

# WITH HUMBLE SPIRIT

JANUARY 2023

## CALENDAR NOTES

JAN 1

*Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God*

- Holy Family is celebrated on Dec 30 when Jan 1 is a Sunday. Today, all Masses celebrated should be of the solemnity.

Jan 7-8

*Epiphany of the Lord*

- **PROPER VIGIL MASS:** The proper vigil Mass should be celebrated on Saturday evening.
- **ANNOUNCEMENT OF EASTER & THE MOVEABLE FEASTS:** The proclamation found in Appendix I may be proclaimed after the Gospel at the Mass during the day of Epiphany. The pointed proclamation for dates in 2023 in English and Spanish may be found [here](#).
- **BLESSED CHALK:** There is a tradition of blessing chalk for families to take home on Epiphany to bless their houses for a new year. Priests can use different formulae to bless the chalk outside of Mass or within Mass, but [here is a suggestion](#).

JAN 9

*The Baptism of the Lord*

- When the Epiphany of the Lord falls on January 7 or 8, The Baptism of the Lord is celebrated the following Monday instead of the following Sunday. This Feast of the Lord is not a Holy Day of Obligation.
- **READINGS:** Note there are 2 options for the readings to be proclaimed.

JAN 10

*Ordinary Time Begins*

- **NB:** The daily Mass Lectionary cycle is year I

JAN 18-25

*Week of Christian Unity*

## ARS CELEBRANDI

### THE CHOICE OF THE MASS AND ITS PARTS PART IV

We have talked about how the calendar affects the Masses to be celebrated, the choice of orations, and how the readings may be suitably chosen based on circumstances and seasons. A final consideration on the choice of the Mass and its parts lies in the choice of the Eucharistic Prayer.

Remember that the Eucharistic Prayer begins with the preface and concludes with the doxology. There are two major choices to discuss: the preface and the body of the Eucharistic Prayer.

In the revision of the Roman Missal of Paul VI after the Second Vatican Council, the number of prefaces expanded dramatically, introducing a process of selecting among options in many cases. Oftentimes, the preface to be prayed is indicated within the Mass that is celebrated, some of which have a proper preface which is given after the Prayer over the Offerings. This is likewise notated in the Ordo by the abbreviation "Pf." However, there are Masses when several options present themselves. The rubrics printed above the prefaces along with general principles can guide our choice.

There are seasons which afford several options for the prefaces. All things considered, these options for the seasons of Christmas and Epiphany, Easter and Ascension, and the Sundays in Ordinary Time are equally appropriate as given. Of course, within the seasons, each preface is labeled with a theme printed in red which could be aligned to the readings or the time within the season.

In Lent, all four options are appropriate for the weekdays, but the last two especially, which speak of abstinence and fasting. Only the first two, however, may be used on Sundays of Lent in which there is specified no proper preface. Note there are proper prefaces for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent for use only when specific Gospels (year A or for the Scrutinies) are read. Then there are two prefaces for the Passion which are to be used in the Fifth Week of Lent and the first part of Holy Week respectively. Advent likewise has two prefaces, the first of which is prayed through December 16, and the second of which is prayed from December 17 through December 24.

For the Saints there are two general options which may be used for any Solemnity, Feast or Memorial of a Saint along with the Mass of All Saints. However, given the order of the prefaces in the Missal, it would seem more appropriate to use one of the two options provided for celebrations of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and one of the two options provided for celebrations of the Apostles and Evangelists. More specific options are given as well for the different classes of Saints in lieu of the two general options for Saints.

Within the privileged seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Easter, if a Saint is celebrated which has no proper preface, it seems preferable (though not obligatory) to pray the preface for the season, not the Saint, unless the Mass takes on greater solemnity because of the significance of the Saint for the congregation. If a Saint is commemorated in Lent, only a Lenten preface should be prayed.

In ferial Masses during Ordinary Time, the common prefaces

## CALENDAR NOTES, CONT'D

- Consider inserting prayers for Christian Unity in the general intercessions at Mass, using the Mass formulary, "For the Unity of Christians" (VN #17), or others as noted in the Ordo, p 41.

JAN 21

- MARCH FOR LIFE MASS:** 8:30am at St. Joseph Old Cathedral.

JAN 22

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

- SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD:** Declared in 2019 by Pope Francis. While no particular tradition or rite has developed, the theme can readily be included in the Homily or the Universal Prayers.

JAN 23

*Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children*

- Consult Ordo for possible Masses to be celebrated, VN #48/I A or B, "For Giving thanks to God for the gift of Human Life." More information can be found online [here](#).

JAN 29-FEB 4

*Celebrate Catholic Schools Week*

- Consider using Book of Blessings, Ch. 5, "Order for the Blessing of Students and Teachers." (Universal Prayers, Blessing). If the weekly school Mass is not on Thursday, Feb 2, a Votive Mass of the patron/patroness of the school might appropriately be celebrated.

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Presentation of the Lord (Feb 2): Plan and prepare Blessing of Candles/ Procession; Blessing of Throats (Feb 3)
- World Marriage Day (Feb 12)
- Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine Dedication Week Events (Feb 12-17)
- Ash Wednesday (Feb 22)

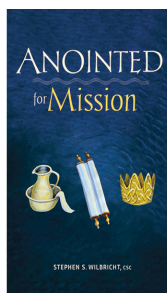
should be selected. Note that Common Preface VI is the same as the preface which is given with Eucharistic Prayer II. The common prefaces can even be used during Ordinary Time in a Mass of a Saint without a proper preface.

Finally, in Masses for the Dead, five equally appropriate options for the preface are given.

In the final article for the Choice of the Mass and its Parts, we will investigate the options for the body of the Eucharistic Prayer, as we reference the guidance of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal.

Zachary M. Boazman

## RESOURCES FROM OUR OFFICE



### Anointed: A Vision of Parish Life Rooted in Baptism

Stephen S. Wilbricht, CSC, Mary A. Ehle, et. al.

You are a priest, my friend," Kathleen Hughes, RSCJ, writes in *Becoming the Sign* quoting St. Oscar Romero. Hughes then explains, "Your daily work--your actions, your presence to others, the quality of your relationships--has the potential to touch, to nourish, to heal, to reconcile, to strengthen, to transform if it is done with integrity and love."

Sr. Kathleen's words are reason to pause, for often the faithful do not consider that their presence can be the presence of Christ. They may not understand that baptism unites them in a ministry of service with Christ. They may not fully realize the power of the words at the anointing after baptism: "He now anoints you ... so that you may remain members of Christ, Priest, Prophet and King" (*Order of Baptism of Children*, 62).

When each baptized person realizes that, with Christ, they are priest, prophet, and king, the Church will be renewed. Liturgy Training Publications offers the *Anointed* series to parishes as a step toward renewal of the Church. These books--*Anointed for Discipleship*, *Anointed for Mission*, and *Anointed to Lead*--will assist the parish in developing a deeper understanding of what it means to be Church.

The series not only helps parishioners comprehend the meaning of their baptism but shows parish leadership how to animate the priestly service of the faithful. When parish staff and leaders, for example, discern gifts and charisms with members, they invite them to live out their baptismal priesthood.

"The work of the parish leadership is to help people see their oneness in the Body of Christ so that they will be drawn to live out their baptismal calling," Stephen S. Wilbricht, sc, states in *Anointed to Lead*. That calling to make Christ tangible in the world will bring the faithful back to the liturgy, the place of encounter with God and of renewal. We hope this new series will form and transform your parish community to live as priest, prophet, and king in the world today. More information [here](#).

## CONTACT US

VERY REV. STEPHEN BIRD, DIRECTOR

[sbird@archokc.org](mailto:sbird@archokc.org)

REV. ZACHARY BOAZMAN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

[zachary.boazman@archokc.org](mailto:zachary.boazman@archokc.org)

MR. MICHAEL SCOTT, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

[msscott@archokc.org](mailto:msscott@archokc.org)



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