

INSTRUCTOR: Deacon Francis L. Agnoli, M.D., D.Min.
 E-Mail: agnoli@davenportdiocese.org
 Phone: 563-349-2577 (cell) or 563-888-4257 (work)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The liturgical practica are designed to acquaint the deacon candidates with the basic skills and level of comfort needed to perform liturgical ministry in different circumstances. This formation includes the use of liturgical books, planning and executing liturgies, liturgical norms and guidelines for the diocese and the use of vessels and vesture. Liturgy Practicum I addresses the Eucharist and related rites (such as Eucharistic worship outside of Mass). Liturgy Practicum II addresses the Rites of Marriage and Baptism, and the Order of Christian Funerals.

OUTCOMES

The students will

- explain the structure and theology of the Eucharistic Liturgy and the rites found in Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside of Mass, with special emphasis on the role of the Deacon in these liturgies
- enact the Eucharistic Liturgy and the Rite of Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

SCHEDULE	TOPIC: May
	SATURDAY
9-10	Lecture - Mass
10-11	
11-12	Prep Time
1-2	Group 1
2-3	Group 2
7-8	Group 3
8-9	Group 4
	SUNDAY
9-10	Lecture – HCWEOM
10-11	
11-12	Prep Time
1-2	Group 5
2-3	Group 6

TEXTS and ASSIGNMENTS TO BE READ BEFORE CLASS:

The following texts are required for the course, and the readings should be completed before the start of class. While the volume involved seems extensive, many sections can be skimmed over. For example, in the GIRM concentrate on the sections on the Mass in general and on the sections appropriate for deacons in particular; the section on concelebration would be much less critical. Likewise, the readings from *Rites I* contain a great deal of duplication of ritual texts.

Begolly, Michael J. *Leading the Assembly in Prayer*. San Jose, CA: Resource Publications, Inc., 2008 (revised edition).

Read chapters 1-6.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal

The Rites of the Catholic Church: Volume One. Collegeville, MN: A Pueblo Book, The Liturgical Press, 1990.

Read chapters on Christian Initiation-RCIA (pp. 3-356) and Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist (pp. 633-698)

Additional handouts provided by the instructor.

Recommended:

Ditewig, William T. *The Deacon at Mass: A Theological and Pastoral Guide*. New York: Paulist Press, 2007.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

(1) Lectures.

Each section that is being covered this weekend will begin with a lecture covering the ritual in question. The lectures will primarily involve a walk through the Rite with pastoral and theological commentary made as appropriate.

(2) Practice.

As can be seen on the schedule, the deacon candidates will be divided into six groups. Each Rite will be enacted twice. The first group for each Rite (odd numbers) will enact the Rite in stop-action format. That is, the instructor will stop the action after each major section of the Rite to provide feedback and instruction. The second group for each Rite (even numbers) will run through the Rite from start to finish and commentary will be furnished at the conclusion.

Deacon candidates will be assigned to each group; one candidate will be identified as the presider and will be responsible for overseeing the planning and enacting of the Rite. The groups are free to recruit any needed additional ministers or congregants from the rest of the participants. During the time allotted for preparation, the groups should further familiarize themselves with the Rite in question, choose the ritual texts among the options given, and rehearse the Rite together. Those not involved in that Rite are to familiarize themselves with the Rite in order to be able to provide constructive criticism of the group. For each Rite, planning sheets will be provided. They should be used to help prepare the Rite as well as serve as a “checklist” for those providing feedback. As part of your preparation, please provide a short introduction to the circumstances surrounding the celebration (e.g. what day is being celebrated). At the point in the Rite where the homily would be preached, simply state that the preaching would take place at this time. The same would apply for music. For the sake of this experience, use incense whenever allowed for in the Rite.

GROUP ASSIGNMENTS:

GROUP	ASSIGNMENT
Group 1	Mass: Opening Rites & LOW
Group 2	Mass: Opening Rites & LOW
Group 3	Mass: LOE & Concluding Rites
Group 4	Mass: LOE & Concluding Rites
Group 5	Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction
Group 6	Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction

GRADES

There are no written assignments for this class. Grades will be based on participation in the class exercises as follows:

- A: Evidences a thorough knowledge of the rite. Ministers with a sense of grace and presence. At least 28 points (see rubric below).
- B: An appropriate understanding of the rite in question and the role of the minister(s) in celebrating that rite. Ministers with comfort. At least 20 points.
- C: A basic understanding of the rite. Uncomfortable in exercising ministry. At least 12 points.
- D/F: Inadequate understanding and enactment of the rite.

Measure	Points (Scale)				
	0	1	2	3	4
Planning	Improper texts; no coordination; poor rationale for choices		Some errors in texts; or rationale for choices mostly not evident or in error		Coordination of texts; clear and correct rationale for choices
Teamwork	Worked against each other in both planning and enacting		Some confusion over roles; some passivity in planning		Worked well together; respectful of each ministry; all helped plan
Enactment -General	Confused; multiple errors Taking others' roles		Some hesitancy, but recovered		Smooth and graceful; all know own parts and seamlessly perform them
Enactment -specific	Poor eye contact		Eye contact adequate for level of familiarity with texts		Excellent eye contact; sweeps assembly
	Poor proclamation; multiple errors; or inauthentic "sanctuary" tone		Adequate proclamation generically, but not true to genre		Excellent proclamation; respect genre
	Graceless movement (frenetic, moving during prayer, etc.)		Movement appropriate for outside the liturgy		Graceful, flowing; does not draw attention to self
	Disrespectful handling of objects OR draws attention to self		Handles liturgical objects like daily objects		Respectful in a way that does not draw attention
Feedback	Argumentative; no insight into own problem areas		Somewhat open and able to offer some self-critique		Received feedback graciously; suggested own ways to improve

Max points = 32