



# FROM THE OFFICE OF WORSHIP

NOTES FOR APRIL 2015

## Contents

Ascension Thursday or Sunday?_____	1	NPM Convention_____	4
Prayers for the Springtime_____	1	Saint Meinrad Chant Retreats_____	4
Notre Dame Liturgy Symposium_____	2	Solemnities of John Baptist, Peter and Paul____	4
ND Vision for Music Ministers_____	3		

## Ascension – Thursday or Sunday?

### **Q. When is Ascension celebrated this year – Thursday or Sunday?**

**A.** The dioceses that make up the province of Indiana (and the vast majority of the dioceses in the United States) have elected to transfer (using a 1999 indult from the Holy See) the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord from the Thursday of the sixth week of Easter to the following Sunday. Therefore, Ascension in 2015 will be on Sunday, May 17. It will continue to be celebrated on the seventh Sunday of Easter for the foreseeable future.

Also, the *Roman Missal* contains proper prayers for the Vigil of the Ascension, which should be used for those Masses celebrated on the evening of May 16. The readings, however, remain the same for both the vigil and the Sunday.

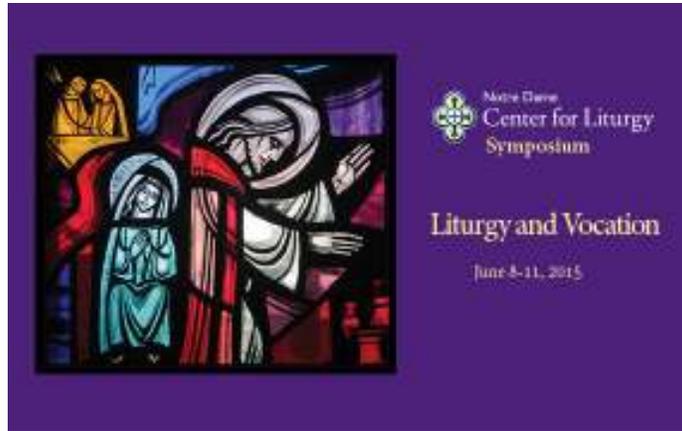
The Easter candle remains in its place near the ambo through Pentecost and is lit for all celebrations during this time. After Pentecost it is placed near the baptismal font.

## Prayers for the Springtime: Masses and the *Book of Blessings*

With signs of new life all around us and the planting season for our farmers drawing near, it is right to look at ways to frame this work in prayer and ask for God's blessings. Here are a few suggestions from the resources of the Church:

- ✘ *Book of Blessings*—Chapters 24 (“Order for the Blessing of Tools or Other Equipment for Work”), 25 (“Order for the Blessing of Animals”), 26 (“Order for the Blessing of Fields and Flocks”), and 27 (“Order for the Blessing of Seeds at Planting Time”) would be appropriate to celebrate especially if you are in an area with a lot of farming. Perhaps a gathering could be planned at a convenient farm for a blessing of seeds, tractors and other farm equipment.
- ✘ *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*—Part III: Days and Seasons provides a “Blessing of Fields and Gardens” that could be used for a family or neighborhood garden. In addition, any of the above prayers from the *Book of Blessings* could be used to celebrate blessings in the home or neighborhood.
- ✘ *Roman Missal*—Under Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions, II. For Civil Needs, there are proper prayers for seedtime (#27), rain (#35), fine weather (#36), and even an end to storms (#37) which could be used on days when another celebration on the calendar did not take precedent.

## Upcoming Conferences



The 2015 Symposium will explore the biblical, liturgical, pastoral and theological implications of the rites of marriage and ordination for the Church today.

### **General Sessions**

- ✘ Christ as Bridegroom (Brant Pitre, Ph.D., Chair of Sacred Scripture, Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans)
- ✘ Liturgy and Vocation (Msgr. Michael Heintz, Ph.D., Director of M.Div. Program, University of Notre Dame)
- ✘ Icons of Love: A Theological Vision of Priesthood and Family (Holly Taylor Coolman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Providence College)
- ✘ The Order of Freedom: Social and Political Effects of the Vocations to Priesthood and Marriage (Chad Pecknold, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Catholic University of America)
- ✘ A Panel Presentation on Formation for Marriage and Priesthood

### **Afternoon Seminars**

- ✘ In Persona Christi et Ecclesiae: the Foundation of Priestly Vocation in Christ and the Holy Spirit
- ✘ The Rite of Marriage
- ✘ Formation for the Sacrament of Marriage
- ✘ Liturgical Music for the Rite of Marriage
- ✘ Hispanic Catholics and the Sacrament of Marriage
- ✘ The Deacon in the Life of the Church
- ✘ Advanced Seminar in Liturgical Theology

### **Registration**

Cost for attending the 2015 Symposium is \$260 prior to May 16 and \$280 after. Registration fee includes entry into all sessions, access to pre-Symposium readings, and all meals for the duration of the program. Liturgy Network members pay a reduced fee of \$240 prior to May 16, \$260 after.

**Special Rate-if we have at least five people register together, we receive a \$20 discount per person. Registrations must be submitted together. If you are interested in taking advantage of this discount, please contact Matt Miller (mmiller@evdio.org) by Friday, May 8.**

Accommodations are not included in the registration. Housing options range from one of Notre Dame's residence halls (single room is \$53 per night, double room is \$41) to reservations in the newly renovated Morris Inn (\$139 per night), located on campus adjacent to the Symposium venue (<http://morrisinn.nd.edu/>).

For more information on the symposium, housing options, or to register individually, please visit the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy website: [liturgy.nd.edu](http://liturgy.nd.edu).

## Upcoming Conferences (cont.)



*Notre Dame Vision: Liturgical Music Ministers*

July 13-17, 2015

University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame IN

### **Who?**

Notre Dame Vision LMM is for directors of music, choir directors, accompanists, cantors, choir members, instrumentalists—anyone involved in liturgical music ministry at the parish or diocesan level, or within a grade school, high school, or university setting. If you are interested in strengthening and expanding your ministry as a liturgical musician; if you want to build on the Notre Dame Vision experience in your parish, diocese, or school; if you want to learn with and from a community of fellow liturgical music ministers; if you need continuing education and ongoing formation; if you are looking for an experience of personal renewal and refreshment, then Notre Dame Vision LMM is for you!

### **What?**

Vision LMM provides an opportunity for the spiritual and human formation of the liturgical musician. For five days, Notre Dame Vision LMM participants will explore the meaning and significance of vocation for their own lives, for their fellow Christians, and for their ministry as musicians. The experience will include theological exploration and personal renewal with a community of liturgical music ministers from across the nation. Engaging and enriching keynotes, stimulating facilitated discussions, and experiences of reflection and prayer will address various aspects of God's call for each of us and our response of faith.

### **2015 Session Topics:**

Singing the Mystery of Love

God's Call for Us (shared with Vision and Vision CYM conferences)

Hearing the Voice of God

Christ as the New Song

Practices of Prayer

Echoing the New Song of Christ

### **2015 Speakers:**

Fr. Jan Michael Joncas, S.L.D., Artist & Research Fellow in Catholic Studies, University of St. Thomas

Steven C. Warner, Director of University of Notre Dame Folk Choir

Margaret Felice, Religion teacher, liturgical musician, professional opera singer

Mary Catherine Levri, Sacred Music doctoral student, Notre Dame

Tim O'Malley, Ph.D., Director of Center for Liturgy & Assistant Professional Specialist, Notre Dame

Andrew Hoyt, Education professional & sociology doctoral student, University of Notre Dame

Eric Buell, High school theology teacher and department chair

Cost is \$375 per person. Registration fees cover all program activities, meals, conference notebook, t-shirt, housing (double-occupancy accommodations), and more!

For information on the conference, speakers, registration materials, or to apply online, please visit:  
[http://vision.nd.edu/Welcome\\_to\\_Notre\\_Dame\\_Vision/LMM\\_Page.html](http://vision.nd.edu/Welcome_to_Notre_Dame_Vision/LMM_Page.html).

## Upcoming Conferences (cont.)

*Called to Joy and Hope: Let the Servant Church Arise!*

38th Annual Convention

National Association of Pastoral Musicians

July 6-10, 2015

DeVos Place Convention Center, Grand Rapids MI

Come to Michigan for practical hands-on learning, stimulating ideas, vibrant sung prayer, spiritual reflection, exhibits of music and ministry resources, and much more. Come to gather with colleagues and friends, new and old. Musicians, clergy, and liturgists won't want to miss this exciting event!

Discounts for advanced registrations are still available, as well as daily rates for those who cannot make the whole week. For more information on the registration costs, the numerous options for master classes and other breakouts, information on speakers and other events, and housing options, please visit: <http://www.npm.org/EducationEvents/convention/national/index.htm>

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*Bringing to Life the Word of God in Song*

July 13-17, 2015 (beginners)

July 20-24, 2015 (advanced)

Archabbey Guest House and Retreat Center, St. Meinrad IN

Learn how the practice of Gregorian chant brings to life the Word of God in song, and study the intimate relationship between the proclaimed Word of God and its melodic setting. Learn a new way to enhance your spiritual reading. The workshop includes study of the original chant notations as the key to unlocking the spiritual and artistic qualities that have influenced later Western music. Practice singing both Latin and English settings in chant style will be included. Retreat director is renowned chant expert Fr. Columba Kelly, OSB.

The fee for lodging, meals and conferences is \$425 for single occupancy, and \$680 double occupancy.

For more information, please contact the Archabbey Guesthouse at (800) 581-6905 or visit: <http://www.saintmeinrad.org/retreats/>.

## Solemnities of Saints John the Baptist, Peter and Paul

While they may not be holy days of obligation (Solemnities of precept), there are two major feasts that fall on weekdays in June that deserve some special attention:

### **June 24—Nativity of John the Baptist**

This Solemnity has its own vigil Mass with proper readings and prayers distinct from those for the Mass of the feast day. Therefore, Masses celebrated the evening of June 23 (before or after Evening Prayer) may be for the vigil of the feast of the forerunner of Christ. Also, since it is not a holy day of obligation, funerals may be celebrated this day if needed.

### **June 29—Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul**

Like John the Baptist above, this Solemnity also has its own vigil Mass with proper readings and prayers distinct from those for the Mass of the feast day. However, since June 29 is a Monday, it is highly unlikely that you would celebrate the vigil Mass for this feast on that Sunday evening. Sunday's Evening Prayer would be Evening Prayer I for the Solemnity and not Evening Prayer II of the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time. And like above, since this is not a holy day of obligation, funerals may be celebrated this day if needed. It would also be a good idea to include a petition for Bishop Thompson this day, the anniversary of his ordination and installation here in the diocese.

We need constantly to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a wellspring of joy, serenity, and peace. Our salvation depends on it. Mercy: the word reveals the very mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. Mercy: the ultimate and supreme act by which God comes to meet us. Mercy: the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life. Mercy: the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to a hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness.

—Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*, 2