

## CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

St. John the Baptist-Arcadia      St. Bernard-Breda      St. Elizabeth Seton-Glidden  
St. Augustine/Holy Angels-Halbur      Our Lady of Mount Carmel-Mount Carmel      Sacred Heart-Templeton  
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### NOTES ON THE EASTER SEASON

This is a **very special season we celebrate for 50 days**. Thus, **special instructions and notes are needed**.

1. During all Sundays of Easter [Divine Mercy Sunday to Pentecost Sunday] we will be using the Sprinkling Rite in place of the PENITENTIAL RITE. Thus, you will see in each liturgy plan the following:

Dear brethren [brothers and sisters]  
let us humbly beseech the Lord our God  
who has blessed this water he has created  
which will be sprinkled on us  
as a memorial of our Baptism.  
May he help us by his grace  
to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.

[Blessing of the people. Accompanist may play opening song instrumentally.]

May almighty God cleanse us of our sins,  
and through the celebration of this Eucharist  
make us worthy to share at the table of his Kingdom.  
[Amen.]

The Presider will speak the words of the first part of the Rite and then bless/sprinkle the people with Holy Water. During the time the Presider is journeying up and down the aisles, the accompanist/keyboardist/organist is encouraged to replay the opening song instrumentally until the Presider returns to his chair. The Presider will then pray the second prayer, to which all respond "Amen". Immediately the Gloria is sung [or spoken].

2. The Sunday after Easter Sunday is NOT the Second Sunday of Easter. It is DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY.
3. First Holy Communion is normally celebrated on the last Sunday of April. Candidates sit with their parents in reserved pews in the front section of the church after processing in behind the Altar Servers and before the Priest. When there are sufficient number of candidates, candidates will assist with the readings. Candidates will be asked to bring up the gifts of the collection, bread, and wine. Candidates and their parents receive Holy Communion before the rest of the faithful and in order of baptism. First Communicants and parents remain in their pews at the end of Mass in most parishes to remain up front in order to take photos after Mass.

4. Baccalaureate is normally celebrated on the first Sunday of May to recognize all graduating high school seniors. In a few parishes the 8<sup>th</sup> graders are also recognized. The graduates process in behind the Altar Serves and before the Priest and sit in reserved pews in the front section of the church. Graduates receive Holy Communion before the rest of the faithful. Graduates remain in their pews at the end of Mass in most parishes to remain up front in order to take photos after Mass.
5. THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD has NOT been celebrated on the 40<sup>th</sup> day of Easter [formally known as Ascension Thursday] since 2001. Since then the Seventh Sunday of Easter has been replaced by Ascension Sunday. The Readings, including the Responsorial Psalm, and the music are for THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD. Please do not use the Readings, including the Responsorial Psalm, and the music are for the Seventh Sunday of Easter.
6. The season of Easter concludes after the last Mass on Pentecost Sunday.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thank you.

Fr. Mark  
4/20/19