Diocese of Erie



Office for Divine Worship Newsletter

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Jubilee Year 2025

On Ascension Thursday, May 9, Pope Francis officially proclaimed the Church's 2025 Jubilee. "Hope is the central message of the coming Jubilee that, in accordance with an ancient tradition, the Pope proclaims every twenty-five years. Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee beginning on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024 be an opportunity to be renewed in hope." The full text of the Bull of Indiction entitled SPES NON CONFUNDIT, "Hope does not disappoint", can be found at: https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/it/bollettino/pubblico/2024/05/09/0374/00781.html#ing

Reminder on the Proper Place for the Celebration of the Eucharist

Canon 932: §1 The Eucharistic celebration is to be carried out in a sacred place unless in a particular case necessity requires otherwise; in such a case the celebration must be done in a decent place.

In a sacred place:

The proper location for the celebration of the Mass is a sacred place, which is a technical term in the law (cf. c. 1205). Sacred places include:

- Churches (both parish and secondary, with or without mission status)
- Oratories (e.g., seminary, university, and convent chapels)
- Catholic cemeteries

When necessity requires:

In responding to the spiritual needs of the faithful, the priests of the parish may also be requested to celebrate Masses in other places, such as nursing homes, correctional facilities, the location for the parish picnic, or other appropriate places. The location should be decent and there must always be at least an altar cloth (always white) and a corporal (cf. c. 932 §2).

The canon requires necessity, not just pastoral advantage, to celebrate outside of a sacred place. Barring possible exceptions, celebrating Mass on the parish property outside of the church building (such as in the parking lot or on the church lawn), when the church building is available and ready at hand, would lack any sense of necessity. Mass in that case should be celebrated in the church.

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2024 Calendar Notes

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 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.

Weddings on November 2, 2024:

The only type of wedding that can take place on All Souls' Day is outside of Mass. The Mass of the day is the Mass for the Dead without exception, which does not allow for any ritual to be associated with it. A Funeral Mass can take place since it is principally a Mass for the Dead.

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.

Jubilee Year 2025 2024 - Year of Prayer

Pope Francis has asked that 2024 be marked as a Year of Prayer. The Holy Father announced its launch on Sunday January 20, 2024, on the fifth annual celebration of the "Sunday of the Word of God". Previously, in a letter written on February 11, 2022, addressed to the Pro-prefect, Archbishop Rino Fisichella, to entrust the organization of the Jubilee to the Dicastery for Evangelization, the Pope wrote: "From now on I am happy to think that the year preceding the Jubilee event, 2024, will be dedicated to a great 'symphony' of prayer. First of all, to recover the desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and adore him." In preparation for the Jubilee, therefore, individual dioceses are invited to promote the centrality of individual and community prayer during this year.

Please find the first resource in English at:

https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/verso-il-giubileo/2024-anno-della-preghiera.html

Hymn for Jubilee 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.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/inno-giubileo-2025.html

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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 msperry@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.