

# LITURGYNOTES

*"Good celebrations foster and nourish faith. Poor celebrations weaken and destroy it."*

## November 2023

### Diocese of Davenport

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- **Liturgy Prep: St. Isidore Novena; Christ the King**

#### CALENDAR FOR THIS MONTH

- **Black Catholic History Month**
- **1: All Saints**
- **2: All Souls**
- **3: St. Martin de Porres**
- **5: DST ends**
- **15: Feast of the Dedication of Sacred Heart Cathedral**
- **19: World Day of the Poor**
- **26: Christ the King**

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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

#### EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy/eucharistic-revival>



Information on the Parish Leader's Playbook may be found at:

<https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/lead>

Information on the Eucharistic Pilgrimage which will start at four cities in the United States and converge in Indianapolis in July 2024 may be found here:

<https://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/>

**NATIONAL EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS: JULY 17-21, 2024**

<https://www.eucharisticcongress.org>

**Our diocese has 112 remaining discounted tickets available until 12/31 (\$200 instead of \$350)! Ticket holders must register by December 31! For more information, or to request discounted tickets from the diocese, please visit our website:**  
<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/national-eucharistic-congress-2024>.

**WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE THESE DISCOUNTED TICKET AVAILABLE UNTIL DECEMBER 22 AND THEN TAKE THE ORDERING LINK OFF-LINE.**

#### NEWS & NOTICES

##### PRAYER RESOURCES – VACANT SEE

Resources in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese are being posted to the Liturgy homepage (<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy>). Please note, neither Archbishop Zinkula nor the administrator (Fr. Kuntz) are mentioned in the Eucharistic Prayer.

##### INFORMATION REQUESTED

Mater Dei Parish (Sioux City) is putting together a directory of parishes in Iowa that offer special needs ministries, anything from having a sign language interpreter at Mass to offering liturgies celebrated or faith formation programs structured with those on the autism spectrum in mind—anything available for people with special needs. If you offer such accommodations, please let me know ([agnoli@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:agnoli@davenportdiocese.org))? I'll pass the information along.

##### DECEMBER 4: 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SACROSANCTUM CONCILIUM

Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy turns 60 this year! See:

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/news/60th-anniversary-of-sacrosanctum-concilium>

## LiturgyNotes – November 2023

*"The Eucharist commits us to the poor" (CCC #1397).*

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR: THIS MONTH

#### NOVEMBER

- Black Catholic History Month  
See: <https://nbccongress.org/>
- November 1: Solemnity of All Saints. All Saints is a Holy Day of Obligation this year. Ritual Masses (i.e., marriage, confirmation) and funeral Masses are prohibited. A marriage or funeral may be celebrated outside of Mass using the texts from the Rite of Marriage or the Order of Christian Funerals.
- November 2: Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed ("All Souls")
- November 3: Optional Memorial of St. Martin de Porres
- November 5: Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 15: Feast of the Dedication of the Cathedral (a Solemnity at the Cathedral itself)  
The texts for the Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church are used.
- November 19: World Day of the Poor (33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)  
See: <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri.html>
- November 26: Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe  
Resources available at: <https://www.usccb.org/christtheking>

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR: NEXT MONTH

#### DIOCESAN CALENDAR FOR 2023-2024

The 2023-2024 Diocesan Liturgical Calendar is now available at:

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2023/9/LiturgicalCalendar2024.pdf>

#### DECEMBER

- December 3: First Sunday of Advent (Lectionary B-II)
- December 8: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Holy Day of Obligation. Ritual Masses (i.e., marriage, confirmation) and funeral Masses are prohibited. Marriages celebrated during Mass on that day must use the readings and orations of the holy day. A marriage or funeral may be celebrated outside of Mass using the texts from the Rite of Marriage or the Order of Christian Funerals.
- December 12: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- December 25: Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (see below)
- December 31: Feast of the Holy Family

#### December 24-25, 2023

This promises to be a very busy weekend in our parishes. Pastors and their staffs should discern carefully how many liturgies to celebrate. It may be necessary to adjust the usual weekend schedule to accommodate the additional Holy Day Masses and not exceed the canonical maximum. If schedule changes are planned, and with the anticipation of many guests at these liturgies, you may find it helpful to advertise the Mass schedule early and using multiple venues (website, Facebook page, bulletin, etc.).

## LiturgyNotes – November 2023

*"The Eucharist commits us to the poor" (CCC #1397).*

	Morning Prayer	Mass before 4pm	Mass after 4pm	Evening Prayer
<b>Saturday, December 23</b>	Dec. 23	Dec. 23	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	EP I of 4 <sup>th</sup> Sun Advent
<b>Sunday, December 24</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Advent	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Advent	Evening: Christmas Vigil Night: Christmas Mass during the Night	EP I of Christmas
<b>Monday, December 25</b>	Christmas	Christmas – Mass at Dawn (1 <sup>st</sup> Mass) Christmas – Mass during the Day		EP II of Christmas

*Please note:* both Sunday and Christmas are days of obligation. One should fulfill both obligations by assisting at two Masses, one for each of the two days (that is, one Mass between 4pm Sat evening and midnight Sunday night and one Mass between 4pm Sunday evening and midnight Monday night). Please see the Diocesan Liturgical Calendar for 2023-2024 for more details (<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2023/9/LiturgicalCalendar2024.pdf>).

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR: LOOKING AHEAD

#### JANUARY

- January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – not a holy day of obligation this year
- January 7 – Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
- January 9 – Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
- January 18-25 – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity  
Resources: <https://geii.org/>
- January 21 – Sunday of the Word of God  
Resources: <https://www.usccb.org/committees/divine-worship/sunday-word-god>
- January 22 – Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children  
Resources: <https://www.usccb.org/committees/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/january-22-day-of-prayer>
- January 28 to February 3 – Catholic Schools Week

#### LENT & TRIDUUM 2024

- *Ash Wednesday* will fall on February 14, 2024.
- The *Rite of Election* is scheduled for February 18, the 1st Sunday of Lent.
- The *Chrism Mass* is tentatively scheduled for March 25, the Monday of Holy Week.
- The *Triduum* falls on Thursday, March 28 through Sunday, March 31 – with the Easter Vigil falling on the night of Saturday, March 30. On that night, sunset is at 7:30 pm. In order to insure sufficient darkness, at least 45 minutes (preferably one hour) should elapse after sunset before the Vigil may begin. Therefore, the earliest that the Vigil may begin is 8:15 pm CDT.

### THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

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

#### RCIA CONTACTS

As we look ahead to the annual rites, as well as to a new OCIA, we need keep our list of RICA contacts for each parish up to date. If there has been a change in contacts, please send the updated information to [agnoli@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:agnoli@davenportdiocese.org). Please be looking for an e-mail about the Rite of Election from the Liturgy Office. If you don't get it, it means we don't have you on our list!

**UPCOMING EVENTS: DIOCESAN LITURGIES**

**RITE OF ELECTION**

The Rite of Election is celebrated on the First Sunday of Lent: February 18, 2024. Given that the See is Vacant, details regarding how we will celebrate the Rite this year are still pending. Information regarding registration, as well as further details, will be published in the December issue of *LiturgyNotes* and be sent directly to pastors and RCIA contacts as soon as they are available.

**UPCOMING EVENTS: FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES**

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

**SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD – JANUARY 21, 2024**

The Church observes the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time as the Sunday of the Word of God. Since its inception, our diocese has kept this celebration by offering an afternoon of reflection on the scriptures. For example, we have explored the themes of synodality and the Eucharist in the Bible, reflecting our participation in the Synod process and the Eucharistic Revival, respectively. This year, in keeping with our diocesan focus on welcoming and belonging, we will focus on hospitality in the Bible. Our presenter will be Rev. Prof. Matthew Coomber, PhD, of St. Ambrose University. Registration information will be shared when it becomes available. Stay tuned!

**BOOK REVIEW: TWO WORKS BY MATTHEW THIESSEN**

One of the challenges of reading the New Testament is putting ourselves back in the world of 1<sup>st</sup> Century Judaism. After all, Jesus, his family, and his early followers, including Paul, were Jewish. They looked at the world through Jewish eyes. And, while they debated the meaning of Torah, they did not call for its abandonment. Our Church calls us to honor this reality in our teaching and preaching, but the gap between our faith today and Jewish life 2000 years ago is vast. Mennonite Scripture scholar Matthew Thiessen, PhD, provides helpful approaches to bridging that gap in two recent books.

*Jesus and the Forces of Death: The Gospels' Portrayal of Ritual Impurity Within First-Century Judaism* (Baker Academic, 2020) introduces the reader to the religious worldview that informed Jesus' understanding of the world and of his ministry. As 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Catholics, the notion of “ritual purity-impurity” is completely foreign to us, and we frequently make the grave error of confusing it with “moral purity-impurity,” and of misunderstanding how both binaries relate to what is “holy” or “profane.” Thiessen carefully explains these concepts, and then places the Gospels' portrayal of Jesus and his ministry squarely within this system. For preachers and teachers who want a better understanding of the world in which Jesus walked, and his place in it, this is an insightful, helpful, and challenging resource. Prepare to have your eyes opened!

In his subsequent book, *A Jewish Paul: The Messiah's Herald to the Gentiles*, Thiessen introduces us to, in his words, a “weird” Paul, as encountered within his 1<sup>st</sup> century Jewish faith. We tend to hear Paul through the filters of our own 21<sup>st</sup> century experiences—and the polemics of the Reformation—and so misunderstand what he is trying to convey in his original context. As a result, we end up with an anti-Jewish Paul! Thiessen gives us a “way to read Paul that does not make Judaism into a foil for Christianity and that does not denigrate Jews, the Jewish law, or Judaism to make Paul appear like a hero” (p. 160). A fascinating read, and a great introduction to how “weird” Paul can be!

**LITURGY PREPARATION**

**NOVENA TO ST. ISIDORE 2023**

The 2023 Novena to St. Isidore will take place on the eight days preceding Thanksgiving: November 15<sup>th</sup>–23<sup>rd</sup>. St. Isidore, the farmer, born in Madrid, Spain was employed as a laborer on a farm outside the city; he married Maria de la Cabeza. Both Isidore and Maria worked hard and were very charitable to their neighbors and the poor. Through the centuries, Isidore and Maria have been revered as an example of the vocational meaning of marriage, not only as an institution that addresses a need for affection but also through which people can achieve holiness. The virtual novena from Catholic Rural Life can be found here: <https://catholicrurallife.org/resources/spiritual/novena-to-st-isidore/>. The daily videos (<https://catholicrurallife.org/virtualnovena/>) feature some familiar names from our diocese...!

**NOVEMBER 26: CHRIST THE KING**

The Committee for Religious Liberty has identified the Solemnity of Christ the King as a fitting moment in the liturgical year to promote the Church’s teaching on religious freedom, and has prepared materials to help educate the faithful about this Solemnity. See <https://www.usccb.org/christtheking>.

**COVID-19, INFLUENZA, ETC.**

- **Pandemic Policies and Resources:** <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/flu>
- **Sharing the Chalice:** The FDLC provides an article on the history of the practice of Communion under both kinds – “Take and Eat, Take and Drink.” It is written in a very accessible style, designed for the “person in the pew.” The articles (English and Spanish) are posted on their website – on the page dedicated to resources on the Eucharistic Revival: [www.fdlc.org/revival](http://www.fdlc.org/revival)

**RESOURCES FOR THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER**

- (1) Synod on Synodality  
<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/synod-2023>
- (2) Eucharistic Revival  
English: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2022/9/General%20Intercessions%20ENGLISH%20-%20National%20Eucharistic%20Revival.pdf>  
Spanish: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2022/11/General%20Intercessions%20SPANISH%20-%20National%20Eucharistic%20Revival.pdf>
- (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> (archive from 2011-2020)

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