

LITURGYNOTES – FOR OCTOBER 2017

LITURGY NEWS

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New Motu Proprio from Pope Francis

On September 3, 2017, Pope Francis issued an apostolic letter *motu proprio* [of his own initiative] which addressed the process by which liturgical texts are to be translated, approved, and promulgated by the conferences of Bishops.

Pope Francis begins his letter, *Magnum principium* (the great principle), with a general principle that “liturgical prayer be accommodated to the comprehension of the people” (cf. SC 14). He therefore changed canon 838 in the Code of Canon Law in order to offer greater respect for the authority of the episcopal conferences, whose right and duty it is to translate the liturgical texts for the sake of their conference (SC 22).

As one would expect, this will have an effect on how *Liturgiam Authenticam*, the document which has been guiding translations, is implemented from now on.

The complete text of the *motu proprio* is found here (unofficial translation):

https://www.americamagazine.org/sites/default/files/attachments/Motu%20Proprio%20Magnum%20Principium_0.pdf.

The Commentary provided by Archbishop Roche, Secretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments: <https://fdlc.org/content/commentary-magnum-principium-cdwd>.

The original Latin edition of *Magnum principium*:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/la/motu_proprio/documents/papa-francesco-motu-proprio_20170903_magnum-principium.html.

A related article: <https://fdlc.org/content/about-new-motu-proprio-magnum-principium>.

Share the Journey: Love Your Neighbor

On September 27, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, will “reach out” to immigrants and refugees in a symbolic gesture during his Papal audience. This will be the official launch of the Share the Journey global migration campaign. Following the launch, our conference is calling for a Week of Prayer and Action from October 7 through October 14. Here are resources to help you observe this important week:

Main website: <https://www.sharejourney.org/>

Parish toolkit: <https://www.crs.org/resource-center/global-migration-campaign-parish-toolkit-week-prayer-and-action>

Other resources are available at:

- <https://justiceforimmigrants.org/caritas-share-the-journey-campaign/>
- <https://www.crs.org/resource-center/global-migration-campaign-prayer-and-commitment-sheets>
- <http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/index.cfm>
- <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/immigration/index.cfm>

Upcoming Key Dates:

- September 27 – Share the Journey Kickoff
- October 7-14 – Week of Prayer & Action Across the US
- December 12 – Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- December 18 – International Migrants Day
- January 7-13 – National Migration Week

***USCCB - RESPONDING TO THE SIN OF RACISM:
WHAT THE MASS TEACHES US***

In reflecting on the liturgy, Pope Benedict XVI once said: “The Lord does not assemble the parish community in order to enclose it but in order to open it up. To be with the Lord means to be willing, with him, to seek all the children of God.”

There is no place in the sacred liturgy, therefore, for any form of hatred or racism or self-righteousness. Quite the opposite; going out seeking all the children of God means having the desire to gather them into the community, worshiping God together. The liturgy teaches us this because it teaches us how Christ did exactly the same thing. Christ became man so as to seek us out and unite us to his Father.

May our prayer together in the sacred liturgy not only reflect and strengthen the love we have for our brothers and sisters, but may it also be for us the source of grace that drives us to work for unity, justice, and peace among all the children of God.

RELIGIOUS SUPPLY: ANNUAL RESOURCES FROM LTP

LTP has announced that its annual resources are once again available. You may order your materials directly from LTP, 800-533-1900 or from Religious Supply Center in Davenport. For details, questions, information about discounts, or to place your order, call Mark, 563-324-0669 or 800-292-0052, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., M-F and 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturday. Resources will be delivered to the Clergy Overnighter in November.

UPCOMING EVENTS

See the Liturgy Events webpage at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy-events>.

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

50th Wedding Anniversary Mass: St. Paul the Apostle in Davenport, on Sunday, October 15, at 2:00 pm

Information regarding this celebration has been sent to parishes from the Office of Faith Formation. Couples interested in attending should contact their parishes to register. Questions? Please contact Barb Butterworth (butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org / 563-888-4240).

Reminder: Lenten Liturgies

Rite of Election:

Sunday, February 18, 3pm (Sacred Heart Cathedral, Davenport)

Sunday, February 25, 3pm (St. Mary, Ottumwa)

Chrism Mass:

Monday, March 19, 5pm (Sacred Heart Cathedral, Davenport)

CONTINUING FORMATION FOR LITURGY / LITURGICAL MINISTRY

For more opportunities, see the Liturgy Events webpage at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy-events>.

The Notre Dame 2017 Preaching Conference - "To Set the Earth on Fire": Effective Catholic Preaching

The Notre Dame 2017 Preaching Conference (held last July) addressed the practical side of Catholic preaching: What is preaching effectiveness? How do we do it? What is the difference between satisfactory preaching and really good preaching? If the intended effect of our preaching is to bring people into an encounter with God, how do we do that? Videos of the keynote and breakout sessions are now available at: <http://theology.nd.edu/graduate-programs/the-marten-program/conferences-and-events/2017-conference/>.

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

The 2018 Liturgical Calendar is also being sent with this edition of LiturgyNotes.

Please note that Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 am on November 5 – set your clocks back an hour!

December 8: Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation; only the Mass of the Day is permitted. Ritual Masses (i.e., marriage, confirmation) and funeral Masses are prohibited. Marriages celebrated during Mass on that day must use the readings and orations of the holy day. A marriage or funeral may be celebrated outside of Mass using the texts from the Rite of Marriage or the Order of Christian Funerals.

Christmas and Christmastime

(see: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgical-seasons#AdventChristmas>)

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; it is ideal if vestments and fabrics used are different from those used at Easter.
3. A good Penitential Rite is the third form, #II (now found in Appendix VI of the Missal).
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 (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, falls on a Monday this year and so is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation. When the obligation is abrogated, ritual Masses (i.e., marriage, confirmation) are still prohibited. A marriage may be celebrated outside Mass using texts from the Rite of Marriage. Funeral Masses may be celebrated when the obligation is abrogated.
8. There are two customary proclamations used during the Christmas Season. The deacon, reader, or cantor may sing/proclaim these texts, which will now be found in Appendix I of the Missal. See the diocesan website (use link above).
 - 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.
9. During most of the year, we make a profound bow during the Proclamation of Faith while speaking the words: "by the Holy Spirit was incarnate 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 (except this year – we use the Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent). 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*, ch. 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. 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/liturgical-seasons> OR <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2016/6/litEpiphanyChalkBlessing.pdf>.

13. This year, there are a couple of calendar adjustment as well (see the accompanying Diocesan Liturgical Calendar for details)

a. Christmas falls on a Monday this year. Both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas carry the obligation to assist at Mass.

b. January 1, 2018, also falls on a Monday. As noted above, the obligation is abrogated. Sunday Masses (12/31/17) are for the Feast of the Holy Family.

c. In 2018, since the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord is celebrated on Sunday, January 7, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is transferred to the following Monday, January 8, with only one reading before the Gospel.

INTERCESSIONS

Here are resources for the Universal Prayer:

(1) Intercessions for various life issues may be found on the USCCB website at:

<http://usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/prayers/intercessory-prayers-for-life.cfm>

(2) Intercession for vocations (in English and Spanish) keyed to the lectionary cycle may be found at the Diocese of Arlington website:

http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/vocations/voc_intercessions.aspx

(3) The Center for Liturgy website offers general intercessions for each Sunday as well:

<http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

(4) The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops offers intercessions and homily ideas as part of their Pastoral Initiative for Life and Family:

<http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/church-in-canada-and-world/catholic-church-in-canada/life-and-family/3296-documents-and-activities-proposed-by-the-ccb>

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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