

LITURGYNOTES

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

March 2025

Diocese of Davenport

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CALENDAR FOR THIS MONTH

- **March 5 – Ash Wednesday; new edition of the OCIA must be used**
- **March 9 – Rite of Election; Daylight Savings Time starts**
- **March 19 – Solemnity of St. Joseph**
- **March 25 – Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord**

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EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

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

We're in the "Missionary Year" of the Revival! Please see our diocesan page: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/missionary-year-2024-2025>. As part of that year, there will be a national pilgrimage from Indianapolis to Los Angeles, arriving on Corpus Christi. Please see: <https://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/>.



Please know that Bishop Walsh has given permission for the Pilgrimage to pass through our diocese on May 21-23, 2025!

Specifics will be shared as soon as they become available. We'll be needing lots of help!

NEWS & NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE FDLC (FEDERATION OF DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSIONS)

Save the Dates

At the kind invitation of Archbishop William Lori, the fifty-sixth national meeting of diocesan liturgical commissions will be held in Baltimore, Maryland from **September 30 to October 2, 2025**. The focus will be on the **Liturgy of the Hours**. The good folks of Region Four look forward to welcoming you! For more information, please visit: <https://fdlc.org/56th-fdlc-national-meeting/>.

Speakers will include Cardinal Arthur Roche, Prefect of the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments at the Vatican and Abbot Gregory Polan, OSB, who recently returned to the United States after completing his term as the tenth Abbot Primate of the Benedictine Order (2016-2024). His expertise as a Scripture scholar, linguist, and musician all contributed to his leadership of the monks of Conception Abbey and their work on The Abbey Psalm and Canticles – the psalms now approved for liturgical use in the United States.

Scholarships Available

The Tabat Scholarship <https://fdlc.org/2021/09/tabat-scholarship/>
This scholarship benefits those who are pursuing a graduate degree in the field of liturgical studies or related fields. Please note the new window for applications -- these applications used to be accepted until June 1.

The Miguel Arias Scholarship <https://fdlc.org/2021/09/miguel-arias-scholarship/>

This scholarship is generously underwritten by LTP of the Archdiocese of Chicago. The scholarship will provide annual grants to Spanish-speaking individuals who minister to the faithful in Spanish-speaking communities in the United States. Applications will be accepted until March 31.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 (<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>) (<https://www.usccb.org/committees/jubilee-2025>)



Diocesan information is posted at:

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy#Jubilee2025>. For example, cards with the Jubilee Prayer are available for download there (bilingual English/Spanish and English/Vietnamese). Information about the Jubilee Indulgence and on pilgrimage churches in the diocese is also available.

The Vatican has released a special Mass for the Holy Year, which is posted on the USCCB website:

[USCCB.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/votive-masses-and-various-needs/mass-for-the-holy-year](https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/votive-masses-and-various-needs/mass-for-the-holy-year)

LITURGICAL CALENDAR: THIS MONTH

MARCH

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LITURGICAL CALENDAR: NEXT MONTH

HOLY WEEK / TRIDUUM / EASTER 2025

- The *Chrism Mass* is scheduled for April 14, the Monday of Holy Week.
- The *Triduum* falls on Thursday, April 17 through Sunday, April 20 – with the Easter Vigil falling on the night of Saturday, April 19. On that night, sunset is at ~7:45 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 8:30 pm CDT, preferably 8:45 pm.

APRIL

- April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Resources from the USCCB are available at:
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/communications/abuse-prevention-resources>
<https://www.usccb.org/resources/child-abuse-prevention-month-how-and-why>
<https://www.usccb.org/resources/april-national-child-abuse-prevention-month>
<https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/upload/Prayers-of-the-Faithful-Child-Abuse-Prevention-Month.pdf>

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- April 22: Earth Day
<https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/programs/earth-day/>
<https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/care-for-creation>
<https://www.usccb.org/resources/renewing-earth>
<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/care-for-creation>
- April 27: 2nd Sunday of Easter / Divine Mercy Sunday
<https://www.usccb.org/prolife/divine-mercy-sunday>
<https://www.usccb.org/resources/holy-hour-divine-mercy-sunday>
<https://www.usccb.org/resources/divine-mercy-action-guide>

LITURGICAL CALENDAR: LOOKING AHEAD

MAY

- May 11: 4th Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday) / World Day of Prayer for Vocations / Mother's Day
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/world-day-prayer-vocations>.
- May 22: National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea (USA)
- May 24: World Day of Prayer for the Church in China

THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE

May is traditionally regarded as a Marian month. Please recall, however, that the Easter Season should remain the primary focus in both prayer and in the liturgical environment. Popular devotions are to take their life from the liturgy, not overshadow it.

Sunday, May 11, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is also Mother's Day this year. As a secular holiday, it should in no way overshadow the primary celebration of the paschal mystery and Eastertime. The Book of Blessings (#1724ff) contains an appropriate rite for parish use. The same applies to Father's Day, June 15 (See BB #1729ff) – which is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity.

UPCOMING EVENTS: DIOCESAN LITURGIES

RITE OF ELECTION & CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION: MARCH 9, 2025

This year we will be celebrating the combined rites twice on the First Sunday of Lent (March 9, 2025). Bishop Walsh will preside at a bilingual (English and Spanish) liturgy at St. Mary's in Ottumwa. He has designated Fr. Thom Hennen to preside at the rites at the Cathedral. Both celebrations will begin at 2pm, and will be celebrated within Mass. We hope to be able to dismiss the catechumens (not the candidates) for a period of reflection. A reception will follow. Please don't forget that parishes ought to celebrate the Rite of Sending at Mass either Saturday evening or Sunday morning. For more information, please visit: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/rite-of-election>.

CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 10:30am on Monday, April 14. A light reception will follow. Parishes are being contacted to find out how much of the blessed oils and consecrated Chrism they will need this year. Please respond as quickly as possible, and no later than mid-March, so we can order the oil and other needed supplies.

UPCOMING EVENTS: FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

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

DIOCESAN MUSIC WORKSHOP: March 22, 2025

On behalf of the diocese, St. Mary Church in Riverside will be hosting a workshop for music ministers (especially music/choir directors and accompanists) and interested clergy. Dr. David Pitt, Professor of Sacramental and Liturgical Theology at Loras College, and frequent Director for our Diocesan Choir, will be presenting (<https://loras.edu/people/david-pitt/>). The workshop will focus on music selection for Mass, and will include both theory and practice, culminating in a walk through the Mass using the music selected by participants. For more information or to register, please visit: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy-events#MMW2025>.

SAVE THE DATES – FDLC WEBINAR SERIES ON ARS CELEBRANDI

"But in order that the liturgy may be able to produce its full effects, it is necessary that the faithful come to it with proper dispositions, that their minds should be attuned to their voices, and that they should cooperate with divine grace lest they receive it in vain. Pastors of souls must therefore realize that, when the liturgy is celebrated, something more is required than the mere observation of the laws governing valid and licit celebration; it is their duty also to ensure that the faithful take part fully aware of what they are doing, actively engaged in the rite, and enriched by its effects" (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 11).

Please mark your calendars for our next FREE webinar series – **"The Art of Celebrating: Something More is Required."** The series is scheduled for **five Wednesdays this spring – May 7 to June 4, 1:00 PM Eastern**. The sessions will last seventy-five minutes. If you have a conflict one day...not to worry. As always, each registered person will receive a link to see the recorded session.

«Speakers will include **Bishop Mark Seitz, Father Paul Turner, Fr. Bruce Cinquegrani, Sr. Joyce Ann Zimmerman, Msgr. Michael Begolly, and more!** We will open registration soon, but in the meantime, mark your calendars for this important series.

- ❖ May 7 – Understanding *Ars Celebrandi*
- ❖ May 14 -- The Role of the Assembly
- ❖ May 21 – Artful Presiding
- ❖ May 28 – Lay Liturgical Ministers
- ❖ June 4 – The Art of Liturgical Music

NOTRE DAME PREACHING CONFERENCE: JUNE 16-18, 2025

Mark your calendar! Dates are set for another major preaching conference at Notre Dame, June 16-18, 2025. The theme will be: JESUS, DEAD AND RISEN, JESUS LIVING IN THE CHURCH: PREACHING THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

Taking a line from a work by the great French theologian, Louis Bouyer, the theme this summer is the Paschal Mystery (Jesus, dead and risen) as both the central content of our preaching and also the mystery that formats our reading, praying, and preaching of the Scriptures. Keynote speakers include Bishop Joseph Perry of Chicago, Hans Boersma, Karla Bellingier, Fr Robert Imbelli, and Fr Sergius Halvorsen. Registration will be open early in 2025.

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GIA SUMMER MUSIC INSTITUTE: JULY 9-11, 2025

A summer conference for musicians, conductors, and educators in all settings, to be held on the campus of North Central College in Naperville, IL. For more information or to register, please visit: <https://institute.giamusic.com/>.

NATIONAL GATHERING ON CHRISTIAN INITIATION® ON JULY 30–31

The Theme for 2025 is The Table of the Word: Scripture and the OCIA. Throughout the initiation process, we invite catechumens and candidates to join with us and feast at the table of the Word. Not only are we nourished by Scripture, we are formed by it to be missionary disciples—bringing the Gospel to the ends of the earth. For more information or to register, please visit: <https://ngci.org/2025> (early bird discount ends March 5th).

RESOURCES FROM NPM

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PASTORAL MUSICIANS OFFERS HIRING GUIDE FOR DIRECTORS OF MUSIC

The National Association of Pastoral Musicians (Website: www.npm.org) has recently released a hiring document as a guide for pastors (and equivalent clergy leaders) and search committees for hiring a Director of Music Ministries. This resource goes step by step through the process, providing helpful information on forming a search committee, drafting a position description, advertising the position, interviewing and auditioning candidates, and making the final selection for a Director of Music Ministries. The document can be found at npm.org and by clicking here: <https://npm.org/hiring-a-director-of-music-ministries-a-handbook-and-guide-2025-edition/>. Additionally, NPM is hosting a free webinar on Monday, February 24 at 3 pm ET/12 pm PT to further explore the document. Registration can be done by clicking here: <https://npm.site-ym.com/event/HiringGuideWebinar>. All clergy, business managers, office staff, and pastoral musicians are invited to attend.

WEBINAR SERIES ON MUSICALLY PREPARING THE EXSULTET

The National Association of Pastoral Musicians is offering a two-part webinar series on musically preparing the Exsultet. Presented by Nicholas Will (The Pittsburgh Oratory), the sessions will focus on vocal technique, notation competency, interpretation, and practical techniques related to successfully rendering (and praying!) the Exsultet. The session on March 12 is intended for singers who have never sung the Exsultet; March 19 for those with greater familiarity and experience with the chant. Dates: March 12 and March 19 (both at 1 pm ET). Cost: Free for NPM members; \$20 for non-members. Click here for more information and how to register: <https://npm.org/2025/02/10/musically-preparing-the-exsultet/>.

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGY PREPARATION AID 2025: LENT- TRIDUUM-EASTER

As usual, the FDLC is making available their annual Liturgical Preparation Aid for the Great Ninety Days. This resource in English is available at: <https://fdlc.org/2025/01/liturgical-preparation-aid-for-lent-the-sacred-paschal-triduum-and-the-easter-season-2025-year-c/>. The Spanish resource will be posted to the same site as soon as it is available. You may also access these resources from our website at: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgical-seasons#LentTriduumEaster>.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Optional Memorial of St. Teresa of Calcutta: September 5

On December 24, 2024, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, Virgin, into the General Roman Calendar. St. Teresa is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on September 5. The Holy See released the proper liturgical texts in Latin. Some of those texts were approved in English and Spanish by the USCCB in 2021 as a proposed inscription in the U.S. Proper Calendar, and their confirmation is still pending. Texts involving the Liturgy of the Hours must still be newly translated and approved before they can be implemented. Instruction on what texts to use at Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours in the meantime may be found here: <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/saint-teresa-of-calcutta>.

A Recent Vatican Ruling On The Obligation To Attend Mass When A Holy Day Is Transferred

This comes to provide an update on the issue of the obligation to attend Mass when the DATE of a holyday has been transferred. You may recall that the issue arose in 2024 when the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception was transferred to Monday, December 9 because the Second Sunday of Advent (a day of higher rank) fell on December 8. Following the ruling last fall by the Dicastery for Legislative Texts, several requests for clarification were sent to the Dicastery for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments. Last week, Cardinal Arthur Roche, Prefect of the DDWDS issued a response (Prot.51/25). The full text of that response is available at: <https://www.cultodivino.va/it/attivita/2025/nota-precetto.html>

KEY POINTS:

- The Dicastery responded to a specific question "[I]n the case of the transfer of a holyday of obligation, is one bound on the day *ad quem* to observe the obligation to attend Mass?"
- The response references the *Universal Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar* and its *Table of Liturgical Days According to Their Order of Precedence* (cf. nos. 59-60).
- Recognizing that this was a liturgical matter not expressly regulated by the Code of Canon Law (CIC), the Note acknowledges a "well-established practice" that the Dicastery had followed.
- The note concludes **"Since this practice is not contrary to the canons of the CIC, it is to be considered liturgical law (cf. Canon 2) that in the event of the occasional transfer of a holyday of obligation, the obligation to attend Mass is not transferred to the day *ad quem*."**

In other words, we go back to the way things used to be. When IC is transferred to December 9 (because December 8 falls on a Sunday), it is not a holy day of obligation. When December 8 falls on a Saturday or Monday, it is.

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 (general intercessions for Sundays)

<http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

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(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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