



Office of Worship
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

October 7, 2008

Dear Priests, Musicians, and Liturgical Associates,

Enclosed with this letter are a few important liturgical notes, as well as information and promotional materials for the upcoming “Liturgy Day.” In particular, please note the following:

- By instruction of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the USCCB, the word “Yahweh” is no longer permitted for use in the liturgy, out of deference to the ancient Hebrew tradition of not pronouncing the divine Name of God (the *tetragrammaton*). In particular, songs that include the word “Yahweh” in any way (e.g. “Yahweh, I Know You Are Near”) may no longer be used. Except for official adjustments made by publishers (e.g. at www.ocp.org), efforts to use these songs by changing the wording should be avoided, especially since the congregation is likely to consult an existing hymnal or slip into the original, familiar words.
- **November 1st & 2nd**: The Solemnity of All Saints (Nov. 1) falls on a Saturday this year, and so is not a holy day of obligation. The Commemoration of All Souls on November 2nd takes the place of Sunday Mass. The All Souls Mass is also used on Saturday evening, and fulfills the Sunday obligation as a vigil Mass.
Please note that while the Creed should be recited this year for All Souls, no Gloria should be used, since it is a Requiem Mass. Violet, black, or white vestments are permitted for All Souls. Using violet or black might be in better keeping with the more sober nature of the commemoration, and perhaps also serve as a catechetical opportunity.
- **December 7th & 8th**: Although the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) falls on a Monday this year, as the patronal feast of the United States, it is still a holy day of obligation. However, since the Holy See specifically clarified in 1990 that the Second Sunday of Advent outranks Immaculate Conception, all Masses during the 24-hour day of Sunday, December 7th should be the prayers and readings for the Second Sunday of Advent.
Nonetheless, attending Mass on Sunday evening can count towards either the Sunday obligation or the Immaculate Conception obligation—but not both. The two obligations must be fulfilled separately.
- Please note that our **Diocesan Liturgy Day will take place on Saturday, February 7, 2009 from 8:30 AM–1:00 PM at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Warsaw**. The presenter will be Mr. Paul French, an esteemed music director from Chicago, who will be discussing the recent U.S. Bishops’ music document as well as how to incorporate music like Gregorian chant in parishes. Those planning to attend must pre-register by mail with the \$20 fee.
Brochures are included with this mailing—these and additional info can also be printed from our website (listed below). Please encourage all choir members to attend, in addition to any parishioners with an interest in the history and future of sacred music!

In Christ,

Brian MacMichael
Director, Office of Worship



DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND
OFFICE OF WORSHIP
LITURGICAL NOTES

October 2008

Beginning with the First Sunday of Advent (Nov. 30th), we are in **Lectionary Cycle B, Year I**

Upcoming Holy Days of Obligation

- Monday, December 8 — The Immaculate Conception (see note in cover letter)
- Thursday, December 25 — The Nativity of the Lord *
- Thursday, January 1, 2009 — The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God **

* At all Christmas Masses, the entire assembly genuflects at the mention of the Incarnation during the Creed: “by the power of the Holy Spirit, he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.”

** January 1st is also a Day of Prayer for World Peace. It may be appropriate to include special petitions during Mass for the intention of world peace. However, the Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God should be the only Mass used on this day.

Future Diocesan Events

- **Ordination to the Priesthood**
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception—Saturday, October 25th, 11:00 AM
 - **Memorial Mass for Deceased Bishops and Priests of the Diocese**
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception—Thursday, November 20th, Noon
 - **Annual Catholic/Lutheran Advent Vespers**
St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne—Sunday, November 30th, 5:00 PM
- 2009**
- **Rite of Election/Call to Continuing Conversion, Fort Wayne**
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception—Sunday, March 1st, 2:30 PM
 - **Rite of Election/Call to Continuing Conversion, South Bend**
St. Matthew Cathedral—Sunday, March 8th, 2:30 PM
 - **Chrism Mass, South Bend**
St. Matthew Cathedral—Monday, April 6th, 7:30 PM
 - **Chrism Mass, Fort Wayne**
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception—Tuesday, April 7th, 7:30 PM

Other Dates of Note

- **December 9th:** The optional memorial of St. Juan Diego on December 9th is replaced throughout our Diocese by the Feast for the Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (transferred from December 8th). Outside the Cathedral itself, the appropriate Mass is Option 2.B. in the Common of the Dedication of a Church.
- **January 22, 2009:** Throughout the United States, January 22nd (anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*) is a day of penance for abortion, and of prayer for the right to life. The Mass "For Peace & Justice" (no. 21 of the "Masses for Various Needs") is celebrated, with violet vestments.
- **Easter Vigil:** The Easter Vigil on April 11, 2009 should not start before the end of civil twilight—8:45 PM EDT on the Fort Wayne side, or 8:50 PM EDT on the South Bend side. The appropriate start time throughout the Diocese would be 9:00 PM EDT or later, since true darkness is essential to the nature of the Vigil, as affirmed by the USCCB and Rome.

Please contact the Office of Worship at (260) 399-1426 with any questions