

LITURGYNOTES – FOR FEBRUARY 2022

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

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

LITURGY AND COVID-19



Get vaccinated.
Tell your friends and family to get vaccinated.
Find a vaccine near you: vaccines.gov

#CatholicCares

Pandemic Policies and Resources:

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

Omicron Info:

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

Prayer and Support:

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

COVID-19 Vaccines:

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/covid-vaccine>

<https://iowacatholicconference.org/getvaccinated/>

Catholic Cares Coalition: <https://catholiccares.org/>

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

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

A General Comment Regarding COVID

A number of the rites that we celebrate during Lent and the Triduum—from the imposition of ashes to the laying on of hands at the Scrutinies to the sacraments celebrated at the Easter Vigil—require touch, proximity, and additional time together.

As we’ve said before, the SARS-CoV-2 virus is airborne; time together and proximity will risk increased transmission. Touch by itself seems to be much less of a factor.

Therefore, the touch called for by the rites (such as the laying on of hands, the imposition of ashes, or anointing) is appropriate, assuming that (1) the ministers wash their hands afterwards, (2) including this element does not excessively prolong the liturgy, and (3) ministers and the faithful are masked, as during the communion procession. The advice that follows may change in light of conditions at the time the rites are being celebrated.

February 3: St. Blase

Given the current pandemic, especially the advent of the Omicron variant, consideration should be given to avoiding individual blessing of throats on the feast of St. Blase—both for the sake of time (especially if a large number of persons is present) and to avoid proximity. Instead, priests may want to use the blessing formula as a prayer over the people to close the general intercessions (*Book of Blessings*, #1622-35). If individual blessings are given, masks ought to be worn.

March 2: Ash Wednesday

Given the advent of the Omicron variant, it is likely that we will still be seeing high transmission rates in the diocese. Therefore, parishes should consider doing the following:

1. Masks should be worn, as for the communion procession. In addition, you may choose to say the formula once over the assembly, so there is no talking while in proximity.
2. Sprinkle the ashes on the top of the head. If ashes are imposed by touch, the priest ministers should wash their hands afterwards. An instrument, such as a q-tip, is not needed, but some may feel more comfortable using one.
3. Consider imposing the ashes outdoors (weather permitting), as people leave the church after the liturgy, rather than within Mass, especially if large numbers are present or the church is poorly ventilated.

Consider celebrating the imposition of ashes outside of Mass (see the *Book of Blessings*, #1656ff). A deacon may preside at this rite (and bless the ashes); a lay person may lead this rite, using ashes blessed on a previous occasion (but no “drive through” ashes divorced from a celebration of the word). This may help reduce the number of people present at any one time.

The Sacred Triduum: April 14-17, 2022

Please keep in mind that restrictions in light of the COVID-19 pandemic will affect how the Triduum will be celebrated. As last year, further information will be shared as it becomes available.

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>Holy Thursday

The Footwashing

As an optional rite, parishes may choose to omit it or reduce the number of people whose feet are being washed (12 are not required). Again, masks should be worn for this rite, given how close people will be to each other.

The Reception and Care of the Oils

As an optional rite, in light of the pandemic it could be omitted in order to decrease the amount of time spent together.

The Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament

Allowance for time before the Blessed Sacrament should keep COVID-19 precautions in mind.

>Good Friday

The veneration of the cross should not include kissing the cross. If participants will touch the cross, they should use hand sanitizer before and after the rite (as at Communion). Masks should be worn in the procession.

>The Easter Vigil

Baptisms may be celebrated as usual. Priests may still choose to use fresh water for each person being baptized. It is not required that an instrument be used for anointing at Confirmation, but an individual priest may still choose to do so. Again, masks need to be worn and the ministers should wash their hands afterwards.

SYNOD 2021-2023



Please see our synod website pages – starting with <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/synod-2023> – for information about the synodal process and for prayer & liturgical resources to help us along this journey together.

LAUDATO SI ACTION PLATFORM HAS LAUNCHED!

A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH (FROM LAUDATO SI')

ALL-POWERFUL GOD, YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE WHOLE UNIVERSE
AND IN THE SMALLEST OF YOUR CREATURES.
YOU EMBRACE WITH YOUR TENDERNESS ALL THAT EXISTS.
POUR OUT UPON US THE POWER OF YOUR LOVE,
THAT WE MAY PROTECT LIFE AND BEAUTY.
FILL US WITH PEACE, THAT WE MAY LIVE
AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS, HARMING NO ONE.
O GOD OF THE POOR,
HELP US TO RESCUE THE ABANDONED AND FORGOTTEN OF THIS EARTH,
SO PRECIOUS IN YOUR EYES.
BRING HEALING TO OUR LIVES,
THAT WE MAY PROTECT THE WORLD AND NOT PREY ON IT,
THAT WE MAY SOW BEAUTY, NOT POLLUTION AND DESTRUCTION.
TOUCH THE HEARTS OF THOSE WHO LOOK ONLY FOR GAIN
AT THE EXPENSE OF THE POOR AND THE EARTH.
TEACH US TO DISCOVER THE WORTH OF EACH THING,
TO BE FILLED WITH AWE AND CONTEMPLATION,
TO RECOGNIZE THAT WE ARE PROFOUNDLY UNITED WITH EVERY CREATURE
AS WE JOURNEY TOWARDS YOUR INFINITE LIGHT.
WE THANK YOU FOR BEING WITH US EACH DAY.
ENCOURAGE US, WE PRAY, IN OUR STRUGGLE
FOR JUSTICE, LOVE AND PEACE.

The Laudato Si Action Platform (<https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/>) has launched! There are a number of prayer resources available there... just search using the resources tab. Here are prayers for each sector of the Church – one for each day of the week – in both English and Spanish...

- https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2021/10/EN_Prayer_sector.pdf
- https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2021/10/ES_Prayer_sector.pdf

Other resources are available on our website, at: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/deacon-formation-resources#LaudatoSi> and <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/preaching-links/#CareForCreation>.

LITURGY NEWS

TRADITIONIS CUSTODES

Last summer, Pope Francis issued an Apostolic Letter *motu proprio* further defining the use of the pre-Vatican II Mass (https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/motu_proprio/documents/20210716-motu-proprio-traditionis-custodes.html). The Letter raised a number of practical questions, which have now been answered by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments (<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2021/12/18/211218c.html>). As a result, new policies regulating the use of the 1962 Missal in our diocese will be promulgated shortly.

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EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The US Bishops are launching a “[Eucharistic Revival](#)” which will unfold over the next few years, culminating in a National Eucharistic Congress on July 17-21, 2024, in Indianapolis. “The Eucharistic Revival is intended to be far more than a series of events. It aims to be a movement that renews the Church by enkindling a living relationship with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.” The “diocesan phase” of this initiative kicks off on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ this summer; the “parish phase” a year later.

Over the coming weeks and months, you’ll be hearing more about this endeavor. A dedicated set of pages on our diocesan website is currently under construction and a committee to oversee the Revival in our diocese has been assembled. Stay tuned!

A NEW DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

**Decree of the Holy Father
for the conferral of the title of Doctor of the Church on Saint Irenaeus of Lyon**

Saint Irenaeus of Lyon, who came from the East, exercised his episcopal ministry in the West: he was a spiritual and theological bridge between Eastern and Western Christians. His name, Irenaeus, expresses that peace which comes from the Lord and which reconciles, restoring unity. For these reasons, having obtained the opinion of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, with my Apostolic Authority I

DECLARE

him a Doctor of the Church with the title of *Doctor unitatis*.

May the teaching of this great Master increasingly encourage the journey of all the Lord's disciples towards full communion.

From the Vatican, 21 January 2022

FRANCIS

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

CONTINUING FORMATION FOR LITURGY / LITURGICAL MINISTRY

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

National Gathering on Christian Initiation: July 13-14, 2022

This conference for catechumenal ministers and pastoral leaders will take place in Chicago; the theme will be: Evaluating and Revitalizing the RCIA in Your Parish. Please visit <http://www.NGCI.org> for more information.

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THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Please see: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/ocia>

RCIA: MYSTAGOGY

In the Period of Postbaptismal Catechesis (or Mystagogy), a number of rites can be celebrated—the most important of which are the “neophyte Masses” in which all those who have been baptized at the Vigil gather together again to celebrate the liturgy. Pentecost Sunday and the anniversary of their baptism would be other special days to keep in mind. Please see RCIA #244-251. The National Statutes for the RCIA (# 24) state that this period should last a year, with at least monthly meetings.

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Registration for the Rite of Election

Conditions permitting, the Rite of Election (for Catechumens) will be held at Sacred Heart Cathedral on Sunday, March 6, beginning at 11:00a.m. Our hope is to not only celebrate the Rite itself, in the context of Mass, but to spend a day together in prayer, fellowship, and learning - to embrace RCIA paragraph 75. We are excited to be able to offer this opportunity to you, and look forward to our time together at our "mother church" in Davenport.

In order to allow time for those attending the 9am Mass to depart, parish groups should plan on arriving no earlier than 10:30 am. The schedule for the day will be:

- Mass 11am - 12noon
 - The catechumens are dismissed after the Rite of Election to "break open the word" together (approx. 11:30am-12:30pm)
 - Mass transitions into a period of Eucharistic Adoration (12:00-12:30pm)
- Lunch 12:30 - 2:00pm (time for individual waking tours of the cathedral)
- Mystagogy 2:00-3:00pm
- ~~Presentation on the Cathedral / Break 3:00-4:30pm~~ **cancelled**
- Vespers (Evening Prayer) or other Concluding Prayer: 3:00-3:30pm

Given the space available, attendance will be limited to:

- The catechumen
- The catechumen's godparent
- up to 3 additional guests per catechumen
- up to 2 parish representatives / RCIA team members

Registrations were due February 1. If you have not yet done so, please complete the **registration form on-line (<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/rite-of-election>) immediately, so we can make final arrangements for our gathering in a timely manner. Further information will also be posted to that page. We are monitoring the pandemic closely, and will let you know if plans need to change.**

If a parish is unable to make it due to weather or COVID, or if we need to cancel, pastors may celebrate the Rite in their parishes.

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The Call to Continuing Conversion (for Candidates) will be celebrated in the parishes. Bishop Zinkula will gather with the Candidates during the Easter Season (Sunday, May 15, in Pella and Sunday, June 5, in Riverside). More information and registration for these events will be posted after Easter.

Lent & Triduum 2022

- *Ash Wednesday* will fall on March 2, 2022.
- The *Rite of Election* is scheduled for March 6, the 1st Sunday of Lent. The rite will be celebrated in the context of Mass at the Cathedral, and then we will spend time in prayer, reflection, and fellowship. Please see above for details.
- The *Chrism Mass* is scheduled for April 11, the Monday of Holy Week.
- The *Triduum* falls on Thursday, April 14 through Sunday, April 17 – with the Easter Vigil falling on the night of Saturday, April 16. On that night, the earliest that the Vigil may begin is 8:30pm.
- The Bishop will gather with the newly-received, and the neophytes, on:
 - Sunday, May 15 (5th Sun of Easter): St. Mary, Pella
 - Sunday, June 5 (Pentecost): St. Mary, Riverside

Eastertime and Pentecost

- The days of the Easter Octave are celebrated as solemnities. The double alleluia is added to the dismissal and its response (just for the octave and on Pentecost; *not* for the entire season). The Sequence is required on Easter Sunday but optional on the other days of the octave.
- The Second Sunday of Easter is also celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday.
- Have the neophytes (the newly baptized) sit in a special place during the Easter Season. Remember them in the intercessions. Please see RCIA #244-251.
- The paschal candle should be kept by the altar or ambo, and lit during liturgies until Evening Prayer II on Pentecost.
- Remember: we “fast for 40” but we “feast for 50!!”

Eastertime and Judaism

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

26. The readings of the Easter season, especially those from the book of Acts, which is used extensively throughout this liturgical period, require particular attention from the homilist in light of the enduring bond between Jews and Christians. Some of these readings from Acts (e.g., cycles A and B for the Third and Fourth Sundays of Easter) can leave an impression of collective Jewish responsibility for the crucifixion (“You put to death the author of life....” Acts 3:15). In such cases, the homilist should put before the assembly the teachings of *Nostra Aetate* in this regard (see no. 22 above), as well as the fact noted in Acts 3:17 that what was done by some individual Jews was done “out of ignorance” so that no unwarranted conclusion about collective guilt is drawn by the hearers. The Acts may be dealing with a reflection of the Jewish-Christian relationship as it existed toward the end of the first century (when Acts was composed) rather than with the actual attitudes of the post-Easter Jerusalem Church. Homilists should desire to convey the spirit and enthusiasm of the early Church that marks these Easter season

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readings. But in doing so, statements about Jewish responsibility have to be kept in context. This is part of the reconciliation between Jews and Christians to which we are all called.



RESOURCES FOR THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER

- (1) Diocese of Davenport Vision 2020: Intercessions for Sundays, Seasons, and Holy Days
<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/vision-2020-liturgy>
- (2) Synod 2021-23
<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/synod-2023>
- (3) The Center for Liturgy website offers general intercessions for each Sunday as well:
<http://liturgy.slu.edu/>
- (4) Intercessions for various life issues may be found on the USCCB website at (in English and Spanish):
<http://usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/prayers/intercessory-prayers-for-life.cfm>
<http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/word-of-life/index.cfm>
Subscribe at: www.bit.ly/word-of-life
- (5) The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops offers intercessions and homily ideas as part of their Pastoral Initiative for Life and Family:
<http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/church-in-canada-and-world/catholic-church-in-canada/life-and-family/3296-documents-and-activities-proposed-by-the-ccb>

ANNOUNCEMENT: DEACON FORMATION PROGRAM CLASS IX

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

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

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Sunday, February 27 (1-5pm)	Spanish Program Inquiry	Iowa City – St. Patrick (4330 St. Patrick Dr.)
Sunday, March 13, 2022 (1-5 pm)	Spanish Program Inquiry	Davenport – St. Anthony (417 N. Main)
Sunday, April 3 (1-5pm)	Spanish Program Inquiry	Ottumwa – St. Mary (216 N Court St)

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**GET
VACCINATED**



Text your zip code to 438829
to find vaccines near your
or visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov)

#CatholicCares

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