

# OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

## NOVEMBER 2023

Website for the Office for Divine Worship

Website: [www.odwphiladelphia.org](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org)

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**EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL INFORMATION  
FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA**

<https://www.phillyeucharisticrevival.org/>

LITURGICAL AND CIVIC CALENDAR ITEMS

**SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS**

**Wednesday, November 1, 2023**

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

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

**Thursday, November 2, 2023**

*—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 *Incruentum 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.*

**WORLD DAY OF THE POOR  
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
Sunday, November 19, 2023**

For the message of Pope Francis for the World Day of the Poor 2023, please see:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/20230613-messaggio-vii-giornatamondiale-poveri-2023.html>.

**THANKSGIVING DAY  
Thursday, November 23, 2023**

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.

**SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE  
Sunday, November 26, 2023**

The Committee for Religious Liberty of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has identified the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, as a fitting moment in the liturgical year to promote the Church's teaching on religious freedom.

Therefore, the Committee has prepared materials to help educate the faithful about this Solemnity. These materials are available at: <https://www.usccb.org/christtheking>.

## **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Sunday, December 3, 2023**

*As we approach the beginning of another year of the Liturgical Calendar, please note the Lectionary cycles for 2024 are:*

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

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.

## **SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Friday, December 8, 2023**

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 OUR LORD, CHRISTMAS**

**Monday, December 25, 2023**

The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord is *always* a Holy Day of Obligation, even if it falls on a Monday or Saturday.

**The time for Vigil Masses for Christmas in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is no earlier than 4:00 PM, without exception.**

## **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*.

### 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) for someone 14 years of age or older. Archbishop Perez delegates the Office for Divine Worship to give this permission. Please contact the Office for Divine Worship for such circumstances.*

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

### WORKSHOPS FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS

*The calendar for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 workshops for liturgical ministers is posted on the website for the Office for Divine Worship. Register for these workshops at [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org).*

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Saint John Bosco Church, Hatboro

7:00 to 9:00 PM

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

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Saint Isaac Jogues Church, Wayne

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

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

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Epiphany of Our Lord Church, Plymouth Meeting

7:00 to 9:00 PM

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

## Bilingual Workshop

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Lectors

**Saturday, November 18, 2023**

Cathedral Chapel, Philadelphia

9:00 AM to 12 Noon

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

## Lectors

**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**

Mother of Divine Providence Church, King of Prussia

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Please register 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 to obtain the mandate letters from the Archbishop for the new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.*

*The following resource is available from the Liturgical Institute at Mundelein for the formation of parish liturgical ministers, <https://liturgy.teachable.com/p/instructions-for-liturgical-ministers>.*

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

- **All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, without exception, are to have a current appointment letter from the Archbishop.**
- **Extraordinary Ministers who serve in institutions and schools throughout the Archdiocese are typically commissioned for service in their parishes and likewise commissioned for service in the institution and/or school.**
- Candidates are to be fully initiated practicing Catholics, high school graduates, not in an invalid marriage, recognized for faith and devotion to the Holy Eucharist as well as for service in the parish/institution/school. Pastors/chaplains are reminded to be discerning in the invitation to members of the lay faithful to carry out this ministry.
- Pastors and chaplains are encouraged to send new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the archdiocesan formation sessions. Letters of Appointment from

the Archbishop will then follow. *Veteran Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are also welcome to attend.*

- 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 Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.
- All records of active Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are maintained by the parish/institution/school.
- **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/schools for which they are commissioned.

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#### RECURRING INFORMATION

##### **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.

### **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 be the celebration of one Mass at least for the benefit of the faithful who desire to attend Mass.

### **TIME OF THE EASTER VIGIL 2024**

The Easter Vigil is the first Mass of Easter Sunday and not in any way to be considered an Anticipated Mass for Easter Sunday. This is why the discipline of the Church insists that it should not begin before nightfall in any circumstance. It may be helpful to know that sunset, according to a variety of models, occurs approximately at 7:23 PM on March 30, 2024. This information is provided at this time to assist with calendar planning for 2023-2024. In general, given the variable date for Easter, it seems best to schedule the Easter Vigil each year for 8:00 PM or later.

### *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/>.

#### **SPECIAL BUNDLES OF COURSES ON THE SACRED LITURGY DESIGNED FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA**

Please take a moment and look at the link below:

<https://liturgy.teachable.com/p/philadelphia>

The **Liturgical Institute** at Mundelein (at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake) has made available to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia a special bundle of their on-line courses at a most reasonable rate. These courses provide foundational information on the Sacred Liturgy for clergy and the lay faithful. They are excellent refresher courses as well as new learning opportunities for liturgical ministers and catechists.

#### LINKS TO HELPFUL INFORMATION

##### THE LITURGICAL EXCHANGE

For information about the new Liturgical Exchange in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, please see: <https://www.liturgicaexchange.com/>.

##### 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:

<https://www.usccb.org/committees/divine-worship/newsletter>.

##### FOR PAST MONTHLY MAILINGS OF THE OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

Visit: <http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/sacred-liturgy/monthly-mailings/>.