



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

Secretariat for Evangelization

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OFFICE for WORSHIP

September 2008

Dear Bishop/Monsignor/Father and Deacon,

As I begin my assignment as the Director of the Office for Worship I look forward to all types of ways to assist you with the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy. My goal is that the Office for Worship will be a helpful and responsive resource for you and those who collaborate with you in liturgical ministries.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Enclosed in this monthly mailing is information on training sessions and the form for requesting/renewing candidates to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

- Please read explanatory information on the enclosures.
- All new candidates are expected to attend one of the archdiocesan training sessions. Please inform the Office for Worship of any exceptions to participation in these training sessions.
- Additional training sites have been added for this Fall and training sessions for those who minister in hospitals and nursing homes are planned for the Spring.
- The materials/guidelines to be presented at the Fall training sessions will be posted on the Office for Worship website by September 13, 2008.
- Parishes/institutions should supplement the archdiocesan training session with pertinent information with regard to scheduling, local practices and commissioning.

COMMISSION ON THE SACRED LITURGY

Cardinal Rigali has granted permission this Summer for the establishment of an archdiocesan Commission on the Sacred Liturgy. This Commission as intended by the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of the Second Vatican Council, and in more

recent documents as well, serves to promote authentic celebrations of the Liturgy, as well as the ongoing formation of the ordained and baptized, and to respond to liturgical needs and issues. The Commission will include two sub-committees, one on music and the other on art and architecture. Cardinal Rigali will appoint the members of the Commission. Once the Commission is established, you will be provided with a more complete description of its role and its members. It is our hope that the Commission will be a great benefit to all in the Archdiocese.

LITURGICAL STUDIES CERTIFICATE

The Liturgical Studies Certificate has been reactivated. Please pass on the enclosed flyer and information to anyone you think might be interested in more formal instruction on the Sacred Liturgy. Immaculata University has been added as an additional site to Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary to attract interested people from Chester County. In the future, the plan is to add more sites. More information on the certificate program will be posted on the Office for Worship website as well as the application form.

WEBSITE FOR THE OFFICE FOR WORSHIP

<http://archphila.org/evangelization/worship/worship.htm>

The website for the Office for Worship has now been updated to include all of the forms used/requested by this office and to provide helpful links with regard to the Sacred Liturgy. By Advent, the website will include samples of the Prayer of the Faithful that may be used for each Sunday and Holy Day, as well as liturgical music suggestions for each Sunday and Holy Day. Please pass this information on to those who assist you with liturgical preparation.

If you have any questions about any of the above points, please don't hesitate to give me a call at the office or send me an e-mail, fgill@adphila.org. Also, I am happy to meet with you and your liturgical ministers, if you would like, for continued liturgical formation and instruction on liturgical topics.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Reverend Gerald Dennis Gill
Director