

# OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

## DECEMBER 2022

**Website for the Office for Divine Worship**

Website: [www.odwphiladelphia.org](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org)

**Contact information for the Office for Divine Worship**

Phone: 215-587-3537      Fax: 215-644-3940

Email: [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org)

Reverend Gerald Dennis Gill, Director

[fr.dgill@archphila.org](mailto:fr.dgill@archphila.org)

Mrs. Mary Ann Johnson, Executive Secretary

[majohnson@archphila.org](mailto:majohnson@archphila.org)

Mrs. Barbara Chandler, Project Support Coordinator

[bchandler@archphila.org](mailto:bchandler@archphila.org)

**EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL INFORMATION  
FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA**

<https://www.phillyeucharisticrevival.org/>

**MOST CURRENT LITURGICAL DIRECTIVES  
WITH REGARD TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC  
FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA**

Please see the website of the Office for Divine Worship,

<http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/home-page/news/>.

LITURGICAL AND CIVIC CALENDAR ITEMS

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Sunday, November 27, 2022**

*As we approach the beginning of another year of the Liturgical Calendar, please note the Lectionary cycles for 2023 are:*

- *Sunday Cycle – Year A*
- *Weekday Cycle – I*

The Blessing of an Advent Wreath may take place at the conclusion of the Universal Prayer on this Sunday. See *Book of Blessings*, Chapter 47, Order for the Blessing of an Advent Wreath. The Advent Wreath needs only to be blessed once, perhaps at the Anticipated Mass for the First Sunday of Advent.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Thursday, December 8, 2022**

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the patronal feast of the United States of America, is *always* a Holy Day of Obligation, even if it falls on a Monday or Saturday.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, CHRISTMAS**

**Sunday, December 25, 2022**

**The time for Vigil Masses for Christmas in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is no earlier than 4:00 PM, without exception.**

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

**Sunday, January 1, 2023**

**RECURRING INFORMATION**

**ONGOING PRAYER FOR HEALING AND PEACE  
FOR OUR CITY AND COUNTRY**

The following intention may be included in the Universal Prayer (second category) regularly for Sundays.

*For the eradication of all forms of racism among all peoples  
and that all will open wide their hearts with the love of God and neighbor  
so that healing and peace will mark our way of life.  
Let us pray to the Lord/Lord, hear our prayer.*

*Por la erradicación de todas las formas de racismo entre todos los pueblos  
y que todos abran sus corazones con el amor de Dios y del prójimo  
para que la sanación interior y la paz marquen nuestro estilo de vida.  
Roguemos al Señor/Te rogamos óyenos.*

## **THE PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL**

Many parishes and institutions within the Archdiocese have responded positively to pray the prayer to Saint Michael in conjunction with the celebration of Mass. You are reminded that this devotional prayer is to take place outside of Mass. It is not to be prayed as the concluding prayer of the Universal Prayer nor as part of the Communion Rite.

## **TIME FOR VIGIL MASSES AND ANTICIPATED MASSES**

The time for Vigil Masses and Anticipated Masses in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is no earlier than 4:00 PM. This applies to Holy Days of Obligation as well, including Christmas.

## **THE MASS SCHEDULE FOR HOLY DAYS WHEN THE OBLIGATION IS SUSPENDED**

In the United States, there are three Holy Days, Solemnities, when the obligation to participate in Mass is suspended when the observance falls on a Monday or a Saturday—the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (January 1), the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (August 15), and the Solemnity of All Saints (November 1). In these instances, the Mass schedule certainly can be modified. However, there should be the celebration of one Mass at least for the benefit of the faithful who desire to attend Mass.

## **TIME OF THE EASTER VIGIL 2023**

The Easter Vigil is the first Mass of Easter Sunday and not in any way to be considered an Anticipated Mass for Easter Sunday. This is why the discipline of the Church insists that it should not begin before nightfall in any circumstance. It may be helpful to know that sunset, according to a variety of models, occurs approximately at 7:31 PM on April 8, 2023. **In general, given the variable date for Easter, it seems best to schedule the Easter Vigil each year for 8:00 PM or later.**

## **BLESSINGS RELATED TO ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**

- The rite for the blessing of an Advent Wreath, a Manger or a Nativity Scene, a Christmas tree, and of homes during the Christmas season, are found in the *Book of Blessings*. The introductions to these various blessings offer helpful pastoral and liturgical information. The provided blessings for an Advent Wreath and a Manger or Nativity Scene maintain an important balance and perspective with regard to these elements of devotion and the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy.
- Priests and deacons may consider, in conjunction with Advent, using the *Rite for the Blessing of a Child in the Womb*, published by the United States Conferences of Catholic

Bishops in 2012. For more information on this Rite and to order in English or Spanish, see: <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/prayers/pro-life-blessings.cfm>

## CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The Office for Divine Worship has the responsibility for direction, guidance and support of pastors and those who collaborate with them in the formation of adults for Christian Initiation. Additional information on Christian Initiation for adults can be found on the website for the Office for Divine Worship [www.odwphiladelphia.org](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org) under the heading *Christian Initiation*.

### PLEASE NOTE

*Full Sacramental Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation and the first Reception of Holy Communion—apart from the Easter Vigil, outside of the immediate danger of death, requires the permission of the Archbishop (see RCIA, no. 331). Archbishop Perez delegates the Office for Divine Worship to give this permission. Please contact the Office for Divine Worship for such circumstances.*

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

### THE ASSOCIATION OF CHURCH MUSICIANS IN PHILADELPHIA (ACMP) IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

#### THE ARS CELEBRANDI AND LITURGICAL MUSIC: A NECESSARY CONNECTION FOR PARISH LITURGICAL MUSICIANS

**February 4, 2023, 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM**  
**Saint Helena Parish**  
**Blue Bell, PA**

This workshop is directed to all priests, deacons and parish musicians. The important connection between the *Ars celebrandi* and liturgical music will be demonstrated as the foundational principle to guide choices for liturgical music for the celebration of the Eucharist as well as for Weddings and Funerals. This connection will also be developed as an essential aid to authentic participation in the sacramental mysteries and the deepening of conversion to Christ.

#### **Registration:**

**Please register at:** <https://www.acmpmusic.com/>

## **Workshop Fees:**

**Early-bird through November 30, 2022:**

\$50 per person (ACMP member and non-member)

**December 1, 2022--February 4, 2023:**

\$60 for members, \$70 for non-members, \$60 for 5 or more from one parish

**Full-Time Students, Religious, Seminarians, Deacons, Priests:**

\$30 (flat fee, no early-bird)

**Virtual**--\$30 (no early-bird, one flat fee)

*The fee includes a continental breakfast and lunch.*

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## **WORKSHOPS FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

*The calendar for Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 workshops for liturgical ministers is posted on the website for the Office for Divine Worship. Register for these workshops at [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org).*

*If any parish or institution would like a workshop for liturgical ministers, especially Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, please contact the Office for Divine Worship. If a parish or institution conducts its own workshop for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, please contact the Office for Divine Worship to obtain the mandate letters from the Archbishop for the new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.*

*The following resource is available from the Liturgical Institute at Mundelein for the formation of parish liturgical ministers, <https://liturgy.teachable.com/p/instructions-for-liturgical-ministers>.*

### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Workshops**

**Saturday, December 3, 2022**

Miraculous Medal Shrine, Philadelphia

9:00 AM – 12 Noon

Please register at: [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org)

**Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

Saint Katharine of Siena Parish, Wayne (Delaware County)

7:00 to 9:00 PM in Main Church

Please register at: [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org)

**Tuesday, March 21, 2023**

Corpus Christi Parish, Lansdale (Montgomery County)

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM in the Main Church

Please register at: [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org)

**Tuesday, April 18, 2023**

Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Southampton (Bucks County)

7:00 to 9:00 PM in Main Church

Please register at: [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org)

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### **Lector Workshop**

**Wednesday, January 18, 2023**

Cathedral Chapel, Philadelphia

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Please register at: [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org)

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### **Liturgical Music Workshop** **Singing the Celebration of the Sacraments**

This workshop is directed to all engaged, including Principals and DRE's, in the preparation of liturgical music for the Sacraments, specifically Confirmation, Penance and Reconciliation, and First Holy Communion. Liturgical music is an integral part of formation in the faith. In this workshop, musical examples with an attentiveness to the appropriate texts of the rite will be presented, while keeping at the forefront the function of sacred music and how it serves the faith community liturgically, musically and pastorally.

**Wednesday, March 29, 2023**

Saint Helena Church, Blue Bell

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM in Main Church

Please register at: [worship@archphila.org](mailto:worship@archphila.org)

### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

- **All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, without exception, are to have an appointment letter from the Archbishop.**

- **Extraordinary Ministers who serve in institutions and schools throughout the Archdiocese are typically commissioned for service in their parishes and likewise commissioned for service in the institution and/or school.**
- Candidates are to be fully initiated practicing Catholics, high school graduates, validly married (if married), recognized for faith and devotion to the Holy Eucharist as well as for service in the parish/institution/school.
- Pastors and chaplains are encouraged to send new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the archdiocesan formation sessions. Current Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are also welcome to attend.
- Pastors and chaplains are reminded to inform the Office for Divine Worship if they conduct their own formation and to send to this office their request for new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.
- Request forms can be found on the Office for Divine Worship website. Letters of Appointment from the Archbishop will then follow.
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are appointed for a three-year term and for the place where they are commissioned. Terms may be renewed if agreeable to both the pastor/chaplain and the minister.
- All records of active Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are maintained by the parish/institution.
- **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are commissioned after participation in a training session, according to the form found in the *Book of Blessings*, Chapter 63, "Order for the Commissioning of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion."**
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion only serve in the parishes/institutions/schools for which they are commissioned.

PUBLICATION OF SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY READINGS  
FOR THE PARISH WEBSITE AND THE PARISH BULLETIN

Pastors are encouraged to publish resources for the Sunday and Weekday readings for Mass on the parish website and/or in the parish bulletin to foster a reading of the Word of God outside of Mass and also as a preparation for Mass. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops provides the following website which could be published:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

ON-LINE COURSES ON THE SACRED LITURGY

AVAILABLE FROM THE LITURGIAL INSTITUTE AT MUNDELEIN

This is a new online liturgy program as a resource for both church professionals and the laity. This new online program extends the mission of the Institute to diocesan and parish professionals as well as interested individual Catholics. Composed of five one-hour classroom sessions followed by online quizzes, each course awards one-half Continuing Education Unit and brings a fresh, energized approach to the study of liturgical renewal.

For additional information, please see: <https://www.liturgicalinstitute.org/>.

### SPECIAL BUNDLES OF COURSES ON THE SACRED LITURGY DESIGNED FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

Please take a moment and look at the link below:

<https://liturgy.teachable.com/p/philadelphia>

The **Liturgical Institute** at Mundelein (at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake) has made available to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia a special bundle of their on-line courses at a most reasonable rate. These courses provide foundational information on the Sacred Liturgy for clergy and the lay faithful. They are excellent refresher courses as well as new learning opportunities for liturgical ministers and catechists.

### LINKS TO HELPFUL INFORMATION

#### THE LITURGICAL EXCHANGE

For information about the new Liturgical Exchange in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, please see: <https://www.liturgicaexchange.com/>.

#### FOR AN UPDATED SUPPLEMENT WITH NEW LITURGICAL OBSERVANCES FOR THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Contact Dominican Liturgy Publications:

<https://www.lulu.com/spotlight/athompsonatdsptdotcom> it is the second item on the page.

#### FOR THE MOST RECENT NEWSLETTER FROM THE USCCB

Individual issues of the Newsletter are posted online around the fifteenth of the month approximately three months after they have been released to subscribers.

For information on subscribing to the newsletter, visit:

<http://www.usccb.org/about/divine-worship/newsletter/>.

#### FOR PAST MONTHLY MAILINGS OF THE OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

Visit: <http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/sacred-liturgy/monthly-mailings/>.