

LITURGY UPDATE

Liturgical Memos

November 2:

Commemoration of All Souls and Weddings

In 2019, the Commemoration of All Souls falls on a Saturday, a popular day of the week for weddings. On this day, the marriage ritual may be celebrated within the context of Mass. However, the proper prayers and readings for All Souls' Day must be used.

The USCCB's Divine Worship Secretariat has recently clarified that the possibility of using one of the readings from the texts provided for the celebration of marriage in lieu of the proper readings for the day does not apply to All Souls' Day and the other days listed in nos. 1-4 of the Table of the Liturgical Days.

Alternatively, the Order of Celebrating Matrimony Without Mass may be used on this day, in which case the prayers and readings from the *Order of Celebrating Matrimony* can be used in full.

December 9:

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

In 2019, Sunday, December 8 is the Second Sunday of Advent. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to the following day, Monday, December 9. Parishes will want to announce that the obligation to attend Mass on this day, however, does not also transfer. The optional memorial of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin on December 9 is omitted in 2019.



Revised Order of Baptism of Children Confirmed

The USCCB's Divine Worship Secretariat has announced the Holy See's confirmation of the *Order of Baptism of Children, Second Edition* for the dioceses of the United States. This updated translation of the baptismal ritual was prepared in accordance with *Liturgiam authenticam*, the Holy See's 2001 document which outlines the principles and processes to be observed in the translation of liturgical books. The new text does not include any significant changes to the baptismal ritual itself.

In addition to giving approval to the new translation, the Congregation confirmed several textual amendments and adaptations made by the USCCB. These include:

- the text of an optional introduction

- the addition of a simple acclamation after each baptism
- rubrics which incorporate previous adaptations made in previous USCCB editions
- an option to expand the Litany of Saints, with a listing of 25 additional saints
- an appendix with the Baptism of Children within Mass (including a detailed outline)

Some of these adaptations may sound familiar to our readers, as many of them also appeared in the Spanish-language USA edition – *Ritual para el Bautismo de los Niños* – which was implemented in 2008. The two most recent adaptations are the expanded version of the Litany of Saints and the appendix with the Order of Baptism within Mass.

The updated rite begins by allowing the minister to greet the parents and godparents either in his own words or with a sample text provided in the new ritual:

Dear parents and godparents: Your families have experienced great joy at the birth of your children, and the Church shares your happiness. Today this joy has brought you to the Church to give thanks to God for the gift of your children and to celebrate a new birth in the waters of Baptism. This community rejoices with you, for today the number of those baptized in Christ will be increased, and we offer you our support in raising your children in the practice of the faith. Therefore, brothers and sisters, let us now prepare ourselves to participate in this celebration, listening to God's word, praying for these children and their families, and renewing our commitment to the Lord and to his people.

The new *Order* additionally includes a change to the wording ("Church of God" in place of "Christian Community") made by Pope Benedict XVI in 2013 at the signing of the forehead with the Sign of the Cross:

N. and N. (or: Dear children), the Church of God receives you with great joy. In her name I sign you with the Sign of the Cross of Christ our Savior; then, after me, your parents (and godparents) will do the same.

Several prayers associated with the anointing and explanatory rites have also been modified in this new translation:

Anointing after Baptism – Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has freed you from sin, given you new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and joined you to his people. He now anoints you with the Chrism of salvation, so that you may remain members of Christ, Priest, Prophet and King, unto eternal life.

Clothing with a White Garment – (N. and N.,) you have become a new creation and have clothed yourselves in Christ. May this white garment be a sign to you of your Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring it unstained into eternal life.

Handing On of a Lighted Candle – Receive the light of Christ. Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly, so that your children, enlightened by Christ, may walk always as children of the light and, persevering in the faith, may run to meet the Lord when he comes with all the Saints in the heavenly court.

“Ephphatha” – May the Lord Jesus, who made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak, grant that you may soon receive his word with your ears and profess the faith with your lips, to the glory and praise of God the Father.

Various other texts in the new translation have been taken from the 2011 English *Roman Missal*, including the prayer of blessing for the baptismal water and formulas for the renunciation of sin and profession of faith. It should be noted that the sacramental formula for Baptism – “N., I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” – remains unchanged in the new ritual.

The USCCB has promulgated the decree of publication for the *Order of Baptism of Children, Second Edition*, establishing the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, February 2, 2020, as the first-use date for ritual editions, and the obligatory-use date of Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020. Several publishers have expressed interest in offering this new ritual book, and publication information will be announced by the Liturgy Office when it is available. As well, the Liturgy Office will be holding workshops on the revised ritual in the new year and after the text has been published.

Online Training and Certification for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

The Liturgy Office is pleased to announce its new [online certification program for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion](#). The program is convenient and interactive and includes an instructional video, a short quiz, and opportunities for reflection and questions. This free course is offered in both [English and Spanish](#) and may be accessed from the [Liturgy Office webpage](#) and at nyliturgy.teachable.com.



This new training program is intended to standardize the material received by Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion throughout the Archdiocese, reduce the need for parishes to schedule their own training sessions, and create a comprehensive listing of active Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion along with the dates of their training.

Completion of the training course does not of itself indicate that one is able to exercise this ministry. After finishing the course, the student will receive a certificate of completion via email. The prospective Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion should present this certificate to his/her pastor. If Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are needed in the parish, the pastor should then request a mandate from the local dean for those who are qualified and have been trained to serve in this ministry. In the Archdiocese of New York, the mandate to serve as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion is given for a term of three years; terms are renewable.

While archdiocesan parishes are ultimately entrusted with the training of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, the use of the new online training and certification program is encouraged, either in place of parish sessions or at least as a supplement to them. Lastly, parishes are reminded that archdiocesan guidelines for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are also available in [English and Spanish](#) at the [Liturgy Office website](#).

Liturgical Q and A: The Translation of the Our Father Within Mass

The Liturgy Office has received several questions concerning whether the translation of the Our Father in Mass will be changed. These inquiries follow the announcement of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacrament's confirmation of a new translation of the *Messale Romano* for use in Italy. This new text makes a change to the translation of the Our Father from Latin into Italian to now read *e non abbandonarci alla tentazione* ("and do not abandon us to temptation"). In light of this news, some have asked whether a similar change will be made to the Our Father in English Masses, where the translation of the same text currently is "and lead us not into temptation."

In response, it should be noted that this is not a matter of translating the Bible per se, but the liturgical texts to be used at Mass. In canon law, each bishops' conference is given the responsibility of preparing liturgical translations, which are then confirmed by the Holy See. With this in mind, some news articles had asked if the bishops of the United States would also recommend changing the translation of the Our Father at Mass at their June 2019 meeting. The USCCB's Divine Worship Secretariat has since reported that none of the bishops present at the meeting asked for such a change or suggested that it be considered.

The Secretariat has also noted that the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* provides a comprehensive and helpful explanation of this petition: "It is difficult to translate the Greek verb used by a single English word: the Greek means both 'do not allow us to enter into temptation' and 'do not let us yield to temptation.... When we say 'lead us not into temptation' we are asking God not to allow us to take the path that leads to sin. This petition implores the Spirit of discernment and strength; it requests the grace of vigilance and final perseverance" (CCC, nos. 2846, 2863).

Pope Francis himself offered a similar commentary on this teaching in a recent catechesis at one of his General Audiences: "We have to exclude the possibility that God is the protagonist of the temptations that loom over mankind's journey. As if God himself were lurking with hidden pitfalls and snares for his children. One such interpretation contrasts first and foremost with the text itself, and is far from the image of God that Jesus revealed to us.... Let us not forget: the 'Our Father' begins with 'Father.' And a father does not lay snares for his children" (May 1, 2019).

Archdiocesan Liturgical Music Commission Invites Applications for Membership

The Office of Liturgy is inviting qualified liturgical musicians to apply for membership and service on the Archdiocesan Liturgical Music Commission. This Commission develops and promotes policies related to liturgical music in the Archdiocese of New York. It also serves as a point of contact for pastors and musicians seeking employment. The Commission meets on a bi-monthly basis. Membership information and an application form may be found [at the enclosed link](#). Applications are due by September 30.





OrganFest! - Saturday, November 23

Are you a church musician – or merely a fan of great organ music? Join fellow music aficionados for a day dedicated to celebrating and enjoying the “king of instruments” – the organ! Jared Lamenzo, director of music at the Basilica of Old Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, will offer a keynote address on the “Restoration of the 1868 Henry Erben Organ.” Enjoy breakout sessions with some of New York’s finest Catholic musicians, participate in a roundtable discussion with representatives of three of the world’s most renowned organ builders, and listen to an “all-star” concert on the Seminary’s 41-rank Casavant Frères pipe organ. *OrganFest!*

will take place at Saint Joseph’s Seminary on Saturday, November 23 from 9:00-3:00 pm. Entrance fee (which includes lunch) is \$35, and registration may be found at nyliturgy.org/organfest.

Unpacking the Mystery of Marriage/ Wine and Cheese Mixer for Newly Married Couples - November 22

Re-experience your wedding day! Gather with other newly married couples on Friday, November 22, from 7:00-9:00 pm, at the Catholic Center at NYU (238 Thompson Street, NYC), for an evening of wine and cheese, socializing, and reflecting on the grace you received and the joy you experienced on your wedding day. Father



Matthew Ernest, Director of the archdiocesan Office of Liturgy and Professor at Saint Joseph’s Seminary, will walk couples through this special reflection on the marriage rite. It will be an evening not to be missed! Tickets are \$20. Register today at the [Family Life Office website](http://FamilyLifeOffice.com).

RCIA Forum: Catechesis Accommodated to the Liturgical Year - November 9

Join fellow catechists at Fordham University (Bronx campus) on Saturday, November 9, from 9:00 am - 5:30 pm, for ongoing ministry formation with national experts on the Catechumenate (RCIA). Bring your entire parish RCIA Team! All interested adults are welcome. The day will start with a bilingual opening prayer service, and participants may choose to attend presentations in English or Spanish. Registration fee is \$30 through October 9, \$40 from October 10-November 1, and \$50 at the door. Register today at the [enclosed link](#). Co-sponsored by the Office of Liturgy.





Fall Liturgy and Sacred Music/Art Courses at Saint Joseph's Seminary

Saint Joseph's Seminary has announced that the following liturgy and sacred music/art courses will be offered this fall:

Introduction to Liturgy

Taught by Father Matthew Ernest, S.T.D.

Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00 pm

Beauty and the New Evangelization: Understanding and Employing Sacred Art, Architecture and Music

Taught by Dr. Jennifer Donelson, D.M.A. and Professor Emily Sotille

Mondays from 7:00-9:00 pm

The *Introduction to Liturgy* course is taught in conjunction with the [Saint Cecilia Academy for Pastoral Musicians](#), a four-course, fully accredited program offered through Saint Joseph's Seminary in the field of liturgical music designed for parish musicians looking to learn more about liturgy and sacred music. Sponsored parish musicians receive a 50% discount off Seminary tuition when taking courses through the Saint Cecilia Academy. For more information, visit the [Liturgy Office website](#).

Upcoming Events

Society for Catholic Liturgy Annual Conference. September 26-28, 2019. Providence, Rhode Island. More information: www.liturgysociety.org/annual-conference.

Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions National Meeting. October 9-11, 2019. Hosted by the Archdiocese of Chicago. More information: www.fdlc.org.

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