

Special Notes for the Year B ~ 2011-2012

Diocese of Dallas  Office of Worship

The **Special Notes** are intended to provide handy details that will serve as reminders for parish celebrations of the liturgy, particularly during the initial year of welcome and use of the Roman Missal, 3rd edition. The Office of Worship hopes that this will increase pastoral effectiveness in planning and implementing the celebrations of Liturgical Year B. Please call or email the Worship Office if you have questions or need clarification. These notes are not intended to be exhaustive.

Compiled by Dr. Patricia J. Hughes, Director, Office of Worship

- ∇ You will find Chapters 7 and 8 of the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* to be helpful (2002), in choosing parts for a Mass.
- ∇ For Marriage during Mass,
 - on a Sunday or Solemnity, use the Mass of the day with the nuptial blessing.
 - when the wedding Mass is not permitted to be used, select one of the readings from the Rite of Marriage. Do not, however, substitute a reading on Christmas, Epiphany, and Ascension.
 - if a wedding is on Sunday in the Christmas season or throughout the year, use the wedding Mass without any changes, provided that the Mass is not a parish Mass.
- ∇ The *General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar* can be a useful guide to ranking liturgical observances, paragraph n. 59. If you have questions, call the Worship Office.
- ∇ The Roman Missal contains *Sample Invocations of the Penitential Act* that may prove helpful, in Appendix VI.

What Mass texts have been added to the Roman Missal, 3rd edition, for USA saints and blessed?

January	4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	July	1 Blessed Junipero Serra
	5 St. John Neumann		14 Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
	6 Blessed Andre Bessette	Oct	6 Blessed Marie Rose Durocher
	23 Blessed Marianne Cope		22 Blessed John Paul II
March	3 St. Katharine Drexel	Nov	13 St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
May	10 St. Damien de Veuster		18 St. Rose Philippine Duchesne
	15 St. Isidore		23 Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro

When is a Funeral Mass not permitted to be celebrated?

A Funeral Mass is not permitted: on solemnities of obligation, on Holy Thursday and throughout the Triduum, on Sundays of Lent, Advent, and during the Easter season. If a funeral liturgy is needed on these days, it should be celebrated outside of Mass. (See *Order of Christian Funerals*, n. 178.)

In general, when may a Funeral Mass be celebrated?

A funeral may be celebrated on Ash Wednesday, and all the weekdays of Holy Week, during the days of the Octave of Easter, on Sundays of Ordinary Time, and most weekdays of Advent, Lent, Christmas, the Easter season, and in Ordinary Time. If you need clarification, please call the Office of Worship.

Provide details about Divine Mercy Sunday-

Throughout the world, Divine Mercy Sunday is an additional name for the Second Sunday of Easter. The Congregation for Divine Worship decreed this on 23 May, 2000, in hope of extending a perennial invitation to all Christians: we are challenged to face the difficulties and trials that humankind will experience in the years to come. The main liturgical focus on this Sunday remains on the scripture and homily for the Second Sunday of Easter—based on the forgiveness of sins (in all cycles) and God’s mercy. Devotional opportunities outside of Mass abound.

Is there a pastoral way to manage weddings during the penitential season of Lent?

If weddings are to occur during Lent, couples should be gently reminded that the nature of this liturgical season precludes too much pomp and display. In order to respect the season, it is not recommended to remove seasonal display and symbol. (*Rite of Marriage, n. 11*)

Who can administer ashes on Ash Wednesday?

The ordinary minister for the *blessing* of ashes is the priest or deacon, but lay persons may assist in distribution of ashes, as needed. Often, the best choice of lay minister would be from the ranks of the extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion (although they should not be asked to do “double duty” at a Mass on Ash Wednesday).

How should a parish accomplish the Sprinkling Rite during the Easter Season ?

Blessing and Sprinkling of Holy Water is recommended to take the place of the Penitential Rite at the beginning of Mass, on all Sundays in Easter Time (GIRM 51). *Gloria* follows Sprinkling Rite (use instrumental music); do not combine *Gloria* with Sprinkling Rite.

How long does the Paschal Candle remain in the sanctuary after Easter Sunday?

The Paschal Candle is lighted for every celebration, preferably near the ambo (although it can be near the altar). The candle need not be moved to another place for funerals during this time. Candle remains in position until after Vespers (or following the last Mass) on Pentecost Sunday.

Does the Sequence need to be sung on Easter and Pentecost, or can it be recited from the Lectionary text?

The Sequence on Pentecost is one of the four “remaining” Sequences that are still in use by the Church. At one time, there were nearly 5,000 hymns or “sequences” used for prayer in the Church. At Pentecost, the Sequence is *Veni Creator Spiritus* (or Come, Creator Spirit) and the hymn is an ancient lyric poem. It seems out of place to “say” a hymn, rather than sing it. As

encouragement for parish musicians, if the Latin chant is not accessible to cantor or your music ministers, consider using a close facsimile of the text. There are many settings available if you check the Catholic publishers, and in several languages besides Latin. The other remaining Sequences are the *Stabat Mater* (for September 15), the *Victimae Paschali Laudes* Easter sequence (tune: O FILII ET FILIAE is easy), and *Lauda Sion* (for Body and Blood of Christ). The GIRM asks that the Sequence be sung on Easter and Pentecost (n. 64). Hint: catechize your assembly—even to the point of reprinting the text in the worship aid, so they can follow the sung prayer or participate in the singing.

Is Saturday, December 8, a holy day of obligation? Yes, it is a holy day of obligation for Catholics. Even when this solemnity falls on a Saturday or Monday, the obligation to participate in Mass is never abrogated, because it is the patronal feast of the USA. The USCCB ruling (about abrogating the obligation to attend Mass-- from 1993) applies to January 1 (Mary, Mother of God), August 15 (Solemnity of the Assumption) and November 1 (All Saints).

Does the December 8 holy day Mass in 2012 “count” for Sunday? No it doesn't. Remember also that a Vigil Mass may be scheduled, and the Vigil has its own set of readings.

Is there a resource in the Roman Missal to assist in composing the Prayer of the Faithful (or Universal Prayer)? This prayer, formerly known as the General Intercessions, is introduced by the celebrant, and concluded with an oration. It has a suggested formulary in the (see GIRM 69-71 to refresh). Appendix V in the Roman Missal contains helpful and appropriate examples for the Universal Prayer. The deacon is the usual minister of this prayer, given at the ambo. A lector or cantor may also proclaim this prayer, again at the ambo. Pastorally, the lector is trained and commissioned to proclaim using *speech*. This may be the most effective choice, allowing the cantor to remain as leader for *sung* prayer.

Is every Lenten Friday a day of abstinence? General canon law says that **all Fridays in Lent** are days of abstinence from meat. **Good Friday and Ash Wednesday** are the major days for fasting and abstinence from meat. **To sum up those requirements**⇒ Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. In addition, all Catholics 14 years old and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting as explained by the U.S. bishops means partaking of only one full meal. Some food (not equaling another full meal) is permitted at breakfast and around midday or in the evening—depending on when a person chooses to eat the main or full meal. Abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, milk products or condiments made of animal fat. Abstinence does not include meat juices and liquid foods made from meat. Thus, such foods as chicken broth, consomme, soups cooked or flavored with meat, meat gravies or sauces, as well as seasonings or condiments made from animal fat are not forbidden. (So it is permissible to use margarine and lard.)