

Dear liturgical ministers,

As the Liturgical Commission has met over the last six months or so, we have been discussing the possibility of hosting a Liturgy Study Day in the coming year. To that end, you'll find a survey (in both MS Word and PDF) attached with this newsletter. The MS Word form can be saved to your computer, filled out, and then re-saved – and sent back as an e-mail attachment. The PDF version can be printed out, completed by hand, and either mailed or faxed back. We would very much appreciate hearing back from you about your level of interest in such a study day—and about what topics you think we ought to include. Please respond to the survey by October 31.

Also attached with this issue of the *LiturgyNotes* is the liturgical calendar for 2009-2010. As always, I've tried to be careful with the editing – but do let me know if you spot anything that needs correcting!

Blessings,

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

NEW RESOURCES

Three new documents have been promulgated by Bishop Amos.

The first is a resource for parishes that would like to use locally produced wine for the Eucharist. The document reviews the requirements that wines need to meet if they will be used for the Liturgy and gives a list of Iowa wines which meet those requirements. The policy is found at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/liturgylibrary/litWinesEucharist2009.pdf>.

The second is the long-awaited revision of our Pandemic Flu Policy. We have an entire page on our website devoted to helping parishes prepare for influenza outbreaks. The policy, and a host of other resources, may be found there: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/disaster/flu.htm>. There is an explanation on the website of the changes which have been made to the policy. Among the resources that we have prepared is a prayer book for use at home should we experience a severe pandemic.

The third replaces our 1995 “Music Guidelines for the Celebration of Marriage.” These new guidelines contain an updated list of suggested music for the celebration of the Rite of Marriage within or outside of Mass, include other helpful resources, and incorporate the insights of the U.S. Bishop’s document, *Sing to the Lord*. The new document may be found on our website at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/liturgylibrary/litWeddingMusicGuidelines100209.pdf>.

“SING TO THE LORD” (PART 16)

In Part V of *Sing to the Lord*, the US bishops turn to the musical structure of Catholic worship, beginning with the Mass (section A). It goes without saying that in order to intelligently choose music for the liturgy, one needs to understand how the liturgy is put together, how it flows (§137). For those who are interested, a synopsis of the musical options given in this document and the GIRM can be found on the diocesan website at:

<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/liturgylibrary/litInformationforMusicians.pdf>

Liturgy of the Word

While the readings are usually proclaimed “in a clear, audible, and intelligent way” (§152), on more solemn occasions the concluding acclamation—or even the entire reading—may be sung. If the option is exercised to sing only the acclamation at the end of the reading, it may be led by the cantor instead of the reader (§§152-154).

The psalm is intended to be sung, usually responsorially (cantor singing the verses while the assembly sings the responses). Alternatively, the entire psalm may be sung straight through by the cantor/choir alone—or the psalm recited by the reader with the responses sung by the assembly (§§156, 160).

The first choice for a responsorial psalm is the one assigned for the day in the Lectionary (§157) because the psalm is an integral part of the readings assigned for the day. However, because singing the psalm is so important, in the US the following options are also allowed (if necessary to foster the singing of the assembly):

- A seasonal psalm may be used instead of the proper psalm for the day.
- A psalm may be taken from the *Graduale Romanum* or the *Graduale Simplex*.
- Another psalm and antiphon may be chosen from another collection of psalms, “including psalms arranged in paraphrase or in metrical form” (§158), as long as the collection has been approved by the USCCB.
- Please note that other songs may never take the place of the psalm (§159).

The Gospel Acclamation should be sung; it is omitted when it is not sung (§§161-163). As a rule, the Gospel verse is taken from the Lectionary. If there is only one reading before the Gospel, the Gospel acclamation may be omitted or “alleluia” used as the response of the psalm; otherwise, if the Gospel acclamation is not sung it is omitted (§164).

“The Sequence is a liturgical hymn that is sung before the Gospel Acclamation on certain days” (§165). It may be sung antiphonally (choir/cantor and assembly alternating), *in directum* (all together), or by choir/cantor alone (§166).

Like the readings, the Gospel and its greeting and concluding acclamation may be sung by the deacon or priest proclaiming the text; if the entire reading is not sung the one reading may sing the greeting and concluding acclamations alone (§§167-169). Of course, following the principal of progressive solemnity, if only one reading (or set of acclamations) is to be sung it should be the Gospel.

The Creed may also be sung, either *in directum*, antiphonally, or responsorially (§170).

Because it is structured like a litany, we are encouraged to sing the entire Prayer of the Faithful, or the invitation and response, or even just the response to each intercession (§171).

Next time: we continue our discussion of the musical structure of Catholic worship...

Sing to the Lord is available at: <http://www.usccb.org/liturgy/SingToTheLord.pdf>.

THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL

Check out this video message from Bishop Serratelli, of the USCCB's Committee on Divine Worship: <http://www.usccb.org/romanmissal/video.shtml>.

For more information visit www.usccb.org/romanmissal.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

Joseph Nguyen, a seminarian for the Diocese of Davenport, will be ordained to the Diaconate on Saturday, October 24, at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Please include him in your Prayer of the Faithful on the Sundays leading up to his ordination. Possible intercessions include:

For Joseph Nguyen (pronounced: "when") and for all our seminarians; that God would bring to completion the good work that He has begun in them. We pray...

That Joseph Nguyen would be filled with every grace and blessing as he is ordained to the diaconate. We pray...

YEAR FOR PRIESTS: DIOCESAN LITURGY

In observation of the Year for Priests, Bishop Amos will preside at a special Mass to be held at St. Mary, Iowa City, on Thursday, October 29, at 5:30 p.m. Please come and celebrate with us. If any priest is planning on attending, they are asked to RSVP with St. Mary's before October 20th by either calling 319-337-4314 or e-mailing icstmary@diodav.org. The vestment color will be white.

CONTINUING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

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

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Liturgical Calendar 2009-2010

The diocesan liturgical calendar for 2009-2010 is being sent along with this newsletter as a separate document.

Christmas and the Christmas Season

1. God reveals God's self to us as the One who loves us. The feast days during Christmas remind us of this revelation and seek our response to it.
2. The color is white or gold, and it is ideal if vestments and fabrics used are different from those used at Easter.
3. A good Penitential Rite is Rite C, #iii.
4. Sing the Gloria the entire season. The carol "Angels We Have Heard On High" may not replace the Gloria.
5. Christ is present here and now. TODAY is born our Savior. Avoid historicizing. For example, use Christmas music with good theology for the whole season (ex. Hark the Herald Angels Sing) and avoid historical settings (O Little Town of Bethlehem).
6. Make sure your decorating reflects all that is important: the Word, the people.... Enhance the whole building, not just the sanctuary. Remember: less is more!
7. Remember that Advent and Christmas are the perfect times to remember Mary, our ultimate model for behavior. The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, observed on January 1, is also a Solemnity and Holy Day of obligation. Ritual and Funeral Masses may not be celebrated.
8. There are two customary proclamations used during the Christmas Season. The deacon, reader, or cantor may sing/proclaim these texts, which may be found in the *Sourcebook for Sundays and Seasons* from Liturgy Training Publications or in the *Sacramentary Supplement 2004*:
 - a. At Christmas Midnight Mass, after the greeting and introduction, the "Proclamation of the Birth of Christ" is sung or proclaimed. The Gloria immediately follows.
 - b. On Epiphany, the "Proclamation of the Date of Easter" is sung or proclaimed after the homily or after the prayer after communion.

See the diocesan website: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm>

9. During most of the year, we make a profound bow during the Proclamation of Faith while speaking the words: "by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and

became man.” During the Vigil of Christmas and all the Masses of Christmas, we genuflect at this time—highlighting the awesome mystery of the Incarnation.

10. Regarding the various Christmas Masses:

- a. For prayers, the *Missal* has five different Masses for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The Mass for December 24 is the proper text for Masses in the morning of December 24. The proper text for Masses in the evening (= after 4 p.m.) of December 24 is the Christmas – Vigil Mass. The text for Christmas – Mass at Midnight is to be used for Masses beginning “at night,” preferably on or around midnight between December 24 and 25. The proper text for the first Mass in the morning of December 25 is the Christmas – Mass at Dawn. Later Masses on December 25 should use the text for Christmas – Mass during the Day.
- b. The Mass at Midnight may be preceded by a more prolonged vigil, taken from the Office of Readings (see the *General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours* #71-73, 98, 215). This extended vigil is the preferred time for the blessing of the crèche (*Book of Blessings*, chapter 48, §1542-44).
- c. According to the *Lectionary for Mass*, for the three Masses of Christmas (Midnight, Dawn, Day), the proper readings for the Mass may be used or the readings may be chosen from among any of the readings for Christmas or the Vigil—based on pastoral need. Pastors should carefully discern those needs before selecting readings other than those proper to each Mass. Only the Vigil readings may be used at the Vigil Mass.

11. The crèche does not go under the altar or even in the sanctuary. It is preferable to put out a crèche that represents the whole story; there is no need to have “traveling kings.” Please see the *Book of Blessings*, chapter 48, §1544:

“If the manger is set up in church, it must not be placed in the *presbyterium*. A place should be chosen that is suitable for prayer and devotion and is easily accessible by the faithful. (The *presbyterium* is that part of the church where bishops, priests and ministers perform their ministry. This would be the altar, ambo [pulpit], and presidential chair area of the sanctuary. The placement of the crib should not interfere with the dignity and function of these areas. Likewise, the crib should not impede a minister from getting to the tabernacle.)”

Additional information can be found in the GIRM §299 and in *Built of Living Stones* §§124, 125, and 128.

12. There is a tradition of blessing chalk on the Epiphany, which is then used by the faithful to bless their homes. Please see below for details. In addition, this would be a proper time to celebrate the “Order for the Blessing of Homes during the Christmas and Easter Seasons” found in the *Book of Blessings* §§ 1597-1621.

It is also available on our website: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm>

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:

For the Knights of Columbus, the Serra Club, parish vocation committees, and all who help promote and pray for vocations to ordained ministry and religious life; we pray to the Lord.

(3) Weekly intercessions:

- Nov 1 SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS
For those undergoing a time of great distress because they choose to live according to Jesus’ Beatitudes; we pray...
- Nov 8 32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
For those who hunger for daily bread, and who thirst for clean water; that we would live the Eucharist by responding to their needs. We pray...
- Nov 15 33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
That we would live wisely and justly, and so be ready when the Last Day comes; we pray...
- Nov 22 SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING
That by our care for the poor and forgotten we would be known as faithful citizens of Christ’s Kingdom; we pray...
- Nov 29 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT
For those who are anxious and afraid, and for those who yearn for God’s justice; we pray...

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.

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