

LITURGYNOTES – FOR AUGUST 2010

THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL

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I wish that I had some news to share... but perhaps the most important news is that there is no news... no text, that is.

After announcing that the English translation of the Roman Missal had been approved, it is now said that Rome is “undergoing final editing by officials at the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments” (BCDW Newsletter July 2010). Unfortunately, the “blogosphere” is filled with rumor and innuendo... and is very short on facts. Suffice it to say that we do not have a text in hand, and if we do not receive one soon we will be faced with the possibility of adjusting our formation plans. So... stay tuned!

In the meantime, take a look at Father Paul Turner’s website:

<http://www.paulturner.org/Roman%20Missal.htm>.

There, you will find a wealth of articles that you might find useful for your own reading as well as for your parish catechetical efforts.

He also has a set of four 15-minute videos (with transcripts) at the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy website: <http://liturgy.nd.edu/webcatechesis/>.

In addition, Msgr. Jim Moroney, who serves on the *Vox Clara* Commission, has a series of video presentations available at: <http://www.catholictv.com/Missal.aspx>.

While especially directed at priests, these talks cover many important issues—from the theology and spirituality of worship and the art of celebrating the liturgy to practical aspects in welcoming the new Missal and proclaiming these new texts.

As soon as the final texts are released, I will let you know!

CONTINUING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

FDLC Workshops for Priests (http://www.fdlc.org/Roman_Missal/RM_Workshops.htm)

For priests and diocesan leadership, these workshops are intended to introduce the new Missal and explore the challenges of leadership in a time of change.

Diocesan Roman Missal Website - <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litromanmissal.htm>.

RESOURCES

LTP ANNUAL RESOURCES

LTP has announced that its annual resources are once again available. 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. For details or 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.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is observed from January 18-25 each year. For resources, see www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/chrstuni/weeks-prayer/doc/rc_pc_chrstuni_doc_20100526_week-prayer-2011_en.html

TEACHING KIDS THE BASICS OF LITURGY

By Fr. Robert Duggan, this book from RCL-Benziger is meant to help catechists, Catholic school teachers, and parents with their “sacred task of helping the young be part of the Church.” More importantly, it provides a solid foundation in the basics of liturgy in understandable language. As we look forward to welcoming the new Roman Missal, one of our tasks will be to encourage an overarching renewal of liturgical life in our parishes and schools. This book would be an excellent resource in that endeavor.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Vespers for Nascent Human Life

On Saturday, November 27th, Pope Benedict will preside at a “Vigil for all nascent human life,” and he has asked all bishops around the world to preside at similar celebrations in their own dioceses. Therefore, Bishop Amos will celebrate Vespers at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 7:00 p.m. We will post further details on the “Liturgy Events” webpage as they become available.

We will plan on making the liturgy available if parishes and deaneries wish to host their own celebrations, and we will make a prayer booklet available for families who wish to join in the Holy Father in prayer as their own “domestic church.”

CONTINUING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

“Focus on Initiation: Children and Christian Initiation” – August 27-28, 2010

The Diocese Rockford (IL) and the North American Forum on the Catechumenate are sponsoring a two-day institute on the initiation of children. The program will take place in North Aurora, IL. A link to the registration brochure is available on our website’s Liturgy Events page.

For more opportunities, see the Liturgy Events webpage at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm>.

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Please note the following from Bishop Amos:

DECEMBER 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe

According to the USCCB: "In 2010, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12, falls on the Third Sunday of Advent. This feast may be observed on December 11 or 13 with the permission of the diocesan bishop. On December 12, the Third Sunday of Advent, Our Lady of Guadalupe may be appropriately honored in one or more of the petitions of the Prayer of the Faithful, in the homily, and perhaps in one of the hymns during the liturgy. The readings and the Mass formulary for December 12 are those for the Third Sunday of Advent." In the Diocese of Davenport, the Feast is transferred to Saturday, December 11.

CHRISTMAS 2010

Christmas falls on a Saturday this year, which can make for a very busy weekend for priests and other ministers. Therefore, I am asking that parishes not celebrate a Saturday evening Mass on Christmas Day for the following reasons:

1. The liturgical schedule will already have been quite busy for Christmas Eve and Christmas, not only for the priests of the diocese but for other ministers (especially music ministers). It is important that we be sensitive to those who are required to work long hours on Christmas Eve and Christmas with little time for their families.
2. For most, Christmas Day is a time to be spent with family; practically speaking, very few would interrupt such gatherings to attend a Saturday evening Mass.

If pastorally necessary, parishes may choose to add a Sunday afternoon or evening Mass.

In regards to the Liturgy of the Hours, Evening Prayer II for Christmas is celebrated on December 25 (not Evening Prayer I for Holy Family).

JANUARY 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Because the solemnity falls on a Saturday, the obligation to attend Mass on January 1 is dispensed. However, even when the obligation is abrogated, ritual Masses are still prohibited (Marriage outside of Mass may be celebrated). Funeral Masses may be celebrated. The Saturday evening Mass (and Evening Prayer I) are for the Solemnity of the Epiphany.

EASTER VIGIL

As you plan ahead for the Sacred Triduum, it is important to remember that the Easter Vigil may not begin before dark. In 2011, this means 8:45 p.m. on the night of April 23.

I am asking all parishes to adhere to this requirement of universal law. To begin with, the primal symbols of light and dark lie at the heart of the Vigil; to diminish the power of those symbols by beginning the Vigil before the appointed time is to disrespect the liturgy and to deprive the people of the opportunity to encounter those symbols in their fullness. In addition, those who begin the Vigil before the appointed time create no small difficulty for their brother priests who follow the Church's liturgical law. Therefore, I am informing the *Messenger* that they are not to advertise any parish Mass schedule that does not reflect this directive.

BOOK OF BLESSINGS

With school starting, consider using the Order for the Blessing of Students and Teachers. It is found in the *Book of Blessings*, nos. 522 and following.

INTERCESSIONS

(1) "Intercessions for Life" may be found on the USCCB website at:

<http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wolarchive.shtml>

(2) Monthly intercession for vocations (courtesy of Fr. Marty Goetz, Director of Vocations):

For those who minister to the imprisoned, may they be a tangible presence of Christ, we pray:

(3) Weekly intercessions:

September 5 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For the courage to renounce the snare of possessions for the sake of Christ; we pray...

September 12 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For peace among all the children of Abraham and Sarah; we pray...

September 19 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

That those who trample upon the needy and destroy the poor of the land would repent, and serve mammon no longer; we pray...

September 26 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

That our complacency would be shattered by the cries of the poor at our doors; that our hearts would be moved by the laments of the oppressed; we pray...

If you have received this newsletter in error, or no longer wish to receive *LiturgyNotes*, please contact Laurie Hoefling at the chancery and request to be removed from our distribution list.

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