

LITURGYNOTES – FOR APRIL 2010

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

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As the Sacred Triduum approaches, perhaps it is good to recall that at the center of our three-day observance lies the font... the font to which the Elect are coming to for the first time, the font to which the rest of us are returning to renew our promises.... Maybe reflecting on the words inscribed around the baptistery at the Lateran Basilica in Rome can help us on that journey (this translation is taken from *A Triduum Sourcebook* from LTP):

“The brood born here to live in heaven has life from water and the fructifying Spirit. Sinner, seek your cleansing in this stream that takes the old and gives a new person back. No barrier can divide where life unites: one faith, one font, one Spirit make one people. A virgin still, the church gives birth to children conceived of God, delivered in the water. Washed in this bath the stains will float away that mark the guilt of Adam and your own. The stream that flows below sprang from the wounded Christ to wash the whole world clean and give it life. Children of the water, think no more of earth; heaven will give you joy; in heaven hope. Think not your sins too many or too great; birth in this stream is birth to holiness.”

THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL

The *Vox Clara* Committee continues to meet in Rome, ironing out the small differences between the translations approved by different English-speaking conferences in preparation for a single English-language text to be used around the world. The Committee will pass on their recommendations to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, which has the responsibility of confirming the final version.

We do not have a date for implementing the new translation of the Missal yet; it all depends on when final approval is given. However, the latest “guestimate” that I have heard is Advent of 2011. That means that we will be focusing our catechetical efforts for summer-fall of that year.... While there are no guarantees, perhaps that can help with your long-term planning and budgeting.

In the meantime, Bishop Arthur Serratelli’s article on “Welcoming the New Missal” is available on the *America* magazine website at http://www.americamagazine.org/content/article.cfm?article_id=12140. Bishop Serratelli is the chair of the USCCB’s Committee on Divine Worship.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Ordination

Rev. Mr. Joseph Nguyen, a seminarian for our diocese, will be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, May 22, at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Please keep Deacon Nguyen in your prayers as he enters this final phase of preparation for priestly ministry.

CONTINUING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Loras Liturgical Music Conference – July 6-8, 2010

Save the date! The keynote speaker will be Rev. Jan Michael Joncas.

“Concerning the Baptized” - July 9-10, 2010

The Archdiocese of Dubuque and the FDLC are sponsoring a two-day institute on the initiation journey for those already baptized but seeking to come into full communion with the Catholic Church. The program will take place in Cedar Rapids. Mark your calendars! A registration brochure is available on our website—and is included with this issue.

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

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Ordinary Time

As you begin looking ahead to ordinary time—and especially weekday celebrations—please remember that a wealth of Votive Masses and Masses for Various Needs and Occasions are available. You may also want to consider a number of rites from the Book of Blessings as the summer approaches, for example:

For new drivers, especially as school lets out: Order for the Blessing of the Various Means of Transportation.

Especially for rural parishes: Order for the Blessing of Boats and Fishing Gear; Order for the Blessing of Fields and Flocks; and Order for the Blessing of Seeds at Planting Time.

Since this is a common time for moves to take place: Order for Welcoming of New Parishioners; and Order for the Blessing of a Departing Parishioner.

Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Amos

The anniversary of the episcopal ordination of Bishop Amos, observed as a Feast in the Diocese, will be celebrated on June 7 this year. The Mass “For the Bishop” (Masses for Various Needs and Occasions I. For the Church 3. For the Bishop) with its appropriate readings should be celebrated. It would also be appropriate to include a particular petition for the Bishop as part of the Prayers of the Faithful on the weekend of June 5-6.

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 our Church, may we reach out in love, trusting the Spirit’s lead; we pray:

Also, please keep Joseph Nguyen in your parish prayers as he prepares to be ordained to the priesthood for our diocese; for example:

For Joseph Nguyen, and for all our seminarians; that they would be filled with the Holy Spirit and serve our diocese with zeal and compassion; we pray to the Lord.

For Joseph Nguyen, who will be ordained to the presbyterate in May, that he would be blessed and supported in his call to serve the Lord and the Church; we pray to the Lord.

(3) Weekly intercessions:

- May 2 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER
For those who weep and mourn; that by our works of charity and justice we would help to wipe their tears away. We pray....
- May 9 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER
For the peace that the world cannot give; we pray...
- May 16 THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
For refugees, the homeless, and the abandoned; that they may know hope through the presence of the Church’s ministers. We pray:
- May 23 PENTECOST
For an outpouring of a Spirit of peace and justice on all peoples; we pray....

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