

LITURGY UPDATE

Liturgical Memos

March 17:

Solemnity of Saint Patrick

The Cardinal's Office has announced a dispensation from abstaining from meat on the Solemnity of Saint Patrick this year, inasmuch as this feast day falls on a Friday in Lent in 2017.

March 20:

Solemnity of Saint Joseph

The Solemnity of Saint Joseph has been transferred to Monday, March 20 this year to allow for the celebration of the Third Sunday of Lent on Sunday, March 19.

April 11:

Chrism Mass

The archdiocesan Chrism Mass will be celebrated at Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Tuesday, April 11, at 4:00pm. Holy oils will be distributed after the Mass in prepackaged six-ounce containers, as in previous years. Oils will also be distributed at Saint Joseph's Seminary on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday of Holy Week. Old holy oils may be disposed of at Saint Joseph's Seminary throughout the year.

April 13:

Mass of the Lord's Supper

As announced last year, when the optional rite of foot-washing is celebrated within the Mass of the Lord's Supper, those whose feet are washed should be representative of the variety of persons and groups within the parish community. Those to have their feet washed need not be twelve in number.



RCIA Update: The Call to Continuing Conversion

The archdiocesan Catechetical Office has recently announced a change to the way in which the *Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion* will be celebrated during the Lenten season. In previous years, parishes were invited to send their baptized RCIA candidates to one of several locations throughout the archdiocese for the celebration of the *Rite of Calling* on the Second Sunday of Lent. Beginning this year, this *Rite* will now be celebrated in local parishes. This change in practice is the result of several months of study by the Catechetical Office, the archdiocesan RCIA Advisory Council, and the Office of Liturgy. In their work, these groups noted the following:

- The RCIA indicates that the *Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion* is an optional rite.

- While the *RCIA* does give an option for sending the candidates to the bishop for the *Rite of Calling*, it appears to envision the case wherein this *Rite* is combined with the *Rite of Election*, a practice that is not possible in the Archdiocese of New York due to space limitations within Saint Patrick's Cathedral.
- Celebrating an archdiocesan-sponsored *Rite of Calling* on the Second Sunday of Lent:
 - does not follow the *RCIA*'s directive that this *Rite* should be celebrated at the beginning of Lent (448);
 - in many ways mirrors the archdiocesan *Rite of Election*, which may create confusion between the unique status of baptized candidates and that of candidates for baptism; and,
 - was thought to reinforce the custom of receiving candidates for full reception at the Easter Vigil, a practice that is not recommended by the *National Statutes for the Catechumenate* (33-34).

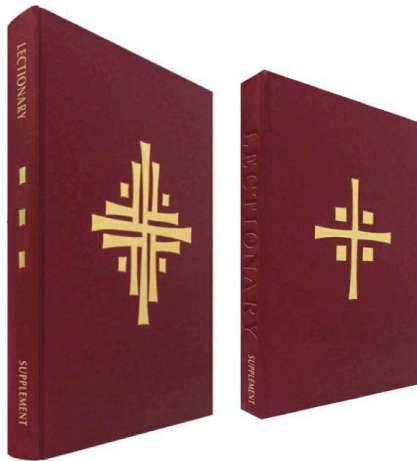
In light of these observations, the following new directives for the celebration of the *Rite of Calling* have been approved by Cardinal Dolan:

- The celebration of the *Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion* is an optional rite that is celebrated for baptized candidates (adults and teenagers [14+]), who have participated in their parish's catechumenate (*RCIA*) process and are ready either to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist or to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church (*RCIA*, 446).
- The parish celebration of the *Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion* may take place on a convenient day at the beginning of Lent (*RCIA*, 448).
- This *Rite* is to be celebrated at the parish church of the candidate.
- This *Rite* may be celebrated either within a parish Mass or a Liturgy of the Word (*RCIA*, 457).
- The presiding celebrant for this *Rite* is the pastor or a parish priest delegated by the pastor (*RCIA*, 448).

In order to assist parishes in preparing for the celebration of this liturgy, the Catechetical Office and the Office of Liturgy have made an outline and the text of the *Rite of Calling* available online in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Lastly, bearing in mind that candidates for continuing conversion look forward to joining with the Cardinal in prayer at Saint Patrick's Cathedral on an annual basis, those adults who recently completed their sacraments of initiation or entered into full communion through their parish *RCIA* process are invited to join neophytes (the newly baptized) for the annual Neophyte Mass at the cathedral on Sunday, April 23, at 2:00pm.

Pastors or *RCIA* coordinators who have questions regarding the *Rite of Calling* are encouraged to contact the Catechetical Office or the Office of Liturgy for further information.



New Liturgical Books Announced

The USCCB's Divine Worship Secretariat has announced that the third edition of the *Misal Romano* for use in the (arch)dioceses of the United States has received *recognitio* from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. This book has been long awaited by many pastors and others in the Archdiocese who serve Spanish-speaking congregations. The revised *Misal* is currently being reviewed for grammar and punctuation consistencies, and it is anticipated that publication and implementation dates will be announced in the forthcoming months. The Liturgy Office plans to sponsor a workshop on the revised *Misal* at the time of its publication.

As indicated in the December 2016 edition of the *Liturgy Update*, the Secretariat for Divine Worship has also recently given notice of the forthcoming publication of the *Lectonary for Mass Supplement*. The following editions of the *Supplement* will become available on April 1, 2017, and may be used as of this same date:

- Catholic Book Publishing Company
Hardcover, 8 1/2" x 11", \$21.95
- Liturgical Press
Classic edition: hardcover, 8 1/2" x 11", \$39.95
Chapel edition: hardcover, 7" x 9", \$34.95
- Liturgy Training Publications
Softcover, 9 3/4" x 12", \$29.95

All of the above editions may be ordered through ICS at a discounted price. Ordering information and additional details may be found on the [ICS website](#).

New Guidelines for the Celebration of Funerals

Liturgical guidelines for the celebration of funerals have been published by the Office of Liturgy. These guidelines are intended to serve as a pastoral aid to clergy and others who are involved in the planning and celebration of the funeral rites within the Archdiocese of New York. Topics covered include: ministry to families at a time of loss, times when the celebration of a funeral Liturgy Outside Mass is appropriate, cremation, words of remembrance, and memorial Masses. This document may be accessed and downloaded from the [Liturgy Office website](#).



The Liturgy of the Hours During the Sacred Triduum

The Congregation for Divine Worship's 1988 Circular Letter "Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of the Easter Feasts," recommends the communal celebration of the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, bearing in mind that this Office (formerly known as *Tenebrae*) holds a special place in the devotional lives of the faithful. Many parishes in the



Archdiocese of New York continue the tradition of praying the Liturgy of the Hours in common on these days as a way of meditating on the passion, death, and burial of the Lord while awaiting the celebration of His resurrection.

The Liturgy Office frequently receives requests for booklets which can be used by parishes for the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours during the Triduum. The [ebreviary](#) service has recently made these resources available, free of charge, on its website. The booklets may be [downloaded directly from the ebreviary website](#) and reproduced as needed by parishes.



Day of Recollection for Parish Musicians - March 25

On March 25, from 10:00am-3:00pm, at Marymount Convent in Tarrytown, music directors, adult choir members, instrumentalists, and others involved in parish music ministry are invited to join Father Richard Marrano, priest of the Archdiocese of New York, for a day of prayer, reflection, and music-making with fellow parish musicians from around the archdiocese. The day will include the celebration of Solemn Morning

Prayer, conferences given by Father Marrano, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and time for fellowship. The registration fee (to defray the cost of lunch) is \$10. Attendees are invited to register at the [Liturgy Office website](#).

Lenten Liturgical Conferences

The Office of Liturgy is offering two conferences during the Lenten season. “Celebrating the Sacred Triduum” will be presented at Saint Rita’s Parish on Staten Island on Friday, March 10, from 7:30-8:30pm. Additionally, a seminar on “The Liturgy of Good Friday” will be given at Saint Joseph’s Seminary in Yonkers on Friday, March 24, from 7:00-8:30pm.

Both talks will be given by Father Matthew Ernest, director of the Liturgy Office. These seminars are ideal for anyone who wishes to have a greater appreciation and understanding of the Church’s liturgical year in preparation for the celebration of the liturgies of the Sacred Triduum. Registration for both events is free of charge and may be accessed on the [Liturgy Office website](#).



Upcoming Events

Gregorian Chant in Pastoral Ministry and Religious Education Conference. March 10-11. Saint Joseph’s Seminary (Dunwoodie). More information: www.dunwoodiemusic.org/conference.

Pueri Cantores Music Festivals for Youth. April 28-29. Saint Malachy’s Church (High School Choirs) and Saint Patrick’s Cathedral (Treble Choirs) in Manhattan. More information: pcchoirs.org.

Music for the Feasts of Saints Patrick and Joseph. March 11. Saint Joseph’s Church in Somers. More information: www.stjosephsomers.org.

Office of Liturgy
Fr. Matthew Ernest, S.T.D., *Director*
201 Seminary Avenue
Yonkers, New York 10704
914.968.6200, ext.8177
liturgy@archny.org
nyliturgy.org