

# LITURGYNOTES

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

## March 2026

Diocese of Davenport

### IN THIS ISSUE...

- Jubilee of St. Francis
- FDLC and BCDW News: Scholarships available; OCF Survey
- Calendar notices (Mar-May)
- Upcoming Liturgies: Chrism Mass
- Liturgy Preparation: FDLC Liturgy Preparation Aid for Lent-Triduum-Easter; Lenten Fast and Abstinence; USCCB Pastoral Note on the Passion Narratives

### CALENDAR FOR THIS MONTH

- 1: Penitential Rite for Candidates
- 8: Daylight Savings Time starts; First Scrutiny; Rite of Handing on the Creed this week
- 15: 2<sup>nd</sup> Scrutiny
- 22: 3<sup>rd</sup> Scrutiny; Rite of Handing on the Lord's Prayer this week
- 29: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
- 30: The *Chrism Mass* is celebrated in our diocese

### CONTACT:

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

### NEWS & NOTICES

#### JUBILEE OF ST. FRANCIS: JAN 10, 2026 – JAN 10, 2027

Pope Leo has named this year as a special Jubilee to mark the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi. Information about the Jubilee, including the Jubilee Indulgence, may be found on our liturgy homepage: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy>.

#### NEWS FROM THE FDLC & BCDW

##### Scholarships

Please be reminded that the FDLC administers two scholarship programs. Act now; applications are accepted each year from February 1 to March 31.

- The Tabat Scholarship awards \$1000 to a person who is pursuing an advanced degree in Liturgy or related field. It is named in honor of Sr. Joan Tabat who died in a tragic auto accident in 2001. She served in dioceses in Florida and

## LiturgyNotes – March 2026

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

Illinois. The scholarship funds are made possible by your generous contributions and by sustaining donations from Father John DiBacco, Jr. (Region IV). <https://fdlc.org/2021/09/tabat-scholarship/>

- The Miguel Arias Scholarship awards funds annually to those who are pursuing certification and other levels of formation and who serve Hispanic or multi-cultural communities. These funds are underwritten by Liturgy Training Publications (LTP) in the Archdiocese of Chicago and by the additional donations of our members. Miguel Arias was an editor at LTP who, before his early death from cancer, was a passionate advocate for the formation of Spanish-speaking liturgical leaders and ministers. <https://fdlc.org/2021/09/miguel-arias-scholarship/>

### Order of Christian Funerals

The USCCB Secretariat of Divine Worship, in collaboration with the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC), has prepared a national survey on the *Order of Christian Funerals*. This survey will assist the bishops of the Committee on Divine Worship as they review the ICEL Green Book translation. The feedback received will play a critical role as the Committee reviews the rites and texts which have no equivalent in the Latin *editio typica*.

In addition to completing the survey yourselves, please also distribute the link to this survey through your network of contacts, especially to anyone involved in ministry to the dead and bereaved (for example, pastoral musicians and bereavement teams).

The entire survey should take 15-20 minutes to complete. Deadline is April 30. You may access the survey in one of three ways – the original link (<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/019c58368f5676a3a07910197322f7d8>), the shortened link (<https://bit.ly/4tCaM1z>), or the QR code (below).



### **LITURGICAL CALENDAR: THIS MONTH**

#### MARCH

- March 1 – Penitential Rite for Candidates
- March 8 – Daylight Savings Time starts; First Scrutiny; Rite of Handing on the Creed this week
- March 15 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Scrutiny
- March 22 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Scrutiny; Rite of Handing on the Lord’s Prayer this week
- March 29 – Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion
- March 30 – The *Chrism Mass* is celebrated in our diocese

## LiturgyNotes – March 2026

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

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR: NEXT MONTH

#### 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>
- **April 2-5: Sacred Triduum.** On the night of the Easter Vigil (April 4), 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.
- April 5: Easter Sunday. Obligatory use of new *Order of the Anointing of the Sick and of their Pastoral Care*.
- April 12: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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>
- 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 26: 4th Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday) / World Day of Prayer for Vocations  
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/world-day-prayer-vocations>.

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR: LOOKING AHEAD

#### 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 10, the Sixth 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 21 (See BB #1729ff) – which is the 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.

**Ministering to Couples Experiencing Infertility/Miscarriage** – As we approach the celebrations of Mother’s and Father’s Day, it is important to be pastorally sensitive to those in your parish who are experiencing infertility or loss. The following link from [Springs in the Desert](https://springsinthedesert.org/digital-infertility-toolkit/) offers some free resources (Prayers of the Faithful, Bulletin Announcements, Social Media Posts, Blessings, etc.) for use in your parish <https://springsinthedesert.org/digital-infertility-toolkit/>. Additional ministry resources are available for purchase [here](#). Contact [Marianne Agnoli](#) with questions or for more resource options.

## LiturgyNotes – March 2026

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

### MAY

- May 7-15: Novena to St. Isidore, to end on his feast;  
<https://catholicruralife.org/resources/spiritual/novena-to-st-isidore/>  
parishes may want to celebrate the blessing of seeds (*Book of Blessings* # 986ff) on the Sunday within the novena;
- May 10: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter /Mother’s Day
- May 17: Ascension / World Communications Day
- May 22: National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea (USA)
- May 24: Pentecost / World Day of Prayer for the Church in China
- May 25: The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

### **UPCOMING EVENTS: DIOCESAN LITURGIES**

### CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 10:30 am on Monday, March 30. Parishes have been contacted to find out how much of the blessed oils and consecrated Chrism they will need this year.

### **LITURGY PREPARATION**

#### LITURGY PREPARATION AID 2026: LENT- TRIDUUM-EASTER

This free, seasonal resource is courtesy of the FDLC. Our popular preparation aids are valued by parishes across the country. We trust that this is helpful in this busy season, that it is a trustworthy source of liturgical formation, and that it assures authentic celebration of the Church’s rites. Both the English and Spanish version may be found on the FDLC website: [www.fdlc.org/LentEaster2026](http://www.fdlc.org/LentEaster2026) (and on our website at: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgical-seasons#LentTriduumEaster>).

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

#### Lent Fast and Abstinence

**FAST**—Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast. On days of fast, one full meal and two lesser meals are allowed. Eating between meals is not permitted. Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 (60<sup>th</sup> birthday) are bound to fast.

**ABSTINENCE**—Ash Wednesday and all of the Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence. On days of abstinence, meat may not be taken. The law of abstinence binds all Catholics fourteen years of age or older. If members of the Faithful are unable to observe the fast and abstinence regulations because of ill health or other reasons, they are urged to practice other forms of penance and self-denial suitable to their condition.

#### A Pastoral Note on the Passion Narratives (source: BCDW Newsletter, Jan 2024)

*The Chairmen of the Committees on Divine Worship and Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs issued a memo to the publishers of worship aids, hymnals, and missals on February 1, 2023. The memo requires the following statement to be printed before the text of the Passion narrative on Good Friday in all future publications beginning in 2024. In the 1990s and again in the 2000s the Committees provided guidance on the preparation of homilies and created a similar statement to be included in worship aids alongside the proclamation of the passion during Holy Week to help ensure that*

## LiturgyNotes – March 2026

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

*the proclamation of the Lord’s Passion is not misused to promote anti-Jewish sentiment. The statement is available in English and Spanish:*

The passion narratives are proclaimed in full so that all see vividly the love of Christ for each person. In light of this, the crimes during the Passion of Christ cannot be attributed, in either preaching or catechesis, indiscriminately to all Jews of that time, nor to Jews today. The Jewish people should not be referred to as though rejected or cursed, as if this view followed from Scripture. The Church ever keeps in mind that Jesus, his mother Mary, and the apostles all were Jewish. As the Church has always held, Christ freely suffered his passion and death because of the sins of all, that all might be saved.

Las narraciones de la pasión se proclaman en su totalidad para que todos vean vívidamente el amor de Cristo por cada persona. A la luz de esto, los crímenes durante la Pasión de Cristo no pueden atribuirse, ni en la predicación ni en la catequesis, indiscriminadamente a todos los judíos de ese tiempo, ni a los judíos de hoy. El pueblo judío no debe ser referido como si fuera reprobado de Dios o maldito, como si este punto de vista se dedujera de las Sagradas Escrituras. La Iglesia siempre tiene en mente que Jesús, su madre María y los apóstoles eran todos judíos. Como la Iglesia siempre ha sostenido, Cristo sufrió libremente su pasión y muerte a causa de los pecados de todos, para que todos pudieran ser salvados.

### RESOURCES FOR THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER

(1) Synod on Synodality

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/synod-2023>

(2) The Center for Liturgy (general intercessions for Sundays)

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

(3) 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)



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

Phone: 563-888-4220

E-Mail: [schoel@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:schoel@davenportdiocese.org)