

OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP
June 2016

Website for the Office for Divine Worship

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OBSERVANCE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY
ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

*December 8, 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
through November 20, 2016, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
(50th Anniversary of the Closing of the Second Vatican Council)*

*Remember to incorporate aspects of the Jubilee Year of Mercy into all areas of parish activities;
particularly as you make parish plans for the summer months.*

*Parishes are encouraged to arrange for pilgrimages to the Cathedral Basilica and the Shrines
in the Archdiocese to pass through the Holy Door of Mercy during the Jubilee Year.*

LITURGICAL CALENDAR ITEM

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday, June 19, 2016

The American observance of Father's Day should in no way detract from this Sunday's celebration of the Mystery of Christ. A petition in the *Prayer of the Faithful* and the possible use of the *Prayer over the People* found in the *Book of Blessings*, nos. 1729-1733, provides for a suitable liturgical inclusion of Father's Day.

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*.

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.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

**The dates and locations for all 2016-2017 workshops
for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, and Liturgical Musicians**

will be posted on the website of the Office for Divine Worship after August 1, 2016.

TO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE ORDER OF CONFIRMATION

As of Pentecost 2015, only the revised *Order of Confirmation* may be used by priests when delegated by the Archbishop to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. This new ritual book is only published in a bi-lingual (Spanish-English) format by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. To purchase a copy of *The Order for Confirmation*, see: <http://store.usccb.org/>.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS ON WEDDINGS IN CHAPELS

1. Only those Catholic colleges and universities that have requested and have been granted permission may celebrate weddings on a regular basis. To date four colleges/universities have been given this special permission: LaSalle University, Saint Joseph University, Roesemont College, and Cabrini College. (Villanova University's Church, which serves as both the university chapel and parish church continues also to be a site for weddings on a regular basis.)
2. Pastors may give individual permission for a wedding in a chapel within the parish only on a "case by case" basis. Pastors cannot grant a blanket permission for a chapel to be used as the site of weddings. Those in charge of chapels cannot presume this permission and should not, therefore, advertise the chapel as being available for weddings.
3. Whenever a pastor gives an individual permission for a wedding in a chapel within his parish, the pastor remains responsible to see to it that any necessary delegation is granted and that all of the documentation and other pastoral, canonical, and liturgical preparations for the marriage are completed. Requests to the chancery for dispensations/permissions must be submitted by the parish - not the chapel. The wedding is recorded in the parish sacramental register.

DISPLAY OF FLAGS IN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Surprisingly to many, there are no regulations of any kind governing the display of flags in Roman Catholic Churches. Neither the Code of Canon law, nor the liturgical books of the Roman rite comment on this practice. As a result, the question of whether and how to display the American flag in a Catholic Church is left up to the judgment of the diocesan bishop, who in turn often delegates this to the discretion of the pastor.

The origin of the display of the American flag in many parishes in the United States appears to have its origins in the offering of prayers for those who served during the Second World War (1941-1945). At that time, many bishops and pastors provided a book of remembrance near the American flag, requesting prayers for loved ones – especially those serving their country in the armed forces – as a way of keeping before the attention of the faithful the needs of military families. This practice has since been confirmed in many places during the Korean, Viet Nam and Iraqi conflicts.

The Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy has in the past encouraged pastors not to place the flag within the sanctuary itself, in order to reserve that space for the altar, the ambo, the presidential chair and the tabernacle. Instead, the suggestion has been made that the American flag be placed outside the sanctuary, or in the vestibule of the Church together with a book of prayer requests. It remains, however, for the diocesan bishop to determine regulations in this matter.

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](#) or [Word](#) file.

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/>.