS

It is a Catholic tradition to assign Saints patronage over various places, events, or conditions. For example, there are numerous Saints traditionally invoked in case of throat illnesses (St. Blase for example) as well as during the outbreak of “pestilence” (for example, SS. Cosmas and Damien). A helpful website for exploring patron Saints is <http://saints.sqpn.com/>.

If you have received this newsletter in error, or no longer wish to receive *LiturgyNotes*, please contact Laurie Hoefling at the chancery and request to be removed from our distribution list.

Phone: 563-324-1912 x267

E-Mail: hoefling@davenportdiocese.org