

OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

JANUARY 2025

Website for the Office for Divine Worship

Website: www.odwphiladelphia.org

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JUBILEE YEAR 2025

Please see our archdiocesan website for the Jubilee Year, <https://archphila.org/holyyear/>. This is the site for local information on the Jubilee Year — archdiocesan observances and resources.

Additional websites with information on the Jubilee Year:

<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/it.html>

<https://www.usccb.org/committees/jubilee-2025>

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL INFORMATION
FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

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

Please see the link below for sheet music for the hymn of the Eucharistic Revival, Let the Earth Acclaim (in English and Spanish):

https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/post/sheet-music-available-for-new-eucharistic-hymns?_hsmi=283496485&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-8yfd0ViHAKXN5FZT2DCEnq-P0agJI9G0394neBfJHvvMS-XjEdilKOITMkYbLjbajvfP0hHylbgj_MMSXFRXxQ1IcCIA

LITURGICAL AND CIVIC CALENDAR ITEMS

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, is observed as a Holy Day of Obligation.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Saturday, January 18, 2025, through Saturday, January 25, 2025

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity should have, if possible, intentions in the Universal Prayer. Also, when possible, during this week the Mass for the Unity of Christians may be used with the readings of the day and green vestments.

See the following site of the *Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute* for additional resources: https://geii.org/week_of_prayer_for_christian_unity/.

SPECIAL DAY OF PRAYER

FOR THE DIOCESES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion. The liturgical celebrations for this day may be the Mass "For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life" (no. 48/1 of the Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions), celebrated with white vestments, or the Mass "For the Preservation of Peace and Justice" (no. 30 of the Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions), celebrated with violet vestments.

Intentions for the Universal Prayer for Respect Life can be found on the website of the Office for Divine Worship.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Sunday, January 26, 2025

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, *Motu proprio* "Aperuit illis", published on September 30, 2019 established that "the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God".

TIME OF THE EASTER VIGIL 2025

The Easter Vigil is the first Mass of Easter Sunday and is 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 7:44 PM on April 19, 2025. This information is provided currently to assist with calendar planning for 2024-2025. In general, given the variable date for Easter, it seems best to schedule the Easter Vigil each year for 8:00 PM or later.

COLDS AND FLU

AND THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRED LITURGY

- ❖ Ministers of Holy Communion should wash their hands before Mass begins, or even use an alcohol based anti-bacterial solution in the pew before distributing, and after purifying their fingers after the distributing Holy Communion.
- ❖ People feeling ill should avoid receiving Communion from the chalice.

Priests are encouraged to use good pastoral common sense to allay the fears of the faithful during cold and flu season. An example of this might include refraining from the use of the Sign of Peace during the celebration of Mass and reminding the faithful not to receive the Precious Blood if they are ill.

WEBINAR RECORDINGS FOR THE USE OF RECENTLY REVISED ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF RITUAL BOOKS

Use of the Revised English Translation of the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*

Date: November 13, 2024

Presenter: Fr. Dennis Gill

To watch the recording, [CLICK HERE](#).

Use of the Revised English Translation of

Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery Outside Mass

Date: October 23, 2024

Presenter: Fr. Dennis Gill

To watch the recording, [CLICK HERE](#).

VARIOUS PUBLISHERS FOR THE REVISED RITUAL BOOKS

- Liturgy Training Publications (Chicago, IL)
<https://www.ltp.org/#:~:text=Steeped%20in%20the%20spirit%20of%20liturgical%20renewal%20and%20founded%20upon>
- Liturgical Press (Collegeville, MN) <https://litpress.org/>
- Catholic Book (Totowa, NJ) •
<https://catholicbookpublishing.com/collections/liturgical-editions>
- Magnificat (Yonkers, NY) <https://bookstore.magnificat.net/«>
- Midwest Theological Forum (Downers Grove, IL)
<https://www.theologicalforum.org/>

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, under the heading *Christian Initiation*.

**2025 Rite of Election of Catechumens
and of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion
Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2025, AT 3:00 PM

BUCKS COUNTY
DELAWARE COUNTY
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2025, AT 3:00 PM

CHESTER COUNTY
PHILADELPHIA NORTH
PHILADELPHIA SOUTH

All correspondence and registration is conducted electronically. See the website for the Office for Divine Worship, under the heading *Christian Initiation*.

The Calling of Candidates to Continuing Conversion is meant for adults (and not children) who are baptized and will be received into Full Communion and/or Confirmation and/or Communion. Also, the Call to Continuing Conversion is equally meant for those already baptized who have not been practicing the Christian Faith but now are returning with the celebration of the Easter Sacraments.

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) for someone 14 years of age or older. Archbishop Perez delegates the Office for Divine Worship to give this permission. Please contact the Office for Divine Worship for such circumstances.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOPS FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS

2025

Register for these workshops at 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 of Philadelphia for the new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Workshops

Saturday, January 25, 2025

9:30 AM to 11:30 PM

Chapel of the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul (Philadelphia South)

PLEASE REGISTER AT: worship@archphila.org

Saturday, February 15, 2025

9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Saint Richard Church (South Philadelphia)

PLEASE REGISTER AT: worship@archphila.org

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

- **All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, without exception, are to have a current appointment letter from the Archbishop of Philadelphia.**
- **Extraordinary Ministers who serve in institutions and schools throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia 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, not in an invalid marriage, recognized for faith and devotion to the Holy Eucharist as well as for service in the parish/institution/school. Pastors/chaplains are reminded

to be discerning in the invitation to members of the lay faithful to carry out this ministry.

- Pastors and chaplains are encouraged to send new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the archdiocesan formation sessions. Letters of Appointment from the Archbishop will then follow. *Veteran 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 Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.
- All records of active Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are maintained by the parish/institution/school.
- **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.

GUIDELINES FOR THE BUILDING AND RENOVATING OF CHURCHES AND CHAPELS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia, in addition to what is described in the liturgical ritual books, follows the guidelines of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for the building and renovating of churches and chapels. These guidelines are found in the USCCB document, *Built of Living Stones: Art, Architecture and Worship*, 2007, Fifth Printing, revised.

DISCARDING RITUAL BOOKS NO LONGER IN USE

There is no need to burn or bury ritual books that are no longer in use. These books do not receive a blessing for their use. It is possible to take them apart and dispose of them with other refuse.

RECURRING INFORMATION

THE PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL

Many parishes and institutions within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia 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.

LINKS TO HELPFUL INFORMATION

THE LITURGICAL EXCHANGE

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

Please consider spring cleaning your sacristies and storage areas for liturgical items no longer needed or in use. The *Liturgical Exchange* provides a great service within and outside the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for those looking to repurpose liturgical items for churches and chapels.

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:
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/divine-worship/newsletter>.

FOR PAST MONTHLY MAILINGS OF THE OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

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