On June 2, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Pope Francis will be celebrating an hour of Eucharistic Adoration in St. Peter’s Basilica at 5:00 p.m. Rome time. The Holy Father has asked that bishops around the world do the same, preferably synchronized with the timing at St. Peter’s. Unfortunately, that would put it at 10am our time, so instead Bishop Amos will celebrate Vespers with Eucharistic Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction at 5:00 p.m. our time at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Parishes and other communities are encouraged to hold their own celebrations of Eucharistic Adoration or join Bishop Amos at the Cathedral that evening.

**NEW POLICY: ALTAR SERVERS**

In order to clarify some questions that have been raised, Bishop Amos has promulgated a new policy on the ministry of Altar Server in the Diocese of Davenport.

The Policy is available on-line at:


**VERBUM DOMINI – THE WORD OF GOD IN THE LIFE AND MISSION OF THE CHURCH**

Part II: *Verbum in Ecclesia*

The Liturgy is the privileged setting for the word of God; where God speaks to us *today* – and we hear and respond (#52).

Scripture and liturgy are intimately intertwined. In addition to being the source of the readings themselves, the scriptures also inform the petitions, prayers, and hymns used in the liturgy. It is from the scriptures that liturgical actions and symbols are derived and draw their meaning. Our church teaches that “Christ himself ‘is present in his word, since it is he who speaks when Scripture is read in church’” (#52). The proclamation of the word is one way by which we encounter Christ really and truly present in the Church today by the power of the Holy Spirit. That is to say, the word itself is sacramental (#56).
While scripture informs liturgy, the liturgy also informs our understanding of the scriptures. As the Holy Father says, “A faith-filled understanding of sacred Scripture must always refer back to the liturgy” especially as the readings unfold throughout the liturgical year. The lens of the liturgy is essential to bring us to a correct and deeper understanding of the scriptures.

What God says in the Liturgy of the Word, God does in sacramental action... just as God spoke, and creation dawned. What is read becomes sacramentally present. No wonder that the Fathers of Vatican II insisted that the celebration of all the sacraments ought to include the proclamation of the scriptures. The Holy Father calls all priests and deacons, especially when they preach, to help make this connection explicit for their assemblies (#53). In other words, we are challenged to preach mystagogically.

This intimate relationship between word and sacrament is especially true in the Eucharist. The Holy Father draws on the Emmaus story here, reminding us that the meaning of the scriptures is only revealed at table; the sacrament is necessary for the ultimate understanding of the word (#54). “The Eucharist opens us to an understanding of Scripture, just as Scripture for its part illumines and explains the mystery of the Eucharist” (#55).

“We are reading the sacred Scriptures. For me, the Gospel is the body of Christ; for me, the holy Scriptures are his teaching. And when he says: whoever does not eat my flesh and drink my blood (Jn 6:53), even though these words can also be understood of the [eucharistic] mystery, Christ’s body and blood are really the word of Scripture, God’s teaching. When we approach the [eucharistic] mystery, if a crumb falls to the ground we are troubled. Yet when we are listening to the word of God, and God’s word and Christ’s flesh and blood are being poured into our ears yet we pay no heed, what great peril should we not feel?”

- St. Jerome

**Preaching the Mystery of Faith: The Sunday Homily**

Part I: The Biblical Foundations for the Church’s Preaching Ministry

*Preaching the Mystery of Faith* (PMF) begins with the assertion, as *Verbum Domini* notes, that God “reveals himself through his creative and powerful Word”—in creation and especially in the Incarnation. God speaks, as it were, and it happens. The ultimate word is the Incarnate Son; now God is not only heard, but seen. In Jesus, we also see the power of the spoken word: what Jesus speaks, comes to be: Lazarus comes out of the tomb, the daughter of Jairus rises from her bed, the sea is stilled. In his very being, Jesus proclaims the Good News. After Christ’s Resurrection and Ascension, and with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the task of continuing to proclaim the Word was entrusted to the Apostles. From Jerusalem to the ends of the world, the early Church proclaimed the Gospel. But there is a difference. While Jesus bore testimony to the Father as well as to himself, the Apostles bear witness to Christ—not to themselves. Jesus—the Paschal Mystery—is not only the source but the content of their preaching... in the power of the Holy Spirit. As preachers, these are the footsteps in which we walk. We are “apprentices to Jesus the Master and so draw inspiration and learning about preaching” from his example. How so? The Bishops, like the Holy Father, recommend *lectio divina* – the prayerful reading of and meditation on the Scriptures. It is in that divine encounter that we are formed and converted.

That which lies at the heart of Jesus’ preaching should also inform ours: the Kingdom (Reign) of God. More on that next month.
RESOURCE

OFFICIAL PORTRAIT OF THE HOLY FATHER

FYI: The photo service of the Vatican newspaper L’Osservatore Romano now has available an official photo of Pope Francis. As of today, this photo has not been released to Catholic News Service for editorial use or to USCCB for redistribution. Prints can be ordered directly from the photo service at www.photovat.com or a request by email can be sent to photo@ossrom.va.

A REQUEST...

ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL IN NEED OF VOTIVE CANDLE STAND

Assumption High School (Davenport) is looking for a votive candle stand for their chapel. If anyone has one that they are no longer using, they would love to find something gently used at a reasonable price. Anyone that might have something like this can please feel free to contact Principal Bridget Murphy via email (Murphyb@mail.assumption.pvt.k12.ia.us) or by phone (563-326-5313 x 289). Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS

See the Liturgy Events webpage at: http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm.

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Upcoming Ordinations

To the Priesthood: May 25, 2013.

Please include Rev. Mr. Jake Greiner in your prayers as he approaches ordination to priestly ministry for our diocese. For example:

For Jacob Greiner, as he enters into priestly ministry for our diocese. We pray to the Lord.

That Jacob Greiner would be filled with every grace and blessing as he prepares for ordination to the priesthood. We pray to the Lord.

For Jacob Greiner; that his ministry as a priest in the Diocese of Davenport would bear good fruit. We pray to the Lord.

To the Diaconate: July 13, 2013.

Please note: Due to the number of people expected, attendance at this liturgy will be by ticket only.

Year of Faith Happenings

Please see the Year of Faith calendar for special commemorations around the diocese: http://www.davenportdiocese.org/comm/commlib/DODYearofFaithschedule.pdf or
http://www.davenportdiocese.org/yearoffaith.htm (the series of articles on the sacraments of healing from the Catholic Messenger are also available here).

CONTINUING EDUCATION: DIOCESAN WEBINARS

Members of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission will present the following webinar at 2:00 p.m. on:
• Tuesday, May 7: Liturgical Music (registration information has been sent).

EVENT: DAVID HAAS IN BETTENDORF

Fri., September 27 | 7:30pm - David Haas, Alive in Concert
Internationally known musician and liturgist in concert at St. John Vianney Church, Bettendorf, with proceeds to benefit Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat. David will connect his inspiring music to the good news of Vatican II. Fee: $15 (students and seniors); $20 (adults); $25 (at the door). Scholarships available.

Sat., September 28 | 8:30am – 2:30pm - Liturgy Workshop with David Haas
Liturgists, church musicians, and choirs are invited to join David Haas to explore inspiring music of Vatican II. David will share his lively compositions and his 40 years of creating sacred music. The workshop will be held at St. John Vianney Church, Bettendorf. Lunch and handouts provided. Fee: $20 (students); $25 (adults)

LITURGY PREPARATION

UPDATING YOUR PARISH LITURGICAL LIBRARY

It is that time of year again: new priest assignments have been announced, and the work of letting go and moving on has begun. During this time of transition, let us keep our priests—and parishes—in prayer.

With such changes taking place, 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 Roman Missal (Sacramentary) – the third edition was published in 2011.

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.


Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest – the 2nd edition of this ritual text was released in 2007. An update reflecting the changes brought about by the Third Edition of the Roman Missal was published in 2012.
Other Sacraments


*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, *motu proprio* called *Misericordia Dei* (2002). A new edition (with readings from the updated Lectionary) was published by the USCCB in 2010.

*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. The English translation is currently being prepared.

Other Rites


Optional Ritual Texts

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


*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 have also been revised and are awaiting approval in Rome. Therefore, a parish would do well postponing any purchase at this time, if you can even find a copy.

*The Eucharistic Prayers for Masses with Children* – not retranslated (that work is still pending), but with changes to reflect the Third Edition of the Roman Missal; published as a separate booklet by the USCCB in 2011.
Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary – While these will eventually be replaced, the 1990 edition may be used as long as the proper changes are made to match the wording of the new Missal. A new edition with changes to match the wording of the new Missal was published in 2012.

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.

Blessing of a Child in the Womb – The English and Spanish versions were approved and are now available as stand-alone documents. This text will be included in the Book of Blessings and Benedicional when they are revised.

Rites Not Yet Published

Weekday Celebrations of the Liturgy of the Word. This rite, in both Spanish and English, is also awaiting approval in Rome.

Other Resources


Liturgical Documents


This reference includes key documents, such as the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, the GIRM, the Introduction to the Lectionary, Built of Living Stones, and Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship among others. The focus of this volume is on parish celebrations of the Sunday liturgy.


Emphasis is on the praenotanda for the various sacraments and other rites.


This volume will focus on the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, the documents that led up to it, and the instructions that followed.

_____  The Liturgy Documents Volume IV. Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. Publication pending.

This volume will focus on contemporary liturgical issues.
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 were approved by the U.S. Bishops and are awaiting approval in Rome:

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

The following are still in the works:

- **Book of Blessings (Bendicional)** – Rome declined to give the recognitio; the USCCB is continuing to work on the text
- **Roman Missal** – not yet available
- **Rite of Ordination** – not yet available for the US
- **Rite of Penance** – translation for US in progress

Liturgical Press offers liturgical books from Mexico. For example, the Book of Blessings (*Bendicional*), the Book of Blessings of Hispanic Popular Catholicism, and Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass (*Ritual de la Sagrada Comunión y del Culto Eucharístico fuera de la Misa*) can be obtained from here. There is also a great resource called the *Ritual Breve* – it includes all the rites that a travelling priest might need. While Baptism and Marriage have been replaced by the US versions above, this still might be a helpful addition to your library.

The following are additional resources that you might find helpful:


**Liturgical Calendar**

Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Amos

Since June 7 is the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the anniversary of the episcopal ordination of Bishop Amos, observed as a Feast in the Diocese, will be celebrated on June 6 this year. The Mass “For the Bishop” (Masses for Various Needs and Occasions I. For the Church 3. For the Bishop) with its appropriate readings should be celebrated. It would also be appropriate to include a particular petition for the Bishop as part of the Prayers of the Faithful on the weekend of June 1-2; for example: “For Bishop Amos on the celebration of his 12th anniversary as a bishop; that the Lord will continue to bless him and guide him as he shepherds us. We pray to the Lord.”

Easter Vigil 2014

Next year, the Easter Vigil falls on April 19, and the earliest it may begin is 8:30 p.m.

**Intercessions**

(1) “Intercessions for Life” (in English and Spanish) may be found on the USCCB website at:  
http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wolarchive.shtml

(2) Intercession for vocations (in English and Spanish) linked to the Lectionary cycle may be found at the For Your Vocation website:  
http://www.foryourvocation.org/vocation-directors/liturgical-resources.cfm

(3) Lectionary-based intercessions focused on social justice can be found at the Center of Concern website:  
http://www.coc.org/ef

(4) The Center for Liturgy website offers general intercessions for each Sunday as well:  
http://liturgy.slu.edu/

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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