

**OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP
NOVEMBER 2017**

Website for the Office for Divine Worship

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LITURGICAL CALENDAR ITEM

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

The Solemnity of All Saints Day is observed as a Holy Day of Obligation.

**THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED
(ALL SOULS' DAY)**

Thursday, November 2, 2017

—Priests are permitted to celebrate three Masses on All Souls Day—

The revised *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* [2010] in chapter IV, section II, on the concelebrated Mass, states:

204. *For a particular reason, having to do either with the significance of the rite or of the festivity, the faculty is given to celebrate or concelebrate more than once on the same day in the following cases: [...]*
- d) *on the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) all priests may celebrate or concelebrate three Masses, provided that the celebrations take place at different times, and that the norms established regarding the application of second and third Masses are observed.*

The norms established, and referenced in the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, are those of Pope Benedict XV, in his Apostolic Constitution *Incrumentum altaris sacrificium*, August 10, 1915. The norms state:

All priests are permitted to celebrate three Masses on All Souls Day, provided these take place at different times and on condition, moreover, that while they may at their preference apply one of the Masses in favor of any person and accept for that Mass a stipend, they may not accept a stipend for the second or for the third Mass, the second of which they are bound to apply respectively for all the faithful departed and the third for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff.

THANKSGIVING DAY

Thursday, November 23, 2017

The US proper for Thanksgiving Day found in the *Roman Missal* may be used. If the proper Mass is used, the *Lectionary* texts may come from the readings of the day or from the *Masses for Various Needs and Occasions, In Thanksgiving to God*. If food is brought to Mass for a blessing in preparation for the Thanksgiving Day meal, the Order for the Blessing of Food for Thanksgiving Day may be used as found in the *Book of Blessings*, Chapter 58.

A PLAN FOR AN INTERFAITH OR ECUMENICAL SERVICE IN ANTICIPATION OF THANKSGIVING DAY

Many parishes join neighboring religious communities for an interfaith or ecumenical service as part of the celebration of Thanksgiving Day. This is a commendable practice and in some areas a long-standing tradition.

The following is a plan for such a service:

If the service takes place in a Catholic Church, then only a Catholic priest presides from the priest celebrant's chair. Interfaith and ecumenical representatives may take a place in the sanctuary. The priest celebrant wears a surplice/alb and white stole. A cope may also be worn. Liturgical ministers may be representatives of the religious communities participating in the service. A collection of money or food for the poor may be a part of the service.

INTRODUCTION

--The service begins with a suitable psalm or hymn

--A greeting from the Roman Missal and/or an introduction to the service

--A collect from the Roman Missal, perhaps from Thanksgiving Day or For Giving Thanks to God

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

--This part of the service follows the order for the Liturgy of the Word with the usual chants. The choice of texts, in addition to a consideration of the theme, should also be considerate of the interfaith or ecumenical assembly for this occasion. The Lectionary texts may come from the section, In Thanksgiving to God. There need only be the Gospel or the usual other readings depending on the circumstances.

--A homily or reflection may follow by the priest or by a representative of the other religious communities.

--A hymn of praise may follow the homily or reflection.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER AND BLESSING

--The Universal Prayer takes place as usual. In an ecumenical service the Lord's Prayer concludes the Universal Prayer. In an interfaith service, a concluding prayer, perhaps one of the collects not used during the Introduction may be used. The service ends with a Trinitarian blessing in an ecumenical service or a suitable prayer of blessing in an interfaith service.

--The service ends with a suitable psalm or hymn.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 3, 2017

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 2018 are:

- *Sunday Cycle – Year B*
- *Weekday Cycle – II*

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Friday, December 8, 2017

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)

Monday, December 25, 2017

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.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Sunday, December 31, 2017

Scheduled Evening Masses observe the Feast of the Holy Family. *A day of obligation trumps the order of precedence found in the Table of Liturgical Days in favor of the benefit of the faithful to fulfill their obligation for Mass.*

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Monday, January 1, 2018

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, is not observed as a holy day of obligation this year.

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 the 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.

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*.

- For the current Christian Initiation Information Periodic Mailing, see: <http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/christian-initiation/>.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

LITURGICAL FORMATION WORKSHOPS 2017-2018

LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Since 2008, the Office for Divine Worship has provided workshops throughout the fall and spring all throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for Extraordinary Ministers and Lectors. These have in some instances been very well attended and in other instances poorly attended. For 2017-2018, the Office is experimenting with a new approach to the workshops.

For Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Thursday, November 9, 2017, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

and Thursday, March 15, 2018, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Cathedral Chapel, 18th Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Presenter, Father Dennis Gill, Director of the Office for Divine Worship

For Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for the Sick:

Saturday, February 3, 2018, 10:00 AM--Noon

Cathedral Chapel, 18th Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Presenter, Father Dennis Gill, Director of 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.

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.

<http://www.usccb.org/about/divine-worship/newsletter/>

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/>