Summer Liturgical Calendar Notes

The USCCB’s Divine Worship Secretariat has recently drawn attention to several additions and other changes to the liturgical calendar in the months of June and July. As a service to our readers, liturgical notes for each of these dates are provided here:

**June 10** – The memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, was inscribed into the General Roman Calendar in 2018 and is celebrated every year on the Monday after Pentecost Sunday. The Mass formulary to be used for this memorial is no. 10B (“Our Lady, Mother of the Church”) in the Votive Mass sections of the *Roman Missal* and *Misal Romano [USA]*, respectively. The proper *Lectionary* readings are as follows: First Reading – Genesis 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; Responsorial Psalm –
Psalm 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7; Gospel Acclamation – “O happy Virgin, you gave birth to the Lord; O blessed mother of the Church, you warm our hearts with the Spirit of your Son Jesus Christ;” and, Gospel – John 19:25-34.

It should be noted that these prescribed verses and acclamation are not found in any one place in the Lectionary for Mass. The readings, in both English and Spanish, may be downloaded together from the USCCB's website.

In the Office of Readings, Morning Prayer, and Evening Prayer, the psalmody of the day is used. Other elements may be taken either from the psalter of the day or the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The final prayer is the collect from the Votive Mass for "Our Lady, Mother of the Church."

**June 23-24 –** In 2019, the solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) is celebrated on Sunday, June 23, and is followed by the solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist on Monday, June 24. Sunday evening Masses and Evening Prayer should be celebrated using the liturgical texts for Corpus Christi; the vigil Mass of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist is not observed in 2019.

**June 28-30 –** The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday, June 28, is followed by the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles, on Saturday, June 29, this year. On Friday, The Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart is to be celebrated at evening Masses and Evening Prayer (see Universal Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, 61).

Even though the solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul (June 29) has a higher rank in the Table of Liturgical Days than the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (June 30), Sunday’s celebration takes precedence at anticipated (i.e., evening) Masses on Saturday, June 29, given that Sunday is a day of precept. For the celebration of Evening Prayer, one may choose either to pray Evening Prayer II of Saints Peter and Paul or Evening Prayer I of the Sunday on Saturday evening.

**July 22 –** As indicated in the September 2016 edition of the Liturgy Update, the commemoration of Saint Mary Magdalene was elevated from an obligatory memorial to the rank of Feast in 2016. Accordingly, the Gloria is to be sung or said at Mass. As well, the proper readings for Saint Mary Magdalene in the Lectionary for Mass (no. 603) should be proclaimed in place of the readings for the weekday in Ordinary Time. In the Office of Readings, the psalmody, verse, and First Reading with its Responsory are taken from the Common of Holy Women instead of the usual day; additionally, the Te Deum should be sung or said after the Second Reading with its Responsory. English and Spanish translations of the new Preface for this feast were approved last year by the USCCB and are awaiting confirmation by the Holy See.
Looking ahead – Parishes should also be aware of some important liturgical dates beyond the summer months as they prepare their Mass schedules for the next liturgical year:

**December 8-9** – In 2019, Sunday, December 8 is the Second Sunday of Advent. Accordingly, 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 transfer. The optional memorial of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin on December 9 is omitted in 2019.

**Easter Vigil, April 11** – Easter once again falls on a later date in 2020, and this will impact the start time of the Easter Vigil. On Saturday, April 11, the end of civil twilight will take place at approximately 8:00pm EDT in the New York area. Inasmuch as the *Roman Missal* states that the Vigil must begin in true darkness (*i.e.*, “after nightfall”), parishes should not schedule the start of the Easter Vigil until at least 8:30pm in 2020.

**Liturgical Q and A: Renewal of Reserved Eucharistic Hosts**

In the past, the Liturgy Office has received questions about the frequency in which Eucharistic hosts reserved in the tabernacle should be renewed. As most Catholics are aware, parishes reserve the Eucharist for a number of reasons:

The primary and original cause for reservation of the eucharist outside Mass is the administration of viaticum. The secondary reasons are the giving of communion and the adoration of our Lord Jesus Christ who is present in the sacrament. The reservation of the sacrament for the sick led to the praiseworthy practice of adoring this heavenly food in the churches. This cult of adoration rests upon an authentic and solid basis, especially because faith in the real presence of the Lord leads naturally to external, public expression of that faith (*Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass, §5*).

Canon law notes that “Consecrated hosts, in a quantity sufficient for the needs of the faithful, are to be kept in a pyx or ciborium [within the tabernacle], and are to be renewed frequently, the older hosts having been duly consumed” (c. 939). Renewing hosts regularly prevents the “danger of corruption” of the sacred species (c. 924 §2).

While there is no specific law which mandates the frequency with which Eucharistic hosts reserved in the tabernacle should be renewed, a commonly-accepted norm is that this should take place at least twice a month. This rule is based on the canonical principle that, “In sacred places where the Most Holy Eucharist is reserved, there must always be someone responsible for it and, insofar as possible, a priest is to celebrate Mass there at least twice a month” (c. 934§2).

Hosts that are more than two weeks old should be distributed as Communion to the faithful, especially to the sick who are unable to attend Mass. This rule applies to larger hosts as well, and care must be taken to regularly change hosts which are stored in lunettes and used for Eucharistic exposition.
Announcement:
Optional Memorial of Pope Saint Paul VI

On January 25, 2019, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments announced the inscription of a new memorial of Pope Saint Paul VI into the General Roman Calendar. This memorial was added by Pope Francis and will be celebrated every year on May 29. At the time of the announcement, proper liturgical texts were released in Latin by the Holy See. However, English and Spanish translations are still awaiting approval by the USCCB and subsequent confirmation by the Holy See before they can be implemented in the United States. In the meantime, the USCCB has given the following interim liturgical guidelines for this celebration:

ROMAN MISSAL

From the Common of Pastors: For a Pope.

LECTIONARY FOR MASS

In addition to Mass readings of the day, any other Lectionary readings from the Common of Pastors: For a Pope may be used. The following readings are also recommended by the Holy See and will appear in a future edition of the Lectionary:

- First Reading - 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 (no. 722-4)
- Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 (no. 721-5)
- Gospel Acclamation - *Come after me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of men* - Mark 1:17 (no. 723-3)
- Gospel - Matthew 16:13-19 (no. 724-2)

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

In the Office of Readings, Morning Prayer, and Evening Prayer, the psalmody of the day is used. Other elements may be taken either from the Psalter of the day or the Common of Pastors: For a Pope.
Lectionary for Mass Supplement: Readings for June - August

As described in the December 2016 edition of the Liturgy Update, the new Lectionary for Mass Supplement [LMS] reflects the many changes and additions made in recent years to the Roman Missal, the General Roman Calendar, and the Lectionary. This resource was first published in 2017, and several editions of the Supplement are currently available for purchase on the ICS website. Listed below are those feasts and memorials which have new or updated readings that may be used in place of the usual weekday readings assigned to these days:

- July 5, Friday: Saint Elizabeth of Portugal, LMS, no. 594
- July 9, Tuesday: Saint Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions, LMS, no. 596 A
- July 20, Saturday: Saint Apollinaris, LMS, no. 601 B
- July 22, Monday: Saint Mary Magdalene, (Feast), LMS, no. 603
- July 24, Wednesday: Saint Sharbel Makhlūf, LMS, no. 604 A
- August 9, Friday: Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, LMS, no. 617 A
- August 12, Monday: Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, LMS, no. 623 A

New Resource Available: Los santos del Misal Romano

The USCCB has recently announced its publication of Los santos del Misal Romano (“The Saints of the Roman Missal”). This resource contains short biographical sketches of saints which are included in the Misal Romano approved for Mexico. The Mexican Misal was commonly used in the United States prior to the 2018 publication of the US edition of the Misal Romano, Tercera Edición. Over the years, many Spanish-speaking priests found these brief descriptions of the lives of the saints helpful when preparing homilies. These same notes, however, were never incorporated into the English Roman Missal. In an effort to keep the Roman Missal and the Misal Romano similar in layout for the sake of priests who celebrate Mass in both English and Spanish, it was decided not to include the sketches in the Misal for the US.

Keeping in mind the popularity and usefulness of these short presentations on the saints, the USCCB has chosen to publish them together in one volume. While this book is primarily designed to serve as a convenient reference tool for priests, it contains information that will be of interest to anyone who wishes to know more about the saints in the liturgical calendar. Notably, it includes frequent references to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, indicating those times when saints in the calendar are cited in the Catechism and pointing out the ways in which they serve as models of faith. The book is available exclusively in Spanish and is priced at $14.95. It may be ordered directly from the USCCB Store.
Summer Courses in Sacred Music

Clergy, religious, and lay faithful are invited to attend four courses on sacred music this summer at Saint Joseph's Seminary:

- **Principles of Sacred Music** will be taught in a “hybrid” format, with an online component taking place from June 3-July 28 and two in-class sessions held on July 29 and 30 at Saint Joseph’s Seminary.
- **Teaching Gregorian Chant to Children** will be offered at Saint Joseph’s Seminary from July 22-26.
- **Principles of Chant** will be offered at Saint Joseph's Seminary from July 31-August 3.
- **Introduction to the Organ for Pianists** will be offered at Saint Joseph's Seminary from July 31-August 3.

Classes will be taught by Doctor Jennifer Donelson, associate professor and director of sacred music at the Seminary. Inexpensive room and board options are available, and there is a 50% tuition discount for first-time students and church musicians.

These courses are being offered 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 for the purpose of introducing musicians to the history, theology, and pastoral principles of liturgy and sacred music. For more information about these summer music courses or the Saint Cecilia Academy, visit the Saint Joseph’s Seminary website or the Liturgy Office website.

Upcoming Events

**Cantor Master Class.** June 1. Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church (Shrub Oak). More information: pmusician524@optonline.net or 734-474-1644.

**Sounds of Joy and Glory: Music Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of Saint Joseph’s Church (Somers).** CD recording available at: www.stjosephsomers.org.
