

LITURGYNOTES

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

September 2026

Diocese of Davenport

THIS ISSUE...

- **FDLC and BCDW News: Registration for 2026 National Conference / Study Day; Mass for the Care of Creation approved**
- **Calendar notices (September-November)**
- **Diocesan Eucharistic Liturgy and Procession**
- **Liturgy Preparation: Holy Week & Triduum 2027; Mass with Anointing of the Sick**

CALENDAR FOR THIS MONTH

- **1: World Day of Prayer of the Care of Creation (start of Season of Creation, to Oct. 4)**
- **7: Labor Day**
- **9: Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities (USA) / St. Peter Claver**
- **11: National Day of Mourning and Remembrance**
- **13: World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly (moved from July in US).**
- **20: Catechetical Sunday**
- **20-27: National Migration Week (USA)**
- **27: World Day of Migrants and Refugees; Anniversary of the Ordination of Bishop Dennis Walsh as the 10th Bishop of Davenport; Priesthood Sunday**

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NEWS & NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE FDLC & BCDW

National Meeting 2026: September 29-October 1 / Study Day on September 30



Please join us for the **2026 National Meeting** – “Word of God: Living and Effective.” If you can’t stay for the whole conference, then come for the **Study Day** on Wednesday, September 30 – the Memorial of St. Jerome! Please see <https://fdlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/2026-FDLC-Study-Day-brochure-FINAL.pdf> for details.

LiturgyNotes – September 2026

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

LINK TO FULL REGISTRATION BROCHURE: <https://fdlc.org/upcoming-national-meeting/>

LINK TO ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM: <https://fdlc.org/2026-fdlc-national-meeting-registration/>

The nightly rate is a very reasonable \$115 at the lovely Graduate Hotel by Hilton. Reserve your room with this special FDLC rate by using this link: <https://book.passkey.com/e/51175015>

A word of congratulations to the Monks of St. John’s Abbey in Collegeville, MN, this year’s recipient of the McManus Award, named in honor of Msgr. Frederick McManus. The award recognizes their century of contributions to liturgical formation including Worship magazine, their stewardship of Liturgical Press, and academic degrees at St. John’s Collegeville. Their heritage includes such liturgical giants as Godfrey Diekmann, OSB and Virgil Michel, OSB.

In observation of their centenary, Liturgical Press has produced a series of videos, exploring the development and impact of Liturgical Press on the worship life of the Church in the US and around the world. See <https://litpress.org/videos>.

Mass for the Care of Creation Approved

The Missal and Lectionary texts of the Mass “For the Care of Creation” / “Por el Cuidado de la creación” for use in the Dioceses of the United States of America were confirmed by decree of the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments on August 4, 2026 (Prot. n. 447/26). The texts are available in English at [USCCB.org/prayer-worship/the-mass/votive-masses-and-various-needs/mass-for-the-care-of-creation](https://usccb.org/prayer-worship/the-mass/votive-masses-and-various-needs/mass-for-the-care-of-creation) and in Spanish at [USCCB.org/es/prayer-worship/the-mass/votive-masses-and-various-needs/misa-por-el-cuidado-de-la-creacion](https://usccb.org/es/prayer-worship/the-mass/votive-masses-and-various-needs/misa-por-el-cuidado-de-la-creacion).

As a reminder, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation is observed on Tuesday, September 1, 2026. Since this day is observed liturgically as a weekday of Ordinary Time, it is permissible to celebrate any Mass for Various Needs and Occasions, including the Mass “For the Care of Creation.”

Additional resources for the World Day of Prayer are available at [USCCB.org/environment](https://usccb.org/environment), with a bulletin insert in English and Spanish at [USCCB.org/sjp/our-common-home-and-transforming-power-liturgy](https://usccb.org/sjp/our-common-home-and-transforming-power-liturgy).

LITURGICAL CALENDAR: THIS MONTH

SEPTEMBER

- September 1 — World Day of Prayer of the Care of Creation [start of Season of Creation, to Oct. 4] (see below)
- September 7 – Labor Day (see below)
- September 9 — Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities (USA) / St. Peter Claver
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/ad-hoc-committee-against-racism/combating-racism-parish-resources> and
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/subcommittee-promotion-racial-justice-and-reconciliation> and
<https://www.usccb.org/resources/National%20Day%20of%20Prayer%20for%20Peace%20and%20Memorial%20of%20St.%20Peter%20Claver%20Two%20Pager.pdf>
- September 11 (see below) – National Day of Mourning and Remembrance
<https://www.usccb.org/resources/september-11-patriot-day>
Resources from the FDLC are posted on our website at:
https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2026/8/Twenty-fifth_Anniversary_9-11.pdf
- September 13 — World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly (moved from July in US).
<https://www.usccb.org/topics/marriage-and-family-life-ministries/grandparents-elderly>

- September 20 (Third Sunday in September; USA) — Catechetical Sunday
<https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/catechesis/catechetical-sunday/catechetical-sunday-about> and <https://www.usccb.org/committees/evangelization-catechesis/catechetical-sunday-2026>
- September 20-27 (Last Week in September) — National Migration Week (USA)
<https://www.usccb.org/nmw>
- September 27 (Last Sunday in September) — World Day of Migrants and Refugees
<https://migrants-refugees.va/world-day-of-migrants-refugees/>
- September 27: Anniversary of the Ordination of Bishop Dennis Walsh as the 10th Bishop of Davenport
 - Because September 27 falls on a Sunday this year, the Sunday Mass is to be used. It would be appropriate to remember the bishop in the universal prayer.
- September 27 (Last Sunday in Sept) — Priesthood Sunday
<https://serraboulder.org/vocations/parish-vocations-activities/priesthood-sunday/>

Tuesday, September 1: World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

September 1 also inaugurates the “Season of Creation,” which culminates on October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of Ecology. Pope Francis instituted the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation in 2015 as a practical step following the publication of his encyclical *Laudato Si’*. September 1 was chosen for the yearly observance, as it is the same date chosen by the Orthodox Church in 1989. The day of prayer gives Catholics the opportunity to give thanks to God for the creation of the world and of humanity, and to recall and strengthen the responsibility of men and women to care for that creation. Some options for the liturgy on this day include:

- The US Bishops approved the translation of the Mass “For the Care of Creation” and it has now been confirmed by Rome!
 - See: <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-worship/the-mass/votive-masses-and-various-needs/mass-for-the-care-of-creation>
 - Green vestments are worn.
- Alternatively, celebrating the Mass “For the Sanctification of Human Labor” from the Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions (no. 26; see especially the second Collect of formulary A) may be a fitting option.
 - This formulary requires the use of Preface V of the Sundays in Ordinary Time, entitled simply “Creation.” The preface speaks eloquently of God’s creation of the world, and the need of humanity to praise God by caring for that creation. Connections between human labor and the care of creation can be drawn out by the formulary itself, and in the homily and Universal Prayer.
 - Green vestments are worn.
 - The readings may be taken from the appropriate selection in volume IV of the Lectionary for Mass (see Mass “For the Blessing of Human Labor,” nos. 907-911; see especially 907-2 and 909-1).
- Even if no special Mass formulary or readings are selected for the occasion, it would still be appropriate to mention the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and its significance in the homily, petitions, and/or concluding announcements (on this day and on the preceding Sunday).
- Other resources:
 - <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/care-for-creation>
 - <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/season-of-creation/>
 - <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2016/6/litWorldDayofPrayerforCreation2015.pdf>
 - <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/deacon-formation-resources/#LaudatoSi>
 - Catholic Climate Covenant: <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/learn/resources/>
 - Laudato Si’ Movement: <https://laudatosimovement.org/>
 - Season of Creation: <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

- USCCB: <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayers-to-care-for-creation.cfm>
- Laudato Si’ Action Platform: <https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/>

Monday, September 7: Labor Day

Parishes may wish to celebrate the Mass for the Sanctification of Human Labor (#26; readings from #907-911) on this day. Preface V for Sunday is used, and white vestments are worn (since it is a special observation in the US).

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...
- For those who work in hazardous conditions without sufficient protection; let us pray...
- For migrant workers and all who work the land and the waters, so we might be fed; let us pray...
- 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...
- For all employers, that they may seek to provide a just work environment; let us pray...
- For those who face discrimination, harassment, or abuse in the work place; let us pray...
- For those who must balance job commitments with the needs of their family; let us pray...

The *Book of Blessings* also offers a number of opportunities. Brief pastoral visits (observing appropriate physical distancing and wearing masks) 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. A brief gathering outdoors after Mass might be a good way to do this. 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, as in the examples above.

Thursday, September 11

On 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). Appropriate intercessions could also be included at the Sunday Masses on the weekend of September 7-8. See: <https://www.usccb.org/resources/september-11-patriot-day> and https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2026/8/Twenty-fifth_Anniversary_9-11.pdf.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR: NEXT MONTH

OCTOBER

- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
<https://www.usccb.org/topics/marriage-and-family-life-ministries/domestic-violence>
- Respect Life Month / October 5 — Respect Life Sunday
<https://www.usccb.org/respectlife>
<https://www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month>
- October 19 — World Mission Sunday
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/evangelization-catechesis/world-missions>

LITURGICAL CALENDAR: LOOKING AHEAD

NOVEMBER

- November 1 – All Saints

All Saints falls on a Sunday this year, and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Both 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 Order of Celebrating Matrimony and Order of Christian Funerals, respectively.

	Morning Prayer	Mass before 4pm	Mass after 4pm	Evening Prayer
Saturday, Oct 31	Saturday, 30 th Week of Ordinary Time	Saturday, 30 th Week of Ordinary Time	All Saints	EP I All Saints
Sunday, Nov 1	MP All Saints	All Saints		EP II All Saints

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

SEPTEMBER 19: MASS AND EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION

In anticipation of the Christ our Life Conference (September 26-27), all four Iowa Dioceses will be celebrating Mass followed by a Eucharistic Procession. Our celebration will be held at St. Patrick Church in Iowa City, beginning with Mass at 9:30 am, followed by the Procession and then lunch. Registration information will be forthcoming from the Office of Faith Formation (including RSVP for lunch and to let us know if any clergy will be assisting).

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Lent / Triduum / Easter 2027

- *Ash Wednesday* will fall on February 10
- The *Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion* is scheduled for February 14, the 1st Sunday of Lent. We will again celebrate the Rite in both Davenport and Ottumwa.
- The *Chrism Mass* is tentatively scheduled for March 22, the Monday of Holy Week.
- The *Triduum* falls on Thursday, March 25 through Sunday, March 28 – with the Easter Vigil falling on the night of Saturday, March 27. 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, preferably 8:30 pm.

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK

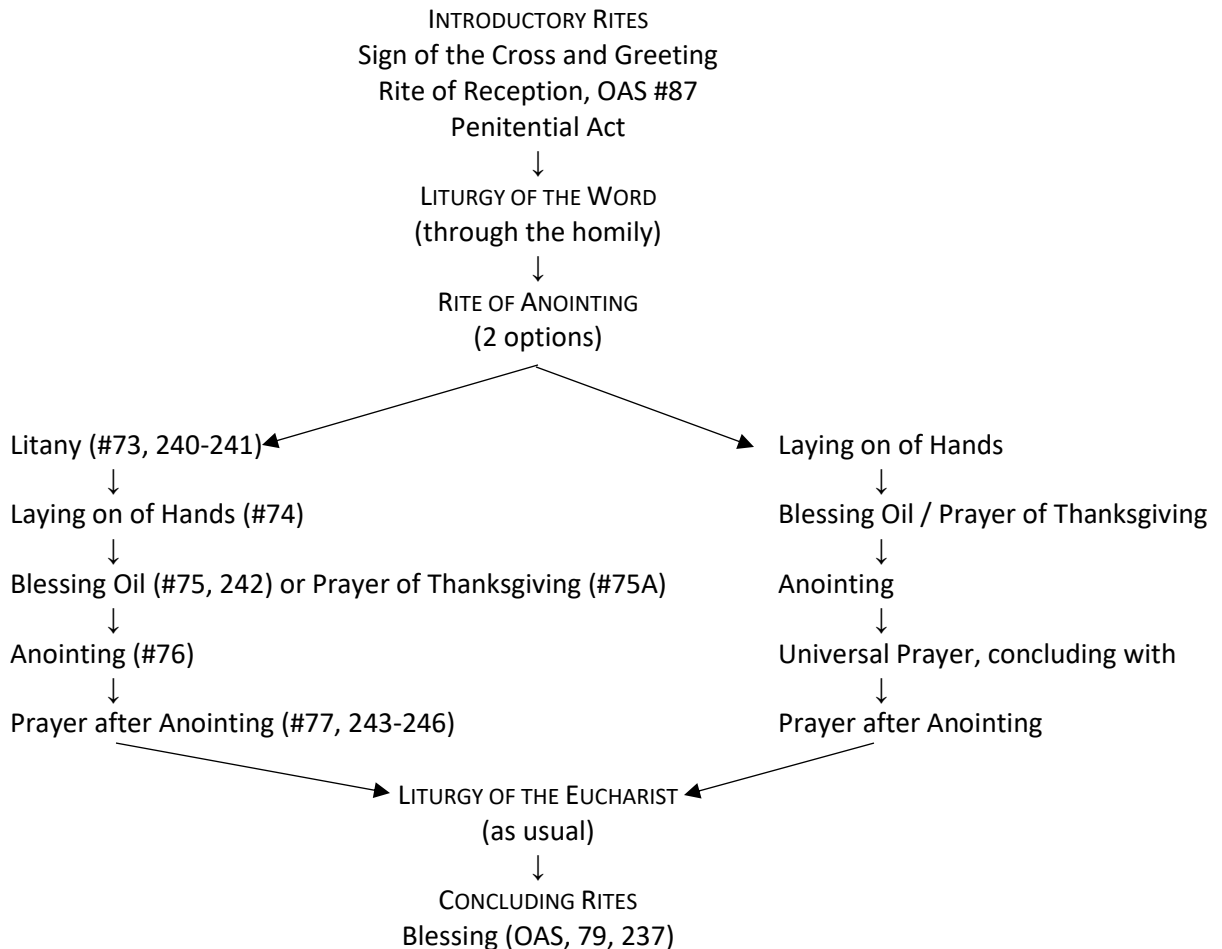
The FDLC recently presented a series of webinars on the new Order for the Anointing of the Sick and of their Pastoral Care (OAS). Videos of the webinars are available at: <https://fdlc.org/2025/12/fdlc-free-webinars-anointing-of-the-sick/>. For those who are planning or regularly celebrated Masses for the Sick with anointing, the third video of the series offers excellent practical and pastoral advice, and suggests a number of best practices, summarized here:

The most important aspect of preparation is solid catechesis about what the sacrament is and isn't, and for whom the sacrament may be celebrated. The sacrament is for those who are seriously ill, including serious limitations that come with aging, and may be repeated if a condition worsens. It is not “last rites” for the dying; that is Viaticum, so it should be celebrated in a timely manner. The sacrament is not for those who experience the usual aches and pains of life but are in otherwise good health, or are stressed/anxious (unless these are part of a diagnosed mental illness); those who see it as a “preventative;” and those recently anointed and whose condition has not changed. Children who have not attained the use of reason such that they would be comforted by the sacrament should not be anointed. The fruits of the sacrament are described in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, §§1520-1523, 1532, and in the OAS §6.

Be attentive to proper language. This is a “Mass for the Sick” *not* a “healing Mass.” It should be celebrated, as all liturgy, with the full participation of all present. The tone is one of “paschal joy.” Promote the Mass well in advance. Consider registration, and pay particular attention to hospitality for those with limited mobility. Seat people in every other pew – have the ministers of Anointing and Communion come to them. When celebrating the liturgy, consider the following:

- When Ritual Masses are permitted, use the Mass for Sick (Masses for Various Needs #45) and the corresponding readings from the Lectionary (#790-795) or the OAS (#153ff).
- From the Appendix, use Penitential Act #7.
- Use the Eucharistic Prayer for Masses for Various Needs IV, “Jesus, Who Went About Doing Good.” The Preface there specifically mentions Jesus’ compassion for the sick.

There are two patterns that can be used:



LiturgyNotes – September 2026

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

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)

MISCELLANEOUS

CLERGY SHIRTS AVAILABLE

Very slightly used, long- and short-sleeved, size 18-18½. Please contact me if you are interested.



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.

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