

DIVINE WORSHIP NEWSLETTER



Santuario de la Virgen de los Remedios, San Pedro Cholula, Mexico

Introduction

Welcome to the second Monthly Newsletter of the Office of Divine Worship of the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon. We hope to provide news with regard to liturgical topics and events of interest to those in the Archdiocese who have a pastoral role that involves the Sacred Liturgy. The hope is that the priests of the Archdiocese will take a glance at this newsletter and share it with those in their parishes that are interested in the Sacred Liturgy. This Newsletter will be eventually available as an iBook through iTunes but for now it will be available in pdf format on the Archdiocesan website. It will also be included in the weekly Archdiocesan mailing. If you would like to be emailed a copy of this newsletter as soon as it is published please send your email address to Anne Marie Van Dyke at amvandyke@archdpdx.org just put DWNL in the subject field and we will add you to the mailing list.

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The Ablution Bowl

The Church has great reverence for the Body and Blood of Christ, and so she is concerned that no particles of that heavenly food be lost or unintentionally profaned. The Church teaches that even the tiniest particle of the Sacred Species is the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, substantially present in this sacrament. Therefore, after the distribution of Holy Communion, whereas the priest-celebrant purifies his fingers as he purifies the sacred vessels, others who distribute Holy Communion during the course of the Mass, can use the Ablution Bowl to purify their own fingers. The Ablution Bowl, filled with water, is typically a small bowl-like container, normally located near the tabernacle. Such a bowl should also be available to Extraordinary Minsters of Holy Communion who have distributed the Body of Christ. After the distribution of Holy Communion, the minister of Holy Communion, dips their thumb and index into the water held by the ablution bowl and wipes their fingers on the purificator which usually accompanies the bowl.



At a recent training for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion the use of the Ablution Bowl or Cup was discussed as an appropriate means for the purification for those who have distributed the Sacred Host.

Iube domne benedicere

Recently we were asked the question as to whether, when a Deacon asks the blessing of the Archbishop during Mass before the Gospel, he should say “Your blessing, Father” or “Your blessing, Archbishop”. The church makes no distinction regarding the rank of the celebrant offering the blessing. The translation of the Latin text *iube domne benedicere* is in the current Roman Missal as ‘Your blessing, Father’. In some liturgies of old when the blessing of a religious superior was sought the phrase “*Iube Reverendissime Pater*” was used. However, in the current Roman Missal and the current Ceremonial of Bishops the simple phrase *iube domne benedicere* is used. The previous translation used to be “Father give me your blessing” the current translation of the Roman Missal renders the latin as ‘Your Blessing, Father’. It is interesting to note that in preparing the new translation, ICEL had proposed ‘Pray, Father your blessing’ and the USCCB had amended it to ‘May I have your blessing Father’, the latter was initially approved by the Holy See, however the final version ended up being ‘Your blessing, Father’.



The Kiss of Peace



In the United States the Sign of Peace usually takes the form of a handshake but this may change in different communities according to local custom. However the norm that it should have a sober manner and should be offered to only those who are near still applies.

In the 1962 rites the rubricist O'Connell stated that the kiss of peace at Mass is given in this way among the ministers of the altar. The two persons stand facing each other with hands joined. The one who is to receive the kiss bows. Then the one who gives it lays his hands on the shoulders of the other; the receiver puts his arms under those of him who gives it. Both bow the head over the left shoulder of the other. The one who gives the kiss says "*Pax tecum.*" The other answers "*Et cum spiritu tuo.*" Then they stand again with folded hands facing each other, and both bow. You will still see this at a more formal celebration of Holy Mass.

The current General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) states that: "As for the actual sign of peace to be given, the manner is to be established by the Conference of Bishops in accordance with the culture and customs of the peoples. However, it is appropriate that each person, in a sober manner offer the sign of peace only to those who are nearest."

In recent times many liturgists have questioned the position and practice of the Sign of Peace in the current Missal. Pope Benedict also had some misgivings regarding the current practice.

In 2014 the Vatican issued a letter to the bishops of the world with some directives with regard to the Sign of Peace at Mass. You can read the letter here:

<https://zenit.org/articles/text-of-vatican-document-on-sign-of-peace-at-mass/>

Bread & Wine

Following the recent letter to the Priests of the Archdiocese regarding the bread and wine which can be used for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist we have had a few requests from parishes asking where they can buy approved products. Most of the religious supply companies distribute altar bread and altar wine that have been approved for use at Holy Mass. It is wise to check that altar bread and wine are made according to canon law. If you have any doubts as to the provenance of your bread and wine supply please feel free to contact the Office of Divine Worship.

This Office is currently in possession of three letters of Ecclesial Approbation for altar wine. The Mont La Salle company has a letter from the Bishop of Fresno as does the Cribari company and the other letter is from the Archbishop of Los Angeles for the San Antonio Winery for their Monastic brand. **The local distributor for the Mont La Salle wine is Michaels in Wilsonville.** Approved suppliers of low-gluten hosts and mustum are listed on the USCCB website.



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

FIRST TRAINING OFFERED AT ST. ALICE IN SPRINGFIELD

Saturday 28 October saw the first and pilot session of training for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in the Archdiocese. St. Alice parish in Springfield was the host to the presentation given by Msgr. Gerard O'Connor of the Office of Worship. Over 70 parishioners from St. Alice were in attendance with some 80 others from surrounding parishes. Msgr. presented some of the proposed Norms from the Archdiocese with a section on some special considerations for those who take Holy Communion to the homebound and those in hospitals and other institutions.

Each attendee was given a copy of the new *Vademecum* for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion issued by the Archdiocese of Portland's Office of Divine Worship.



Vademecum - a book for ready reference.

The *Vademecum* (Latin word meaning go with me) contains the Proposed Archdiocesan Norms for EMHCs and some special considerations for home visits along with the Ordinary Rite and Shorter Rite of Holy Communion to the Sick. Copies of this booklet are available from the Office of Divine Worship.

Msgr. O'Connor presented the Norms and gave some advice to the Extraordinary Ministers with regard to the spiritual, theological and practical preparation that is required by the United States Bishops' Conference.

He encouraged the extraordinary ministers to demonstrate a love for and devotion to the Most Blessed Sacrament and have a discernible prayer life. Msgr. O'Connor said that each of those involved in this important ministry should also have a high level of participation in the life of the parish. It is important that the extraordinary ministers are visible and active members of their parish community. They should avail themselves to frequent confession and participate in daily Mass when possible and have a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Rosary.

On the theological front he expressed a need for ongoing formation at the parish level but also stressed the importance of the self study of topics of interest to this ministry.

Msgr. O'Connor challenged those present to participate in Archdiocesan events especially those which involve the celebration of the Holy Eucharist with the Archbishop and those which are relevant to the ongoing formation goals of this ministry.

Msgr. O'Connor encouraged the extraordinary ministers to be able to explain catholic doctrine regarding the Holy Eucharist and to use the Catechism of the Catholic Church as their guide in this area. (CCC 1322-1419). He explained to those present the teaching of the Council of Trent with regard to the real presence; Jesus Christ being present in his Body and his Blood, with his soul and his divinity.

In summary Msgr. O'Connor thanked the attendees for their service in the Archdiocese and reminded them of the beautiful privilege which they have accepted. He encouraged them to pray for vocations to the priesthood and asked them to be: Docile; Humble and Worthy: Servants of the Most Holy Eucharist.



More training sessions will be held throughout the Archdiocese in the coming months. If you would like to host one of these presentations please contact the Office of Divine Worship.

Daily Mass at the Pastoral Center

Beginning on November 1, the Solemnity of All Saints, the Pastoral Center will have a daily Mass. Until recently Mass has been celebrated usually on Wednesdays of each week. But with the addition of two new priests working at the Pastoral Center Archbishop Sample's desire to have daily Mass at the Pastoral Center has been realized.

The Mass is at 11:45am each day and gives the Pastoral Center staff the opportunity to participate at Holy Mass and still manage to grab a quick lunch. The chapel is small and often full but a reverent celebration with a short reflection is always provided.

One of the deacons on staff assists the priest at Mass and another staff member is on hand to read.

Although the chapel is small we encourage guests if they are in the Pastoral Center at the time of Mass to join us.

The staff of the Pastoral Center are grateful to the bishops, priests and deacons who make this daily celebration possible.

