A Liturgical Preparation Aid for Lent, The Sacred Paschal Triduum, and the Easter Season 2019

FDLC

Courtesy of the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions
The Church’s first truth is the love of Christ. The Church makes herself a servant of this love and mediates it to all people: a love that forgives and expresses itself in the gift of oneself. Consequently, wherever the Church is present, the mercy of the Father must be evident. In our parishes, communities, associations and movements, in a word, wherever there are Christians, everyone should find an oasis of mercy.

Pope Francis
*Misericordiae Vultus*: The Face of Mercy, 12
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A RITE FOR RECONCILIATION OF SEVERAL PENITENTS
WITH INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Introductory Rites
Opening Hymn
Greeting
Introduction
Opening Prayer

Celebration of the Word of God
First Reading
Responsorial Psalm
Second Reading
Gospel Verse
Gospel
Homily
Examination of Conscience

Rite of Reconciliation
General Confession of Sin
Litany of Repentance
Lord’s Prayer
Concluding Prayer
Individual Confession of Sin and Absolution
Proclamation of Praise for God’s Mercy

Concluding Rite
Blessing
Dismissal
Closing Hymn
PREPARATION

- Hospitality Ministers should be recruited to welcome the assembly as they arrive and to distribute worship aids.

- At least two readers should be appointed to proclaim the reading(s), to read the Examination of Conscience, and to lead the Litany of Repentance. They are to be seated in the assembly.

- A musician and cantor(s) should lead the assembly in song. Instrumental music may be played during individual confession. (A list of music suggestions is included herein.)

- A Bible or Lectionary should be readied with the appropriate readings.

- Lighting may be subdued. Candle(s) should be lit at the ambo.

- Stations for confessors should be prepared. Priests might stand or sit in isolated areas around the main body of the church to receive penitents. In this way, the communal nature of the rite is maintained. Candles may light these stations.

- For the sake of simplicity, the presider alone or the presider and preacher could participate in the procession. Other priests could be seated in the sanctuary or in a reserved area before the liturgy begins.

INTRODUCTORY RITE

OPENING HYMN

See suggestions herein

GREETING

Presider: Grace and peace be with you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ who laid down his life for our sins.

All: Glory to him for ever. Amen.
It seems that we live in a society which is constantly debating about right and wrong. Opinions are shared on social media and on the evening news; in Congress and in courthouses; in coffee houses and in classrooms. Great moral issues have merely become subject to the latest headline or opinion poll.

Issues of right and wrong are also debated in our own hearts and minds. “Is it okay if I cheat as long as no one gets hurt?” “Is it okay if I skip Sunday Mass and just pray on my own?” “Is it okay if I buy expensive cars and clothes, yet neglect the poor?”

God is aware of our human frailties. That is why he gave us the Ten Commandments. That is why he sent his Son to preach about his Kingdom. That is why he gives us the Holy Spirit to form our conscience and teach us his statutes. It’s all really beyond debate.

God calls each of us here tonight [today] to the sacrament of reconciliation. We come to acknowledge our sins and to seek God’s forgiveness. As we approach this sacrament of mercy, let us be mindful of those times when we have not lived a life in harmony with God’s clear commands.

Brothers and sisters,
God calls us to conversion;
let us therefore ask him
for the grace of sincere repentance.

Silent prayer

Father of mercies and God of all consolation,
you do not wish the sinner to die
but to be converted and live.
Come to the aid of your people,
that they may turn from their sins
and live for you alone.
May we be attentive to your word,
confess our sins,
receive your forgiveness,
and always be grateful for your loving kindness.
Help us to live the truth in love
and grow into the fullness of Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

Amen.
The following are suggested readings. Alternate readings may be selected. The preacher may wish to use one, two, or three readings. If only one is chosen, it is preferable that it be the gospel.

The readings are printed elsewhere in this booklet, for ease of rehearsal. A Lectionary or Bible should be used during the liturgy.

FIRST READING  Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9  
Keep the commandments and your work will be complete.

Lord, I love your commands.

SECOND READING  Hebrews 4:14-16  
Let us confidently approach the throne of grace.

VERSE  John 14:23  
Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord; and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

GOSPEL  Matthew 22:34-40  
You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbor as yourself.

HOMILY
**First Reading**

Exodus 20:1-17  The Law was given through Moses.
Deuteronomy 6:2-6  Hear, O Israel: you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.
Deuteronomy 11:18, 26-28, 32  I put before you today a blessing and a curse
Deuteronomy 30:15-20  I set before you life and prosperity, death and evil
2 Samuel 12:7-10, 13  The Lord on his part has forgiven your sin.
Sirach 28:1-7  Forgive your neighbor...your sins will be forgiven
Isaiah 55:1-11  Turn to the Lord for mercy...our God who is generous and forgiving
Joel 2: 12-18  I will sprinkle you with clean water...

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 19  Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.
Psalm 27  The Lord is my light and my salvation.
Psalm 30  I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.
Psalm 32: 1-11  Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.
Psalm 36:2-13  How precious is your unfailing love, Lord.
Psalm 51: 3-6,12-15  Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
Psalm 85  Lord, let us see you kindness and grant us your salvation.
Psalm 95  If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.
Psalm 113: 1-2, 4-6, 7-8  Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.
Psalm 147  Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

**Second Reading**

Romans 5: 6-11  We were reconciled to God through the death of his Son.
Romans 6:2-14  Think of yourself as being dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus
Romans 13:8-10  Love is the fulfillment of the law.
2 Corinthians 5:6-10  We aspire to please the Lord.
2 Corinthians 5:17 - 6:2  We are ambassadors for Christ, ministers of reconciliation
Galatians 2:16, 19-21  I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me
Galatians 3: 7-14  Those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham who had faith
Philippians 4: 4-9  The Lord is near... think about whatever is worthy of praise
1 Peter 2:20-25  By his wounds you were healed
1 John 1:5 - 2:2  Jesus is expiation for our sins
Ephesians 2:4-10  By grace you have been saved.
Ephesians 5:8-14  Live as children of the light
Ephesians 6:10-13, 18  Put on the armor of God.

**Gospel**

Matthew 5:17-19  I did not come to abolish the law, but to fulfill it.
Matthew 9:1-8  Rise and walk, your sins are forgiven
Matthew 9: 9-13  I have come not to call the just, but sinners.
Matthew 19:16-26  If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have.
Mark 12:28b-34  Love the Lord your God. Love your neighbor.
Luke 5:27-32  Jesus eats with tax collectors and sinners
Luke 7:36-50  The woman anoints the feet of Jesus... Your sins are forgiven.
Luke 15: 1-7  Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.
Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32  There will be great joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.
Luke 19: 1-10  The Son of Man has come to search out and save what was lost.
On December 22, 2014 Pope Francis met with the behind-the-scenes Vatican employees. After thanking them for their dedication, he encouraged them to examine areas of their lives. The following words are adapted from his remarks.

“Care for your spiritual life, your relationship with God.”
- Am I a Christian who is not nourished by prayer and the sacraments?
- Do I study the Word of God?

“Care for your family life...”
- Do I give my family time, attention, and love?
- Do I care for their daily needs?

“Heal the wounds of the heart with the oil of forgiveness...”
- Have I forgiven others who have hurt me?
- Have I said “I’m sorry” to those whom I have hurt and have I tried to make amends?

“Watch how you speak...”
- Do I need to purify my everyday language from offensive words, vulgarities, and phrases used in the worldly decadence?
- Do I gossip about others or tell false truths?

“Care for your work...”
- Do I work with enthusiasm and passion?
- Am I humble enough to thank the Lord for my accomplishments?
- Do I use my God-given skills and talents in the service of others?

“Avoid envy, lust, hatred, and negative feelings...”
- Are my thoughts and actions destructive toward my relationships, especially with those whom I love?
- Do my thoughts destroy my inner peace?
- Do I say insulting things when it would be better to remain silent?
- Do I surround myself with angry or destructive people?

“Reach out to those who need you... this is how you will be judged.”
- Do I assist the weak, the elderly, the sick?
- Do I stand up for foreigners or for those who are oppressed?
- Do I feed the hungry and shelter the homeless?

“Let go of...”
- “The bitterness that brings us to revenge”
- “The laziness that leads to existential euthanasia”
- “The finger-pointing that leads to pride”
- “The complaining that leads to despair”
Two readers might alternate. Allow a brief period of silence between each question or phrase.

Presider: The following examination of conscience is based upon the Confiteor. Please reflect quietly as each part is read.

I confess to almighty God
- Do I sincerely want to be set free from sin and turn again to God?
- Do I seek a deeper relationship with God in this sacrament of reconciliation?

and to you my brothers and sisters
- Have I contributed to the well-being and happiness of others at home?
- Am I aware of my global relationship to those suffering and dying in other parts of the world?
- Am I committed to seek peace and promote justice for every person?

that I have greatly sinned,
- Do I accept that society's evils are within my power to change?
- Have my addictions affected my judgment or behavior?
- Have I knowingly ignored God’s commandments?

in my thoughts and in my words,
- Have I ever harbored ill thoughts against another person?
- Have my fears or prejudices prevented me from speaking out on behalf of the poor, the unborn, or people of other races?
- Have my words caused others hurt? Has my silence caused others harm?
- Do I need to be in control of all people and all situations?

in what I have done
- Do I seek to be the center of attention? Have I imposed my will on others without respecting their needs or freedoms?
- Am I focused on my needs to the detriment of the needs of others?
- Am I obsessed with having the perfect body, making more money, or having the latest technology?

and in what I have failed to do
- Have I neglected my responsibilities to my family?
- Have I neglected my health?
- Have I neglected my prayer life?
- Do I use the earth's resources wisely?
- Do I work more than is healthy for my mind or body?
though my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault:

- Do I blame others for my wrongdoing or for the misfortune that befalls me?
- Do I accept responsibility for the commitments I have made to others – my spouse? my parents? my children? my parish?

therefore, I ask blessed Mary, ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints.

- Do I reflect on the lives of model Christians which God has made known to me?
- Do I seek the guidance of Mary and the Saints?
- Do I appreciate the great gift of the Eucharist?
- Do I worship with my Community each Sunday?
- Do I reflect often on what God is calling me to do?

and you, my brothers and sisters.

- Am I so independent that I refuse to ask for help or let others assist me?
- Do I support and defend other members of my family?
- Do I give others the opportunity to share their gifts and talents?
- Do I treat those who wait on me or who work with me with the dignity they deserve as fellow human beings?

to pray for me to the Lord our God.

- Do I promise prayers for people and situations and not follow through?
- Do I remember to pray for others in my parish, especially for those who are preparing to receive the sacraments?
- Do I pray for the living and the dead?
EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE: OPTION C

Presider:  Sisters and brothers,
our Father knows all our failings,
but asks us to call them to mind
so that we may seek out his forgiveness.

Minister #1: Am I attentive to God’s presence in prayer and worship?
  ▪  Do I pray daily?
  ▪  Do I receive the sacraments regularly?
  ▪  Do I keep Sundays and holy days sacred?
  ▪  Do I fulfill my commitments as a member of my faith community?
  ▪  What is my attitude toward the sacrament of reconciliation?
  ▪  Have I tried to grow in the life of the Spirit through prayer and the reading of the
    word of God?
  ▪  Do I trust God’s goodness and providence, even in times of crisis and doubt?

Minister #2: In my daily living, do I act as a child of God?
  ▪  Do I respect my own body as a gift from God?
  ▪  Do I control my vices, including abuses of food and drink?
  ▪  Have I made good use of the gifts God has given me?
  ▪  Do I work too hard and too long? Do I neglect my family and health?
  ▪  Have I been lazy and given too much time to leisure or entertainment?

Minister #1: Do I reflect the mercy of God in my relationship with others?
  ▪  In my household, have I contributed to the well-being and happiness of the rest of
    my family? Am I patient? Am I loving?
  ▪  Do I treat my parents with respect?
  ▪  Am I ever angry with those I love?
  ▪  Have I been faithful in my relationships?
  ▪  Have I imposed my will on others without respecting their freedom and rights?
  ▪  Am I intolerant of other’s ideas or needs?
  ▪  Have I perpetuated racism, prejudices and stereotypes?
  ▪  Do I treat people with disabilities with respect?

Minister #2: Do I bring the love of God to the world?
  ▪  Do I share my time and my treasure with others in need?
  ▪  Do I fail to speak out on behalf of the poor or the oppressed?
  ▪  Have I accepted suffering as a share in the suffering of Christ?
  ▪  Have I indulged in reading, conversation, or entertainments that are contrary to
    Christian decency and respect for human life?
  ▪  Do I use the earth’s resources wisely?
  ▪  Do I purchase material goods that I don’t really need?

Minister #1: Will I accept the forgiveness of God and change my way of life?
  ▪  Am I ever afraid to act in a Christian manner, afraid of what others might think?
  ▪  Is the hope of eternal life my inspiration for all I do?
  ▪  Do I sincerely want to be set free from sin, turn again to God, and resolve to begin
    again?
  ▪  Do I forgive others who have offended me?
RITE OF RECONCILIATION

GENERAL CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider: Brothers and sisters,
Let us call to mind the goodness of God our Father,
and acknowledge our sins,
so that we may receive his merciful forgiveness.

All: I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

LITANY OF REPENTANCE

Presider: Christ our Lord was given up to death for our sins
and rose again for our justification.
Let us pray to him with confidence in his goodness.

Presider: You were sent with good news for the poor
and healing for the contrite.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You came to call sinners, not the just.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You forgave the many sins of the woman who showed
you great love.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You did not shun the company of outcasts and sinners.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You carried back to the fold the sheep that had strayed.
All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You did not condemn the woman taken in adultery, but sent her away in peace.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You promised Paradise to the repentant thief.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You are the atonement for our sins and the sins of the world.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You became the source of salvation for all who obey you.

All: Lord, have mercy.

LORD’S PRAYER

Presider: Let us now pray to God our Father in the words our Savior gave us, and ask him for forgiveness and protection from all evil.

All: Our Father,...

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Presider: Deliver us, Father, from every evil as we unite ourselves through penance with the saving Passion of your Son. Grant us a share in the joy of the Resurrection of Jesus who is Lord forever and ever.

All: Amen.
The presider or other minister might tell the assembly where the confessors will be located. Some brief words regarding the manner of confessions should be given. The people may be encouraged to accept one of the penances which are found in the worship aid or the confessors may give a penance suited to the individual. The assembly may be advised to remain in church if there is to be a common ending. Quiet instrumental music might be played during this time.

PRAYER OF ABSOLUTION

Confessor: God the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son, has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church, may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son, \* and of the Holy Spirit.

Penitent: Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE FOR GOD’S MERCY

A psalm, hymn, or litany may be prayed in acknowledgment of God’s power and compassion. See the enclosed music suggestions or use one of the Scripture citations below.

Psalm 28: 6-7
Psalm 32: 1-7, 10-11
Psalm 54
Psalm 66
Psalm 95
Psalm 98: 1-9
Psalm 100: 1-5
Psalm 103: 1-4, 8-18
Psalm 119: 1, 10-16, 18, 33, 105, 169-170, 174-175

Psalm 136: 1-9, 13-14, 16, 25-29
Psalm 145: 1-21
Psalm 146:2-10
Isaiah 61: 10-11
Daniel 3:52-57
Luke 1:46-55 (Magnificat)
Ephesians 1:3-10
Revelation 15: 3-4
CONCLUDING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Presider: Lord God,
creator and ruler of your kingdom of light,
in your great love for this world,
you gave your only Son for our salvation.
His cross has redeemed us,
his death has given us life,
his resurrection has raised us to glory.
Through him
we ask you to be always present among your family.
Teach us to be reverent in the presence of your glory;
fill our hearts with faith,
our days with good works,
our lives with your love;
may your truth be on our lips
and your wisdom in all our actions,
that we may receive the reward of everlasting life.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

BLESSING

Presider: May the Father bless us
for we are his children, born to eternal life.
All: Amen.

Presider: May the Son show us his saving power,
for he died and rose for us.
All: Amen.

Presider: May the Spirit give us his gift of holiness
and lead us by the right path,
for he dwells in our hearts.
All: Amen.

Presider: May almighty God bless you, the Father,
and the Son, ✡ and the Holy Spirit.

DISMISSAL

Presider: The Lord has freed you from your sins. Go in peace.
All: Thanks be to God.
Moses spoke to the people and said:
"Now, Israel, hear the statutes and decrees
which I am teaching you to observe,
that you may live, and may enter in and take possession of the land
which the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you.
Therefore, I teach you the statutes and decrees
as the LORD, my God, has commanded me,
that you may observe them in the land you are entering to occupy.
Observe them carefully,
for thus will you give evidence
of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations,
who will hear of all these statutes and say,
'This great nation is truly a wise and intelligent people.'
For what great nation is there
that has gods so close to it as the LORD, our God, is to us
whenever we call upon him?
Or what great nation has statutes and decrees
that are as just as this whole law
which I am setting before you today?

"However, take care and be earnestly on your guard
not to forget the things which your own eyes have seen,
nor let them slip from your memory as long as you live,
but teach them to your children and to your children's children."

The word of the Lord.
Response: Lord, I love your commands.

I have said, O LORD, that my part is to keep your words. The law of your mouth is to me more precious than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

Response: Lord, I love your commands.

Let your kindness comfort me according to your promise to your servants. Let your compassion come to me that I am live for your law is my delight.

Response: Lord, I love your commands.

For I love your command more than gold, however fine. For in your precepts I go forward; every false way I hate.

Response: Lord, I love your commands.

Wonderful are your decrees; therefore I observe them. The revelation of your word sheds light, giving understanding to the simple.

Response: Lord, I love your commands.
A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

The word of God is living and effective,
    sharper than any two-edged sword,
    penetrating even between soul and spirit,
    joints and marrow,
    and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart.
No creature is concealed from him,
    but everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of him
    to whom we must render an account.

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens,
    Jesus, the Son of God,
    let us hold fast to our confession.
For we do not have a high priest
    who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,
    but one who has similarly been tested in every way,
    yet without sin.
So let us confidently approach the throne of grace
    to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.

The word of the Lord.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

John 14:23

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord;
and my Father will love him and we will come to him
A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law, tested him by asking,

“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”

He said to him,

“You shall love the Lord, your God,
    with all your heart,
    with all your soul,
    and with all your mind.
This is the greatest and the first commandment.
The second is like it:
    You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

“Christ in the Synagogue” by Nikolai Ge, 1868
SAMPLE PENANCES

Choose one of the following penances to atone for sins and accept God’s mercy.

FOR ADULTS

- Think of someone you have been uncharitable towards and pray for them each day for a week.

- Make a call to someone who is ill or alone. Plan a visit and bring a meal.

- During the next week, spend an hour in prayer for those who are the victims of war.

- Make a commitment to bring food to the parish food pantry.

- Think of one thing that you are eating or drinking that is bad for your health. Eliminate it for one month and donate that money to a soup kitchen.

- Identify a person whom you have offended by your unkind words and pray for them each day for a week.

- Reflect on the Corporal Works of Mercy. Act on one of them -- feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit those in prisons, bury the dead, or give alms to the poor.

- Reflect on one of the following Lenten readings from Year C:
  - 2 Corinthians 5:17-21  Philippians 3:8-14

FOR YOUTH

- Eliminate TV for one night. Read from the Bible or your religion text.

- Reach out to a lonely person in class and encourage one other person to do the same. Have lunch together.

- Donate your next babysitting wages to the poor.

- For one whole week, do the dishes or set the table without being asked.

- Donate the money you would have spent on a fast food meal to your parish outreach ministry. Send it anonymously.
MUSIC SUGGESTIONS FOR THE LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE 2019

HYMNODY

Again We Keep This Solemn Fast   Scagnelli/ERHALT UNS HERR   GIA
Amazing Grace   Traditional American   Various
Ashes   Conry   various
Christians, Let Us Love One Another   Foltz/PICARDY   OCP
Come, You Sinners, Poor and Needy   Hart/RESTORATION   various
Draw Near, O Lord   Attende Domini, chant   Various
Escúchanos Señor   Traditional Spanish   OCP
For the Healing of the Nations   ST. THOMAS/Picardy   Various
Forgive Our Sins   Herklots/Detroit   various
From Deepest Need We Cry   Delores Duffner   GIA
God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending   Edwards/RUSTINGTON   GIA
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say   Bonar/ KINGSFOLD   Various
Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace   Spannaus/BEATUS VIR   GIA
O Christ, Bright Son of Justice   Freeman Lewis   OCP
Our Father We Have Wandered   Hassler/ PASSION CHORALE   various
Out of Darkness   Walker   OCP
Parce Domine/Spare Your People, Lord   chant/ Ps 51   various
Perdón Señor   Traditional Spanish   OCP
Perdónes Nuestras Culpas   Madurga   OCP
Renew Your People   Welch/ Currie   GIA
The Master Came to Bring Good News   Mainz Gsnbg.   W3, RS, GC2
There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy   Faber/ IN BABILONE   OCP
This Season Calls Us   chant   OCP
Turn to the Living God   Lori True   GIA
We Are God’s Work of Art   Ephes. 2/ Haugen   GIA
We Are Your People   Wren/ WHITFIELD   W3, RS

LITANIES & CHANTS

Two Litanies for Advent/Lent   Richard Proulx   WLP
Gather us in Mercy, Lord   Alonso   GIA
Hold us in Your Mercy: Penitential Litany   Cooney/Daigle   GIA
Penitential Litany   Prendergast/Sullivan   OCP

PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE FOR GOD’S MERCY

All You Nations   Deiss   WLP
Blest be the Lord (Ps 91)   Schutte   OCP
Canticle of Mary (Magnificat)   Green, Daw, Joncas   various
Father, We Thank Thee Who has Planted   RENZEZ A DIEU   various
God is Here! As We His People   ABBOTT’S LEIGH   GIA
God Whose Giving Knows No Ending   Edwards/ RUSTINGTON   GIA
Great is Thy Faithfulness   Chisholm/Runyan   LMGM
His Love is Everlasting   Roberts   LMGM
I Turn to You   Joe Mattingly   (WLP, 003679)
I Turn to You, O Lord   Jeremy Young   (GIA, G-2896)
La Alegría en el Perdón   Gabarán   OCP
Sing, My Tongue, The Song of Triumph   PICARDY   GIA
Thanks be to You   Haugen   GIA
Those Who Seek Your Face   Christopher Walker   OCP, 7150
Q. **WHAT IS THE PROPER TIME FOR EASTER VIGIL?**

A. On Saturday evening, April 20, the sun will set in our diocese at ___. The end of civil twilight (nightfall) will occur at ___. Ideally, the Easter Vigil celebration should not begin before ___.

“According to a most ancient tradition, this night is one of vigil for the Lord, and the Vigil celebrated during it, to commemorate that holy night when the Lord rose from the dead, is regarded as the mother of all holy vigils. For in that night, the Church keeps vigil, waiting for the resurrection of the Lord, and celebrates the sacraments of Christian initiation” (*Paschale Solemnitatis: Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of the Easter Feasts*, no. 77. Congregation for Divine Worship, January 16, 1988, [quoting Exodus 12:42; St. Augustine, Sermon 219; and the *Ceremonial of Bishops*].)

“The entire celebration of the Easter Vigil takes place at night. It should not begin before nightfall; it should end before daybreak on Sunday. This rule is to be taken according to its strictest sense. Reprehensible are those abuses and practices that have crept into many places in violation of this ruling, whereby the Easter Vigil is celebrated at the same time of day that it is customary to celebrate anticipated Sunday Masses” (*Ibid*; no. 78, quoting the Roman Missal).

Q. **THERE ARE MORE THAN FORTY DAYS BETWEEN ASH WEDNESDAY AND EASTER. HOW DO WE COUNT THE “FORTY DAYS” OF LENT? WE DON’T COUNT SUNDAYS, RIGHT?**

A. Of course, we “count” the Sundays! These days and their accompanying readings are vitally important to our understanding and celebration of the season of Lent. Indeed, most of our celebrations for our Elect are reckoned around these days and readings. Perhaps you are confused by the ancient practice of not fasting on Sundays and solemnities (Tertullian; canon 1251).

First, the Sacred Triduum is not part of Lent. Lent ends on Holy Thursday afternoon. (Indeed, Holy Week is not a full “week” at all.) Second, Ash Wednesday and the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday that follow it are traditionally called the “Porch of Lent.” The readings on these four days are training us to enter into the penitential season of Lent. They provide lessons on how to better pray, fast, and give alms. While Lent runs from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday, this method of counting will make obvious the traditional “forty days.”

Lent is a preparation for Easter – both for the Elect, who are preparing for the sacraments of initiation, and for the faithful, through reminders of their own baptism and through penitential practices (GNLYC 27).

Q. **THE WORD “TRIDUUM” MEANS “THREE DAYS.” WHAT ARE THE THREE DAYS OF THE TRIDUUM?**

A. The three days of the Sacred Triduum are Sunday, Saturday, and Friday. Our most solemn celebrations (Triduum, Sundays, and solemnities) are measured from sunset the evening before. We begin our celebration of the Sacred Paschal Triduum on Holy Thursday at the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper.

This seventy-two hour period is the most important celebration of our entire liturgical calendar; it begins on Holy Thursday evening and concludes with Vespers (Evening Prayer) on Easter Sunday. The Sacred Triduum is actually ONE liturgy over three days. We may go home and come back again, but we do not actually “begin” and “end” our daily celebrations.

Q. **WHEN DOES THE DEACON OR PRIEST USE THE DOUBLE ALLELUIA AT THE DISMISSAL?**

A. The “double alleluia” is sung (or recited) on the Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday and all days during the Octave of Easter. It is used again at Pentecost (Vigil, Mass during the Day, and Vespers).

It is not used on the other Sundays and weekdays of the Fifty Days.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LITURGICAL DAY</th>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Mar 6</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
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<td>Lect #219; Funeral Mass not permitted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Mar 10</td>
<td>First Sunday of Lent</td>
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<td>Lect #24; Rite of Election</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Mar 17</td>
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<td>Lect #27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Mar 19</td>
<td>St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Funeral Mass permitted; Lect #543; Gloria, Creed, Proper Preface; Food – BB, Chapter 53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Mar 24</td>
<td>Third Sunday of Lent</td>
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<td>Lect #30, Scrutiny I; Option: Year A, Lect #28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Mar 25</td>
<td>The Annunciation of the Lord</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lect #545; Funeral Mass permitted; Genuflect at “and by the Holy Spirit...became man”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
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<td>Lect #33, Scrutiny II; Option: Year A, Lect #31</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Lect #36, Scrutiny III; Option: Year A, Lect # 34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Apr 14</td>
<td>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Procession: Lect #37 – Gospel C; Mass: Lect #38 – Gospel C</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Monday of Holy Week</td>
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<td>Lect #257</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>Tuesday of Holy Week</td>
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<td>Lect #258</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Apr 17</td>
<td>Wednesday of Holy Week</td>
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<td>Lect #259</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Apr 18</td>
<td>Thursday of Holy Week (Day)</td>
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<td>Varies</td>
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<td>Chrism Mass</td>
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<td>Lect. #260; Blessing of Oils and Consecration of Chrism</td>
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<td>Apr 18</td>
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<td>Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)</td>
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<td>BB, Chapter 54; Preparation Rite; RCIA 185-189; Funeral Mass not permitted; Communion only as Viaticum</td>
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<td>The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night</td>
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<td>Lect #41; Easter Vigil may not begin before nightfall; Funeral Mass not permitted</td>
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<td>Apr 21</td>
<td>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Apr 22</td>
<td>Monday within the Octave of Easter</td>
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<td>Lect #261; Proper Preface</td>
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<td>Apr 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Apr 28</td>
<td>Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>Apr 29</td>
<td>St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Lect. #557</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</td>
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<td>Lect. #560</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>SS. Phillip and James, Apostles (Feast)</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Third Sunday of Easter</td>
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<td>May 12</td>
<td>Fourth Sunday of Easter</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>St. Matthias, Apostle (Feast)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>Sixth Sunday of Easter</td>
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<td>Lect #57, may use second reading and gospel from Seventh Sunday of Easter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>The Ascension of the Lord (in some provinces)</td>
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<td>OR Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter</td>
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<td>OR Lect #294</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>May 31</td>
<td>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>June 2</td>
<td>The Ascension of the Lord (in some provinces)</td>
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<td>Lect #58</td>
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<td>Lect #61</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>June 9</td>
<td>Pentecost Sunday</td>
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<td>Vigil: Lect #62C; Day: Lect #63C</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Ash Wednesday, March 6

Joel 2:12-18  
Rend your hearts, not your garments.

Psalm 51:3-4, 6ab, 12-13, 14, 17  
Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

2 Corinthians 5:20 - 6:2  
Be reconciled to God. Behold, now is the acceptable time.

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18  
Your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

First Sunday of Lent, March 10

Deuteronomy 26:4-10  
The confession of faith of the chosen people.

Psalm 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15  
Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Romans 10:8-13  
The confession of faith of all believers in Christ.

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert and was tempted.

Second Sunday of Lent, March 17

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18  
God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14  
The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Philippians 3:17—4:1  
Christ will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body.

While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white.

Solemnity of Joseph, Husband of the Virgin Mary, March 19

2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16  
The Lord God will give him the throne of David, his father.

Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29  
The son of David will live for ever.

Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22  
Abraham believed, hoping against hope.

Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a  
Joseph did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him.

OR

Luke 2:41-51a  
Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety.

Third Sunday of Lent, March 24  
(or First Scrutiny, Year A, Lectionary #28)

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15  
“I AM” sent me to you.

Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11  
The Lord is kind and merciful.

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12  
The life of the people with Moses in the desert was written down as a warning to us.

If you do not repent, you will all perish as they did.

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 31  
(or Second Scrutiny, Year A, Lectionary #31)

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12  
The people of God entered the promised land and there kept the Passover.

Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7  
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21  
God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

Your brother was dead and has come to life again.

Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 7  
(or Third Scrutiny, Year A, Lectionary #34)

Isaiah 43:16-21  
See, I am doing something new and I give my people drink.

Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5  
The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Philippians 3:8-14  
Because of Christ, I consider everything as a loss, being conformed to his death.

John 8:1-11  
Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.
Psalm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion, April 14   (C)
Isaiah 50:4-7
Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24
Philippians 2:6-11
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
My face I did not shield from buffets and spitting, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.
My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?
Christ humbled himself. Because of this God greatly exalted him.
The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Monday of Holy Week, April 15   (ABC)
Isaiah 42:1-7
Psalm 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14
John 12:1-11
He will not cry out, nor make his voice heard in the street.
The Lord is my light and my salvation.
Let her keep this for the day of my burial.

Tuesday of Holy Week, April 16   (ABC)
Isaiah 49:1-6
Psalm 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15, 17
John 13:21-33, 36-38
I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth. (Second oracle of the servant of the Lord.)
I will sing of your salvation.
One of you will betray me; the cock will not crow before you deny me three times.

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 17   (ABC)
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 69:9-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34
Matthew 26:14-25
My face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.
Lord, in your great love, answer me.
The Son of Man indeed goes, as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the son of man is betrayed.

Mass of Chrism, April 18 (or other)   (ABC)
Isaiah 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9
Psalm 89:21-22, 25, 27
Revelation 1:5-8
Luke 4:16-21
The Lord anointed me and sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, and to give them oil of gladness.
For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.
Christ has made us into a kingdom, priests for his God and Father.
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because of which he has anointed me.
READINGS FOR THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, April 18

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14  The law regarding the Passover meal.
Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18  Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.
1 Corinthians 11:23-26  For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord.
John 13:1-15  Jesus loved them to the end.

Good Friday - Celebration of the Lord's Passion, April 19

Isaiah 52:13 –53:12  He himself was wounded for our sins.
(Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25  Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9  Jesus learned obedience and became the source of salvation for all who obey him.
John 18:1-19:42  The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Easter Sunday - Mass in the Holy Night of Easter, April 20

Genesis 1:1 - 2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a  God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.
Psalm 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35  Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.
Psalm 16:5, 8-9, 11  You are my inheritance, O Lord.
Exodus 14:15 - 15:1  The Israelites marched on dry land through the midst of the sea.
Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18  Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.
Isaiah 54:5-14  With enduring love, the Lord your redeemer takes pity on you.
Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13  I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.
Isaiah 55:1-11  Come to me that you may have life. I will renew with you an everlasting covenant.
Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6  You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.
Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11  Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.
Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28  I shall sprinkle clean water upon you and I shall give you a new heart.
Psalms 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4  Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God.
Romans 6:3-11  Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more.
Psalms 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23  Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Luke 24:1-12  Why do you seek the living one among the dead?

Easter Sunday: Mass During the Day, April 21

Acts 10:34a, 37-43  We ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.
Psalms 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23  This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.
(OR Alleluia)
Colossians 3:1-4  Seek what is above, where Christ is.
OR 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8  Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough.
John 20:1-9  He had to rise from the dead.
OR Luke 24: 1-12  [from the Easter Vigil] Why do you seek the Living One among the dead?
OR Luke 24:13-35  [at afternoon or evening Mass] Stay with us since it is almost evening.
**THE EASTER SEASON & THE PERIOD OF MYSTAGOGIA**

“Since the distinctive spirit and power of the period of post-baptismal catechesis or mystagogy derive from the new, personal experience of the sacraments and of the community, its main setting is the so-called Masses for Neophytes, that is, the Sunday Masses of the Easter Season. Besides being occasions for the newly baptized to gather with the community and share in the mysteries, these celebrations include particularly suitable readings from the Lectionary...” (RCIA 247).

**YEAR C**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Second Sunday of Easter</strong></th>
<th>Acts 5:12-16</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24</td>
<td>Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (OR Alleluia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19</td>
<td>I was dead, but now I am alive for ever and ever. (OR Alleluia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>John 20:19-31</td>
<td>Eight days later Jesus came and stood in their midst.</td>
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<th>Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41</th>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 20:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13</td>
<td>We are witnesses of these words as is the Holy Spirit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revelation 5:11-14</td>
<td>I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me. (OR Alleluia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>John 21:1-19</td>
<td>Worthy is the lamb that was slain to receive power and riches.</td>
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<th>Acts 13:14, 43-52</th>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 100:1-2m, 3, 5</td>
<td>We now turn to the Gentiles.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revelation 7:9, 14b-17</td>
<td>We are his people, the sheep of his flock. (OR Alleluia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John 10:27-30</td>
<td>The lamb will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water.</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Fifth Sunday of Easter</strong></th>
<th>Acts 14:21-27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13</td>
<td>They called the church together and reported what God had done with them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revelation 21:1-5a</td>
<td>I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God. (OR Alleluia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John 13:31-33a, 34-35</td>
<td>God will wipe every tear from their eyes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>John 13:31-33a, 34-35</td>
<td>I give you a new commandment: love one another.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Sixth Sunday of Easter</strong></th>
<th>Acts 15:1-2, 22-29</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8</td>
<td>It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23</td>
<td>O God, let all the nations praise you. (OR Alleluia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John 14:23-29</td>
<td>The angel showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.</td>
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<tr>
<td>John 14:23-29</td>
<td>The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Ascension</strong></th>
<th>Acts 1:1-11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9</td>
<td>(on May 30 or June 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebrews 9:24-28; 10:19-23</td>
<td>As the apostles were looking on, Jesus was lifted up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke 24:46-53</td>
<td>God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord. (OR Alleluia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebrews 9:24-28; 10:19-23</td>
<td>Christ has entered into heaven itself.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke 24:46-53</td>
<td>As he blessed them, he was taken up to heaven.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Seventh Sunday of Easter

**Acts 7:55-60**
I see the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God

**Psalm 97:1-2, 6-7, 9 (1a, 9a)**
The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth. (OR Alleluia)

**Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20**
Come, Lord Jesus!

**John 17:20-26**
That they may be brought to perfection as one.

### Pentecost (Vigil)

**Genesis 11:1-9**
It was called Babel because there the Lord confused the speech of all the world.

*or Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b*
The Lord came down upon Mount Sinai before all the people.

*or Ezekiel 37:1-14*
Dry bones of Israel, I will bring spirit into you, that you may come to life.

*or Joel 3:1-5*
I will pour out my spirit upon the servants and handmaids.

**Psalm 104:1-2, 24, 27-28, 29, 30**
Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (OR Alleluia)

**Romans 8:22-27**
The Spirit intercedes with inexpressible groanings.

**John 7:37-39**
Rivers of living water will flow.

### [Pentecost – Extended Vigil](#) [optional]

**Genesis 11:1-9**
It was called Babel because there the Lord confused the speech of all the world.

**Psalm 33:10-15**
Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own. [cf. Lect #339]

**Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b**
The Lord came down upon Mount Sinai before all the people.

**Daniel 3:52-56**
Glory and praise forever! [cf. Lect #164]

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**
Dry bones of Israel, I will bring spirit into you, that you may come to life.

**Psalm 107:2-9**
Give thanks to the Lord; his love is everlasting. [cf Lect #423, Year II]

**Joel 3:1-5**
I will pour out my spirit upon the servants and handmaids.

**Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34**
Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (OR Alleluia)

**Romans 8:22-27**
The Spirit intercedes with inexpressible groanings.

**John 7:37-39**
Rivers of living water will flow.

*Prayers which follow each of the readings may be found in The Roman Missal (pages 448-449 of the USCCB edition).*

### Pentecost (Day)

**Acts 2:1-11**
They were filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak.

**Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34**
Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (OR Alleluia)

**1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13**
In one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

**OR Romans 8:8-17**
Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

**John 20:19-23**
As the Father sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit.

**OR John 14:15-16, 23b-26**
The Holy Spirit will teach you everything.
“The period of purification and enlightenment, which the rite of election begins, customarily coincides with Lent. In the liturgy and liturgical catechesis of Lent the reminder of baptism already received or the preparation for its reception, as well as the theme of repentance, renew the entire community along with those being prepared to celebrate the paschal mystery in which each of the elect will share through the sacraments of initiation. For both the elect and the local community, therefore, the Lenten season is a time for spiritual recollection in preparation for the celebration of the paschal mystery” (RCIA 138).

“This is a period of more intense spiritual preparation, consisting more in interior reflection than catechetical instruction, and is intended to purify the hearts and minds of the elect” and to enlighten their minds and hearts “with a deeper knowledge of Christ the Savior” (RCIA 139).

Among these rites are the scrutinies, which are solemnly celebrated on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent. “The scrutinies are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright and good” (RCIA 141). In accord with ancient tradition, the readings of Year A may be used, with the traditional gospels of the Samaritan woman at the well, the man born blind, and the raising of Lazarus, respectively (cf. RCIA 146).

The presentations of the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer take place during the week following the First and Third Scrutiny (unless they have been celebrated earlier). “Thus, with the catechumenal formation of the elect completed, the Church lovingly entrusts to them the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer; the ancient texts that have always been regarded as expressing the heart of the Church’s faith and prayer” (RCIA 147). Ideally, the presentations should be celebrated within Mass, with the faithful present (cf. RCIA 157, 178).

The preparation rites on Holy Saturday are most proximate to the celebration of the sacraments of initiation and, as a rule, should not be omitted. Among these rites is the recitation of the Creed. Again, according to ancient custom, the Elect recite (“give back,” *reditio*) the Creed which they had been given (“handing over,” *traditio*).

It is very important to remember that these rites are for the catechumens (Elect) only! Those who have been baptized “should not take part in rites intended for unbaptized catechumens” (USCCB, National Statutes for the Catechumenate, no. 31).

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Penitential Rite (candidates; optional)</td>
<td>RCIA 459-472</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Sunday of Lent</td>
<td>First Scrutiny</td>
<td>RCIA 141-145, 151-56</td>
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<td>Third Week of Lent</td>
<td>Presentation of the Creed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth Sunday of Lent</td>
<td>Second Scrutiny</td>
<td>RCIA 164-170</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifth Sunday of Lent</td>
<td>Third Scrutiny</td>
<td>RCIA 171-177</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifth Week of Lent</td>
<td>Presentation of the Lord's Prayer</td>
<td>RCIA 149, 178-184</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Saturday</td>
<td>Preparation Rites</td>
<td>RCIA 183-199, 203-205</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Exodus 17:3-7
Give us water so that we may drink.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Verse Before the Gospel

see John 4:42, 15
Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Gospel

John 4:5 – 42 [or John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]
The water that I shall give will become a spring of eternal life.

Homily

SCRUTINY

The Elect and sponsors are invited to come forward.

Invitation to Silent Prayer

Invitation

The Elect kneel, sponsors place a hand on their shoulders

Prayer

Intercessions for the Elect

Exorcism

Prayer

to the Father

Laying on of Hands

Prayer

to the Holy Spirit

Prayer

to Jesus Christ

Song

Suggestion: God of All Power (Text and Music by David Haas, © 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.)

Dismissal of the Elect
PRESENTATION OF THE CREED  
An Order of Service

“The presentation of the Creed, which takes place during the week after the first scrutiny, should preferably be celebrated in the presence of the community of the faithful, within Mass after the homily” (RCIA 157). For more details, please see RCIA nos. 157-162 and Lectionary for Mass, no. 748.

INTRODUCTORY RITE
INTRODUCTION

THE WORD OF GOD
FIRST READING
Deuteronomy 6:1-7
Listen, Israel: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Psalm 19: 8, 9, 0, 11
Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

SECOND READING
Romans 10: 8-13 -- The confession of faith of the Elect OR
1 Corinthians 15: 1-8a or 1-4 -- The Gospel will save you only if you keep believing what I preached to you.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL
John 3:16
God loved the world so much that he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

GOSPEL
Matthew 16:13-18 -- On this rock I will build my church OR
John 22:44-50 -- I, the light, have come into the world, so that whoever believes in me need not remain in the dark any more.

HOMILY/REFLECTION

PRESENTATION OF THE CREED
The Elect come forward to listen to the Creed. The Apostles’ Creed or the Nicene Creed is recited by the priest and assembly.

PRAYER OVER THE ELECT
Invitation to Prayer
Silent Prayer
Prayer
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a
David is anointed as king of Israel

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8-14
Arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.

Verse before the Gospel John 8:12
I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Gospel John 9:1-41 [or John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]
The man who was blind went off and washed himself and came back able to see.

Homily

SCRUTINITY The Elect and sponsors are invited to come forward.

Invitation to Silent Prayer
Invitation The Elect kneel, sponsors place a hand on their shoulders

Prayer

Intercessions for the Elect

Exorcism
Prayer to the Father
Laying on of Hands to the Holy Spirit
Prayer to Jesus Christ

Song

Suggestion: Christ, be our Light!
Text and Tune: Bernadette Farrell © 1993, 2000 Published by OCP.

Dismissal of the Elect
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading   Ezekiel 37:12-14
I will put my spirit within you that you may live.

Responsorial Psalm   Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading   Romans 8:8-11
The Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you.

Verse before the Gospel   John 11:25a, 26
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will never die.

I am the resurrection and the life.

Homily

SCRUTINY
The Elect and sponsors are invited to come forward.

Invitation to Silent Prayer
Invitation
The Elect kneel, sponsors place hand on their shoulders

Prayer

Intercessions for the Elect

Exorcism
Prayer
Laying on of Hands
to the Father
to the Holy Spirit
to Jesus Christ

Prayer

Song

Suggestion:  O Christ, Who Shared our Mortal Life
Tune:  KINGSFOLD by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1872-1958

Dismissal of the Elect
PRESENTATION OF THE LORD’S PRAYER
An Order of Service

“The presentation of the Lord’s Prayer, which takes place during the week after the third scrutiny, should preferably be celebrated in the presence of the community of the faithful, within Mass” (RCIA 178). For more details, please see RCIA nos. 178-184 and Lectionary for Mass, no. 749.

INTRODUCTORY RITE
[SIGN OF THE CROSS]
INTRODUCTION

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING
Hosea 11:1, 3-4, 8e-9
I drew them with human cords, with bands of love.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 – The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
OR
Psalm 103:1-2, 8, 10, 11-12, 13-14 -- As a father is kind to his children, so kind is the Lord to those who fear him.

SECOND READING
Romans 8:14-17, 26-27 – You have received the Spirit that makes you God’s children and in that Spirit we cry out, “Abba, Father!”
OR
Galatians 4:4-7 – God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, Abba, Father!”

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL
Romans 8:15
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry “Abba! Father!”

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD’S PRAYER
The Elect come forward to listen to the Gospel.

GOSPEL
Matthew 6:9-13
Lord, teach us to pray.

HOMILY/REFLECTION

PRAYER OVER THE ELECT
Invitation to Prayer
Silent Prayer
Prayer

[DISMISSAL OF THE ELECT]
[SIGN OF PEACE]
Celebrated on Holy Saturday, these rites are an immediate preparation for the sacraments. Please see RCIA 185-205 regarding the selection of rites. “If the presentation of the Creed was not celebrated, the recitation of the Creed is not celebrated” (RCIA 186).

The choosing of a baptismal name is not celebrated in the dioceses of the United States. A diocesan bishop has discretion to authorize its use in particular circumstances. Please see RCIA 33.4, 73, and 200.

**INTRODUCTORY RITE**

**SONG**

**SIGN OF THE CROSS**

**GREETING**

**THE RECITATION OF THE CREED**

**READING**

Matthew 16:13-17 – *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*

OR

John 6:35, 63-71 *To whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 27:7-9, 13-14

**[THE EPHPHATA RITE]**

**[READING]**

Mark 7:31-37

**EPHPHETA**

**HOMILY**

**PRAYER BEFORE THE RECITATION**

**RECITATION OF THE CREED**

*The Elect, alone, recite the Nicene Creed or the Apostles’ Creed.*

**CONCLUDING RITE**

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**

**DISMISSAL**
THE COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD’S ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

Please see the Roman Missal for complete rubrics and texts.

First Form: The Procession
Assembly gathers outside, at a smaller church, or other suitable place, holding branches
Priest may wear a cope (which he sets aside after the procession) or chasuble

- Antiphon
  - “Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.” OR
  - “Hosanna filio David: benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Rex Israel: Hosanna in excelsis.”
  - OR other suitable chant

- Sign of the Cross
- Greeting
- Address
- Prayer
- Branches sprinkled with holy water
- [Homily]
- Invitation
- Procession to the Church
  - Antiphon 1 and Psalm 24 (23)
  - OR
  - Antiphon 2 and Psalm 47(46)
  - OR
  - Hymn to Christ the King [“Glory and honor and praise be to you, Christ King and Redeemer...”]
  - OR other suitable chant (e.g., All Glory, Laud and Honor)

- Responsory or other Chant

Second Form: The Solemn Entrance
The people are gathered inside the church
The ministers are gathered in a place other than the sanctuary, visible to most of the Assembly

- Antiphon -- Hosanna or other suitable chant
- Sign of the Cross
- Greeting
- Address
- Prayer
- Branches Sprinkled with Holy Water
- Proclamation of the Gospel
- Procession of the Ministers to the sanctuary
- Veneration of the Altar
- [Kyrie / Lord, have mercy]
- Collect (at the chair)
Third Form: The Simple Entrance

- Procession to the Altar
  - with Entrance Antiphon  Cf. Jn 12:1, 12-13; Ps 24(23):9-10
  - OR priest recites this Antiphon when he reaches the altar
- Sign of the Cross
- Greeting
- Penitential Rite
- Collect

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading  Isaiah 50:4-7
My face I did not shield from buffets and spitting, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm  Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24
My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading  Philippians 2:6-11
Christ humbled himself. Because of this God greatly exalted him.

Verse before the Gospel  Philippians 2:8-9
Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name,

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.
(Read without candles or incense)

Homily  or a period of silence

Creed

Universal Prayer

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Altar
Presentation Hymn  ____________________________________________

Prayer over the Offerings
Eucharistic Prayer
  - Preface  The Passion of the Lord
  - Eucharistic Prayer  I, II, III, or IV
  - Holy, holy, holy
  - Acclamations

Lord's Prayer
Sign of Peace
Breaking of the Bread  Lamb of God: ________________________________
Invitation to Holy Communion
Communion Hymn(s)  ________________________________________________
Prayer after Communion

CONCLUDING RITE

Greeting
Prayer over the People
Dismissal
Closing Hymn  _________________________________________________
THURSDAY OF THE LORD’S SUPPER:
AT THE EVENING MASS

INTRODUCTORY RITE
Entrance Procession/Hymn
Greeting
Presentation of the Oils
Glory to God
Collect

LITURGY OF THE WORD
First Reading
Exodus 12: 1-8, 11-14
Laws regarding the Passover Meal
Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 116: 12-13, 15-16, 17-18
Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.
Second Reading
1 Corinthians 11: 23-26
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord.
Chant before the Gospel
John 13: 34
... Love one another as I have loved you
Gospel
John 13: 1-15
Jesus washes the feet of his disciples
Homily
Washing of the Feet
optional
Antiphons or Hymn
Antiphons: The Roman Missal provides seven options
Hymn: ______________________________
Profession of Faith
Omitted
General Intercessions

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST
Presentation of the Offerings
Gifts for the poor, bread and wine
Prayer over the Offerings
Eucharistic Prayer
Preface: “The Sacrifice and Sacrament of Christ”
Holy, holy, holy
Eucharistic Prayer I with embolisms
Memorial Acclamation
Great Amen
Communion Rite
Lord’s Prayer
Sign of Peace
Breaking of the Bread
Distribution of Holy Communion
Hymn(s)
Prayer After Communion
Transfer of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Incensation
Acclamation or Hymn
Pange Lingua or other hymn
Procession to Place of Reposition
“at an appropriate time”
FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD [GOOD FRIDAY]

Entrance of the Ministers in silence; red vestments, reverence altar
Ministers lie prostrate or kneel for a time.

Prayer “Let us pray” is omitted

LITURGY OF THE WORD
First Reading Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12
(Fourth Servant Song) He was wounded for our sins
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25
Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.
Second Reading Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
Jesus learned obedience and became the source of salvation for all who obey him.
Chant Before the Gospel Phil 2:8-9
Christ became obedient unto death...
Gospel John 18:1 - 19:42
The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

Homily
Silent Prayer
The Solemn Intercessions For the Church, Pope, all orders and degrees of the faithful, catechumens, unity of Christians, the Jewish people, those who do not believe in Christ, those who do not believe in God, those in public office, those in tribulation.
   Introduction
   Kneel/Silent Prayer
   Prayer

THE ADORATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
The Showing of the Holy Cross
First Form The deacon carries the Cross through the church to the sanctuary; the priest unveils it gradually
Second Form The priest or deacon goes to the door of church, receives the unveiled Cross
Invitation Priest: “Behold the wood of the Cross on which is hung the salvation of the world.”
   All: “Come, let us adore.”
Procession Antiphon or Hymn ________________
Adoration of the Holy Cross a single Cross; candles on right and left; options for chants or music

HOLY COMMUNION
[Covering of the Altar] by priest or deacon, wearing a humeral veil, accompanied by candles
Ciborium to Altar “Behold the Lamb of God…”
Lord’s Prayer
Invocation to Communion Hymn(s) ________________
Distribution of Communion Prayer after Communion Prayer over the People
Departure All depart in silence after genuflecting to the Cross
EASTER SUNDAY, THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD:  
THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT

A blazing fire is prepared in a suitable place outside the church. The priest approaches with the ministers, one of whom carries the Paschal Candle. The processional cross and candles are not carried.

THE SOLEMN BEGINNING OF THE VIGIL OR LUCERNARIUM

The Blessing of the Fire and Preparation of the Candle
Sign of the Cross [new]
Greeting
Instruction
Blessing of the Fire
Preparation of the Candle  cross, Alpha and Omega, current year; grains of incense
Lighting of the Paschal Candle from the Easter Fire

Procession
thurifer leads people with unlit candles
Chant
“Light of Christ” “Thanks be to God”
Priest lights his candle from the Paschal Candle
Lighting of Assembly’s Candles (those persons already baptized)

The Easter Proclamation/Exsultet by a deacon, priest, or other person
Long Form or Short Form

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

see Lectionary #41 --All should be read, at least three from OT, Exodus 14 is never omitted

Introduction

Reading I  Genesis 1:1 - 2:2 OR Genesis 1:1, 26-31a  Creation
Responsorial Psalm  Psalm 104: 1-2, 5-6, 10,12,13-14,24,35
OR Psalm 33: 4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22
Prayer

Reading II  Genesis 2: 1-18 OR Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18  Abraham and Isaac
Responsorial Psalm  Psalm 16: 5, 8, 9-10, 11
Prayer

Reading III  Exodus 14:15 - 15:1  Parting of the Sea
Responsorial Psalm  Exodus 15: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18
Prayer

Reading IV  Isaiah 54: 5-14  Enduring love of the Lord
Responsorial Psalm  Psalm 30: 2, 4, 5-6,11-12,13
Prayer

Reading V  Isaiah 55: 1-11  Come to me that you may have life
Responsorial Psalm  Isaiah 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6
Prayer

Reading VI  Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4  Walk by the light
Responsorial Psalm  Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11
Prayer

Reading VII  Ezekiel 36: 16-28  I shall sprinkle clean water upon you and I shall give you a new heart.
Responsorial Psalm  Psalm 42:3,5; 43: 3,4 (when baptism is celebrated) OR Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 OR Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 (when baptism is not celebrated)
Prayer
Gloria
Collect
Epistle Romans 6: 3-11 Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more.
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 118: 1-2, 16, 17, 22-23
Gospel Luke 24:1-12 Why do you seek the Living One among the dead?
Homily

**BAPTISMAL LITURGY**
Presentation of the Candidates for Baptism
Invitation to Prayer
Litany of the Saints Setting: ____________
Blessing of Baptismal Water
Prayer with hands extended... lowering paschal candle into water
Acclamation Setting: ____________
Renunciation of Sin see Roman Ritual [RCIA]
Profession of Faith
Baptism
Clothing with a White Garment
Presentation of a Lighted Candle
The Renewal of Baptismal Promises By Assembly; [new] may also be done with the Elect (above)
Sprinkling with Baptismal Water
Celebration of Reception into Full Communion
Invitation
Profession of Faith
Act of Reception
Celebration of Confirmation
Invitation
Laying on of Hands
Anointing with Chrism
Universal Prayer

**THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**
Presentation of the Offerings by the neophytes
[Presentation Hymn] _______________________________________________________________________
Prayer over the Offerings
Eucharistic Prayer
Preface Preface I of Easter
Holy, holy, holy Eucharistic Prayer EP I with embolisms [cf. Roman Missal and Roman Ritual]
Memorial Acclamation
Great Amen
Communion Rite
Lord’s Prayer
Sign of Peace
Breaking of the Bread Lamb of God: ______________________________
Invitation to Communion “Behold the Lamb of God...”
Distribution of Communion Hymns: ______________________________
Silence or Hymn of Thanksgiving ______________________________
Prayer After Communion

**CONCLUDING RITE**
Greeting
Solemn Blessing see RM #68
Dismissal see RM #69; Alleluia, alleluia

*Note: The “double alleluia” is sung at the dismissal on Easter Sunday (the Vigil and Mass of Easter Day), during the Octave of Easter, and on Pentecost (Vigil and Day). It is not used on the other days of the Easter season.*
INTRODUCTORY RITES
Opening Hymn
Greeting
[Sprinkling Rite]
Glory to God
Collect

Setting: ____________________________

LITURGY OF THE WORD
First Reading
Responsorial Psalm
Second Reading
Sequence
Gospel Acclamation
Gospel
Homily
Renewal of Baptismal Promises
Sprinkling with Blessed Water
Creed
Prayers of the Faithful/Universal Prayer

Setting: ____________________________

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST
Preparation of the Altar
Presentation Hymn
Prayer over the Offerings
Eucharistic Prayer
Preface
Eucharistic Prayer
Holy, holy, holy
Acclamations
Lord's Prayer
Sign of Peace
Breaking of the Bread
Invitation to Holy Communion
Communion Hymn(s)
Prayer After Communion

Lamb of God: ____________________________

CONCLUDING RITE
[Announcements]
Greeting
Solemn Blessing
Dismissal
Closing Hymn

see Easter Vigil #68
Alleluia, alleluia

Setting: ____________________________
INTRODUCTORY RITE

Introductory Verse
Presider: O God, ✯ come to my assistance.
All: Lord, make haste to help me.

Doxology
Presider: Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
All: As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia

Hymn

PSALMODY

Antiphon I Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the Lord's tomb, alleluia.
Psalm Psalm 110:1-5, 7
Antiphon I Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the Lord's tomb, alleluia.

Antiphon II Come and see the place where the Lord was buried, alleluia.
Psalm Psalm 114
Antiphon II Come and see the place where the Lord was buried, alleluia.

Antiphon III Jesus said: Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to set out for Galilee; there they will see me, alleluia.
NT Canticle Revelation 19:1-17
Antiphon III Jesus said: Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to set out for Galilee; there they will see me, alleluia.

THE WORD OF GOD

Reading Hebrews 10:12-14
Silence
Antiphon This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad, alleluia.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon On the evening of the first day of the week, the disciples were gathered together behind locked doors; suddenly, Jesus stood among them and said: Peace be with you, alleluia.

Canticle of Mary Luke 1:46-55
Antiphon On the evening of the first day of the week, the disciples were gathered together behind locked doors; suddenly, Jesus stood among them and said: Peace be with you, alleluia.
INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Invitation

Presider: With joy in our hearts, let us call upon Christ the Lord, who died and rose again, and lives always to intercede for us:
All: Victorious King, hear our prayer.

Intercessions

Presider: Light and salvation for all peoples,
All: send into our hearts the fire of your Spirit
as we proclaim your resurrection.

Presider: Let Israel recognize in you her longed-for Messiah,
All: and the whole earth be filled with the knowledge of your glory.

Presider: Keep us in the communion of your saints,
All: and grant us rest from our labors in their company.

Presider: You have triumphed over death, your enemy;
All: that we may live only for you, victorious and immortal Lord.

Presider: Savior Christ, you were obedient even to accepting death,
and were raised up to the right hand of the Father,
All: in your goodness, welcome your brothers and sisters
into the kingdom of your glory.

Lord’s Prayer

Presider: Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray in the words our Savior gave us.
All: Our Father,...

Collect (first option)

Presider: God our Father,
by raising Christ your Son
you conquered the power of death
and opened for us the way to eternal life.
Let our celebration today raise us up
and renew our lives
by the Spirit that is within us.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
All: Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace, alleluia, alleluia.
All: Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.
ABOUT THE FEDERATION OF
DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSIONS

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions was founded in 1969 by the Bishops’ Committee on the Liturgy in order to assist with the implementation of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy and the revised liturgical books. Fifty years later, our mission remains the same. The members of our Federation continue to serve Bishops, clergy, and parish liturgists in our roles as directors of Offices of Worship and members of diocesan liturgical commissions.

We hope this free resource will be of benefit to you and to your parish. Other publications, including books, pamphlets, and downloadable bulletin inserts, are available at www.fdlc.org. Most are available in English and Spanish.

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The Federation at Fifty: Prayer without Ceasing

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