

**OFFICE FOR WORSHIP  
DECEMBER 2010**

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SOME LITURGICAL CALENDAR ITEMS

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
VIGIL FOR ALL NASCENT HUMAN LIFE  
Saturday Evening, 27 November 2010**

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, invites Catholics throughout the world to pray especially for the unborn as the Church begins the holy season of Advent, the time to prepare for the Birth of Jesus. In response to our Holy Father's desire, the holy Rosary will be prayed in all the parishes of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia immediately before the vigil Mass on Saturday evening, November 27, 2010 for the First Sunday of Advent.

A sample bulletin announcement, the plan for the Rosary before Mass, and an intercession for the Prayer of the Faithful for the intention of the protection of human life, for the First Sunday of Advent, has already been sent by hard-copy to all the Pastors of the Archdiocese. *This same material can be found on the website of the Office for Worship.*

**DAY OF SANCTIFICATION  
Monday, 29 November 2010**

**SAMPLE PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please announce before the Masses on the weekend of November 27-28.

In addition to your own intentions for Mass today, please pray for all the priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, who will be gathering with Cardinal Rigali this Monday afternoon at the seminary for a time of prayer and reflection on the Sacred Priesthood. Let us pray that the Lord will strengthen our priests in holiness and in their commitment to serve all the people of God.

Or, please announce after the Prayer after Communion at the Masses on the weekend of November 27-28.

In today's parish bulletin you will find a prayer for priests. You are asked to remember all the priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in your prayers, especially as they assemble for the 2010 Day of Sanctification for Priests this Monday with Cardinal Rigali at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**  
**Wednesday, 8 December 2010 is a Holy Day of Obligation.**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**AND THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**  
**Sunday, 12 December 2010**

The *Sacramentary* and *Lectionary* texts for the Third Sunday of Advent are to be used on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Our Lady of Guadalupe may be commemorated in devotions before or after Mass. A hymn in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe may follow Mass. Also, it is appropriate to include references to Our Lady of Guadalupe in the homily and ask her intercession in a petition of the Prayer of the Faithful.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)**  
**Saturday, 25 December 2010 is a Holy Day of Obligation.**

Four PM is the earliest time in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for a Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord.

*The Saturday evening Mass on December 25 is that of Christmas Day.*

**SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**  
**Saturday, 1 January 2011**

The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, since it falls on a Saturday this year, is not observed as a Holy Day of Obligation. Nonetheless, the faithful should be encouraged to participate in the scheduled Masses, celebrated in a festive manner.

**BLESSINGS RELATED TO ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**

The form for the blessing of an Advent Wreath, a Manger or Nativity Scene, a Christmas Tree, and of homes during the Christmas season, are found in the *Book of Blessings*. The introductions to these various blessings offer helpful pastoral and liturgical information. The provided blessings for an Advent Wreath and a Manger or Nativity Scene maintain an important balance and perspective with regard to these elements of devotion and the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy.

**COLDS AND FLU**

**AND THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRED LITURGY**

- ❖ Ministers of Holy Communion should wash their hands before Mass begins, or even use an alcohol based anti-bacterial solution in the pew before distributing, and after purifying their fingers after distributing Holy Communion;
- ❖ People feeling ill should avoid receiving Communion from the chalice.

Priests are encouraged to use good pastoral common sense to allay the fears of the faithful during cold and flu season. An example of this might include refraining from the use of the

Sign of Peace during the celebration of Mass and reminding the faithful not to receive the Precious Blood if they are ill.

## ROMAN MISSAL FORMATION

The Office for Worship has produced a parish based catechesis for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for the reception of the *Roman Missal* for use beginning Advent 2010 through Advent 2011. This catechesis is called: *Know the Words, Know the Meaning, Know the Mystery*. It is designed for a great variety of uses in the parish and for a great variety of parish groups. It can be downloaded and inserted into parish bulletins, printed for discussion and reflection, and provide content for school and religious education classes.

The two-page catechetical segments are arranged according to the following topics and calendar. A more complete set of instructions for use and the catechetical segments will be available on the Office for Worship website.

### *Know the Words, Know the Meaning, Know the Mystery*

#### *December*

- What is the Sacred Liturgy?
- The Sacred Liturgy: The Work of the Most Holy Trinity

Additional resources on the *Roman Missal* are presently available on the website of the Office for Worship. Also, see the website for a more complete calendar of events in the Archdiocese for the reception of the *Roman Missal*.

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

- Pastors and chaplains are encouraged to send new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the archdiocesan formation sessions listed below.
- Pastors and chaplains are reminded to inform the Office for Worship if they conduct their own formation and to send to this office their request for new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.
- Request forms can be found on the Office for Worship website. Letters of Appointment will then follow.
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are appointed for a three year term and for the place where they are commissioned. Terms may be renewed if agreeable to both the pastor/chaplain and the minister.
- *Pastors are reminded to conduct the commissioning of new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion according to the rite found in the Book of Blessings, Chapter 63.*

**PLEASE REGISTER NOW!!!**  
**WORKSHOPS**  
**FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Thursday, 13 January 2011, 7:00 PM-9:00 PM  
*Saint Jude Parish, 321 West Butler Avenue, Chalfont, PA 18914*

***SPECIAL WORKSHOP FOR COMMUNION MINISTERS***  
***SERVING IN NURSING HOMES, HOSPITALS, PRISONS, COLLEGES AND***  
***UNIVERSITIES***

Saturday, 19 March 2011, 9:00 AM-Noon  
*Cathedral Chapel of Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament*  
*Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul*  
*18<sup>th</sup> Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103*

*Register for these workshops directly online at the Office for Worship website or call the Office for Worship.*  
*Important information for the pastor/chaplain can be found online on the registration forms.*

**PETITION FOR VOCATIONS**  
**FOR THE SUNDAY PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

In response to the super-priority identified in the Cardinal's recent pastoral, *Called to Conversion and Holiness*, to promote vocations you are encouraged to include a petition for priestly vocations in the Sunday Prayer of the Faithful. A copy of the possible petitions can be found on the Office for Worship website at the following address:  
<http://archphila.org/evangelization/worship/worship.htm>

**CELEBRATIONS OF THE ORDINARY FORM IN LATIN**  
**AND THE EXTRAORDINARY FORM**

<http://archphila.org/evangelization/worship/resources/Ordinary-Extraordinary%20Form%20of%20the%20Mass%20List.pdf>