



2011-12 LITURGICAL REMINDERS

{The following reminders are to assist you in planning your 2012 liturgical calendar for your parish or institution: 1st Sunday of Advent – November 27, 2011...Sunday Cycle B (Mark)...Weekday Cycle II}

The *Third Revised English Edition of the Roman Missal* is to be used in all churches and worship sites in the United States, and specifically in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, beginning with the Vigil Mass of the First Sunday of Advent on Saturday, November 26th. *At that time, the present Sacramentary's use must be discontinued.*

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION:

During **December 2011 & The Year of the Lord 2012**, in addition to the Sundays of the year, Catholics are obliged to assist at Mass on the following Holy Days:

- Thursday, December 8 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
{Note: The *Immaculate Conception* is always a Holyday of Obligation in the United States, except when it falls on Sunday and its celebration is transferred to the nearest weekday.}
- Thursday, May 17 – Ascension of the Lord
- Wednesday, August 15 – Assumption of Mary
- Thursday, November 1 – All Saints
- *Please note that in 2011-12, **Christmas (December 25) & Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (January 1)** coincide with the celebration of the Lord's Day. In turn, the Feast of the Holy Family is transferred to Friday, December 30 and the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord to Monday, January 9. Ordinary Time will begin on Tuesday, January 10, 2012.*

Monday, January 23 — A DAY OF PRAYER AND PENANCE FOR LIFE: 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 penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life. The Votive Mass "In Thanksgiving for Life" with white vestments or the Votive Mass "For Peace and Justice" with violet vestments should be used as the appropriate liturgical observance for this day. (See *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, no. 373).

FUNERAL MASSES: Funeral Masses are **not permitted** on **Holy Days of Obligation, on Holy Thursday [even in the morning], Good Friday, or Holy Saturday.** On these days the remains of the deceased may be brought to the church and the **Funeral Liturgy Outside of Mass is used.** *Please note: the funeral rite is not to be used within a holy day Mass.* In addition, Funeral Masses are **not permitted** on the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter. As a diocesan rule, Funeral Masses are **not permitted** on other Sundays of the year without the stated permission of the Bishop/Diocesan Administrator or his delegate.

WEDDINGS: The celebration of the Rite of Marriage is prohibited on Good Friday and Holy Saturday. **In the Diocese of Ogdensburg, marriages are not permitted on Sunday or after 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, except for a serious reason and with the written permission of the Bishop or his delegate and the consent of the pastor of the parish.** The place for the celebration of marriage is the parish church, unless particular ecumenical or interfaith considerations dictate otherwise, and permission has been granted by the Bishop or his delegate.

ANTICIPATED MASSES: In accord with diocesan policy, there is to be only one Anticipated Sunday or Anticipated Holy Day Mass in a particular church. Moreover, such a Mass is *not permitted* to be scheduled **before 4:00 p.m.**

LENTEN REGULATIONS & NOTES:

- The Season of Lent begins with the observance of **Ash Wednesday on February 22, 2012.** Pastors are reminded that according to liturgical law, penitential days are observed on the proper day and ***are never anticipated.***
- **Ash Wednesday (February 22) and Good Friday (April 6)** are days of **Fast** (Ages 18-59) and **Abstinence** (Age 14 and up). **All Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.** *No dispensations from abstinence will be granted to observe St. Patrick's Day (March 17) or St. Joseph's Day (March 19) on Friday, March 16th.*
- The **Rite of Election** will take place for the Diocese on **Sunday, March 4, 2012 at 2:30 p.m.** at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

- The *Chrism Mass* will take place for the Diocese on **Thursday, March 29, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.** at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

THE TRIDUUM:

Please consult also you Diocesan Handbook, III.39 and III.39, as well as, these articles from the USCCB's Divine Worship web page:

- [New Missale Romanum and the Chrism Mass](#)
- [New Missale Romanum and the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper](#)
- [New Missale Romanum and the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death](#)
- [New Missale Romanum and the Easter Vigil](#)

- **HOLY THURSDAY (April 5)**

According to the Church's ancient tradition, all Masses without a congregation are prohibited on this day. The Mass of the Lord's Supper is celebrated in the evening. Every effort should be made not to schedule additional Masses on this day. Only with the permission of the local Ordinary may another Mass be celebrated in the evening where pastoral considerations require it; and, in the case of true necessity, even in the morning, but only for those faithful who cannot otherwise participate in the evening Mass. Care should be taken to ensure that celebrations of this kind do not take place for the benefit of private persons or small groups, and that they are not to the detriment of the main Mass (*see, Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of Paschal Feasts #47*)

This same point is emphasized in the new *Missale Romanum*, when it states that such additional *Masses* on Holy Thursday are to be permitted by the Ordinary only for those in no way able to participate in the evening Mass and not for the advantage of individuals or special small group. (*Missale Romanum, "Rubrics for the Evening Mass"* (EM, #3) Bishop's Committee on the Liturgy Newsletter, March/April 2003)

- **GOOD FRIDAY (April 22)**

"The celebration of the Lord's Passion is to take place in the afternoon, at about three o'clock. For pastoral reasons, an appropriate time will be chosen in order to allow the people to assemble more easily, for example, shortly after midday or in the late evening, however, not later than nine o'clock. (*Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of Paschal Feasts #8*) This same instruction is repeated in the new edition of the *Missale Romanum*.

- **EASTER VIGIL (April 23)**

The Easter Vigil is not an anticipated Mass, but a true vigil and, therefore, it may not begin until nightfall. "The entire celebration of the Easter Vigil takes place at night. It should not begin before nightfall. This rule is to be taken according to its strictest sense." (*Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of Paschal*

Feasts #78) This same instruction is repeated in the new edition of the *Missale Romanum*.

Please note: SINCE THE EASTER VIGIL WILL NOW OCCUR ALWAYS WITHIN DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME THE EARLIEST THE VIGIL MAY START IN THE DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG IS 8:00 P.M. Please note that Daylight Savings Time is scheduled to begin on Sunday, March 10, 2012 and that sunset will occur at 7:28 p.m. on April 21st. This should ensure proper darkness for the Blessing of the New Fire at the start of the 8:00 pm Vigil.

“...it is never permitted to celebrate the entire Easter Vigil more than once in a given church or to anticipate the Mass of Easter before the vigil...” (*Sacramentary, Easter Vigil #3*) “The celebration of the Easter Vigil for special groups is not to be encouraged, since about all in this vigil the faithful should come together as one and should experience a sense of ecclesial community.” (*Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of Paschal Feasts #94*)

“The rubrics of the new *Missale Romanum* remind us that this ‘Mother of all vigils’ is the ‘greatest and most noble of all solemnities and it is to be unique in every single Church.’ *Missalae Romanum, ‘Rubrics for Easter Vigil’ [EV], #2*)...‘Therefore, the Easter Vigil does not correspond to the usual Saturday evening Mass and its character is unique in the cycle of the liturgical year.’ (*Bishops Committee on the Liturgy Newsletter, January 2003*)

CONFIRMATION: The ritual Mass for Confirmation may not be used on holy days of obligation, the Sundays of Advent, Lent and the Easter Season, on days in the Octave of Easter, on all solemnities, on All Soul’s Day, on Ash Wednesday and during Holy Week. If confirmation is to be celebrated on one of the above-mentioned days, the Mass of the day is to be used. (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal 2002, #372*)

When the ritual Mass is not celebrated, one of the readings may be chosen from those provided in the Lectionary for the ritual Mass for Confirmation. However, on all holy days of obligation, Easter Sunday, Christmas, Epiphany, Pentecost and Corpus Christi only the readings of the day are permitted. The final blessing proper to the ritual mass may always be used.

LITURGICAL VESTURE AND VESSELS:

- The vestment proper to the priest celebrant at Mass is the chasuble, worn over alb and stole.
- The vestment proper to the deacon at Mass is the dalmatic, worn over alb and stole. **The dalmatic may, however, be omitted out of necessity (e.g., cost or warm weather) or on account of a lesser degree of solemnity.**
- The 2004 *Instruction on the Eucharist* has **reprobated** the use of glass and earthenware vessels for the celebration of the Eucharist because they can be broken easily and some lack artistic merit. *All parishes and institutions within the*

Diocese of Ogdensburg are to have ceased the use of such vessels and purchased vessels of the recommended materials which enhance the beauty and honor of the liturgy, as well as, facilitate Holy Communion under both sacred species for the faithful.

ORDINATION TO THE ORDER OF PRESBYTER OF REV. MR. THOMAS HIGMAN – scheduled for **Saturday, May 26, 2012 at 11:00 am** at *St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.*

ORDINATION TO THE ORDER OF DEACON OF MR. SCOTT BELINA – scheduled for **Friday, May 25, 2012 at 5:00 pm** at *St. Patrick's Church in Watertown.*