

Dear companions at the Table,

Our Lenten journey to the Easter fire and font is just a little more than half over. We have had the privilege of celebrating the Rite of Election and the first Scrutinies; we look forward to Chrism Mass and the liturgies of Holy Week. This is an especially busy time for all of us in liturgical ministries; it is easy to become engrossed in what we do and forget why and for whom we do it. I pray that during this Holy Season we might find—no, *make*—the time for our own rest and renewal...so, together, we can enter into the great Triduum with joyful, hope-filled hearts!

With gratitude for all your ministries,

Deacon Frank Agnoli, MD, MDiv, MA
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FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

DIVIDING THE READINGS

It seems that a number of parishes have made unauthorized adaptations of the gospel readings for the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent, either by inserting responses from the assembly or dividing the readings into parts—akin to the Passion Narratives proclaimed on Palm Sunday and Good Friday. Pastors and liturgy committees are reminded that such changes to the readings at Mass are not permitted (see GIRM #109) and that the readings ought to be proclaimed in their integrity by a single minister.

UPDATED DIOCESAN ART AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY

The diocesan policy on Art and Architecture for Worship has been updated; a new section on the disposition of sacred items no longer needed or suitable for liturgical use has been added. The policy is available on the diocesan website under the liturgy library, or can be accessed directly through this link:

<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/liturgylibrary/litPoliciesRelatingtoArtandArchitectureforWorshiprev021408.pdf>

BAPTISMAL FORMULA

Please know that the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) has recently released a *Response to Questions Proposed on the Validity of Baptism*, declaring that a valid baptism requires the use of the traditional Trinitarian formula (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). “Baptisms” attempted using other formulas (such as Creator, Redeemer, Sanctifier and the like) are invalid; that is, no baptism takes place if such formulas are used. The Vatican Response can be found at: http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20080201_validity-baptism_en.html. Further information is available on the Catholic News Service website (www.catholicnews.com).

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Don't forget the Chrism Mass on Monday, March 10, at 5:30 p.m. at St. John Vianney, Bettendorf!!

Confirmations in the Diocese

A reminder to those who are helping to prepare confirmation liturgies: please make sure to have the planning sheets in to the liturgy office two weeks before the rite is to be celebrated. The planning sheet is available on the diocesan website; just go to <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/liturgylibrary/litPlanning%20SheetConfirmationRev09192007.doc>.

Ordination to the Presbyterate

Deacons Hai Duc Dinh and Joseph Sia will be ordained to the Order of Presbyter on Saturday, May 10, at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The Ordination Mass will begin at 10:00 a.m. Please keep our future priests in your prayers.

CONTINUING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Fr. Paul Turner on the RCIA

Fr. Turner will be presenting two workshops for RCIA team members on April 17 and 18 at St. Ludmila Church in Cedar Rapids. For more information, or to register, please see the accompanying flyer.

Notre Dame Center for Liturgy

The Forgotten Sacraments (June 16-18): The annual liturgy conference will focus on the sacraments of healing (anointing of the sick and reconciliation) and the sacraments at the service of communion (marriage and holy orders).

SummerSong 2008 (July 7-18): A two-week intensive for liturgical music ministers including graduate level study of liturgy, private lessons, and clinics—all in the context of communal prayer.

For more information, visit their website at www.liturgy.nd.edu

Focus on Initiation: Catechumenate

The North American Forum on the Catechumenate will be presenting this two-day workshop on July 18-19, 2008, in the Diocese of Des Moines. For more information, please contact Rev. Tim Fitzgerald at 515-237-5026 or formation@dmdiocese.org.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

RCIA GOOGLE GROUP

Last year, we were able to gather from around the diocese for a *Beginnings Plus* conference. In follow-up to that weekend, we asked participants if meetings of RCIA ministers would be helpful. The majority of respondents did answer that such future meetings would be helpful, especially at the deanery level. There was quite some disparity regarding preferred meeting times—Saturdays, Sundays, or weeknights.

Since it is clear that networking among RCIA ministers was an expressed need, we are in the process of forming an e-mail “listserv” (a Google Group) to keep us all in touch with each other.

All those who are on our Forum and RCIA e-mail distribution lists should have received an invitation to join. If you have not, and are an RCIA coordinator or team member and wish to be a part of our virtual community, just send me an e-mail.

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

The Month of May

May is traditionally regarded as a Marian month. Please recall, however, that the Easter Season (including Pentecost) should remain the primary focus in both prayer and in the liturgical environment. Popular devotions are to take their life from the liturgy, not overshadow it.

Pentecost Sunday, May 11, is also Mother’s Day this year. As a secular holiday, it should in no way overshadow the primary celebration of the paschal mystery and the Solemnity of Pentecost. The Book of Blessings (#1724ff) contains an appropriate rite for parish use. The same applies to Father’s Day, June 15 (See BB #1729ff).

Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Amos

June 7 marks the anniversary of the episcopal ordination of Bishop Amos, and is therefore observed as a Feast in the Diocese. On that day, 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 that weekend.

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:

For those who work for vocations in our diocese, that God will bless the work they do;
we pray...

(3) Weekly intercessions from the Liturgical Commission:

April 6 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

For the hopeless, the grieving, and the searching; we pray...

April 13 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

For those who live in fear because of violence or oppression: we pray...

April 20 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

For the hungry, the overlooked, and the forgotten; we pray...

April 27 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

For those possessed by addictions and oppressed by illness; we pray...

In addition, it would be good to begin including Deacons Hai Duc Dinh and Joseph Sia, our seminarians, as they approach their ordination to the Presbyterate on May 10. For example:

“For Hai Duc Dinh and Joseph Sia, who will be ordained to the presbyterate in May, that they will be blessed and supported in their call to serve the Lord and the Church, we pray to the Lord.”

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.

Phone: 563-324-1912 x267

E-Mail: hoefling@davenportdiocese.org

TWO RCIA EVENTS

With presenter Fr. Paul Turner

Fr. Paul Turner is a pastor, musician, and author of numerous books and articles liturgy. and the RCIA. He serves on the International Committee on English in the Liturgy, ICEL, assisting with the translation 3rd edition of the *Roman Missal*.

Please bring your RCIA ritual book to both events.

April 17

“RCIA Team Retreat”

6:30 - 9:00 P.M.

St. Ludmila Church, Cedar Rapids

\$10 fee includes refreshments.

“A spiritual renewal for RCIA Teams”

(for all who serve in the Christian Initiation process)

The evening will be a theological/spiritual reflection on the nature of RCIA ministry. Please bring your RCIA ritual book.

Special Rate

Attend both events and receive a discount on your registration (see below).

Registration due April 10.

Directions to St. Ludmila Church Cedar Rapids

From the North:

Take Interstate 380 S to Wilson Avenue Exit. Turn left (or east) onto Wilson Avenue. Go past ‘J’ Street, then turn left on to 2nd Street. Go 1/2 block and turn left into the church parking lot.

From the South:

Take Interstate 380 N to Wilson Avenue Exit. Turn right (or east) on to Wilson Avenue. Continue as above.

April 18

“Celebrating the Rites”

9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

St. Ludmila Church, Cedar Rapids

\$30 fee includes lunch and snacks.

(for priests, deacons, RCIA teams, liturgists, musicians)

This day will focus on the liturgical texts, rituals, symbols and gestures of the Rites of Christian Initiation. Fr. Turner will offer pastoral solutions to common challenges in celebrating the initiation rites. He will also address the preparation of the English translation of the *Missale Romanum*.

REGISTRATION

Please duplicate this form for each registrant.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Night) _____

Email _____

Parish Name and City _____

Diocese _____

Please list any dietary needs. _____

Registration Fee

Both events \$25 _____

Thursday only \$10 _____

Friday only \$30 _____

Please reserve a Ritual Book for me \$15 _____

Total Enclosed _____

Registration due April 10.



Checks payable to the Office of Worship, 1229 Mt. Loretta, Dubuque IA 52003.
319-556-2580 or 1-800-876-3546. Email DBQCWHSEC@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us