

OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP DECEMBER 2011

Contact information for the Office for Divine Worship

Phone: 215-587-3537

Contact information for the Office for Liturgical Music

Phone: 215-587-3696

Website: <http://archphila.org/evangelization/worship/worship.htm>

LITURGICAL CALENDAR ITEMS

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Thursday, 8 December 2011, is a Holy Day of Obligation.

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

Sunday, 25 December 2011, 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.

BLESSINGS RELATED TO ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

The rite 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.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

- *Pastors or priest chaplains select candidates to serve for a parish or institution. 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 or institution.*
- *Pastors or priest 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 these sessions.*
- *Pastors and priest chaplains are reminded to inform the Office for Divine Worship if they conduct their own formation and to send to the 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 or priest chaplain and the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.*
- *Pastors and priest chaplains 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.*

SPRING WORKSHOPS TO BE ANNOUNCED IN JANUARY MONTHLY MAILING

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

Saturday, 3 March 2012, 9:00 AM-Noon
*Cathedral Chapel of Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul
18th Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103*

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

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>