

Dear liturgical ministers,

The Mystery of the Incarnation is much more than a single day can hold. No wonder the Church gives us a month of waiting in joyful hope followed by another three feasts to help us unpack and unfold it: Holy Family, Epiphany, and the Baptism of the Lord!

While the history of these feasts makes for some very interesting reading, the final point of it all is that the Word became flesh... and through the Magi, a voice thundering above the Jordan, a miracle at Cana—as well as through ordinary family life—was made known to both the Jews and the Gentiles.

In spite of how busy we might be at this time of year, I hope that we can still maintain a sense of awe and wonder as we celebrate these great feasts!

Blessed Christmas Season,

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

“CONFIRMATION SEASON” STARTING UP...

In anticipation of upcoming celebrations of the Sacrament of Confirmation in parishes, please keep in mind that preparation sheets are due back to me at least 2 weeks before the scheduled liturgy. The preparation forms are on the diocesan website at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litlibrary.htm>.

“SING TO THE LORD” (PART 19)

Music is not just for the eucharistic liturgy; all our worship calls for song to help us give voice to our praise and thanksgiving of God. The various liturgical books suggest appropriate texts and times for singing (§200).

In celebrating the various liturgies of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), the U.S. Bishops remind us that “it is important to choose sung responses, acclamations, antiphons, psalms, and other songs that will enable the whole community to participate at the appropriate times” (§202). As far as parish celebrations are concerned, the document highlights the following:

- In the Rite of Acceptance, there can be a sung acclamation as the candidates are signed (§203)
- During the Scrutinies, a psalm or song may be sung after the exorcism rite (§205)
- At the Vigil, there can be acclamations during the Litany of the Saints, after the blessing of the baptismal water, and after each baptism. In addition, especially if neophytes have to change into dry clothing, there can be a song between the celebration of Baptism and Confirmation (§206).

Of course, music would be an integral part of the Confirmation Mass in parishes. In addition to the music for the Mass itself (§213), the following are possibilities:

- After the renewal of baptismal promises, the community may give expression to their faith in song (§214; *Rite of Confirmation* §23).

- While this document states that during the anointing one or more suitable songs may be sung (§214; *Rite of Confirmation* §29), please recall that according to diocesan policy such music must be quiet enough that the bishop's words can be heard.

One of the rites where music seems to fall through the cracks is in the celebration of infant baptism. The rite allows for a number of musical options, including (§§207-210):

- An opening hymn;
- Hymns or psalms during processions (such as from the door to where the Liturgy of the Word is to be celebrated, to the font, or from the font back to the altar);
- After the homily (or after the litany of the saints if there is no homily);
- The Litany of Saints;
- In response to the Profession of Faith;
- An acclamation after each baptism;
- A concluding hymn of thanksgiving (such as the *Magnificat*).

Chapter VII of the Rite contains acclamations and hymns, and is worth a look. In the analogous places, music can also be used when the rite is celebrated within Mass (§§211-212).

Next time: we continue our review of music in other sacramental celebrations...

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

THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL

Attention Priests: The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship and the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions in consultation with the National Organization for Continuing Education of Roman Catholic Clergy (NOCERCC) and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) are offering a training **workshop for priests and diocesan leadership** on the implementation of the Third Edition of the Roman Missal. These workshops, designed to "train the trainers," will include presentations on: an overview of the Roman Missal, the new translation of the texts, the chants, the art of celebrating the Mass, implementing the Roman Missal, and effective leadership in a time of change.

See http://www.fdlc.org/Roman_Missal/RM_Workshops.htm for details. In January 2010, links to the on-line registration form will be posted on both the FDLC website (www.fdlc.org) and the USCCB website (<http://www.usccb.org/romanmissal/>).

The workshops will prepare us to come back and help form the rest of the clergy, lay liturgical leaders, and parishioners in the new Missal.

As a reminder, our website is: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litromanmissal.htm>.
For more information, also visit www.usccb.org/romanmissal.

UPCOMING EVENTSDIOCESAN LITURGIESThe Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion

The Rite will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Davenport at 3PM on Sunday, February 21 and again at St. Mary's in Ottumwa at 3PM on February 28. Please remember that the Rite of Election is not optional: one must be "elected" for the Easter Sacraments by the Bishop (or his delegate). I would hope that we would see this as not just a "legal hoop" to jump through, but as a living sign of our unity as a diocesan church.

Detailed information—and a registration form—will be sent by separate e-mail to parishes, clergy, Parish Life Administrators, and RCIA Coordinators during the first week of January. The documents will also be posted on the diocesan website (look under Liturgy Events). Please note that registration information is due back to us by January 25!

Website: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm>)

The Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Davenport, on Monday, March 22, at 5:00 p.m. I would ask that we all encourage the members of our parishes—especially those in the RCIA or preparing for Confirmation—to attend this beautiful and important liturgy. Information on "ordering" oils will be sent to priests/parishes in the near future.

CONTINUING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES"Concerning the Baptized" - July 9-10, 2010

The Archdiocese of Dubuque and the FDLC are sponsoring a two-day institute on the initiation journey for those already baptized but seeking to come into full communion with the Catholic Church. The program will take place in Cedar Rapids. Mark your calendars!

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

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTSRCIA: THE TRIDUUMRites for Holy Saturday

The RCIA does contain specific Rites to be celebrated on Holy Saturday. A number of options are possible for the Elect, including the Recitation of the Creed, the Ephphetha Rite, and the Choosing of a Baptismal Name (RCIA #185-205). Candidates for Full Communion and Confirmation should celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (if not celebrated at some other point during Lent; see RCIA #408 and 482; *National Statutes* #27).

The Easter Vigil

The order of service varies slightly if the Vigil is celebrated with candidates, catechumens (elect), or both. It is preferable, however, that the reception and confirmation of candidates take place at a Mass different from the Vigil (see *National Statutes* #26). After the homily:

Elect only (RCIA #206-243)	Candidates only (RCIA #473-498)	Elect and Candidates (RCIA #566-594)
1. Baptism 2. Confirmation 3. Renewal of Baptismal Promises and sprinkling with baptismal water 4. Prayer of the Faithful	1. Renewal of Baptismal Promises and sprinkling with baptismal water (at the Vigil this replaces the Creed) 2. Celebration of Reception 3. Celebration of Confirmation 4. Prayer of the Faithful	1. Baptism of the Elect 2. Renewal of Baptismal Promises and sprinkling with baptismal water 3. Celebration of Reception 4. Confirmation of Elect and Candidates 5. Prayer of the Faithful

LITURGY PREPARATIONLITURGY AND JUSTICE: NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK

The Catholic Church in the United States observes National Migration Week from January 3-9 this year. A number of resources are available on the U.S. Bishops' website to help highlight the plight of migrants and to lead parishes into prayer and action on their behalf:
<http://www.usccb.org/mrs/nmw/index.shtml>.

With Lent approaching, I would especially call to your attention their "Migrant's Way of the Cross," available for download at: <http://www.usccb.org/mrs/nmw/pdf/wayofthecross.pdf>.

The theme for this year—Renewing Hope, Seeking Justice—could lend itself to preaching, especially during the close of the Christmas season (recalling that the Holy Family were migrants) as well as during Lent (looking ahead to the great story of migration, the Exodus).

LITURGICAL CALENDARPreparing for the Sacred Triduum

For those charged with preparing for the Triduum, please see the following electronic references:

(1) The *Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of the Easter Feasts* from the Congregation for Divine Worship (1988); available in electronic form from:
<http://www.ewtn.com/library/CURIA/CDWEASTF.HTM>.

(2) With the publication of the new Roman Missal, the rubrics concerning the celebration of the Triduum have been changed. These changes were reproduced in the January 2003 and March/April 2003 editions of the *Newsletter* from the USCCB's Committee in the Liturgy. The documents are available at:
<http://www.nccbuscc.org/liturgy/innews/012003.shtml> and
<http://www.nccbuscc.org/liturgy/innews/03042003.shtml>.

Please note what the documents say about the Paschal Candle: “The candle should be made of wax, never be artificial, be renewed each year, be only one in number, and be of sufficiently large size that it may convey the truth that Christ is the light of the world.... The candle is then prepared in rites which are no longer optional.” In other words, we are asked to treat the Paschal Candle as the rich symbol it truly is.

Time for the Start of the Easter Vigil

The *Missale Romanum* states that the Easter Vigil is to take place in darkness, after nightfall. Traditionally in this diocese, and according to the Bishops’ Committee on the Liturgy in 2003, that has been calculated as 45 minutes to an hour after sunset. Therefore, for the Diocese of Davenport, the Vigil on April 3, 2010, may not begin before 8:15 PM. (Note the time change; the same is true for the Archdiocese of Dubuque.)

World Day for Consecrated Life: February 7

In 1997, Pope John Paul instituted World Day for Consecrated Life. A complete resource kit for this annual event—including liturgy planning guide, music suggestions, homily guide, general intercessions, prayer service, prayer card master, bulletin announcements, clip art, poster, suggested activities and resources—is available from the National Coalition for Church Vocations at http://www.nccv-vocations.org/World-Day-for-Consecrated-Life-Kit--English-Spanish_p_63-34.html.

INTERCESSIONS

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

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

In addition, in light of the debates surrounding health care reform, consider the following (from the USCCB) for inclusion:

That Congress will act to ensure that needed health care reform will truly protect the life, dignity and health care of all and that we will raise our voices to protect the unborn and the most vulnerable and to preserve our freedom of conscience. We pray to the Lord.

(2) Monthly intercession for vocations (courtesy of Fr. Marty Goetz, Director of Vocations):

If Ordinary Time: For the Church; may we seek holiness and trust that God will lead us; we pray...
If Lent: That we may listen to God’s invitation, especially during this Lenten season; we pray...

(3) Weekly intercessions:

Feb 7

5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

That parents and children who suffer from misunderstanding, confusion and conflict might learn patience and openness, and practice the accepting love of Christ; we pray...

- Feb 14 6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
For police officers, firefighters, rescue workers, and medical personnel, especially those who deal with victims of violent crimes; that they always remain compassionate; we pray...
- Feb 17 ASH WEDNESDAY
That all families torn apart by divorce, greed, grudges or abuse might find reconciliation and peace in Christ who desires that all be one in Him; we pray...
- Feb 21 1st SUNDAY OF LENT
For the elect, the catechumens and candidates who begin their journey of intense spiritual preparation for the sacraments at Easter; we pray...
- Feb 28 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT
For people of all languages, races, nationalities, creeds, and cultures; that we find ways to live in harmony and respect for one another. 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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