

# OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

## DECEMBER 2018

### Website for the Office for Divine Worship

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

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### LITURGICAL and CIVIC CALENDAR ITEMS

#### THE TIME FOR VIGIL MASSES AND ANTICIPATED MASSES

The time for Vigil Masses and Anticipated Masses in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is no earlier than 4:00 PM. This applies to Holy Days of Obligation as well, including Christmas.

#### THE MASS SCHEDULE FOR HOLY DAYS WHEN THE OBLIGATION IS SUSPENDED

In the United States, there are three Holy Days, Solemnities, when the obligation to participate in Mass is suspended when the observance falls on a Monday or a Saturday—the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (January 1), the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (August 15), and the Solemnity of All Saints

(November 1). In these instances, the Mass schedule can certainly be modified. However, there should at least be the celebration of one Mass for the benefit of the faithful who desire to attend Mass.

## **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Sunday, December 2, 2018**

The Blessing of an Advent Wreath may take place at the conclusion of the Universal Prayer on this Sunday. See *Book of Blessings*, Chapter 47, Order for the Blessing of an Advent Wreath. The Advent Wreath needs only to be blessed once, perhaps at the Anticipated Mass for the First Sunday of Advent.

*As we approach the beginning of another year of the Liturgical Calendar, please note the Lectionary cycles for 2019 are:*

- *Sunday Cycle – Year C*
- *Weekday Cycle – I*

## **SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Saturday, December 8, 2018**

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the patronal feast of the United States of America, is *always* a Holy Day of Obligation, even if it falls on a Monday or Saturday.

## **SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)**

**Tuesday, December 25, 2018**

The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord is *always* a Holy Day of Obligation, even if it falls on a Monday or Saturday

**4:00 P.M. is the earliest time in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for a Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord.**

## **SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

**Tuesday, January 1, 2019**

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, is observed as a Holy Day of Obligation.

## **FEAST OF SAINT JOHN NEUMANN**

**Saturday, January 5, 2019**

The commemoration of Saint John Neumann enjoys the rank of a *feast* in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for both the celebration of Mass and the Divine Office. Therefore, both at Mass and for the Liturgy of the Hours those features proper to a *feast* are observed.

## *Looking Ahead*

### COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

#### ALL SOULS DAY

Saturday, November 2, 2019

The Celebration of Marriage: Only the Order of Celebrating Matrimony without Mass can take place on All Souls Day.

The evening Mass on Saturday, November 2, 2019, is for Sunday, the Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time.

#### BLESSINGS RELATED TO ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

- The rite for the blessing of an Advent Wreath, a Manger or a 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.
- Priests and deacons may consider, in conjunction with Advent, using the *Rite for the Blessing of a Child in the Womb*, published by the United States Conferences of Catholic Bishops in 2012. For more information on this Rite and to order in English or Spanish, see: <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/prayers/pro-life-blessings.cfm>

#### 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.

SAVE THE DATE

**Archdiocesan Pilgrimage  
to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception  
Washington, DC  
Saturday, October 19, 2019**

*All Parishes, Schools and Institutions are encouraged to participate.*

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The Office for Divine Worship has the responsibility for direction, guidance and support of pastors and those who collaborate with them in the formation of adults for Christian Initiation. Additional information on Christian Initiation for adults can be found on the website for the Office for Divine Worship, under the heading *Christian Initiation*.

- *The Periodic Mailing will no longer be published. Rather, the information typically found in the Periodic Mailing can be found on the website of the Office for Divine Worship under the menu tab, Christian Initiation.*
- *Please see the website of the Office for Divine Worship for the schedule and information on the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion.*

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

**WORKSHOPS FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

*The calendar for 2018-2019 workshops for liturgical ministers can be found on the website for the Office for Divine Worship. Register for these workshops at [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org).*

***Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion***

**Thursday, December 6, 2018  
Cathedral Chapel, Philadelphia  
7:00 to 9:00 PM**

**Tuesday, February 19, 2019  
Saint Norbert Parish, Paoli  
7:00 to 9:00 PM – Main Church**

**Thursday, March 21, 2019  
Cathedral Chapel, Philadelphia  
7:00 to 9:00 PM**

## *Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion of the Sick*

Saturday, February 23, 2019  
Cathedral Chapel, Philadelphia  
10:00 AM to Noon

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### *Lectors*

Wednesday, March 13, 2019  
Saint Norbert Parish, Paoli  
7:00 to 9:00 PM – Main Church

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### *Cantor Workshop – level 2*

February 6, 13 and 20 – 7:00 to 9:00 PM  
Saint Jerome Roman Catholic Church  
8100 Colfax Street, Philadelphia, PA 19136

Please register for this workshop at:

<http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/workshops/>

*If any parish or institution would like a workshop for liturgical ministers, especially Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, please contact the Office for Divine Worship.*

#### 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), 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 attend.
- 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.

#### PUBLICATION OF SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY READINGS FOR THE PARISH WEBSITE AND THE PARISH BULLETIN

Pastors are encouraged to publish resources for the Sunday and Weekday readings for Mass on the parish website and/or in the parish bulletin to foster a reading of the Word of God outside of Mass and also as a preparation for Mass. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops provides the following website which could be published:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

#### 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.

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

Individual issues of the Newsletter are posted online around the fifteenth of the month approximately three months after they have been released to subscribers.

For information on subscribing to the newsletter, visit:

<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/>

## *FROM THE OFFICE FOR LITURGICAL MUSIC*

### *The King Shall Come.... but no trumpets until he does!*

As we approach the season of Advent, we should note the penitential characteristic of this liturgical season. We circle back around each year to the topic of less-is-more, in our approach to the use of instruments and organ during Advent.

Using the organ as a means to lead the congregation or accompany singing is the traditional approach to instrumentation during Advent. However, in an effort to emulate the inherent longing that we feel during this season, we can be creative in the way that we gradually increase the embellishment of the liturgical music on a week-to-week basis, during the four weeks of Advent.

With Gaudete Sunday signifying the turning point, we may begin to use music as means of the increased excitement as we wait for the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Here at the Cathedral, we will be following the below model:

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| Advent 1 | Seasonal Organ Prelude<br>Unaccompanied opening hymn, Creator of the Stars of Night<br>Unaccompanied Sung Kyrie<br>Unaccompanied Psalm |
| Advent 2 | Seasonal Organ Prelude<br>Unaccompanied Sung Kyrie<br>Unaccompanied Psalm  |
| Advent 3 | Extended Prelude with Organ, A vocal solo<br>Accompanied Opening hymn, Kyrie, Psalm<br>Joyous Organ Postlude                           |
| Advent 4 | Organ Prelude<br>Accompanied Mass throughout<br>Organ Postlude   |