

Dear servants of the liturgy,

This is quite a full issue; many things happening in the world of liturgy! Below you will find messages from our Bishops, a survey to help this office and the Liturgical Commission better serve you, news on upcoming events, and information to help with your liturgical preparations—even looking to Advent and Lent already!

May you all enjoy a blessed end of summer,

Deacon Frank Agnoli, MD, MDiv, MA
Director of Liturgy

AgnoliFrancisL@sau.edu
SAU: 563-333-6083
Diocese: 563-324-1912 x255

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

A FEW WORDS FROM THE U.S. BISHOPS

The Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy (BCL)

The new translation of the Roman Missal (Sacramentary) has been in the news recently. Bishop Donald Trautman, chairman of the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy, has asked us to remind everyone that until the texts are approved by Rome, none of these texts may be published, distributed, or used in the Liturgy. Bishop Trautman especially reminds priests "that the actions of this Conference in approving the *Order of Mass* should have no impact upon the way in which the liturgy is celebrated until confirmation has been received from the Holy See and a plan of implementation has been approved for this country." Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

The Bishops' Committee on Pastoral Practices

This committee of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops has been studying the question of fostering greater attendance at Sunday Mass. After wide consultation, they have published a number of suggestions that parishes can implement. I will reprint one of the nine suggestions in each issue of the *LiturgyNotes*, beginning with this one:

#1 Make the celebration of Sunday Mass a priority. This is accomplished through attentiveness to homily preparation and evaluation, liturgy preparation, and music selection. It is accomplished further through the formation and training of the parish's Liturgy Committee and liturgical ministers, and the fostering of Eucharistic devotions appropriate to the parish. Encourage parish councils and committees to reflect regularly on the question: "How has our work strengthened our commitment to and participation in Sunday Mass?"

LITURGY SURVEY

Along with the *LiturgyNotes*, you will have received a survey from the Liturgical Commission asking about what formational needs are most important to you. Your answers will help us plan our workshops and speakers in the coming years. The survey is being sent in both Adobe Acrobat and Word formats.

If you want, simply print out the form, fill it out, and mail it back to me at: 2706 N. Gaines St., Davenport, IA 52804-1998. Or, if you prefer to do things electronically, save the Word version of the survey to your hard drive. Fill it out and save it again. Then send it back to me as an e-mail attachment: Agnoli@davenportdiocese.org. Thanks for taking the time out to respond!

LTP ORDERS

In the past, the Diocese was able to place a bulk order with Liturgy Training Publications (LTP) for the parishes to purchase their annual materials such as Lector Workbooks. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide this service any longer. You may order your materials directly from LTP, 800-533-1900 or from Religious Supply Center in Davenport. Religious Supply is willing to provide the parishes with discounted prices; please call them for details. To place your order, call Jim, 563-324-0669 or 800-292-0052, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., M-F and 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday.

RCIA & Social Justice

Formation in the Catholic Social Tradition should be a part of any RCIA program. In order to assist parishes in this regard, the Diocesan Social Action Office has asked me to remind all of you that they have a good variety of publications, videos, and other media that they can provide or loan to RCIA teams. Volunteers are also available to help with planning sessions dealing with Catholic Social Teaching and even do on-site presentations as part of a parish's RCIA program. Please contact Glenn Leach (leach@davenportdiocese.org; 563-324-1912 x244) if you have any questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIOCESAN 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ON SEPTEMBER 30TH

We will gather at Le Claire Park in Davenport to celebrate our 125th Anniversary as a diocese. We will begin with Mass at 8:00 a.m. at St. Anthony Church, followed by a Eucharistic Procession to LeClaire Park (beginning at approximately 8:30 a.m. and arriving at the park by 9 a.m.). Our keynote speaker is Fr. Brendan Moss, OSB, a monk of St. Meinrad Archabbey who specializes in preaching with youth. Steve Angrisano, one of the leading Catholic recording artists in the United States and well known among younger Catholics will provide music throughout the day. We'll also hear from a number of folks from around the diocese regarding our history, and music by Lynn Cooper. The Hispanic and Vietnamese communities of our diocese will also be featured, as will guests from the Diocese of Antsirananana, Madagascar. Food and drinks will be available for purchase; we ask that participants support the parish ministries that will be providing this service. In addition, we are encouraging every parish and school to set

up a display honoring their history. A tent-chapel for Eucharistic adoration will be available the entire day. The daylong celebration will conclude with Mass at 4:00 p.m. Come and celebrate our “walking together in faith.”

CONTINUING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Models of the Eucharist

Sponsored by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians and presented by the Rev. Msgr. Kevin Irwin, this one-day professional development seminar for clergy, pastoral musicians, catechetical leaders, youth ministers, leaders of worship, and all pastoral ministers is intended to help participants: Deepen their own understanding of the Eucharist, discover ways of enriching Eucharistic celebrations, evaluate musical repertoire for the Eucharist, and examine fresh approaches to catechesis on the Eucharist.

The seminar will take place on Monday, September 8, from 9am to 4pm at Our Lady, Mother of the Church Parish in Chicago. Lunch will be provided. The registration deadline is August 18. Just send in the registration form (at the end of *LiturgyNotes*) with payment to: NPM Institutes, PO Box 4207, Silver Springs, MD 2091904207. If paying by credit card, please fax your registration form to 240-247-3001.

Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions: Annual Meeting

To be held on October 10 – 13 in Omaha, NE. While the focus of the convention will be on liturgical music and the art of celebrating the liturgy, there will be break-out sessions on a wide variety of liturgical topics. Since our region is hosting this gathering, all are encouraged to attend. More information is available on the FDLC website: www.fdlc.org.

LITURGY PREPARATION

BCL RESOURCES FOR ADORATION OF THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST

The US Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy has prepared three model “holy hours” for parish use. Each focuses on a particular theme: for life, for vocations, and for peace. They can be found on the web at <http://www.usccb.org/liturgy/holyhours/shtml>.

INTERCESSIONS

Intercessions for Life

These intercessions are provided by the USCCB for your use. Please adapt them as you see fit.

Sept. 3rd 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For every man and woman who sits on death row: that they may have the courage of repentance, and that God might give us the wisdom to preserve the life of every human being; we pray to the Lord:

Sept. 10th 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all who have grown very old: that we might cherish their wisdom, give thanks for their presence, and remind them daily of how much we need them; we pray to the Lord:

Sept. 17th 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For those who suffer from the effects of abortion: for mothers, fathers, children, and friends: that God might wipe the tears from their eyes and heal their broken hearts, we pray to the Lord:

Sept. 24th 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

That ever ready for the coming of Christ in glory, we might work to preserve all human life from conception to natural death; we pray to the Lord:

Other Intercessions

These intercessions, written by members of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission, focus on other justice issues, and are inspired by the readings of the day:

Sept. 3rd 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For world leaders, that they will work diligently to alleviate human suffering; we pray to the Lord:

Sept. 10th 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For those with physical and mental challenges and those who care for them; may they experience mutual enrichment and joy; we pray to the Lord:

Sept. 17th 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For our catechists; may they share God's Word and the traditions of the Church with enthusiasm and zeal, we pray to the Lord:

Sept. 24th 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

That our faith community may grow in unselfish service to others and treat the least among us with dignity and honor; we pray to the Lord:

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Labor Day: September 4

Given that this Monday is a weekday in Ordinary Time, parishes may want to celebrate the Mass for the Blessing of Human Labor (Masses for Various Needs and Occasions #25). The Preface would be for Independence Day and Other Civic Holidays I-II, the readings taken from 907-911, and the vestments white.

The *Book of Blessings* also offers a number of opportunities. Pastoral visits could be made to places of work, and the following rites be used:

- 18. Blessing of an Office, Shop, or Factory
- 23. Blessing of Technical Installations or Equipment
- 26. Blessing of Fields and Flocks

Or, at Sunday Masses or at Mass on Labor day itself, workers could bring the tools of their trades to be blessed:

- 24. Blessing of Tools or Other Equipment for Work

Special attention should be paid to laborers and those seeking work during the Prayer of the Faithful, as should those who are treated unjustly in the workplace.

For example, the following intercessions / litany may be used or adapted. They are modified from those written by Patrick Gorman, Director of Worship for the Diocese of Madison, and printed in “Putting Labor into Labor Day Services” (National Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice), and are reproduced with permission:

Priest Celebrant: Friends, let us offer our prayer to God, who pronounced all creation good, who sent the Son to live and work as one like us, and who calls us to serve the poor and those oppressed.

Deacon/Reader: For all those who work; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who are unemployed or underemployed, or have lost their jobs because of changing economic conditions; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who work in hazardous conditions without sufficient protection; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For migrant workers and all who work the land; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For all employers, that they may seek to provide a just work environment; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who face discrimination, harassment, or abuse in the work place; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who must balance job commitments with the needs of their family; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

Priest Celebrant: Loving God, through your Son you gave us an example to love one another as he loved us. Give us the strength to continue working to reveal your reign here on earth – a reign of justice and peace, kindness and compassion, grace and mercy. Grant this through Christ, our Lord. (Amen)

September 11

A special “Blue Mass” for police officers and firefighters, remembering those who have given their lives for others, may be celebrated today or on October 10. The Mass *For Those Who Serve in Public Office* (#18) may be used.

Other Masses for Various Needs and Occasions that may be considered for use this day include:

- 22. For Peace and Justice
- 42. For Promoting Harmony

In addition, the Mass for the Dead may be celebrated, recalling all who lost their lives on September 11, and since, due to terrorism and war.

Finally, it would be good to remember the dead and those who continue to suffer the after-effects of 9-11 as part of the Prayer of the Faithful on Sunday as well. For example:

For those who died on September 11, 2001; for their families and friends who mourn them; we pray to the Lord:

For those who serve others at the risk of their own lives; we pray to the Lord:

For an end to terrorism and violence; for peace among nations; we pray to the Lord:

For the grace of forgiveness; for the healing of broken spirits and wounded souls; we pray to the Lord:

For those overwhelmed by sorrow or fear; for those who work for reconciliation; we pray to the Lord:

Advent

Advent, and the new liturgical year, begins on December 3 this year. As you and your communities begin to look ahead, I would offer the following points to keep in mind. I will provide Christmas guidelines next month.

1. With the new liturgical year, we begin the use of Cycle C in the Sunday Lectionary and Year I in the Weekday Lectionary.
2. The color of Advent is a bluer shade of violet, to distinguish it from the purple of penitence in Lent. Blue itself is not an allowed color in the U.S. Rose is an optional color for the vesture on the Third Sunday of Advent, signaling that the full joy of Christmas is drawing near. The vestments worn should not have a cross, nails, etc. on them – they should not be Lenten.
3. The Advent wreath is blessed only at the first mass, after the intercessions. See the *Book of Blessings*, #1509ff, chapter 47. On the other Sundays of Advent, it is lit before Mass begins and no additional prayers are said. The traditional wreath is a circle of evergreen branches that bears

four candles. The dominant tradition calls for three violet and one rose candle, but four violet or four white candles may also be used. Some communities add a fifth candle, white, for Christmas. The wreath should be large enough for all to see, but not obstruct the view of the altar, ambo or chair.

4. A good Penitential Rite to use would be Rite C, #ii.

5. Don't anticipate Christmas with music and environment. Rather, make use of a full spectrum of Advent music.

6. Don't make believe Jesus never came – focus on the second coming. Remember: *Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.*

7. Giving trees should not be in the sanctuary. Remember you can transform them for Christmas. They are better placed in the entryway or some location other than the sanctuary, lest the simplicity of Advent decor be compromised. Likewise, while Jesse trees are good for religious education they should not be in the church.

8. The *Gloria* is omitted.

9. This season should reflect quiet and a subdued peace, as well as a sense of anticipation.

Looking Ahead to Lent and Easter

Ash Wednesday falls on February 21, 2007.

For those who need to start planning, the Rite of Election will be celebrated in Davenport on February 25 (1st Sunday of Lent) at 3pm and 6pm and in Ottumwa on March 4 (2nd Sunday of Lent) at 3pm.

The Easter Vigil, celebrated on April 7, may not begin before 8:30 p.m. and must conclude by 5:30 a.m. on April 8.

REGISTRATION FORM • MODELS OF THE EUCHARIST

Photocopy this form for each additional registration
Advance registration deadline: August 18, 2006

Fees: Check applicable box(es) and write in amount

	Advance	Regular/on-site	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> NPM member	\$85	\$ 95	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-member	\$95	\$110	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> NPM Parish Member Group	\$75	\$ 90 x _____	\$ _____
Two or more members from the same parish, each		(number)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-member Parish Group	\$85	\$100 x _____	\$ _____
Two or more members from the same parish, each		(number)	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Models of the Eucharist</i> Book by Kevin Irvin (Advance only)	\$23	x _____	\$ _____
		(number of copies)	

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- New Parish Membership for 2 \$95
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