

LITURGYNOTES – FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

LITURGY NEWS

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The USCCB has made available a “pastoral resource” for the observation of Labor Day. See: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/labor-employment/upload/labor-day-2017-pastoral-aid.pdf>.

RESOURCES FOR TROUBLED TIMES

“We stand against the evil of racism, white supremacy and neo-Nazism. We stand with our sisters and brothers united in the sacrifice of Jesus, by which love's victory over every form of evil is assured. At Mass, let us offer a special prayer of gratitude for the brave souls who sought to protect us from the violent ideology displayed yesterday. Let us especially remember those who lost their lives. Let us join their witness and stand against every form of oppression.” (USCCB, 8/13/17)

THE ROMAN MISSAL

There are a number of Masses for Various Needs and Occasions that may be suitable for use in the wake of racist incidents and the rise of white supremacy/nationalism in our country:

15. For promoting Harmony
16. For Reconciliation
21. For the Nation or State
29. For the Progress of Peoples
30. For the Preservation of Peace and Justice
31. In Time of War or Civil Disturbance
38. For the Forgiveness of Sins – making the connection to the sin of racism
42. For our Oppressors

GIA MUSIC

In troubling times, music provides inspiration like nothing else. GIA is very proud to offer three downloadable hymns free of charge through November 1, 2017: <https://giamusic.com/store/music-for-troubled-times>.

THE CHURCH AND RACISM

The USCCB has a webpage devoted to the Church’s teaching regarding the sin of racism: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism/index.cfm>.

Here is a one-page summary that can be downloaded and handed out: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism/upload/racism-background.pdf>.

SAINTS

These upcoming memorials offer particular opportunities to pray and work for racial justice:

September 9 (Saturday): St. Peter Claver

November 3 (Friday): St. Martin de Porres

INTERCESSIONS

For victims of bigotry and racism; for those in our communities who are afraid; for the conversion of those who hate. We pray.

For the courage to resist evil, and overcome hatred with love; for the defeat of death in all its forms; for the grace to live into God's promised future with hope. We pray.

For hearts open enough to face our own biases and blind spots; for the healing of our prejudices; for forgiveness for the sin of racism. We pray.

More intercessions from the USCCB:

Prsider: Having professed our faith, we now confess the need of our nation, the need in our neighborhoods, the need in our own hearts for mercy, forgiveness and healing.

1) We pray for our Church, that the Holy Spirit give us a fresh outpouring of His Gifts that we may stand up to protect our sisters and brothers threatened by the evil ideology of racism. We pray to the Lord...

2) We pray for our Government and its leaders, that they may have the strength and determination to reject all forms of racism, division and violence. We pray to the Lord...

3) We pray for all people of different races and of nationalities who know the pain of rejection, prejudice and discrimination. May they be delivered from hatred by our unrelenting embrace of solidarity and unity. We pray to the Lord...

4) We pray for those who harbor hate in their hearts, in their attitudes and in their actions. May the light of Christ cast out their aggression and fear. We pray to the Lord...

5) We pray that a spirit of nonviolence and calm may prevail in our cities and in our hearts. We pray to the Lord...

6) We pray for our children. May they be healed of the violence and terrible words they have heard these days. May the Word of life replace words of fear and intimidation. We pray to the Lord...

7) We pray for those injured in Charlottesville, may the healing hand of Christ renew their strength and deepen their peace. We pray to the Lord...

8) We pray for all those who have died throughout history at the hands of others driven by hatred and fear. We pray to the Lord...

RELIGIOUS SUPPLY: ANNUAL RESOURCES FROM LTP

LTP has announced that its annual resources are once again available. You may order your materials directly from LTP, 800-533-1900 or from Religious Supply Center in Davenport. For details, questions, information about discounts, or to place your order, call Mark, 563-324-0669 or 800-292-0052, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., M-F and 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturday. Resources will be delivered to the Clergy Overnighter in November.

FROM MASS TO MISSION: UNDERSTANDING THE MASS AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE FOR OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE

Speaking of LTP, they are publishing a new series to help form the assembly as disciples through their active participation in the liturgy. Resources are available for children, teens, and adults.

For more information, see this video: <https://vimeo.com/153830214>.

Or this webpage: <http://www.ltp.org/s-59-from-mass-to-mission.aspx>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

See the Liturgy Events webpage at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy-events>.

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

50th Wedding Anniversary Mass: St. Paul the Apostle in Davenport, on Sunday, October 15, at 2:00 pm

Information regarding this celebration has been sent to parishes from the Office of Faith Formation. Couples interested in attending should contact their parishes to register. Questions? Please contact Barb Butterworth (butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org / 563-888-4240).

Reminder: Lenten Liturgies

Rite of Election:

Sunday, February 18, 3pm (Sacred Heart Cathedral, Davenport)

Sunday, February 25, 3pm (St. Mary, Ottumwa)

Chrism Mass:

Monday, March 19, 5pm (Sacred Heart Cathedral, Davenport)

CONTINUING FORMATION FOR LITURGY / LITURGICAL MINISTRY

For more opportunities, see the Liturgy Events webpage at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy-events>.

FDLC Annual Meeting

The FDLC's forty-eighth annual national meeting will be held in Bloomington, MN on October 3-5. This year's theme is "Pastoral Care of the Sick: Touching the Hem of His Garment." We will focus on the

pastoral care of the sick and the dying. We are excited about the subject and even more excited about the impressive line-up of presenters who will be joining us. Visit: <https://fdlc.org/national-meeting>.

Save the Date: St. Ambrose Conference, April 6-8, 2018

The Academy for the Study of Saint Ambrose of Milan at St. Ambrose University will be hosting an interdisciplinary and international conference entitled, “St. Ambrose of Milan: (Re-)Constructing Community.” As part of that conference, they have invited Mons. Cesare Pasini, Prefect of the Vatican Library, and Fr. Allan Fitzgerald, Director of the Augustinian Institute at Villanova University, to present a unique workshop for pastors, ministers, and lay people on the pastoral charism of St. Ambrose of Milan. Registration for this workshop – to be held on Sunday, April 8, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. – will be \$25.00 per person (or \$100, if participants intend to attend the entire conference). For more information, please see: <http://www.saintambroseofmilan.com/>.

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 1: All Saints

November 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation. Only the Mass of the Day is permitted. Ritual Masses and Funeral Masses may not be celebrated.

Sunday, November 26 (Christ the King): Day of Prayer for Persecuted Christians

The USCCB has asked us to observe a Week of Awareness (11/26-12/2) and Day of Prayer for Christians around the world who are being persecuted. Materials will be forthcoming from the USCCB and its partners (CRS, CNEWA, Knights of Columbus, Aid to the Church in Need).

Advent

1. With the new liturgical year, we begin the use of Cycle **B** in the Sunday Lectionary and Year **II** in the Weekday Lectionary. For more information, especially in regards to the Missal and Advent, please see our webpage on the liturgical seasons (<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgical-seasons>) or go directly to http://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2016/6/FDLC7-Navigating_RM01_Advent.pdf.

2. The color of Advent is a bluer shade of violet, to distinguish it from the purple of penitence in Lent. Blue is not an allowed color in the U.S. Rose is an optional color for the vesture on the Third Sunday of Advent, signaling that the full joy of Christmas is drawing near. The vestments worn should not have a cross, nails, etc. on them – they should not be Lenten.

3. The Advent wreath is blessed only at the first mass, after the intercessions. See the Book of Blessings, #1509ff, chapter 47. On the other Sundays of Advent, it is lit before Mass begins and no additional prayers are said. The traditional wreath is a circle of evergreen branches that bears four candles. The dominant tradition calls for three violet and one rose candle, but four violet or four white candles may also be used. Some communities add a fifth candle, white, for Christmas. The wreath should be large enough for all to see, but not obstruct the view of the altar, ambo or chair.

4. A good Penitential Act to use would be the third form, #1 (Appendix VI of the Missal).
5. Don't anticipate Christmas with music and environment. Rather, make use of a full spectrum of Advent music.
6. Don't make believe Jesus never came – focus on the second coming. Even though we aren't using this as a memorial acclamation at Mass anymore, it is still true: Christ *has* died, Christ *is* risen, Christ *will* come again.
7. Giving trees should not be in the sanctuary. Remember you can transform them for Christmas. They are better placed in the entryway or some location other than the sanctuary, lest the simplicity of Advent decor be compromised. Likewise, while Jesse trees are good for religious education they should not be in the church.
8. The *Gloria* is omitted (though there are exceptions when it comes to certain ritual Masses).
9. This season should reflect quiet and a subdued peace, as well as a sense of anticipation.
10. Remember that Advent and Christmas are the perfect times to remember Mary, our ultimate model for discipleship. The following Marian feasts and solemnities are observed during Advent:
 - a. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (Friday, Dec. 8) is a Holy Day of obligation.
 - b. The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is observed on Tuesday, December 12. It may not be anticipated on the previous evening.

The Advent Lectionary and Judaism

Excerpts from: *God's Mercy Endures Forever: Guidelines on the Presentation of Jews and Judaism in Catholic Preaching* (Bishop's Committee on the Liturgy, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops September, 1988):

The lectionary readings from the prophets are selected to bring out the ancient Christian theme that Jesus is the "fulfillment" of the biblical message of hope and promise, the inauguration of the "days to come" described, for example, by the daily Advent Masses, and on Sundays by Isaiah in cycle A and Jeremiah in cycle C for the First Sunday of Advent. This truth needs to be framed very carefully. (11) Christians proclaim that the Messiah has indeed come and that God's Reign is "at hand." With the Jewish people, we await the complete realization of the messianic age. In underlining the eschatological dimension of Christianity, we shall reach a greater awareness that the people of God of the Old and the New Testament are tending toward a like end in the future: the coming or return of the Messiah--even if they start from two different points of view (1985 Notes, nos. 18-19). (12) Other difficulties may be less theologically momentous but can still be troublesome. For example, the reading from Baruch in cycle C or from Isaiah in cycle A for the Second Sunday of Advent can leave the impression that pre-Jesus Israel was wholly guilt-ridden and in mourning (*see next page), and Judaism virtually moribund. In fact, in their original historical settings, such passages reveal Judaism's remarkable capacity for self-criticism.... (13)

The full text may be found at:

<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2016/6/litGodsMercyEnduresForever-Advent.pdf>.

*So perhaps we may also need to rethink the use of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” as one of our Advent Hymns – especially the first verse. Some authors concerned with Jewish-Christian relations have suggested alternative verses:

*Come, O come, Immanuel
And bless the place your people dwell,
Protect and keep us day and night.
And bring the blessing of your Light*

*Come, Tree of Life from tender shoot,
Come from the past, from Jesse's root,
Break through the stone in every heart,
Bring hope and joy, new life impart.*

*Come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by your advent here;
Bless ev'ry people, ev'ry race,
Embrace us, young and old, within your grace.*

From: *Has God Only One Blessing?* By Mary C. Boys (Paulist, 2000). The lyricist is Professor Barbara Lundblad, who has produced other alternative verses as well, including a set keyed to the Advent Cycle A readings from Isaiah in the Revised Common Lectionary; see <http://easternsynod.org/ministries/worship/2013/11/27/o-come-o-come-immanuel-yr-a-verses/>.

INTERCESSIONS

Here are resources for the Universal Prayer:

- (1) Intercessions for various life issues may be found on the USCCB website at:
<http://usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/prayers/intercessory-prayers-for-life.cfm>
- (2) Intercession for vocations (in English and Spanish) keyed to the lectionary cycle may be found at the Diocese of Arlington website:
http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/vocations/voc_intercessions.aspx
- (3) The Center for Liturgy website offers general intercessions for each Sunday as well:
<http://liturgy.slu.edu/>
- (4) The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops offers intercessions and homily ideas as part of their Pastoral Initiative for Life and Family:
<http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/church-in-canada-and-world/catholic-church-in-canada/life-and-family/3296-documents-and-activities-proposed-by-the-ccb>

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