

LITURGYNOTES – FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

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

In this issue...

- Liturgy & COVID-19: Webinar series from Catholic Cares
- Season of Creation – videos from *Laudato Si* conference
- Liturgy News: Changes in how we celebrate the Rite of Election
- Formation: FDLC
- Liturgy: Fr. Paul Turner on adding prayer to the liturgy
- Liturgical Calendar: More on September observances; November; Advent; Lent & Triduum 2022
- The Universal Prayer...
- Next Deacon Formation Class

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“Joined to the incarnate Son, present in the Eucharist, the whole cosmos gives thanks to God. Indeed the Eucharist is itself an act of cosmic love: ‘Yes, cosmic! Because even when it is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world.’” – Pope Francis (*Laudato Si*, 236)

<p>A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH (FROM LAUDATO SI')</p> <p>ALL-POWERFUL GOD, YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE WHOLE UNIVERSE AND IN THE SMALLEST OF YOUR CREATURES. YOU EMBRACE WITH YOUR TENDERNESS ALL THAT EXISTS. POUR OUT UPON US THE POWER OF YOUR LOVE, THAT WE MAY PROTECT LIFE AND BEAUTY. FILL US WITH PEACE, THAT WE MAY LIVE AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS, HARMING NO ONE. O GOD OF THE POOR, HELP US TO RESCUE THE ABANDONED AND FORGOTTEN OF THIS EARTH, SO PRECIOUS IN YOUR EYES.</p>	<p>BRING HEALING TO OUR LIVES, THAT WE MAY PROTECT THE WORLD AND NOT PREY ON IT, THAT WE MAY SOW BEAUTY, NOT POLLUTION AND DESTRUCTION. TOUCH THE HEARTS OF THOSE WHO LOOK ONLY FOR GAIN AT THE EXPENSE OF THE POOR AND THE EARTH. TEACH US TO DISCOVER THE WORTH OF EACH THING, TO BE FILLED WITH AWE AND CONTEMPLATION, TO RECOGNIZE THAT WE ARE PROFOUNDLY UNITED WITH EVERY CREATURE AS WE JOURNEY TOWARDS YOUR INFINITE LIGHT. WE THANK YOU FOR BEING WITH US EACH DAY. ENCOURAGE US, WE PRAY, IN OUR STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE, LOVE AND PEACE.</p>
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The Dicastery for Promotion of Integral Human Development is launching a new program and a public commitment for various institutions to begin a 7-year journey to total sustainability in the spirit of *Laudato Si'*. For additional resources, please visit: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/deacon-formation-resources/#LaudatoSi>.

LITURGY AND COVID-19



Pandemic Policies and Resources:

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

Prayer and Support:

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

Catholic Cares Coalition:

<https://catholiccares.org/>

Formation sessions/videos:

<https://catholiccares.org/formation-sessions>

SEASON OF CREATION: VIDEOS FROM THE 2021 LAUDATO SI' CONFERENCE

Catholic Climate Covenant & Creighton University

Tuesday, July 13th, 2021

- Conference Opening Keynote: "A Bold Embrace of Laudato Si'" with welcome from Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD, president of Creighton University and remarks from His Eminence Blase Cardinal Cupich, archbishop of Chicago, and Maureen Day, PhD, assistant professor of religion and society, Franciscan School of Theology

Wednesday, July 14th, 2021

- [Mass for the Feast of St. Kateri Tekakwitha](#), with Rev. Mark Beran, Pastor of St. Augustine Indian Mission, Winnebago, NE, and reflection by Most Reverend Joseph Tyson, Bishop of Yakima, WA.
- Wednesday's Concurrent Ministry Breakout Sessions:
 - [Environmental Justice](#)
 - [Preaching for Creation Care](#)
 - [Youth & Young Adults](#)
 - [Communications & Media](#)
- Wednesday Closing Plenary: "[Update on Vatican Laudato Si' Action Platform and Covenant Grants Program/Advocacy Efforts](#)" with welcome from Rev. Joshtrom Isaac Kureethadam, PhD, coordinator of the Sector for Ecology and Creation at the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development

Thursday, July 15th, 2021

- [Opening Mass](#) with Rev. Joseph Nangle, OFM, ministerio Latino at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Arlington, VA
- Thursday's Concurrent Ministry Breakout Sessions:
 - [Creation Care Teams](#)
 - [Colleges & Universities](#)
 - [Advocacy](#)
 - [Parochial School Education](#)
- Conference Closing Keynote: "[Can the Earth be Healed? Insights from Teilhard de Chardin, SJ](#)" with Sister Ilia Delio, OSF, PhD, Josephine C. Connelly Endowed Chair in Theology at Villanova University and Sister Mary Ellen Leciejewski, OP, System Vice President of Environmental Sustainability for CommonSpirit Health

LITURGY NEWS

CHANGING HOW WE CELEBRATE THE RITE OF ELECTION

As you know, our practice has been to celebrate the “combined rite” for both catechumens and candidates at different churches: in some years, at the Cathedral and in Ottumwa, in other years in Iowa City. The Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion was the last diocesan liturgy that we celebrated in 2020 before COVID hit. And, due to the pandemic, we were not able to gather in 2021 and the rites were celebrated in individual parishes.

For a number of years, Bishop Zinkula, the Diocesan Liturgical Commission, and I have been discussing how best to observe these rites. The interruption caused by the pandemic—as well as the bishop’s emphasis on evangelization—have led us to offer a different approach to the rites this coming year (assuming, of course, that we are able to gather as a diocesan church). We’re excited about what we’re planning: a day of celebration and reflection for the catechumens at the Cathedral! Please let me explain how this year will be different.

First, we will only celebrate the Rite of Election.

In the RCIA, the Rite of Election (for catechumens) is envisioned as a diocesan liturgy, while the Call to Continuing Conversion (for candidates already baptized) is more properly a parish rite. The RCIA emphasizes the distinction between catechumens and candidates; we don’t take anyone’s baptism lightly. Our plans highlight and reinforce this distinction between baptized candidates and catechumens preparing for baptism.

Second, we will celebrate the rite once – at the Cathedral.

The Cathedral is our mother church, the spiritual heart of the diocese. It is right that all our major liturgies (at least as much as we are able) be celebrated there: the Rite of Election, Chrism Mass, and Ordinations. Not only are we able to avoid celebrating the rite on the 2nd Sunday of Lent (which is really not foreseen in the liturgical books), but by prioritizing the cathedral as the place of celebration we are better able to connect the catechumens to the diocesan church.

Third, and most importantly, we will gather for more than the Rite of Election. We are planning an entire day’s worth of activities.

The Rite of Election should normally take place at Mass; by doing so, we are better able to emphasize that the rite is about the catechumens and their election (by God) and not about being a gathering to “meet the bishop.” So, we’ll begin with Mass at 11am. The Elect will be dismissed before the Liturgy of the Eucharist in order to “break open the word” together as the rest of the assembly continues to lift them in prayer.

The Elect will be joined by their godparents, guests, and parish catechist/representative for lunch, followed by mystagogical reflection on the rite and an exploration of the signs, symbols, and architecture of the cathedral church. The day will close with Solemn Vespers. This approach enriches the day beyond the rite itself. Catechesis and social sharing become part of the gathering, reflecting RCIA paragraph 75 and the importance of this day in the catechumens’ journey of faith. Our hope is that our time together will be an intentional evangelical moment for all involved.

LiturgyNotes – September 2021

“The Eucharist commits us to the poor” (CCC #1397).

I am sure that the plan detailed above raises a number of questions. We’ve anticipated some of them:

1. What will the schedule of the day look like?

Here is the tentative schedule that we’ve worked out for March 6 (1st Sunday of Lent):

10:30	Begin to arrive at the Cathedral
11:00	Mass begins
11:30	After the Rite of Election, the Elect are dismissed to “break open the word” together
12:00	Those at Mass move into a period of Eucharistic Adoration and prayer for the Elect
12:30	Lunch
2:00	Mystagogy
3:00	The signs, symbols, and architecture of the cathedral & break (2 groups)
4:30	Solemn Vespers
5:00	Home

2. What about numbers? Will everyone fit at the Cathedral?

We average around 100 candidates, 100 catechumens, and 685 attendees at the Rite(s) of Election each year. The cathedral seats about 620 comfortably full (3 persons in each pew on the side and 8 persons in each of the central pews). The parish hall holds 260-275 “packed” at tables (350-400 lecture style). Another 150 or so can be seated in the gathering space and 125-150 in the basement.

Therefore, at this point, we envision inviting the catechumens and their godparents, 2 additional family members per catechumen, 1 guest per godparent, and 2 representatives from each parish. In other words, each catechumen may bring a godparent and 3 others. So, in order to help with our preparations, we will need the number of those attending right away after the New Year.

3. When would the Rite of Sending be celebrated?

The Rite of Sending may be celebrated within or outside of Mass, and at any appropriate time. So, the parish could celebrate it at Mass on Saturday night or early Sunday morning (or even the previous Sunday), or could celebrate it in the context of a Liturgy of the Word when the catechumens gather during the week. While recommended, the rite itself is optional. The Rite of Sending and Rite of Election would be for catechumens (those not yet baptized) only, and not for candidates for full communion.

4. When would the Book of the Elect be signed by the Catechumens?

The Book would be signed as part of the Rite of Sending. The bishop does not need to sign the book.

5. What about the Call to Continuing Conversion?

The RCIA presumes this to be a parochial rite. It is celebrated when it is appropriate for the given candidate(s). It may be celebrated on the First Sunday of Lent in the parish.

6. What happens in case of bad weather?

Bad weather is certainly a risk in early spring in Iowa! As in the past, pastors have the faculty to celebrate the Rite in their own parish.

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7. Hospitality Saturday night?

If any participants were planning on driving in Saturday night instead of Sunday morning, and if there is any interest, we could host a “social” on Saturday night at the cathedral.

8. What about helping the candidates also connect to the Diocesan Church?

The RCIA calls for the Bishop to celebrate Mass with the neophytes, ideally at some point in Eastertime. These would be an excellent opportunity to gather with the newly-received as well. As with the Rite of Election, our hope would be to gather for liturgy as well as formation and social time together: “Mass, Mystagogy, and a Meal.” While details and starting times are still pending, we can tell you when and where we will gather:

- Sunday, May 15 (5th Sun of Easter): St. Mary, Pella
- Sunday, June 5 (Pentecost): St. Mary, Riverside

We are expecting a new edition of *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults* (OCIA rather than RCIA) soon. The publication of the new ritual book will be a golden opportunity to revisit our approach to initiation. The way we are celebrating the Rite of Election this year is part of that attempt to get back to the “roots” of how the Church envisions initiation. Perhaps this different way of doing things will help parishes embrace a year-round/apprenticeship approach to initiation (see RCIA §75) and move away from a school year/classroom approach as well as serve as a reminder that candidates ought to be initiated at times other than the Vigil.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

CONTINUING FORMATION FOR LITURGY / LITURGICAL MINISTRY

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

FDLC: National Meeting Registration is Open

Please visit the FDLC website to view a full registration brochure and for easy, online registration for the National Meeting: <https://www.fdlc.org/2021>. The meeting will take place in San Diego, September 28-30. Virtual participation is also available – please note the line on the registration form. Featured speakers will include Bishop Daniel Garcia, Father Thomas Simon, Lesa Truxaw, Dr. Bob Hurd, Sr. Sharon McMillan, and Father Gilbert Sunghera, SJ, AIA. Of course, the annual meeting will include a BCDW report, business sessions, exhibits, prayerful liturgies and fun social events. There will be an optional tour of Christ Cathedral and the Mission San Juan Capistrano on October 1. Please join us as we reflect upon current liturgical practices and the *Order of Dedication of a Church and an Altar*.



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LITURGY PREPARATION

FROM FR. PAUL TURNER

Q: What are your thoughts on adding prayers after communion such as the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel that many bishops are promoting? [or the Hail, Mary after the intercessions, etc.]

A: Just say no.

The group working on the revisions of the Order of Mass in the years after Vatican II made studied choices about what to remove, what to retain, and what to alter. These decisions cohere extremely well in the missal that we received from the Vatican, and that has twice gone through an upgrade with its second and third editions. The mass that we have does not need any fixing.

Any individual who wishes to pray to St. Michael may do so privately, but there is no space for it as public prayer within the Order of Mass, and it disrupts the flow and meaning of the final parts of liturgy.

If there is a particular concern that drives the addition of a prayer, then that concern belongs in the Universal Prayer. That is why that part of the mass was restored after Vatican II.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

September 9: Memorial of St. Peter Claver

The USCCB has made available additional resources for observing St. Peter Claver’s Memorial. Some may be found here (<https://www.usccb.org/committees/ad-hoc-committee-against-racism/combating-racism-parish-resources>) while others are posted on our diocesan website (<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/events/st-peter-claver-2>).

September 20-26: National Migration Week / 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees

The USCCB’s Committee on Migration invites us all “to participate in the 2021 National Migration Week (NMW) celebration from September 20-26 that culminates with the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) on Sunday, September 26. In solidarity with the Vatican, NMW will use the same theme as WDMR – *Towards an ever wider ‘We’.*”

Pope Francis’s Message on this occasion may be found here:

https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/papa-francesco_20210503_world-migrants-day-2021.html

Resources for observing this week and day may be found at: <https://justiceformigrants.org/take-action/national-migration-week/>

Monday, November 1: All Saints

Evening Prayer II on Sunday is replaced by Evening Prayer I of All Saints (since the Solemnity ranks higher than a Sunday in Ordinary Time); evening Masses would still be for the Sunday.

LiturgyNotes – September 2021

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Because it falls on a Monday (and because of the pandemic), the Solemnity of All Saints is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

- When the obligation is abrogated, ritual Masses (i.e., marriage, confirmation) are still prohibited.
- Marriage may be celebrated outside of Mass using texts from the Rite of Marriage.
- Funeral Masses may be celebrated when the obligation is abrogated.

Wednesday, November 3: St. Martin de Porres

Some resources:

- <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-martin-de-porres/>
- <https://www.usccb.org/committees/ad-hoc-committee-against-racism/combating-racism-parish-resources>

Monday, November 15: Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral

For the Diocese of Davenport, the Feast of the Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral is observed on November 15 (at the Cathedral itself it is observed as a Solemnity—and may be transferred to the preceding Sunday).

Advent

1. With the new liturgical year, we begin the use of Cycle **C** in the Sunday Lectionary and Year **II** in the Weekday Lectionary. For more information, especially in regards to the Missal and Advent, please see our webpage on the liturgical seasons (<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgical-seasons>) or go directly to http://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2016/6/FDLC7-Navigating_RM01_Advent.pdf.
2. The color of Advent is a bluer shade of violet, to distinguish it from the purple of penitence in Lent. Blue is not an allowed color in the U.S. Rose is an optional color for the vesture on the Third Sunday of Advent, signaling that the full joy of Christmas is drawing near. The vestments worn should not have a cross, nails, etc. on them – they should not be Lenten.
3. The Advent wreath is blessed only at the first mass, after the intercessions. See the Book of Blessings, #1509ff, chapter 47. On the other Sundays of Advent, it is lit before Mass begins and no additional prayers are said. The traditional wreath is a circle of evergreen branches that bears four candles. The dominant tradition calls for three violet and one rose candle, but four violet or four white candles may also be used. Some communities add a fifth candle, white, for Christmas. The wreath should be large enough for all to see, but not obstruct the view of the altar, ambo or chair.
4. A good Penitential Act to use would be the third form, #I (Appendix VI of the Missal).
5. Don't anticipate Christmas with music and environment. Rather, make use of a full spectrum of Advent music.
6. Don't make believe Jesus never came – focus on the second coming. Even though we aren't using this as a memorial acclamation at Mass anymore, it is still true: Christ *has* died, Christ *is* risen, Christ *will* come again.

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7. Giving trees should not be in the sanctuary. Remember you can transform them for Christmas. They are better placed in the entryway or some location other than the sanctuary, lest the simplicity of Advent decor be compromised. Likewise, while Jesse trees are good for religious education, they should not be in the church.

8. The *Gloria* is omitted (though there are exceptions when it comes to certain ritual Masses).

9. This season should reflect quiet and a subdued peace, as well as a sense of anticipation.

10. Remember that Advent and Christmas are the perfect times to remember Mary, our ultimate model for discipleship. The following Marian feasts and solemnities are observed during Advent:

a. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception falls on a Wednesday this year. Although the obligation is dispensed (due to the pandemic), please note that ritual and funeral Masses are not permitted.

b. The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is not observed this year, since December 12 falls on an Advent Sunday. All the liturgies that day are for the Third Sunday of Advent.

As stated by the USCCB: Our Lady of Guadalupe may be appropriately honored in the Homily, Universal Prayer, and hymns during the Sunday liturgy. If pastoral advantage calls for it (cf. GIRM, no. 376), a Votive Mass of Our Lady of Guadalupe may be celebrated on a weekday before or after December 12, with the proper readings and prayers. The readings and Mass texts proper to the feast may be used.

The Advent Lectionary and Judaism

Excerpts 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):

The lectionary readings from the prophets are selected to bring out the ancient Christian theme that Jesus is the "fulfillment" of the biblical message of hope and promise, the inauguration of the "days to come" described, for example, by the daily Advent Masses, and on Sundays by Isaiah in cycle A and Jeremiah in cycle C for the First Sunday of Advent. This truth needs to be framed very carefully. (11) Christians proclaim that the Messiah has indeed come and that God's Reign is "at hand." With the Jewish people, we await the complete realization of the messianic age. In underlining the eschatological dimension of Christianity, we shall reach a greater awareness that the people of God of the Old and the New Testament are tending toward a like end in the future: the coming or return of the Messiah--even if they start from two different points of view (1985 Notes, nos. 18-19). (12) Other difficulties may be less theologically momentous but can still be troublesome. For example, the reading from Baruch in cycle C or from Isaiah in cycle A for the Second Sunday of Advent can leave the impression that pre-Jesus Israel was wholly guilt-ridden and in mourning, and Judaism virtually moribund. In fact, in their original historical settings, such passages reveal Judaism's remarkable capacity for self-criticism.... (13)

The full text may be found at:

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

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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. See above!
- The *Chrism Mass* is tentatively scheduled for April 11, the Monday of Holy Week.
- 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>

ANNOUNCEMENT: DEACON FORMATION PROGRAM CLASS IX

The Diocese of Davenport will be holding a number of information/orientation sessions across the diocese for those interested in the diaconate. Applications to the Deacon Formation Program will only be distributed at these sessions. The information sessions will be offered in English and Spanish. The next class will begin formation in August 2022; both an English and a Spanish track will be offered. For more information, or if you are interested in attending one of these sessions, please contact Dc. Agnoli at 563-888-4257/agnoli@davenportdiocese.org, or visit <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/class-ix>.

In order to prepare for each session, we ask that those interested register for the session they wish to attend (also at <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/class-ix>). We ask that, in keeping with diocesan COVID protocols, if you are not vaccinated, please wear a mask to these sessions.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Sunday, September 26 (1-5pm)	English Program Inquiry	Grinnell – St. Mary (1002 Broad St.)
Sunday, October 24 (1-5pm)	English Program Inquiry	Iowa City – St. Patrick (4330 St. Patrick Dr.)
Sunday, November 21 (1-5pm)	English Program Inquiry	DeWitt – St. Joseph (417 6 th Ave)
Sunday, December 19 (1-5pm)	English Program Inquiry	Chancery (780 W. Central Park)

LiturgyNotes – September 2021

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Sunday, January 16, 2022 (1-5 pm)	Spanish Program Inquiry	Davenport – St. Anthony (417 N. Main)
Sunday, February 27 (1-5pm)	Spanish Program Inquiry	Iowa City – St. Patrick (4330 St. Patrick Dr.)
Sunday, April 3 (1-5pm)	Spanish Program Inquiry	Ottumwa – St. Mary (216 N Court St)



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