

**OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP**  
**May 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 (50<sup>th</sup> 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.*

**TWO NEW RITUAL BOOKS**

**THE ORDER OF CONFIRMATION**  
**IMPLEMENTATION DATE IS MAY 15, 2016**

This ritual book replaces all current English editions of the *Rite of Confirmation*. While it is possible to use the new ritual book once it is published, the Archbishop has established May 15, 2016, as the first use and mandatory use date of *The Order for Confirmation* in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

This revised ritual book is a retranslation of the Latin typical edition (*Ordo Confirmationis*, 1973) according to the decree *Liturgiam authenticam*. There are no significant adjustments to the rite. However, as with the language in the current English edition of the *Roman Missal*, the translation is more precise and closer to the style and syntax of the original Latin.

All priests, whenever making use of the faculty to confirm as of Pentecost 2016, are to use this new ritual book to celebrate the Sacrament. The 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 *The Order for Confirmation*, see: <http://store.usccb.org/>.

## ORDER OF CELEBRATING MARRIAGE

This ritual book replaces all current editions of the *Rite of Marriage*. While it is possible to begin to use this new ritual book as of September 8, 2016, it becomes mandatory as of December 30, 2016, the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Soon workshops will be announced for the priests and deacons of the Archdiocese to provide for the liturgical, theological and pastoral reception and use of the *Order for Celebrating Marriage*. Unlike *The Order for Confirmation*, which was a retranslation, the *Order for Celebrating Marriage* is the English translation of the 1990 second edition of the *Ordo Celebrandi Matrimonium*.

These workshops will look at the following topics:

- What is new and what is the same in this second edition of the ritual book,
- The theology of Christian marriage found in the texts,
- The duties of the sacred ministers and the ministers of the Sacrament, the couple,
- Preparation of the engaged and for the celebration of Marriage.

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR ITEMS

#### SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

**Thursday, May 5, 2016**

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is a Holy Day of Obligation.

#### SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**Sunday, May 8, 2016**

The American observance of Mother's Day should in no way detract from this Sunday's celebration of Easter. A petition in the Universal Prayer and the possible use of the Prayer

over the People found in the *Book of Blessings*, nos. 1724-1728, provides for a suitable liturgical inclusion of Mother's Day.

## **ORDINATION TO THE SACRED PRIESTHOOD**

**Saturday, May 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul**

*The Ordination of Priests is an Archdiocesan Celebration and all clergy and faithful are welcome to attend. Pastors are asked to make this information known in the most convenient way.*

## **SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST**

**Sunday, May 15, 2016**

In some circumstances, consideration might be given to the *Roman Missal* provision for a prolonged celebration of Mass in the form of a Vigil on Saturday evening to pray urgently for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

"On Pentecost, the Sequence is prescribed only at Mass during the Day and not at the Vigil Mass. (If the Pentecost "Mass during the Day" formulary is used at the Saturday evening anticipatory Mass instead of the Vigil Mass formulary, then the Sequence is used)... The 2011 *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, no. 64, specifies that the Sequence is now to be sung before the Alleluia. Its placement today preserves a stronger connection between the Alleluia and the Gospel, and transforms the Sequence into a more contemplative meditation on the mystery of the day in preparation for the Gospel. The assembly remains seated, in a posture of meditation, for the Sequence, and stands when the Alleluia is begun. As there are only two days of the calendar when the Sequence is required, it might be of pastoral benefit for the priest on these days to alert the faithful to the Sequence and its meditative purpose as part of the introduction to the liturgy at the beginning of Mass. An extended explanation of the nature and history of the Sequence might even be included in the parish bulletin as a form of liturgical catechesis." – USCCB Committee on Divine Worship Newsletter, Volume XLVIII, July 2012

## **THE EASTER SEASON, DEVOTION TO THE BLESSED MOTHER AND THE MONTH OF MAY**

May is a traditional time to give special honor to the Blessed Virgin Mary, especially with May Processions and May Crowning's. When these processions and crowning's are combined with the celebration of Mass, it is more fitting for them to precede the celebration of Mass or follow the Communion Rite of the Mass. On the Sundays of Easter, the celebration of Easter is primary when there are devotions in honor of the Blessed Mother.

## CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

### MASSES FOR THE NEOPHYTES AND ALSO A PENTECOST CELEBRATION

#### During the Easter Season

The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* provides helpful guidance for the pastoral care of the newly baptized adults at Easter:

# 247 Since the distinctive spirit and power of the period of postbaptismal catechesis or mystagogy derive from the new, personal experience of the sacraments and of the community, its main setting is the so-called Masses for neophytes, that is, the Sunday Masses of the Easter season. Besides being occasions for the newly baptized to gather with the community and share in the mysteries, these celebrations include particularly suitable readings from the Lectionary, especially the readings for Year A. Even when Christian initiation has been celebrated outside the usual times, the texts for these Sunday Masses of the Easter season may be used.

# 248 All the neophytes and their godparents should make an effort to take part in the Masses for the neophytes and the entire local community should be invited to participate with them. Special places in the congregation are to be reserved for the neophytes and their godparents. The homily and, as circumstances suggest, the general intercessions should take into account the presence and needs of the neophytes. 5

# 249 To close the period of postbaptismal catechesis, some sort of celebration should be held at the end of the Easter season near Pentecost Sunday; festivities in keeping with local custom may accompany the occasion.

### CONFIRMATION FOR ROMAN CATHOLIC ADULTS

The ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation for baptized Roman Catholics is the Bishop. Typically, this occurs during the pastoral visit of the Bishop to the parish. Every effort should be made to prepare Catholic Adults for Confirmation to participate in the parish celebration with the Bishop.

Additionally, Archbishop Chaput will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 15, 2016, during the 6:30 PM Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul. The candidates for this sacramental celebration are baptized Roman Catholics who have been properly catechized for Confirmation (and if needed, for the reception of First Communion). Information about this celebration for pastors and those who assist with the formation and reception of the Sacraments of Initiation has been distributed by e-mail in February 2015 to all parish Liturgy Contacts, parish

Christian Initiation Coordinators, and DRE's, and can also be found on the website of the Office for Divine Worship.

*If for some serious reason, a school age baptized Roman Catholic is unable to be confirmed by the Bishop during his pastoral visit to the parish, then this candidate, with the permission of the pastor, may be presented for the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday. The pastor's permission is to be included with the registration forms to be sent to the Office for Divine Worship.*

A pastor who foresees the genuine pastoral need to confirm an adult baptized Roman Catholic can do so only with the specific delegation of the Bishop (see Canon 882 and *National Statutes for the Catechumenate*, nos. 28-29). Archbishop Chaput gives this faculty to all priests of the Archdiocese to confirm Roman Catholic Adults on any occasion from Palm Sunday through Pentecost Sunday. This delegation is required for the validity of the Sacrament in the case of a Roman Catholic candidate. If you have any questions about this faculty, please contact the Office for Divine Worship. There is no need for an additional letter requesting this faculty during the period specified by the Archbishop.

**Full Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation and the first reception of Communion—apart from the Easter Vigil, outside the immediate danger of death, requires the permission of the Archbishop (see RCIA, no. 331).** Archbishop Chaput delegates the Office for Divine Worship to give this permission. Please contact the Office for Divine Worship for such circumstances.

#### 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

**All Workshops for 2016  
for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion  
and for Lectors can be found on the website  
of the Office for Divine Worship ([www.odwphiladelphia.org](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org))**

#### REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL HOLY OILS

If additional Holy Oils are needed for sacramental use, please contact the Cathedral Parish Office, 215-561-1313, for arrangements to procure them.

#### 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/>

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