A Letter from Bishop Amos:

My dear friends in Christ,

In just a little over a year, the English-speaking Catholic world will be using a new Missal for the celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy. The advent of the new Missal offers us a golden opportunity in regards to liturgical catechesis. To that end, the Diocesan Liturgical Commission and Office of Liturgy will be hosting workshops for those who will be at the forefront of helping parishes welcome and implement the third edition of the Roman Missal.

These workshops, to be held in each deanery in January and February of 2011, are intended for those who will be part of parish implementation committees. Please allow me to share a few thoughts about these committees and the upcoming workshops:

- An implementation committee should not be so large as to be unwieldy; or so small that a few people are overwhelmed with so much work. Perhaps 6-8 members is a good number.

- For most parishes, it may be better if the implementation committee is not the same as the parish liturgy committee. While some members of the liturgy committee may serve on the implementation committee, the liturgy committee itself will have their usual tasks to attend to during the coming year. For smaller parishes, on the other hand, it may make more sense to have the existing liturgy committee serve both roles.

- Committee membership should include liturgical ministers, musicians, and members of the parish as well as those involved in catechetical ministries. For parishes with schools, faculty or staff from the school should also be included.

- Schools that are not affiliated with a particular parish ought to form their own implementation committee and plan on attending one of the workshops in January or February.
I would like to invite members of the religious houses in our diocese that celebrate the liturgy as part of their communal life—the Congregation of Humility of Mary, the Discalced Carmelites, the Sisters of St. Francis in Clinton, and the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm—to form their own implementation committees and send individuals to the workshops planned for January and February.

Attached is a registration form for these workshops. Please complete and return it to our Office of Liturgy by the specified deadline. Participation in these workshops is an important aspect of our preparing together as a diocese for the new Missal.

Please know of my gratitude for all the time, effort, and energy that you will put into preparing our communities for the new Roman Missal.

Sincerely in Christ,
Most Reverend Martin Amos
Bishop of Davenport

Workshop Registrations

The registration form for the January and February workshops on the new Missal for members of implementation committees is being sent with this issue of LiturgyNotes. Pastors, please keep the following in mind as you fill out the forms:

- I understand that you may not know who exactly will be attending. At this point, numbers are more important to have for planning purposes. You can send names in later.
- Because the fee goes for food, and those plans need to be made ahead of time, there can be no refunds (or late additions).
- The deadlines for returning forms are December 1 for the January workshops and January 3 for the February workshops. Please make sure that the forms are returned in plenty of time for us to make workshop arrangements.
- We are recommending that parishes use the USCCB’s Parish Guide to Implementing the Roman Missal, Third Edition. We are purchasing a copy for each community (parish, school not affiliated with a parish, and religious house listed in the Bishop’s letter); if it is available, we will distribute it at the November clergy gathering (and deliver it to the schools and religious communities). If not, we will bring each parish’s copy to the workshops. If a community wishes to order extra copies, you may do so through the USCCB’s website: http://www.usccbpublishing.org/productdetails.cfm?PC=1476.
- It is intended that groups attend the workshop being held in their deanery. However, if necessary, they can attend at another deanery (if the group is splitting between more than one workshop, please submit a separate form for each workshop location).

Update

While the Missal itself has not yet been published, more and more resources are becoming available:

The Notre Dame Center for Liturgy is now making its web-based catechetical videos on the new Missal available in DVD format. Each DVD is $10.00, but the whole set (a $70.00 value) is available for only $40.00. You may purchase them at: http://liturgy.nd.edu/publications/orderform.shtml.
ICEL’s comprehensive catechetical DVD, Become One Body, One Spirit in Christ, may now be ordered through the USCCB website, at: http://www.usccbpublishing.org/productdetails.cfm?PC=1504.

Music publishers are busily adjusting their Mass settings to coincide with the revised Order of Mass. ICEL has posted updated chants on their website: http://www.icelweb.org/musicfolder/openmusic.php.

I understand that RENEW INTERNATIONAL will have a parish-based small-group program on the new Missal available soon. I will post more information on the website as it becomes available.


Start date for new Roman Missal: November 27, 2011
None of the new texts may be used until then!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

LOOKING FOR STEEPLE CROSS...

As the Kahl Home prepares to move to its new locations, they are looking for a “steeple cross” to place on their chapel tower. If anyone knows of a steeple cross that is available, please let me know or contact Rosalie Thomas, administrator of the Kahl Home, at 563-324-1621.

MASSTIMES.ORG

Since 1993 www.Masstimes.org has been collecting information about Dioceses, Churches and their worship schedule to help traveling Catholics find a Church near their destination. This service is free to Churches and to anyone using its service. They are converting to a new Mass Times database and need your help to insure that the conversion of the old database to the new one did not change or delete your Church information. They now have a shared database of more than 110,000 Churches around the world with 40 million Church lookups a year.

To update your information, just look-up your Church's detail page and click on "Update" and you will be able to enter the correct information about the Church's address, phone, e-mail, liturgy schedule, and more. To correct the Church's location on the map do the above and click on "Update this Map".

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Vespers for Nascent Human Life
On Saturday, November 27th, Pope Benedict will preside at a “Vigil for all nascent human life,” and he has asked all bishops around the world to preside at similar celebrations in their own dioceses. Therefore, Bishop Amos will celebrate Vespers at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 7:00 p.m. We will post further details on the “Liturgy Events” webpage as they become available. A prayer booklet for families to use at home will be sent to parishes in November.
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 2010-2011
The diocesan liturgical calendar for 2010-2011 is being sent along with this newsletter as a separate document, and will be posted on the Liturgy Events webpage.

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 not a Holy Day of obligation this year; Ritual Masses may not be celebrated, but Funeral Masses may.

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. 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.

The Epiphany blessing is also available on our website:
http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm

OR:
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 (courtesy of Fr. Marty Goetz, Director of Vocations):

For all married couples, may God be the center of their lives, we pray:
OR
For our Church, that in this time of Advent, many women and men will be alert to God’s call to service, we pray:
OR
For those attending our diocesan “Come and See” vocation days this month, that they would be open to the promptings of the Spirit; we pray:

(3) Weekly intercessions:

**November 7**  32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
For all victims of religious intolerance and bigotry; for those suffering for their faith; we pray...

**November 14**  33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
For those seeking work; for just wages and safe workplaces; we pray...

**November 21**  SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING
For those unjustly imprisoned; for those condemned to death; we pray...

**November 28**  FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
That the swords and spears of war might give way to the plowshares and pruning hooks of plenty for all; 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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