



Office for Divine Worship Newsletter

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Jubilee Year 2025

Jubilee Logo

Individuals and organizations may download the Jubilee logo in high resolution and the main languages at: <https://drive.cloud.va/index.php/s/4Bl5PEuIciBeRGt#/pdfviewer>



Since the logo is subject to copyright, its use is intended for pastoral and non-profit purposes only. Such use is to be linked to the following pastoral and ecclesial initiatives with no commercial purposes:

- Place the trademark on materials related to the Jubilee, such as: pamphlets, postcards, brochures, posters, outlines, banners, websites and other media;
- Place branding on pastoral materials to be used for spiritual preparation for the Jubilee;
- Place trademark on promotional materials related to the Jubilee, particularly on posters, banners, T-shirts, hats, mugs, and other materials and media; not for commercial use.

Jubilee Website: <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

Jubilee Hymn

“Pilgrims of Hope” is the Jubilee 2025 hymn. Prepared by Pierangelo Sequeri, set to music by Francesco Meneghello, the hymn 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>

Mass for the Opening of the Academic Year

A votive Mass of the Holy Spirit may be scheduled for the opening of the academic year on weekdays when there is no liturgical impediment. The Roman Missal provides three options for this Votive Mass. One of the prefaces of the Holy Spirit is used and red vestments are worn. The Lectionary texts for the day are preferable.

Also, see the options in the Book of Blessings, Chapter 5: Order for the Blessing of Students and Teachers, for another way to celebrate liturgically, the opening of the academic year.

Catechetical Sunday - September 15, 2024 Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Church in the United States will observe Catechetical Sunday on September 15, 2024, with the theme of "Lord, when did we see you hungry" Matthew 25:37. On this day, catechists are formally commissioned for ministry to the community. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each baptized person plays in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

Please see the website of the USCCB for additional resources: <https://www.usccb.org/committees/evangelization-catechesis/lord-when-did-we-see-you-hungry>

Time of the Easter Vigil 2025

The Easter Vigil is the first Mass of Easter Sunday and not in any way to be considered an Anticipated Mass for Easter Sunday. This is why the discipline of the Church insists that it should not begin before nightfall in any circumstance. It may be helpful to know that sunset, according to a variety of models, occurs approximately at 8:06 pm on April 19, 2025. This information is provided at this time to assist with calendar planning for 2024-2025. In general, given the variable date for Easter, it seems best to schedule the Easter Vigil each year for 8:30 pm or later.

Reminders from the Chancery

Extraordinary Ministers to the Homebound

We are very grateful for the help of trained and designated Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist in carrying our Lord to those who are sick and homebound. This service finds its origin in the very beginning of the Church. Extraordinary Ministers who take the Eucharist directly from Mass to the sick and homebound can either a) receive their pyx from the altar and be sent forth by the presider after Communion, or b) can pick up the pyx after Mass from the Tabernacle and take the Blessed Sacrament immediately to the person who is to receive it. The long-standing directive first issued by Bishop Trautman, and repeatedly renewed by Bishop Persico, is that it is not permitted for those distributing the Eucharist to place the consecrated host in a pyx brought forward by the people in the Communion line at Mass and then return to their seat. Wherever this custom exists, it should cease.

Reservation of the Holy Eucharist

The Eucharist must be reserved in all parish churches (cf. can. 934 §1, 1). The Eucharist may be reserved in another church (i.e., in a secondary church, whether it has mission status or not), but only with the permission of the diocesan bishop or episcopal vicar and **provided that Mass is celebrated there at least twice a month** (cf. can. 934 §1, 2 and can. 934 §2). **Churches in which the Eucharist is reserved are to be open for at least some hours each day**, unless some grave reason (e.g., security concerns) intervenes (cf. can. 937). For churches in which the Eucharist is not reserved, pastors are encouraged to delegate deacons or trusted lay persons to unlock these churches occasionally to allow the faithful to enter for private prayer and devotion (cf. can. 1214).

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.

Missal Additions for October

October 5 - Saint Faustina Kowalska and Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

On May 18, 2020, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin, into the General Roman Calendar. St. Faustina is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on October 5.

On July 25, 2014, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments confirmed the inscription of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest, into the Proper Calendar for the Dioceses of the United States of America. He is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on October 5.

Saint Faustina Kowalska

Collect

O God, who entrusted Saint Faustina with spreading the immense riches of your infinite mercy, grant, at her intercession, that after her example we may fully trust in your goodness and generously perform works of charity.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

Collect

O God, who made your Priest Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos outstanding in love, that he might proclaim the mysteries of redemption and comfort those in affliction, grant, by his intercession, that we may work zealously for your glory and for the salvation of mankind.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

October 11 - Saint John XXIII

On May 29, 2014, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint John XXIII, Pope, into the General Roman Calendar. St. John is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on October 11.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, who in Pope Saint John the Twenty-Third have given a living example of Christ, the Good Shepherd, to shine throughout the whole world,

grant us, we pray, that, through his intercession,

we may joyfully pour out an abundance of Christian charity.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

October 22 - Saint John Paul II

On October 12, 2012, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments confirmed the inscription of Saint John Paul II, Pope, into the Proper Calendar for the Dioceses of the United States of America. Two years later, on May 29, 2014, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint John Paul II into the General Roman Calendar. St. John Paul is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on October 22.

Collect

O God, rich in mercy, who willed that Pope Saint John Paul the Second should preside over your universal Church, grant, we pray, that instructed by his teaching, we may confidently open our hearts to the saving grace of Christ, the sole Redeemer of the human race.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Divine Worship and Copyright Law

Catholic social teaching upholds the importance of intellectual property rights, including copyright, as part of its broader support for the ownership of private property. The Church teaches that the right to own private property is a natural and fundamental human right. In this context, copyright law can be viewed as an extension of the 7th Commandment, "Thou shalt not steal," emphasizing the moral obligation to respect the creative works and intellectual contributions of others.

The Office for Divine Worship wants to ensure that you are fully aware of the importance of copyright laws and how they apply to our religious practices and materials. We have prepared this document to serve as a comprehensive and easy-to-follow guide, aimed at enhancing your awareness and understanding of these laws. Our goal is to help you navigate the complexities of copyright regulations with confidence and clarity. Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to support you in all matters related to copyright compliance.

The Reverend Matthew J. Kujawinski, Director
Maripat Grant, Coordinator

"Many published works are protected by national and international copyright laws, which are intended to ensure that composers, text writers, publishers, and their employees receive a fair return for their work. Churches and other institutions have a legal and moral obligation to seek proper permissions and to pay for reprinting of published works when required, even if copies are intended only for the use of the congregation."
(no. 105, Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship, © 2007, USCCB)

The guidance from our U.S. Bishops is relevant not only to the reprinting of copyrighted works in worship aids, but also extends to their use in livestreaming, podcasting, and displaying on screens.

The legal aspect of copyright:

Copyright legally protects creative works, making them the exclusive property of their creators, publishers, or managers. Users must obtain permission to use these materials, as unauthorized use is illegal.

"What are the possible financial penalties for violating copyright law?"

U.S. copyright law provides for the owner of copyright to recover damages ranging from \$500 to \$100,000 per copyright infringed. If willful infringement for commercial advantage and private financial gain is proven, criminal fines up to \$250,000 and/or five years imprisonment may apply.

The moral aspect of copyright:

Composers, arrangers, and publishers depend on royalties from their creative works. Without these funds, their ability to produce future resources is hindered. Requiring permission for use ensures funds go to the rightful owners. Depriving them of these funds is immoral.

"In the liturgy of the Church, what elements are copyrighted?"

- Musical compositions which are not in the public domain.
- Scriptural texts from the Lectionary for Mass.
- Texts and musical compositions contained in the Roman Missal, or other liturgical rites of the Church.

"How can I determine the owner of a piece of music?"

- Separate sheet music or octavos - most often located in a notice at the bottom of the first page.
- Music in hymnals - Usually printed in small type below the musical notation. Be aware that the melody of the song or hymn is often copyrighted separately from the text or lyrics of the song or hymn. It is somewhat common for the melody of the song or hymn to be in the public domain while more recently composed text or lyrics are copyrighted.
- You will need to contact OneLicense.net to obtain licensing.

"What about the readings and the text of the Roman Missal?"

In worship aids: To license the readings for a worship aid, 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. For reprinting excerpts of the Roman Missal in a worship aid, credit is given to the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL).

On screens: The Committee on Divine Worship does not permit projecting readings and liturgical texts on screens during the liturgy. The bishops believe that since people spend much time on screens, the Sacred Liturgy should be a prayerful break from that. They also think screens distract from the liturgy itself.

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>.

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.