

LITURGYNOTES – FOR MAY 2020

“Good celebrations foster and nourish faith. Poor celebrations weaken and destroy it.”

LITURGY AND COVID-19

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CONTACT:

Deacon Frank Agnoli, MD, DMin
Director of Liturgy &
Director of Deacon Formation
E-Mail: agnoli@davenportdiocese.org
Phone: 563-888-4257

Vision 20/20

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/vision-2020-liturgy>

Share the Journey: Love Your Neighbor

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

DIOCESAN WEBPAGES

Pandemic Policies and Resources:

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/flu>

Prayer and Support:

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/prayer-and-support>

Q and A:

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/qa>

FROM THE IOWA BISHOPS

“In light of the expectation that positive cases of COVID-19 will peak in Iowa in the next few weeks, we have decided it would be most prudent for now to continue to follow the liturgical restrictions we have in place, including the suspension of public Masses.... We will continue to closely monitor the statewide and respective regional situations through the weeks of May and beyond. When the time comes that we can gather in greater numbers while observing social distance, safe hygienic practices and other precautions without placing one another at serious risk, public Masses and other sacramental celebrations will be allowed to resume.”

Please see the full statement: [Iowa Bishops Press Release on Church Status 4-28-2020](#)

COPYRIGHTS

COPYRIGHT PERMISSION -- MUSIC

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, OneLicense.net (which represents most major music publishers) was offering gratis permission for music used in live-streaming Masses. That permission ended April 15. Now they are offering a special discounted license: <https://news.onelicense.net/2020/04/13/looking-ahead-licensing-options-for-gratis-accounts-after-april-15/>

COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS – SCRIPTURE, LITURGICAL TEXTS

From Mary Sperry of the CCD/USCCB: “In light of the health precautions that may become necessary in the coming days and weeks, the USCCB, CCD, and ICEL are waiving any need to request permission to use readings or Mass prayers in a livestreamed liturgy... this applies to both English and Spanish readings and orations.” The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and the USCCB have **extended this permission to December 31, 2020.**

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COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS – I.C.E.L. LITURGICAL TEXTS

From Joseph Livingston of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL):

“No ICEL permission is required to stream or record liturgies. If you wish to put a transcription or guide alongside the recording, this is permitted (assuming the usual conditions about the text being reproduced correctly and the acknowledgement is placed somewhere appropriate) for the duration of the pandemic.” For the text of the usual acknowledgement, please visit

<http://www.icelweb.org/copyright.htm>

MUSIC RESOURCE

NEW SONG BY FATHER MICHAEL JONCAS – FREE DOWNLOAD BEFORE MARCH 31, 2021.

Father Michael Joncas told Catholic News Service (CNS) that the inspiration to compose this new hymn came to him at 3:00 AM, March 26 as he was reflecting on Psalm 23. The beautiful result is “Shelter Me.” Joncas noted, “I hope that people will be able to sing the song with sincerity as a way of affirming their faith in God in these troubled times.”

The hymn is published by GIA, but is available for a free download before March 31 of NEXT year.

Joncas suggests that you donate what you might have paid for a new piece of music to your favorite charity that is serving people during the pandemic.

Download links: <https://bit.ly/2V9gxFG> OR <http://www.onelicense.net>

Hear the song here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EbCgi_7gQs

NEW MASS APPROVED

The Vatican has issued new texts for a Mass for Various Needs and Occasions "In Time of Pandemic".

"This Mass can be celebrated, according to the rubrics given for Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions, on any day except Solemnities, the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter, days within the Octave of Easter, the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day), Ash Wednesday and the days of Holy Week."

- Mass Propers: [\[English\]](#) [\[Spanish\]](#) [\[Latin\]](#) [\[Italian\]](#) [\[Portugese\]](#) [\[French\]](#) [\[German\]](#)
- Readings: [\[English\]](#) [\[Spanish\]](#)
- [Vatican Decree](#)

LITURGICAL RESOURCES DURING THE PANDEMIC

The FDLC is grateful to the many diocese, parishes, institutions, organizations, and companies who have so generously shared tools and resources. See: <https://fdlc.org/covid>

THE ROSARY IN MAY

The Holy Father has asked that this May be a particular time for individuals and families to pray the Rosary at home, including two new prayers to Our Lady that he has written to be recited at the end of the Rosary. His letter and the prayers may be found in English and Spanish at these links:

- http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/letters/2020/documents/papa-francesco_20200425_lettera-mesedimaggio.html
- http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/es/letters/2020/documents/papa-francesco_20200425_lettera-mesedimaggio.html

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TRANSITIONS

“I can’t wait for things to get back to normal!” If we’ve not said this ourselves, we’ve certainly heard it. Parishioners want to get back to Sunday Mass, to First Communion and Confirmations, weddings and funerals. Just like they were before COVID-19. But here’s **inconvenient truth #1**: that is not going to happen.

Let me explain. The SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes COVID-19, is very contagious. It has spread so quickly and so efficiently because, as a new virus, no one is immune to it. It takes roughly 60% of a population to be immune to a virus like this one for us to experience what is called “herd immunity,” meaning that enough people are immune to keep the virus from getting established in a community and spreading.

There is no “herd immunity” to this virus right now. First, very few people (comparatively)—perhaps 5% of the US population—have been infected (thanks, in part, to our social distancing measures. But here’s another problem: there is no proof that infection leads to immunity, either in the short or, more importantly, the long term. The only way to get clear, proven herd immunity to this virus is by using a vaccine. And a vaccine that is proven to be both safe and effective is optimistically 12-18 months away. Once available, it will need to be produced at a massive scale—which will also take time. And then priority needs to be given to those most at risk, such as healthcare providers, other essential workers, and those who are older or have other illnesses that put them at higher risk.

Without herd immunity, the virus will continue to spread. It is here to stay. It is unclear if we will experience just a steady presence of the virus, waves that come and go, or a future tsunami like the 1918 flu pandemic. Regardless of how this plays out, one thing is clear: we are not going back to “normal” any time soon; at least not for 12-18 months. I hate to be blunt, but that’s where we need to start.

That does not mean that we are going to, or even can, stay in a state of perpetual severe social distancing. But here’s **inconvenient truth #2**: no matter how we relax current practices, once we do so more people will get sick and more people will die. The questions that we need to answer are: (1) when can existing practices be relaxed and (2) how do we do so in a safe manner, to keep the numbers of those getting sick and dying as low as possible?

As the virus first began to spread, attention was focused on what is called “containment.” Containment strategies focus on early identification of infected persons, contact tracing (finding those who’ve been around someone who’s sick), and quarantines or isolation. We also used basic, common “mitigation” strategies, the ones we use every flu season: covering our coughs, washing our hands, and not going out if we’re sick. Keeping up those practices isn’t going to end any time soon!

Once it was clear that containment couldn’t work, we turned to more intensive “mitigation” strategies, such as travel restrictions, school and business closures, and working from home. We’ve done that as a Church: we stopped sharing the sign of peace and the chalice, we asked those most at risk to stay home, we eventually stopped celebrating the Mass together in one place, and then we closed churches even for visits.

Now we need to ask ourselves how we can begin to transition, not back to how things used to be before COVID-19, but to a “new normal” – living with an ongoing pandemic as we wait for a vaccine to be

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developed. What will being Church and celebrating the Sacraments look like between now and then? How do we approach answering the two questions of when and how to move from what we’re doing now to something closer to what we’re used to?

In general, we relax social (or physical) distancing measures when the benefits of doing so outweigh the risks. In order to make that determination, we need to show that things are getting better (# infections and deaths are dropping), we need to be prepared to handle any return of the outbreak, and we need a way to know what happens after we make any changes.¹ Therefore, modifications need to be phased in slowly. Once an intervention is made, we need to wait 2-3 weeks to see if there is a new spike in cases. If not, further changes may be made.

As far as what we do is concerned, we need to keep in mind **inconvenient truth #3**: infections spread when lots of people are close together, and religious practices bring people closely together. What we do as a Church is, from the point of view of spreading this virus, risky. A number of outbreaks of COVID-19 can be traced back to religious gatherings—such as a funeral in Chicago. So, as we transition from “slowing the spread” to “reopening” we need to be especially careful to lower this risk by keeping the maximum number of people who are in a place low, being together for as little time as possible, keeping apart as much as we can, and avoiding practices that are more likely to spread the virus. What that looks like will change as the pandemic changes.

For example, the number of people in the church building will need to be limited, and—while that number will grow over time, if all goes well—they will still need to be seated apart from each other. We may need to use overflow spaces, add more Masses, or assign families to specific times to come to church. First Communion and Confirmations may need to be celebrated with a smaller community rather than a whole class gathered, perhaps over a series of weekends. Couples may still not be able to have all their family and friends at their wedding and grandparents may need to stay away from baptisms. We’ll need to change how we celebrate Ordinations and other diocesan liturgies. We’ll need to keep using technology to keep us connected with those who still need to stay home.

I know the initiation of our Catechumens and Candidates is high on everyone’s list of concerns. Once we begin to transition back into gathering for worship, the Candidates can be received and confirmed; as soon as possible, we’ll set a date for the full initiation of the Catechumens. Of course, we’ll need to be attentive to how many worshippers are allowed to gather and to how these rites need to be modified.

What might we do to help couples who celebrated the sacrament in front of just two witnesses now celebrate with family and friends? What might we do to remember the dead, and walk with mourners who could not celebrate the Church’s funeral rites? These are also important questions.

We’ll need to be careful with our handwashing, covering our coughs, and even wearing cloth face coverings for a while. Familiar practices, like receiving communion on the tongue or from the chalice, will need to wait. Some may choose to come to church, but still refrain from Communion. Importantly,

¹ Public health experts talk about relaxing social distancing measures when (1) for at least 14 days the number of cases in a state are going down, (2) the healthcare system can care for all who are sick (which includes having all the personal protective equipment that’s needed), and (3) there is a way to know what is actually happening in the community. Some experts stress the importance of testing and contact tracing; others note that shortages of reagents and personnel make these strategies unrealistic, and instead call for what is called syndromic surveillance – watching for a jump in people seeking care for flu-like or COVID-19-like illness.

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those most at risk—those who are older and have underlying health issues—will need to keep away longer.

As we journey through the coming months, we’ll provide guidance along the way. As we changed practices as the pandemic worsened, we’ll transition to new ways of doing things as we move from strict isolation and mitigation strategies to less restrictive approaches.

Which brings us to **inconvenient truth #4**: we need to stop thinking of this like an on-off switch. Instead, think of a dimmer switch. Until we are able to reach herd immunity, there will be flares... or waves... or even a 1918-like tsunami of infections. We don’t know exactly what it will look like, but we need to be ready for the reality that we will see increases in the numbers of people getting sick and dying—and, in response, we’ll need to adjust what we’re doing. For example, a sustained increase in infections, say over a week, ought to trigger a return to more restrictive practices. The “new normal” isn’t a steady state of what’s familiar, or even a relentless movement forward. We’re in for a lengthy and complicated back-and-forth as we respond to the situation in front of us—whether it’s a spike in COVID-19 infections or a flu-season on top of COVID-19.

Which means that, as eager as we might be to return to what was, we need to realize that it’s just not going to be. We’re in for a marathon, not a sprint. The “new normal” will call for a great deal of patience, and a continuing need to put others – especially the most vulnerable – first.

LOOKING AHEAD TO LIFE BEYOND COVID-19

LITURGY NEWS

5G TECHNOLOGY AND THE IMPACT ON PARISH MICROPHONE SYSTEMS

The major phone and internet providers are all upgrading to 5G technology. While their negotiations with the FCC may have a great benefit for cell phone users, this technology will negatively impact frequencies which are used in many wireless microphones in churches, schools, and theatres. All this will become effective July 13, 2020. The FCC notes that this will especially impact those systems which operate on frequencies 617-652 and 663-698 (churches) and frequencies 617, 653-698 (schools). If you have a question, please contact your local technician. For more information – www.fcc.gov/consumers.

OCP PARISH GRANTS: Now accepting applications through May 30, 2020.

The OCP Parish Grants program provides assistance to parishes seeking to enhance the worship experience of their parish community. Parish Grant applications are open to Roman Catholic parishes located within the 50 US states that did not receive an OCP Parish Grant in 2019. Recipients of a Parish Grant must use the money for liturgical and/or musical purposes. Parish Grants are commonly used for:

- Improving multicultural ministries (additional training, purchasing of bilingual worship materials);
- Providing online, digital or electronic resources to support liturgy preparation;
- Upkeep, repair and replacement of musical instruments, equipment and facilities;
- Purchasing music, hymnals and other worship materials;
- Attending or hosting musical or liturgical conferences or workshops.

Website for more information and to apply: <https://ocp.org/en-us/parish-grants>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Vision2020 / Pentecost: May 30-31 - **Mark the date!**

Mass with Bishop Zinkula via the Internet. Details coming soon! Watch the website!

Ordinations

Two seminarians are scheduled to be ordained this year, one each to the diaconate and priesthood. It is not possible to tell yet if we will be able to celebrate this liturgy publicly or not, and, if so, where and how. We hope to be able to make a decision by mid-May. Please keep these men in your prayers:

- James Flattery and Andrew Rauenbuehler as they are ordained for service in the Davenport Diocese; that their lives and ministry would be marked by grace and compassion. Let us pray to the Lord:
- That James and Andrew, who will be ordained for our diocese, would be filled with every grace and blessing. We pray:
- For James Flattery, as he is ordained a priest; and for Andrew Rauenbuehler, as he is ordained a deacon. We pray to the Lord:

CONTINUING FORMATION FOR LITURGY / LITURGICAL MINISTRY

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

Any Interest in On-Line Meetings?

Very few people responded to our on-line survey regarding opportunities for liturgical formation: 10 laypersons, 7 priests, and 1 deacon. The survey surfaced some possible topics for us to consider, but—obviously—a lot has changed since we first put the survey out!

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission is interested in offering some formation session on-line, using the GoToMeeting or Zoom platforms. But we're also aware that people are getting overwhelmed with all sorts of offerings on-line. So... is this something we should continue to pursue? Please let me know at agnoli@davenportdiocese.org.

One Bread, One Cup 2020 – ***the decision on whether or not to hold these gatherings in person will be made by May 15.***

Each summer, Saint Meinrad hosts several "One Bread, One Cup" gatherings. At these five-day liturgical leadership conferences, youth and adults discover the Catholic Church's treasures of Word, Sacrament and Mission and enjoy opportunities for fellowship and fun. Participants come to appreciate the Benedictine balance of prayer, work and recreation. St. Meinrad will be holding these weeks on June 15-19, June 26-30, and July 6-10. For more information or to register, go to: <http://www.saintmeinrad.edu/youth/summer-conferences/>.

Notre Dame Liturgy Week 2020: “The Liturgical Orientation of Catholic Education.”

CANCELLED

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NPM Annual Convention will be Virtual

The 2020 NPM Convention, scheduled for July 7-10 in Louisville, will be **entirely virtual**. All hotel reservations have been automatically cancelled. For more details please visit:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/162a5012701/54a2f1f3-10ea-495f-98a0-e9f19b5fa4f3.pdf>

ITEMS AVAILABLE

FROM OUR LADY OF VICTORY

Lightbulbs



OLV has 67 of these sanctuary ceiling lights all boxed up neatly. All work perfectly and they are free to a fellow parish if they can use them. These bulbs are hard to find, so if you're interested please contact:

David Mattke
OLV Business Manager
davolvbiz@diodav.org
563-391-4245

Display Cases

Also from OLV, but kept at the chancery. If interested, contact Deacon Agnoli.



LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Lent/Triduum 2021

Next year, *Ash Wednesday* falls on February 17.

The *Rite of Election* is tentatively scheduled for February 21, the 1st Sunday of Lent. Details pending.

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The *Chrism Mass* is tentatively scheduled for March 29, the Monday of Holy Week. Details pending.

The Triduum falls on Thursday, April 1 through Sunday, April 4 – with the *Easter Vigil* falling on the night of Saturday, April 3. On that night, the earliest that the Vigil may begin is 8:15pm.

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 books to have on hand:

- <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2016/6/litParishLiturgicalLibrary.pdf>

In addition, here are three other bibliographies that you may find helpful... resources for liturgical study and resources for preaching:

- <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2016/6/litLiturgyBibliography.pdf>
- <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2016/6/litPreachingResources.pdf>
- <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2019/12/litSelectBibliography-PreachingAndJudaism.pdf>

The Months of May and June

May is traditionally regarded as a Marian month. Please recall, however, that the Easter Season should remain the primary focus in both prayer and in the liturgical environment. Popular devotions are to take their life from the liturgy, not overshadow it.

Sunday, May 10, the Fifth Sunday of Easter, is also Mother’s Day this year. As a secular holiday, it should in no way overshadow the primary celebration of the paschal mystery and Eastertime. The Book of Blessings (#1724ff) contains an appropriate rite for parish use. The same applies to Father’s Day, June 21 (See BB #1729ff) – which is the 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

June 1

This new obligatory Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, is celebrated every year on the Monday after Pentecost. Please see <http://www.usccb.org/about/divine-worship/liturgical-calendar/mother-of-the-church.cfm> for the Mass texts. The memorial for St. Justin Martyr is omitted this year.

June 22

The anniversary of the episcopal ordination of Bishop Zinkula, observed as a Feast in the Diocese, will be celebrated on Monday, June 22. 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 20-21 (12th Sunday in Ordinary Time).

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June 28-29

The liturgies to be celebrated this weekend are as follows:

	Morning Prayer	Mass before 4pm	Mass after 4pm	Evening Prayer
Sunday, June 28	13 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	13 th Sunday of Ordinary Time		EP I Solemnity of SS. Peter & Paul
Monday, June 29	Solemnity of SS. Peter and Paul	Solemnity of SS. Peter and Paul		EP II Solemnity of SS. Peter and Paul

RESOURCES FOR THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER

- (1) Diocese of Davenport Vision 2020: Intercessions for Sundays, Seasons, and Holy Days
<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/vision-2020-liturgy>
- (2) The Center for Liturgy website offers general intercessions for each Sunday as well:
<http://liturgy.slu.edu/>
- (3) Intercessions for various life issues may be found on the USCCB website at (in English and Spanish):
<http://usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/prayers/intercessory-prayers-for-life.cfm>
<http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/word-of-life/index.cfm>
Subscribe at: www.bit.ly/word-of-life
- (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.

Phone: 563-888-4220

E-Mail: hoefling@davenportdiocese.org