

# OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

## MARCH 2021

### Website for the Office for Divine Worship

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**MOST CURRENT LITURGICAL DIRECTIVES  
WITH REGARD TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC  
FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA**

Please see the website of the Office for Divine Worship,

<http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/home-page/news/>

for regular updates.

**LITURGICAL AND SPIRITUAL RESOURCES  
DURING THIS TIME  
OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

Please see the website of the Office for Divine Worship,

<http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/home-page/news/>

and <http://archphila.org/arise/>.

## LITURGICAL and CIVIC CALENDAR ITEMS

### **THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH**

On December 8, 2020, Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, announced *The Year of Saint Joseph* that began that day and will continue through December 8, 2021. *The Year of Saint Joseph* commemorates the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation of Saint Joseph as the patron of the Universal Church. You can read the Holy Father's Apostolic Letter, *Patris Corde*, on Saint Joseph here:

[http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap\\_20201208\\_patris-corde.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html).

For Information on the Archdiocesan Observance of the *Year of Saint Joseph*, please see:

<http://archphila.org/joseph/>.

### **ONGOING PRAYER FOR HEALING AND PEACE FOR OUR CITY AND COUNTRY**

The following intention may be included regularly in the Universal Prayer (second category) for Sundays.

*For the eradication of all forms of racism among all peoples  
and that all will open wide their hearts with the love of God and neighbor  
so that healing and peace will mark our way of life.  
Let us pray to the Lord/Lord, hear our prayer.*

*Por la erradicación de todas las formas de racismo entre todos los pueblos  
y que todos abran sus corazones con el amor de Dios y del prójimo  
para que la sanación interior y la paz marquen nuestro estilo de vida.  
Roguemos al Señor/Te rogamus óyenos.*

### **THE PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL**

Many parishes and institutions within the Archdiocese have responded positively to pray the prayer to Saint Michael in conjunction with the celebration of Mass. You are reminded that this devotional prayer is to take place outside of Mass. It is not to be prayed as the concluding prayer of the Universal Prayer nor as part of the Communion Rite.

## **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 certainly can be modified. However, there should at least be the celebration of one Mass for the benefit of the faithful who desire to attend Mass.

### **FEAST OF SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL, VIRGIN**

**Wednesday, March 3, 2021**

The commemoration of Saint Katharine Drexel is celebrated as a Feast in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia with a *Gloria* and the specified texts in the *Lectionary for Mass*.

### **SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Friday, March 19, 2021**

Please see the attached flyer for the special observance of this Solemnity at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, Philadelphia, for the *Year of Saint Joseph*.

## **LENT, THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM AND EASTER TIME**

### **CONFESSIONS DURING LENT**

Once again each parish is asked to schedule the availability for Confessions every Wednesday of Lent from 7:00—8:00 PM.

In some cases, and for sound pastoral reasons, it is not possible for a parish to have additional Confessions available on the Wednesday evenings of Lent. In such cases, an additional time for Confessions, perhaps on another weekday evening or Saturday morning or before Sunday Mass, might be a better alternative. Pastors responsible for two parishes need only to arrange for additional Confessions in one of the parishes. Please publish the additional times for Confession.

## **OBSERVANCE OF THE 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD**

**March 12-13, 2021**

The Holy Father's invitation in his Apostolic Letter, *Misericordia et misera*, at the conclusion of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, asked parishes to continue to arrange for *24 Hours for the Lord*, on the Friday and Saturday before the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

All parishes and institutions in the Archdiocese, with consideration for particular circumstances and schedules, are to open their churches and chapels for a period of 24 hours from Friday evening, March 12, through Saturday evening, March 13, typically concluding with the Anticipated Mass, if possible. The clergy and faithful are encouraged to encounter the mercy of the Lord in adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, reserved or exposed, and with additional opportunities for the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation during these 24 hours.

- In some instances, it will be a hardship to open churches and chapels for the whole 24-hour period. Pastors and chaplains, in keeping with the spirit of the observance, are to provide at least for greater availability for prayer before the Most Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.
- Additionally, parishes and institutions are encouraged, if this is helpful to the observance, to cluster together and have a single area site for greater availability for prayer before the Most Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.
- The observance of the *24 Hours for the Lord* in churches and chapels, on the one hand, may take place with exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament throughout the whole period and several times for Confessions. On the other hand, it may take place with exposition and confessions only at certain periods.
- The observance is to be determined by each location with opportunities for greater availability for prayer and Confessions.

The Lenten season provides an excellent occasion to catechize about the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, to follow more faithfully the form for the *Rite of Reconciliation of Individual Penitents (Chapter I)* and the *Rite for Reconciliation of Several Penitents with Individual Confession and Absolution (Chapter II)* in the *Rite of Penance*.

For additional resources, see the website for the Office for Divine Worship here: <http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/sacred-liturgy/archdiocesan-guidelines/>.

## **WAY OF THE CROSS AND BENEDICTION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Typically, the Way of the Cross, with the movement from station to station, does not take place in conjunction with exposition and benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Exposition with the reading of the Word of God and time for adoration and then Benediction may follow the Way of the Cross.

## **VEILING OF STATUES**

In the dioceses of the United States, crosses in the church may be covered from the conclusion of the Mass for the Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday. Statues in the church may be covered from the conclusion of the Mass for Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent until the beginning of the Easter Vigil. Additional information can be found on the website for the Office for Divine Worship.

### *Additional Information for Liturgical Preparation*

The *Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of the Easter Feasts (Paschale Solemnitatis)*, by the Congregation for Divine Worship, January 16, 1988, is posted on the website of the Office for Divine Worship. This letter provides helpful pastoral, theological and liturgical (as well as liturgical music) information for pastors and preparers of the Sacred Liturgy for Lent, the Sacred Paschal Triduum and Easter Time.

## **THE GLORIA IS SUNG AT ALL WEEKDAY WEDDING MASSES DURING LENT**

With the introduction of the third edition of the *Roman Missal*, the Gloria is sung, even during Advent and Lent, when the Ritual Mass for the Celebration of Marriage is used. The Penitential Act is always omitted during a Wedding Mass.

**PLEASE SEE THE LITURGICAL DIRECTIVES  
FOR THE CELEBRATION DURING THE PANDEMIC  
OF PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD  
AND OF THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM  
ON THE WEBSITE OF THE OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP**

## **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*.

## **CELEBRATION OF THE SCRUTINIES AND PRESENTATIONS OF THE CREED AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

The Rites belonging to the Period of Purification and Enlightenment, RCIA nos. 138-205, found in the ritual book, *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*, are to be carefully observed for the Elect. Any questions regarding these rites may be directed to the Office for Divine Worship.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE EASTER VIGIL**

### **Time of the Easter Vigil**

The Easter Vigil should not begin before nightfall. It may be helpful to know that sunset, according to a variety of models, occurs approximately at 7:30 PM on April 3, 2021. In general, given the variable date for Easter, it seems best to schedule the Easter Vigil each year for 8:00 PM or later.

In accord with the US National Statutes for the Catechumenate (November, 11, 1986) no. 33, the Archbishop asks that you note:

Only the adult elect, that is, the unbaptized catechumens elected at the Rite of Election, are to be fully initiated with Baptism, Confirmation and reception of the Body and Blood of the Lord at the Solemn Paschal Vigil, according to the rites outlined in the *Roman Missal*. Children may also be baptized at the Easter Vigil.

Baptized non-Catholic Christians are to be received into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday or any Sunday of Easter Time. In fact, this reception can take place almost any time during the Church Year according to the rite outlined in the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (cf. RCIA, nos. 473-504). No additional permission is required for this Reception of Baptized Christians in the Full Communion of the Catholic Church.

For many parishes, this practice continues to represent an innovation that requires catechesis on the dignity of Baptism and the avoidance of any confusion between candidates for Baptism and baptized Christians.

Candidates for the Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church should be encouraged to participate in the Easter Vigil, especially with a distinct place to sit among the faithful and acknowledged by the priest celebrant.

## **RECEPTION OF BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS INTO THE FULL COMMUNION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* allows for people baptized in another Church or ecclesial community, although never treated as catechumens, to benefit from the doctrinal and spiritual formation of the unbaptized. Additionally, the use of the Combined Rites for catechumens and candidates gives the candidates an important sense of the Sacred Liturgy and participation with the Church leading to Confirmation and Communion. However, many candidates do not require a full program parallel to the catechumenate. Therefore, the directives provided in the US National Statutes for the Catechumenate for Reception into Full Communion (nos. 30-37) should be increasingly observed.

*Preparation and celebration of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation for baptized non-Catholics are an essential element of their Reception (See RCIA, no. 482).*

### **Reception of Candidates and Valid Baptism and Conditional Baptism**

All non-Catholic Christians seeking full communion must be validly baptized. The following norm is to be observed in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia with regard to the reception of candidates into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church:

*Baptism is the doorway to all of the Sacraments. Therefore, the sacred minister needs moral certitude that a person was baptized with the Trinitarian formula and the triple water pouring/immersion before other Sacraments are celebrated. This moral certitude requires more than the evidence of a baptismal certificate and must be the case in each individual circumstance. Such moral certitude can often be readily obtained through inquiry with the candidate. When moral certitude is lacking, a conditional Baptism is necessary (see Canon 869 and National Statutes for the Catechumenate 37).*

Additional information on valid baptism and conditional baptism can be found on the website for the Office for Divine Worship.

## **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.*

### **PLEASE NOTE**

*Full Sacramental Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation and the first Reception of Holy Communion—apart from the Easter Vigil, outside of the immediate danger of death, requires the permission of the*

*Archbishop (see RCIA, no. 331). Archbishop Perez delegates the Office for Divine Worship to give this permission. Please contact the Office for Divine Worship for such circumstances.*

*Save the Date*

**THE BIENNIAL ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE**  
to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception  
will be on Saturday, October 16, 2021

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

### WORKSHOPS FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS

*The calendar for 2021 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).*

*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.*

*If a parish or institution conducts its own workshop for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, please contact the Office for Divine Worship for instructional materials and also to obtain the mandate letters from the Archbishop for the new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.*

*Plans are underway to provide virtual formation workshops in English and Spanish for Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. As soon as the materials are ready, additional information will be published. The virtual formation workshops will be available to everyone. Pastors will need to insure that proposed Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion view the virtual formation workshop and then submit their names to the Office for Divine Worship for the mandate letter from the Archbishop.*

## 2021 WORKSHOPS

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Workshop

**Tuesday, April 20, 2021**

Saint Andrew Parish, Drexel Hill

7:15 PM to 9:00 PM in Church

Please register at [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org)



## 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.

## ON-LINE COURSES ON THE SACRED LITURGY AVAILABLE FROM THE LITURGICAL INSTITUTE AT MUNDELEIN

This is a new online liturgy program as a resource for both church professionals and the laity. This new online program extends the mission of the Institute to diocesan and parish professionals as well as interested individual Catholics. Composed of five one-hour classroom sessions followed by online quizzes, each course awards one-half Continuing Education Unit and brings a fresh, energized approach to the study of liturgical renewal.

For additional information, please see: <https://www.liturgicalinstitute.org/>.

## LINKS TO HELPFUL INFORMATION

### **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/>.