

FROM THE OFFICE OF WORSHIP

NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023

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September 12—Anniversary of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

FYI—September 12 marks the third anniversary of the consecration of the diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. As we look back on the fruits that this act has borne for our diocese and ourselves, it may be beneficial to remind parishioners of this important anniversary and take time to recall or even re-consecrate ourselves to our Blessed Mother and her Immaculate Heart. Immaculate Mary, meek and humble of heart. Conform our hearts to the heart of Jesus!

Catechetical Sunday 2023

This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 17, with the theme *Come to me all you who labor and are burdened*. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Those who the parish community has designated to serve as catechists may be called forth to be blessed for their ministry. Especially as we continue with the Eucharistic revival, recognizing and praying for the efforts of all catechists as they seek different and creative ways to provide formation on the Eucharist for the faithful is vitally important.

As in past years, a variety of materials, free of charge on-line, have been prepared to assist clergy, parish catechists, Catholic school teachers, and the faithful to celebrate Catechetical Sunday, not only in September but throughout 2023-2024. These can be found at the [USCCB Catechetical Sunday 2023](https://www.usccb.org/catechetical-sunday-2023) website.



In addition, chapter four of the *Book of Blessings* provides an “Order for the Blessing of Those Appointed as Catechists” that may be used in or outside of Mass. This could be used at the Masses on Catechetical Sunday weekend to publicly recognize those who have made the commitment to serve as catechists, as well as giving the faithful of the community the opportunity to publicly pray for and support those entrusted with this great work.

Lastly, please do not forget to recognize parents as the first teachers of children. The role which they play is essential, and our prayerful support of them is greatly needed and appreciated.

Feasts in October

While they may not be holy days of obligation, there are several additions to the liturgical calendar in October that deserve some special attention. The texts for their respective Masses and entries in the Lectionary and Liturgy of the Hours in English and Spanish (when available) can be found under “[Mass](#)” in the Worship section of the diocesan website:

October 3—Memorial (optional) of Saint Theodore Guérin, Virgin

Due to her impact on the Church here in southern Indiana, the optional Memorial of Saint Theodore Guérin was added in 2007 to the Proper Calendar for the Diocese of Evansville following her 2006 canonization. We can still see the fruits of her work here in the diocese today, especially in Catholic education.

October 5—Memorials (optional) of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest; and Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin

Born in Füssen, Germany in 1819, Blessed Francis entered the diocesan seminary and, coming to know the charism of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, joined it and was sent to North America. Ordained a priest in 1844, he began his pastoral ministry in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania as assistant pastor of his confrere Saint John Neumann, serving also as Master of Novices and dedicating himself to preaching. He became a full-time itinerant missionary preacher, preaching in both English and German in a number of different states. He died in New Orleans, Louisiana, on October 4, 1867. Due to his missionary zeal as well as continued devotion to him, especially in the south, Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos was added to the Proper Calendar for the Dioceses of the United States in 2014.

Born in Poland in 1905, Saint Faustina spent her short life amongst the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, conforming herself to the vocation she received from God and developing an intense spiritual life, rich in spiritual gifts and in faithful harmony with them. She became the inspiration for a movement dedicated to proclaiming and imploring Divine Mercy throughout the whole world. Canonized in the year 2000 by Pope Saint John Paul II, Faustina and her devotion to Divine Mercy quickly became known around the world. In 2020, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint Faustina into the General Roman Calendar.

October 11—Memorial (optional) of Saint John XXIII, Pope

Pope Saint John XXIII was added to the General Roman Calendar in 2014. While most saints’ feasts are their day of death, Pope Saint John XXIII is commemorated on the date of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, which he historically called.

October 22—Memorial (optional) of Saint John Paul II, Pope

Since this falls on a Sunday, Saint John Paul II is not celebrated liturgically in 2023. It would still be appropriate, however, to mention him in the Prayer of the Faithful or in the Eucharistic Prayers that include a mention of the saint of the day (EP III and “For Various Needs”).

November 6—Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral

On November 6 we celebrate the fourth anniversary of the dedication of Saint Benedict Cathedral. The anniversary of the dedication of a cathedral a proper Feast for the diocese, celebrating Saint Benedict as the diocesan church and the home of the bishop’s cathedra. Masses this day should be taken from the Common of the Dedication of a Church: On the Anniversary of the Dedication: II. Outside the Church that was Dedicated. As a Feast the Gloria would be sung at Mass. Funeral Masses are permitted this day.

In the cathedral itself, the day is a Solemnity (as it would be for any other church’s dedication anniversary). Along with the Gloria, two readings are proclaimed before the Gospel and the Creed is also said.

Upcoming Conference

FDLC National Meeting Study Day—*Sign & Pledge of Communion: Masses with Children*

October 11, 2023

Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, OH

In a post-pandemic era when we are encouraging families with young children to return to Sunday worship, we need to educate parents and children alike. In a culture where families are struggling against the opinions of secular society, we need to nurture the Catholic identity of our youngest Church members. And in a time when entertainment is often more valued than true worship, we need to foster the full, conscious, and active participation of our youth in the liturgy, by means of the liturgy.



This study day would benefit all those responsible for the preparation of liturgies with children, especially in a school setting. Breakout topics include:

- ✦ OCIA as Adapted for Children
- ✦ Engaging Children in the Liturgical Practices of the Church
- ✦ Preparing First Communion Liturgies
- ✦ Preaching the Kingdom: Let the Children Come to Me
- ✦ Music for Masses with Children
- ✦ Reconciliation and First Communion Preparation-for Adults!

In-person as well as virtual participation options available. For more information or to register, please visit the [FDLC National Meeting Study Day](#) page.

Color of Altar Cloth

Q.: What color should the altar cloth be? Does it need to match the color of the day?

A.: The altar is “the center of the thanksgiving that is accomplished through the Eucharist” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal* [GIRM], no. 296), so it makes sense to pay attention to how the altar is covered and prepared.

According to the *General Instruction*, there should be “at least one cloth, white in color, whose shape, size, and decoration are in keeping with the altar’s structure” (GIRM, no. 304). It goes on to say that if other cloths are used, they may be of other colors (usually the color of the liturgical season or feast), but the top cloth is always white.

From a sign standpoint, the altar is said to represent Christ (in the words of Saint Ambrose, “the altar is Christ”). Because of this, the white cloth has long symbolized the burial shroud of Christ. While other cloths may be used to ornament the altar, this uppermost reminder of Christ’s Passion and death is not to be overlooked.

In addition, from a practical standpoint, this cloth can also help to keep stains from reaching the other cloths underneath, especially if nicer colored cloths are used. But this white cloth should be seen as the minimum needed.

Related to this point, the top white cloth is distinct from the corporal that is also placed on the altar for the celebration of Mass. Even if a large corporal is used that may cover most or all of the altar, it is still seen as separate from this white altar cloth.

Last Call—Discounts on 2024 Ordos and LTP Workbooks

The Office of Worship is pleased to be able to recommend offer the following resources at a discounted price. To order, please fill out the [online order form](#) or contact Matt Miller (mmiller@evdio.org) by Friday, September 22 with kind and number. Materials will be ready for pick-up in October.

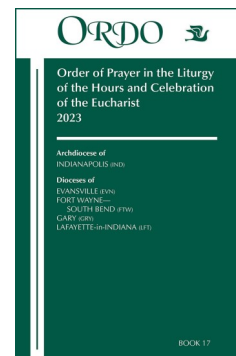
Paulist Press

2024 Ordo from Paulist Press

Print edition. Contains the order of prayer for the Liturgy of the Hours and Mass, clergy necrology, information on saints' lives, and helpful pastoral notes. Spanish edition also available (Spanish version is not diocese-specific and does not contain the necrology).

Office of Worship Price—\$18.50 (20% off)

Please note—This offer is for the print version only. If you would like to order the ebook version or the mobile app, please visit the [Paulist Press website](#). The Office of Worship is unable to provide a discount for the electronic versions.



LTP

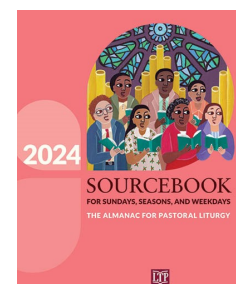
Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays 2024

The Almanac for Pastoral Liturgy

This trusted annual publication brings you concise and helpful material to enlighten and inspire those who prepare the liturgy, especially the Sunday Mass, the “source and summit of the Christian life.” Features include:

- ✘ Preaching points & Scripture insights for the Proper of Saints
- ✘ Music preparation guidance and song suggestions
- ✘ Ideas for celebrating other rites and customs
- ✘ Online supplement for preparing the sacramental rites
- ✘ Daily calendar preparation guides
- ✘ Dated entries with liturgical titles, Lectionary citations, and vestment colors
- ✘ Brief biographies of the saints and blessed
- ✘ Guidance for choosing among the options provided in the ritual texts

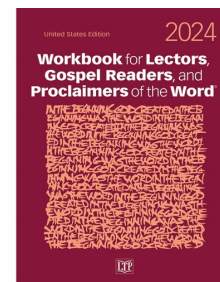
Office of Worship price—\$13.00 (35% off)



Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word® 2024

This resource contains the readings in large print for practice (with suggestions for emphasis in bold) commentaries that give background and explain the meaning of the reading, margin notes with pronunciation helps and tips for proclamation, and the Responsorial Psalms for meditation and context. Workbook's introduction offers an orientation to this ministry of the Word and an overview of proclamation skills.

Office of Worship price—\$9.75 (35% off)

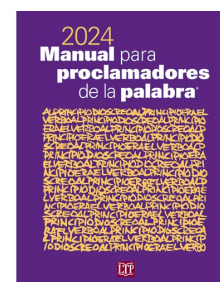


Do not forget your Spanish readers!

Manual para proclamadores de la palabra® 2024

This resource provides the Sunday readings arranged in sense-lines, with the most indispensable biblical and liturgical information to proclaim them with reverence and efficacy before the assembly. This Manual collaborates in the technical, biblical, and spiritual formation of parish lectors, so that each celebration is a source and culmination of the life of the Church.

Office of Worship price—\$9.75 (35% off)



SACRED MUSIC IN THE SERVICE OF THE LORD

OCTOBER 21, 2023 / 8:30 AM - 12 PM
CATHOLIC CENTER

Liturgical music has a very specific and important role in helping the people of God “join themselves with the action of Christ and to give voice to the gift of faith” (*Sing to the Lord*, 125).

This workshop will give music ministers principles and guidance for making musical choices that serve the needs of the liturgy and the Church.

With Andrew Motyka,
Director of Archdiocesan and Cathedral Music
Archdiocese of Indianapolis



For more information
or to register
please visit the
Office of Worship
website

