**OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP**

**AUGUST 2015**

**Website for the Office for Divine Worship**

**Website:[www.odwphiladelphia.org](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org)**

**Contact information for the Office for Divine Worship**

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**LITURGICAL CALENDAR ITEMS**

**THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Saturday, August 15, 2015**

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is not observed as a holy day of obligation this year.

*Weddings can be celebrated during Mass on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The liturgical music, Mass formula and Lectionary texts are those of the Solemnity. The Rite of Marriage is celebrated as usual following the homily. The Nuptial Blessing takes place as usual. The Solemn Blessing from the Rite of Marriage may be used instead of the Solemn Blessing for the Solemnity.*

**A complete list of Holy Days of Obligation and their observances for 2015-16 are:**

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday, December 25, 2015

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Friday January 1, 2016

Solemnity of the Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Thursday, May 5, 2016

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Monday, August 15, 2016

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Since the Solemnity of the Assumption falls on a Monday, the obligation to assist at Mass is suspended.

Tuesday, November 1, 2016

Solemnity of All Saints

**MASS FOR THE OPENING OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR**

A votive *Mass of the Holy Spirit* may be scheduled for the opening of the academic year on weekdays when there is no liturgical impediment. The Roman Missal provides three options for this Votive Mass. One of the prefaces of the Holy Spirit is used and red vestments are worn. The Lectionary texts for the day are preferable.

Also, see the options in the *Book of Blessings*, Chapter 5: Order for the Blessing of Students and Teachers, for another way to liturgically celebrate the opening of the academic year.

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

Additional information on Christian Initiation for adults can be found on the website for the Office for Divine Worship, under the heading *Christian Initiation*.

**PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE IN THE DATES**

**FOR THE INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR 2015-2016**

The October 17th workshop has been changed to Saturday, October 24th

from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Neumann Room of the Cathedral.

The new schedule is as follows:

Saturday, October 24, 2015  9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

 (Neumann Room of the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul)

Saturday, November 21, 2015 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

 (Auditorium A & B of Archdiocesan Pastoral Center)

Saturday, January 23, 2016 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

 (Auditorium A & B of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Center)

SNOW DATE: Saturday, February 6, 2016

 (Auditorium A & B of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Center)

**PARISH BULLETIN INQUIRY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The following is provided as a guide for parish bulletin announcements for the Inquiry Period of Christian Initiation. This announcement respects the various groupings of adults who are seeking information on the Sacraments of Christian Initiation:

**DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS**

**ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH**

Saint N. Parish offers year round opportunities for people seeking more information about the Catholic Faith, the Sacraments and living the Christian Life. These opportunities are for adults who would like to inquire about following Jesus and becoming a member of the Catholic Church, or, if you are already a baptized Christian, would like to become a Catholic, or, if you are already a baptized Catholic, would like to receive Confirmation and Holy Communion. There are many people like yourself inquiring and we are ready to answer your questions.

Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

* **All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are to have an appointment letter from the Archbishop.**
* Candidates are to be fully initiated practicing Catholics, high school graduates, validly married, if married, and recognized for faith and devotion to the Holy Eucharist as well as for service in the parish/institution.
* Pastors and chaplains are encouraged to send new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the archdiocesan formation sessions. Current Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are also welcome to these sessions.
* Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion typically serve for three years. Pastors/chaplains may renew terms, if agreeable and in consultation with the minister.
* Pastors and chaplains are reminded to inform the Office for Divine 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 Divine Worship website. Letters of Appointment from the Archbishop 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.
* All records of active Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are maintained by the parish/institution.
* **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are commissioned after participation in a training session, according to the form found in the *Book of Blessings*, Chapter 63, “Order for the Commissioning of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.”**

• Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion only serve in the parishes/institutions for which they are commissioned.

**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS**

**See the website of the Office for Divine Worship (odwphila.org)**

**after August 1, 2015**

**for the new schedule**

**of liturgical ministry and liturgical music workshops**

**for 2015 – 2016.**

**OBSERVANCE OF THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY**

**Tuesday, December 8, 2015,**

**the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary,**

**through Sunday, November 20, 2016,**

**the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe**

The Principal Dates for the Observance of the Jubilee in the Archdiocese will be:

Opening of the Jubilee Year of Mercy Opening of the Holy Door

and Solemn Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul

Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 6:30 PM.

Archdiocesan Observance of 24 Hours for the Lord

Friday, March 4-Saturday, March 5, 2016

Observance of the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Saturday, April 23, 2016

Closing of the Jubilee Year of Mercy Closing of the Holy Door

and Solemn Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul

Sunday, November 20, 2016 at 6:30 PM

**Protocol on the Occasion of the Desecration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

The norms for the proper celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the reception of the Body and Blood of the Lord, the exposition and the reservation of the Most Blessed Sacrament are to be carefully and consistently observed, with the vigilant oversight of the Pastor and/or chaplain, in all churches and oratories within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. These norms are principally found in the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, *Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States of America,* the ritual book, *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass* and the *Code of Canon Law*.

When the desecration of the Most Blessed Sacrament occurs during the celebration of Mass, with the reception of Holy Communion, during simple or solemn exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament and/or to the reserved Most Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle, the following protocol is to be observed:

1. The Regional Bishop and/or the Dean should be informed immediately by the pastor or chaplain of the church or oratory. The Regional Bishop and/or Dean then inform the Archbishop immediately.
2. The Pastor or chaplain contacts the Office for Divine Worship for a suitable form of reparation for the desecration to be carried out by the pastor or chaplain.
3. A record is kept of the desecration and the reparation in the Chancery.

 *Approved by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput on Monday, July 6, 2015*

**ANNUAL EUCHARISTIC DEVOTION**

**PLANNING FOR 2015-2016**

The ritual book, *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass*, number 86, proposes:

*In churches where the Eucharist is regularly reserved, it is recommended that solemn exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for an extended period of time should take place once a year, even though this period is not strictly continuous. In this way the local community may reflect more profoundly upon this mystery and adore Christ in the sacrament.*

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia, dating from the time of the saintly Bishop John Neumann, has observed the tradition of the annual Forty Hours Devotion in our parishes and other institutions. Often the dates for the Annual Eucharistic Devotion center on the feast day of the parish or institution or the date of the dedication of the church or chapel. The Chancery Office maintains the calendar of the Forty Hours Devotion. To check on the dates or to adjust the dates for when your parish is scheduled for the Forty Hours Devotion, contact the Chancery Office.

**links to helpful information**

**MAKE SURE**

**YOUR PARISH RECEIVES THE MOST CURRENT INFORMATION**

Please notify the Office for Divine Worship if there are any changes to the Coordinators serving as liaisons between your parish and the Office for Divine Worship. The Coordinators Contact Form is available online as a [PDF](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Coordinator-Data-Collection-Form.pdf) or [Word](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Coordinator-Data-Collection-Form.docx) file.

**For the latest news**

**on Liturgical Music in the Archdiocese** visit:

[*http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/liturgical-music*](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/liturgical-music).

**FOR THE MOST RECENT NEWSLETTER FROM THE USCCB**

Individual issues of the Newsletter are posted online approximately three months after they have been released to subscribers. The most recent newsletter available is December 2014,

[*http://www.usccb.org/about/divine-worship/newsletter/upload/newsletter-2014-04.pdf*](http://www.usccb.org/about/divine-worship/newsletter/upload/newsletter-2014-04.pdf)*.*

For information on subscribing to the newsletter, visit:

[*http://www.usccb.org/about/divine-worship/newsletter/*](http://www.usccb.org/about/divine-worship/newsletter/)*.*

**For past monthly mailings of the office for divine worship** visit:

[*http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/sacred-liturgy/monthly-mailings/*](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/sacred-liturgy/monthly-mailings/)*.*