



# Office for Divine Worship Newsletter

Website for the Office for Divine Worship:

[www.eriercd.org/bishop/worship.html](http://www.eriercd.org/bishop/worship.html)

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## Invite One Back

<https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/invite-one-back>

Envisioned as an initiative for the Easter season, the Invite One Back resources are designed to help parish leaders reach out to parishioners who have not returned to Mass since the pandemic.

## 2024 Calendar Notes

• **The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord** on March 25 is impeded by Monday of Holy Week. According to the Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, no. 60, the Annunciation is therefore transferred to Monday of the Second Week of Easter, in this case, April 8, 2024.

• Since December 8, 2024 is the Second Sunday of Advent, the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** is transferred to Monday, December 9; the obligation to attend Mass, however, does not transfer. While Funeral Masses are not normally permitted on this day, they may take place this year since Immaculate Conception is not a day of precept (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 380). The Optional Memorial of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatatzin, December 9, is omitted.

There are two remaining occasions when non-obligatory Solemnities either precede or follow a Sunday: **the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist** (Monday, June 24), and **Saints Peter and Paul** (Saturday, June 29).

• On **Sunday evening, June 23**, the Mass of the 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time is celebrated, though at a Mass outside the usual schedule, the Vigil Mass of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist may take place. At the Liturgy of the Hours, Evening Prayer I of the Nativity of Saint John is used; nevertheless, Evening Prayer II of the 12th Sunday may take place in celebrations with the people.

• On **Saturday evening, June 29**, at normally scheduled anticipated Masses, priests should anticipate the Mass of the 13th Sunday of Ordinary Time, though at Masses outside that usual schedule, the Mass of Saints Peter and Paul may be used. At the Liturgy of the Hours, Evening Prayer II of Saints Peter and Paul is used.

**The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed** (All Souls' Day) falls on a Saturday this year. On Friday evening, All Saints Day is celebrated at the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours, though, for pastoral reasons where it is the custom, Evening Prayer II of All Saints may be followed by Evening Prayer for the Dead. On Saturday evening, priests should anticipate the Mass of the 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time at normally scheduled anticipated Masses, though the Mass of All Souls' Day may be used outside that usual schedule. At the Liturgy of the Hours, Evening Prayer I of the 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time is used in individual recitation, though Evening Prayer for the Dead may be used in celebrations with the people.

## Masses for the Neophytes and a Pentecost Celebration During Easter Time

The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* provides helpful guidance for the pastoral care of the newly baptized adults at Easter:

# 247 Since the distinctive spirit and power of the period of postbaptismal catechesis or mystagogy derive from the new, personal experience of the sacraments and of the community, its main setting is the so-called Masses for neophytes, that is, the Sunday Masses of the Easter season. Besides being occasions for the newly baptized to gather with the community and share in the mysteries, these celebrations include particularly suitable readings from the Lectionary, especially the readings for Year A. Even when Christian initiation has been celebrated outside the usual times, the texts for these Sunday Masses of the Easter season may be used.

# 248 All the neophytes and their godparents should make an effort to take part in the Masses for the neophytes and the entire local community should be invited to participate with them. Special places in the congregation are to be reserved for the neophytes and their godparents.

The homily and, as circumstances suggest, the general intercessions should take into account the presence and needs of the neophytes.

# 249 To close the period of postbaptismal catechesis, some sort of celebration should be held at the end of the Easter season near Pentecost Sunday; festivities in keeping with local custom may accompany the occasion.

## Masses for Various Needs and Occasions: For Peace

As we celebrate new life in Christ in this Easter Season, do not forget those who suffer the ravages of war. Bishop Persico encourages the continued use of the Masses for Various Needs and Occasions #30 For the Preservation of Peace and Justice, #31 In Time of War or Civil Disturbance, and #32 For Refugees and Exiles during the season of Easter. While the priest has much latitude using these Mass texts during the Easter Season, it is asked that they not be used more than once a week and not on the days prohibited as follows:

- The Sundays of Easter
- The Days of the Easter Octave
- The Solemnity of the Annunciation, April 8
- The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, May 9
- The Feast of Saint Mark, April 25
- The Feast of Saints Philip and James, May 3
- The Feast of Saint Matthias, May 14
- The Feast of the Dedication of Saint Peter Cathedral, May 17

The vestment color is **violet**

## Proper Disposal of the Paschal Candle

Old paschal candles, as blessed objects (a sacramental) must be appropriately disposed. This could involve burning the candle in a devotional manner (privately as opposed to publicly and liturgically) or even burying the candle in blessed ground. Candles are made to be burned, however, and it is better to find a way to either recycle or burn the wax.

## Hymn for Jubilee 2025 Chosen

“Pilgrims of Hope,” the Jubilee 2025 hymn, chosen from among 270 hymns from 38 countries, prepared by Pierangelo Sequeri, set to music by Francesco Meneghello, intercepts the many themes of the Holy Year: creation, fraternity, God’s tenderness and hope.

The English translation, recording and music can be found at:

<https://www.iubilaum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/inno-giubileo-2025.html>

## National Eucharistic Congress Pilgrimage

June 17-21, 2024

The Diocese of Erie invites you to join a historic pilgrimage to the 10th National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis from July 17-21, 2024, the first such gathering in 83 years. The Diocesan Eucharistic Adoration Committee is coordinating the journey, with two motorcoaches set to depart — one from Our Lady of Peace in Erie and another from Holy Redeemer in Warren, including a pickup at Good Shepherd in West Middlesex.

Social media posts are available for download at <https://www.eriescd.org/nec.html>.

Parishes are asked to disseminate this information through bulletins, notice boards, email blasts, and social media platforms. The diocese seeks widespread participation and encourages all to extend this invitation to parishioners. For inquiries, contact Jo Feeney by email at [eriedeac@gmail.com](mailto:eriedeac@gmail.com) or by calling or texting 724-699-3340.

## Colds and Flu

People feeling ill should avoid receiving Communion from the chalice. Priests are encouraged to use good pastoral common sense to calm the fears of the faithful during cold and flu season. An example of this might include reminding the faithful not to receive the Precious Blood if they are ill.

## Workshops for Liturgical Ministers

If any parish or institution would like a workshop for liturgical ministers, especially Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion or lectors, please contact the Office for Divine Worship. If a parish or institution conducts its own workshop for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, please remember to present candidates for this ministry to the Bishop when they are deemed prepared by the pastor or chaplain of said institution.

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>.

## Copyrights

According to the United States Copyright Office, if you reproduce, distribute, publicly display, or derive a new piece from a copyrighted work without the permission of the copyright owner, you may have infringed on copyright. That could include putting a poem or song on your website, printing an essay or column in your bulletin, printing a worship aid, or even streaming a service on your website, Facebook or YouTube that includes the performance of hymns from a hymnal you have purchased.

The safest thing a church can do is only to use copyrighted materials when you have the express written permission of the copyright owner. This is generally accomplished by purchasing the appropriate license. For music or lyrics, the majority of parishes use OneLicense.net.

Please be advised that readings may not be printed in worship aids, bulletins, or shown on a screen for Liturgies without proper licensing from the USCCB. To license the readings, parishes can contact: Mary Elizabeth Sperry at [mosperry@usccb.org](mailto:mosperry@usccb.org). If you need any other clarification, please call the Office for Divine Worship at 814-824-1271.

## Time for Vigil and Anticipated Masses

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