

LITURGY NOTES — FOR JULY 2012

VATICAN II AND THE LITURGY

THE YEAR OF FAITH

In this issue...

- Vatican II and the Liturgy – a review for the Year of Faith
- The New Roman Missal – the Lectionary
- Institution of Acolytes
- Continuing Formation Opportunities
- Liturgy Preparation
- Resources for the Universal Prayer (Intercessions)

CONTACT:

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

Diocesan Roman Missal Websites:
<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litromanmissal.htm>
<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litromanmissalQA.htm>

The Year of Faith:
<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/yearoffaith.htm>

One of the most visible changes to come out of Vatican II was the reform of the liturgy – most notably a shift to prayer in the vernacular. But the Council called us to something much deeper than just external changes.

Over this Year of Faith, which will begin on the 50th anniversary of the opening of Vatican II (Oct. 11, 2012), I will review the Council's first document: The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (CSL), *Sacrosanctum concilium* – and ask: What does this have to do with us today? How are we living this out? What else must we do to live out the intention of the Council?

The CSL was the first document to be passed by the Council – on December 4, 1963 – by a vote of 2147 to 4.

As the first document of Vatican II, SC (§1) begins by stating the four-fold aims of the Council:

1. To invigorate – enliven, energize – the Christian life of the faithful;
2. To adapt those aspects of Church life that are changeable (and not all are) to contemporary needs;
3. To foster unity among Christians; and
4. To strengthen whatever can help evangelize, and call all persons into the Church.

To accomplish these ends, the Council set before itself the task of reforming and promoting the liturgical life of the Church. Why? Because it is through the liturgy that “the work of our salvation is accomplished” and that we express and manifest the truth of who Christ is, and what is the real nature of the Church (§2). That is, to celebrate the liturgy is to grow in relationship with Christ – which, rather than turning us only inward, also moves us outward into the world as evangelists.

These aims are echoed in Pope Benedict’s call to observe the Year of Faith. In *Porta Fidei*, he reminds us that “it is the love of Christ that fills our hearts and impels us to evangelize” (§7). The liturgy is that privileged place of encounter with Christ, where Christ fills our hearts, and from where we are called to “Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord” (Order of Mass #144).

THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL

NEW TRANSLATION OF LECTORY IN THE WORKS

The USCCB has announced that it is undertaking a revision of the Lectionary and New American Bible, so we will have a single text. I will try to get more information for next month's edition.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

INCENSE

We often get complaints about people being “allergic” or sensitive to incense. I would like to let you know that we received a call from a woman who had been to a funeral at one of our parishes, and for the first time in her life did not “react” to the incense; she wanted me to find out what the incense was and let everyone know about it... so here's the information:

The incense in question is from Monastery Incense; the specific variety is called “Damascus Rose Supreme,” but they have a number of varieties from which to choose.

Even though it is more expensive than other brands, perhaps – in a spirit of hospitality – parishes might try using these incenses instead.

Website:

http://www.monasteryicons.com/mo_nasteryicons/monastery-incense_a2.html?gclid=COrY7bDk_bACFWQDQAod8WnKEA

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Installation as Acolytes

The current class of candidates for the diaconate will receive the ministry of Acolyte on Sunday, July 8 at St. Mary Church in Fort Madison. Mass is at 11:00 a.m. Please join us for this special rite on the journey to ordination. Parishes are also encouraged to keep these men, and their families, in their prayers:

For those preparing to serve our diocese as Deacons; that as they receive the ministry of Acolyte they may be faithful in their service at the altar. We pray to the Lord.

For the Deacon candidates receiving the ministry of Acolyte this summer and for their families; we pray to the Lord.

CONTINUING FORMATION

North American Forum on the Catechumenate

The Forum will be returning to the Diocese of Davenport on July 6-7 to present a workshop on Evangelization. For more than the immediate RCIA Team, this event will deepen participants' passion for evangelization and present practical approaches to this essential ministry. See the Liturgy Events

webpage for details – but please note that while on-line registration is now closed, you can still register at the door.

The Forum will also be in the Archdiocese of Dubuque on July 27-28, at St. Stephen the Witness, Cedar Falls. The focus will be the content of the weekly session with catechumens and candidates. Msgr. Michael Clay and Sr. Donna Stephen will be the speakers for the two-day institute called, "Echoing God's Word." Register as soon as possible because this will be announced nationally and draw in people from the Midwest. Go now to www.naforum.org to register and click on "register for an institute".

For more opportunities, see the Liturgy Events webpage at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm>.

LITURGY PREPARATION

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please recall that EMHCs must be delegated by the local bishop (*Redemptionis sacramentum* §155; see also CIC c.230 §3) and commissioned according to the prescribed rite (*Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States* §28; see *Book of Blessings* §§1871-1896). The request for delegation must state that the EMHCs have been properly prepared (theologically, spiritually, and practically) for their ministry. Please know that the Office of Liturgy is available to provide formation for EMHCs for parishes, clusters, or deaneries. More information is available in our diocesan policy, available at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/liturgylibrary/Policies/litExtraordinaryMinistersHolyCommunion-revised112711.pdf>.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Mark your calendars...

Rite of Election

St. Patrick in Iowa City on the First Sunday of Lent (February 17, 2013) at 3:00 p.m.

Chrism Mass

Sacred Heart Cathedral in Davenport on Monday, March 18, at 5:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil 2013

March 30 - the earliest it may begin is 8:15 p.m.

Labor Day (Monday, September 3)

Parishes may wish to celebrate the Mass for the Sanctification of Human labor (#26; readings from #907-911) on this day.

On Labor Day weekend, intercessions for workers ought to be included in the Universal Prayer; for example:

For those who are unemployed or underemployed, for those seeking work; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who work in hazardous conditions without sufficient protection; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For migrant workers and all who work the land and the waters, so we might be fed; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who work in the service of their sisters and brothers; that they would not be discouraged by lack of support or progress; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For all employers, that they may seek to provide a just work environment; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who face discrimination, harassment, or abuse in the work place; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who must balance job commitments with the needs of their family; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

The *Book of Blessings* also offers a number of opportunities. Pastoral visits could be made to places of work, and the following rites could be used: (18) Blessing of an Office, Shop, or Factory; (23) Blessing of Technical Installations or Equipment, and (26) Blessing of Fields and Flocks.

Or, at Sunday Masses or at Mass on Labor Day itself, workers could bring the tools of their trades to be blessed, and (24) Blessing of Tools or Other Equipment for Work be used. Special attention should be paid to laborers and those seeking work during the Prayer of the Faithful, as should those who are treated unjustly in the workplace.

September 11

On the anniversary of September 11, parishes may wish to celebrate a special Mass for “first responders” – such as police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians/paramedics – using the Mass for Those in Public Office (#22) or the Mass for the Preservation of Peace and Justice (#30).

INTERCESSIONS

(1) “Intercessions for Life” (in English and Spanish) may be found on the USCCB website at:
<http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wolarchive.shtml>

(2) Intercession for vocations (in English and Spanish) linked to the Lectionary cycle may be found at the For Your Vocation website:

<http://www.foryourvocation.org/vocation-directors/liturgical-resources.cfm>

(3) Lectionary-based intercessions focused on social justice can be found at the Center of Concern website:

<http://www.coc.org/ef>

(4) The Center for Liturgy website offers general intercessions for each Sunday as well:

http://liturgy.slu.edu/index_sunday.html

If you have received this newsletter in error, or no longer wish to receive *LiturgyNotes*, please contact Laurie Hoefling at the chancery and request to be removed from our distribution list.

Phone: 563-888-4220

E-Mail: hoefling@davenportdiocese.org