

LITURGYNOTES – FOR APRIL 2021

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

LITURGY AND COVID-19

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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>

Video from the Iowa Bishops:

<https://youtu.be/ejeeBoNdlxY>



LITURGY NEWS

OCP PARISH GRANTS

The OCP Parish Grants program is a unique program of direct financial grants to provide assistance to parishes seeking to enhance the worship experience of their parish community. They serve to develop and reinforce liturgical and music ministries, to help start multicultural ministries, and to assist parishes in welcoming new communities as they expand the U.S. Catholic Church. Deadline for applications is May 30, 2021. Please visit: <https://www.ocp.org/en-us/parish-grants>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Ordinations

Please pray for our seminarians who are scheduled to be ordained this summer: Rev. Mr. Andrew Rauenbuehler, who will be ordained a priest on June 5, and Ben Snyder and Dale Mallory, who will be ordained deacons on June 12. Details regarding attendance at the ordination liturgies, and how these rites will need to be celebrated in light of the pandemic, are still pending.

Please consider including them in your parish's Universal Prayer. Possible intercessions include:

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- For Andrew Rauenbuehler, Ben Snyder, and Dale Mallory 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 Andrew, Dale, and Ben, who will be ordained for our diocese, would be filled with every grace and blessing. We pray:
- For Andrew Rauenbuehler, as he is ordained a priest; and for Dale Mallory and Ben Snyder, as they are ordained deacons. We pray to the Lord:

CONTINUING FORMATION FOR LITURGY / LITURGICAL MINISTRY

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

FDLC: The Next Series – The Liturgical Year

The FDLC’s webinar series on the Liturgical Books is now over; and a new series is about to begin. Please plan on joining the FDLC on Wednesdays, April 21 to June 23 when we will examine the various seasons and days the Liturgical Year – their history, theology, euchology, and cursus of readings.

For more information or to register, please visit: <https://www.fdlc.org/formation>.

2021 National Gathering on Christian Initiation™

The 2021 NGCI will be held virtually! The theme for our virtual gathering remains **The RCIA Adapted for Children**. Please visit <https://ngci.org/home/index> for more information or to register.

* ENGLISH Track is August 4 thru 5, 2021.

* SPANISH Track is August 6 thru 7, 2021.

Notre Dame Liturgy Series 2021: “Will They Come Back After COVID?: Disaffiliation, Affiliation, and the Liturgy”

Due to ongoing health concerns amid the coronavirus pandemic, the Center for Liturgy’s on-campus summer programming has once again been canceled for 2021. Instead, this June and July, we will host a virtual Summer Liturgy Series, “Will They Come Back After COVID?: Disaffiliation, Affiliation, and the Liturgy.” This array of online offerings will include interviews and live Q&A sessions with experts in theology and pastoral ministry, opportunities for prayer and reflection, and resources for intellectual and spiritual formation.

- June 14–18, 2021: What is disaffiliation? Why do people leave the Church?
- June 21–25, 2021: What is affiliation? Why do people stay in the Church?
- June 28—July 2, 2021: The Eucharist—Supreme Image of Affiliation
- July 5–9, 2021: Popular Piety—Cultivating Affiliation through the Treasures of Tradition
- July 12–16, 2021: Sacred Beauty—Inviting Affiliation through the Imagination
- Week 6: The Domestic Church—Practicing Affiliation in Everyday Life

Please visit their website (<https://mcgrath.nd.edu/conferences/summer-institute/liturgy-week/>) to learn more about the topic, speakers, schedule, and registration deadlines.

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LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Divine Mercy Sunday: From the USCCB’s Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

In light of the Second Sunday of Easter, the Sunday of Divine Mercy on April 11, we would like to draw your attention to some resources available to help you share Christ's message of mercy and healing, especially with those who have participated in abortion.

- **Resources for the Sunday of Divine Mercy from Project Rachel Ministry** (*Mass Readings, Homily Notes, General Homily Considerations for Healing After Abortion, Eucharistic Holy Hour, Informational Videos, Bulletin Ads and Graphics*)
- **Action Guide for the Sunday of Divine Mercy** (Click the “Sunday of Divine Mercy” button [at the top of this webpage.](#)) (*introduction, simple steps, sample timeline, sample announcements, intercessions, homily helps, and sample activity + supplemental resources*)
- **Dedicated web page for the Sunday of Divine Mercy** (*Eucharistic Holy Hour, notes and quotes for reflection, and brief explanations pertaining to Divine Mercy*)
- **Homily Notes for the Second Sunday of Easter and the Sunday of Divine Mercy:** [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- **Homily Considerations Regarding Healing after Abortion** [English](#) | [Spanish](#) (*These are helpful any time of year.*)

Ordinary Time

As you begin looking ahead to ordinary time—and especially weekday celebrations—please remember that a wealth of Votive Masses and Masses for Various Needs and Occasions are available. You may also want to consider a number of rites from the Book of Blessings as the summer approaches, for example:

- *For new drivers, especially as school lets out:* Order for the Blessing of the Various Means of Transportation.
- *Especially for rural parishes:* Order for the Blessing of Boats and Fishing Gear; Order for the Blessing of Fields and Flocks; and Order for the Blessing of Seeds at Planting Time.
- *Since this is a common time for moves to take place:* Order for Welcoming of New Parishioners; and Order for the Blessing of a Departing Parishioner.

Especially for rural communities, celebrating a Novena in honor of St. Isidore (feast is May 15; Novena starts on May 7) is appropriate: see <https://s3.amazonaws.com/catholicrurallife/wp-content/uploads/IsidoreNovena.pdf>. The Novena can also precede the Assumption or Thanksgiving.

Ordinary Time and Judaism

Excerpted from *God's Mercy Endures Forever: Guidelines on the Presentation of Jews and Judaism in Catholic Preaching* (Bishop's Committee on the Liturgy, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, September, 1988); full document at: <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/ecumenical-and-interreligious/jewish/upload/God-s-Mercy-Endures-Forever-Guidelines-on-the-Presentation-of-Jews-and-Judaism-in-Catholic-Preaching-1988.pdf>.

30. The challenges that peak in the seasons of Advent, Lent, and Easter are present throughout the year in the juxtaposition of the lectionary readings. There are many occasions when it is difficult to avoid a

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reference either to Jews or Judaism in a homily based upon a text from the Scriptures. For all Scripture, including the New Testament, deals with Jews and Jewish themes.

31. Throughout the year, the following general principles will be helpful:

- Consistently affirm the value of the whole Bible. While "among all the Scriptures, even those of the New Testament, the Gospels have a special preeminence" (*Dei Verbum*, 18), the Hebrew Scriptures are the word of God and have validity and dignity in and of themselves (*ibid.*, 15). Keep in view the intentions of the biblical authors (*ibid.*, 19).
- Place the typology inherent in the lectionary in a proper context, neither overemphasizing nor avoiding it. Show that the meaning of the Hebrew Scriptures for their original audience is not limited to nor diminished by New Testament applications (1985 Notes, II).
- Communicate a reverence for the Hebrew Scriptures and avoid approaches that reduce them to a propaedeutic or background for the New Testament. It is God who speaks, communicating himself through divine revelation (*Dei Verbum*, 6).
- Show the connectedness between the Scriptures. The Hebrew Bible and the Jewish tradition founded on it must not be set against the New Testament in such a way that the former seems to constitute a religion of only retributive justice, fear, and legalism, with no appeal to love of God and neighbor (cf. Dt 6:5; Lv 19:18,32; Hos 11:1-9; Mt 22:34-40).
- Enliven the eschatological hope, the "not yet" aspect of the kerygma. The biblical promises are realized in Christ. But the Church awaits their perfect fulfillment in Christ's glorious return when all creation is made free (1974 Guidelines, II).
- Emphasize the Jewishness of Jesus and his teachings and highlight the similarities of the teachings of the Pharisees with those of Christ (1985 Notes, III and IV).
- Respect the continuing validity of God's covenant with the Jewish people and their responsive faithfulness, despite centuries of suffering, to the divine call that is theirs (1985 Notes, VI).
- Frame homilies to show that Christians and Jews together are "trustees and witnesses of an ethic marked by the Ten Commandments, in the observance of which humanity finds its truth and freedom" (John Paul II, Rome Synagogue, April 13, 1986).
- Be free to draw on Jewish sources (rabbinic, medieval, and modern) in expounding the meaning of the Hebrew Scriptures and the apostolic writings. The 1974 Guidelines observe that "the history of Judaism did not end with the destruction of Jerusalem, but went on to develop a religious tradition., rich in religious values." The 1985 Notes (no. 14) thus speak of Christians "profiting discerningly from the traditions of Jewish readings" of the sacred texts.

32. The 1985 Notes describe what is central to the role of the homilist: "Attentive to the same God who has spoken, hanging on the same word, we have to witness to one same memory and one common hope in him who is master of history. We must also accept our responsibility to prepare the world for the coming of the Messiah by working together for social justice, respect for the rights of persons and nations, and for social and international reconciliation. To this we are driven, Jews and Christians, by the command to love our neighbor, by a common hope for the kingdom of God, and by the great heritage of the prophets" (1985 Notes, no. 19; see also Lv 19:18, 32).

Lent & Triduum 2022

Ash Wednesday will fall on March 2, 2022; the First Sunday of Lent will be March 6.

The *Rite of Election* is tentatively scheduled for March 6, the 1st Sunday of Lent. Details pending.

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The *Chrism Mass* is tentatively scheduled for April 11, the Monday of Holy Week. Details pending.

The *Triduum* falls on Thursday, April 14 through Sunday, April 17 – with the Easter Vigil falling on the night of Saturday, April 16. On that night, the earliest that the Vigil may begin is 8:30pm.

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>



This and similar graphics may be found at: <https://www.chausa.org/masks>

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