### 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. This transfer was done in the hopes that, by moving the celebration to the nearest Sunday, it would allow for more of the faithful to participate in such an important feast for the Church. Therefore, Ascension in 2022 will be on Sunday, May 29. 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 28. The readings, however, remain the same for both the vigil and the Sunday.

As a reminder, 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.

### Calendar Notes: Saint John of Avila; Pentecost; Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church; Saint John the Baptist and the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Below is a brief summary of some additions to and clarifications of the liturgical calendar through June:

**May 10—Saint John of Avila**

In January of 2021, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint John of Avila into the General Roman Calendar as an Optional Memorial. Proper prayers and readings for Mass may be taken from the “Common of Pastors” or the “Common of Doctors of the Church” in the *Roman Missal* and *Lectionary for Mass*, respectively. The Liturgy of the Hours uses the psalmody of the day, with other elements from the Psalter of the day or the “Common of Pastors” or “Common of Doctors of the Church.” As a Memorial, funerals may be celebrated this day if needed.

May 10 also remains the Optional Memorial of Saint Damien Joseph de Veuster of Moloka’i.

For more information on Saint John, [click here](#) to read the letter from Pope Benedict XVI declaring him a Doctor of the Church.

*(continued on next page)*
Calendar Notes (continued)

June 5—Pentecost
Sitting at the conclusion of the Easter season, Pentecost has its own vigil Mass (with an extended form and a simple form) with proper readings and prayers to be used for Saturday evening Masses. The Pentecost Sequence (*Veni, Sancte Spiritus*), while obligatory for Sunday, is optional at the vigil Mass. In addition, the double Alleluia should be used at the dismissal.

June 6—Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
In 2018 this obligatory Memorial was added to the calendar by Pope Francis. The proper prayers for the Mass are to be taken from the votive Mass “Our Lady, Mother of the Church,” and there are proper readings assigned to this day that take the place of the Ordinary Time readings. For the Liturgy of the Hours, the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary is used except for the Second Reading and Responsory, and the Gospel canticle antiphons for Morning and Evening Prayer. As a Memorial, funerals may be celebrated this day if needed.

June 23-24—Saint John the Baptist & the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Most years June 24 would be the Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist. In 2022, however, June 24 is also the Friday after the Second Sunday of Pentecost, making it the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. It only makes sense that the Forerunner would defer his feast to Christ, but rather than drop Saint John’s day altogether, it is transferred to June 23. The Solemnity of Saint John retains its proper vigil on June 22, with prayers and readings distinct from those for the feast day. Evening Prayer I on June 23 would be for the Sacred Heart rather than Evening Prayer II for Saint John.

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 upon us, 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 as well as a local resource:

- **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.

- May 15: Memorial of Saint Isidore—Even though it lands on a Sunday in 2022, as the feast of patron saint of farmers, it would be appropriate to celebrate the above blessings this day, even though planting season will be well under way by this point.

- **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.

- **Prayers for the Soil and Seed, and Those Who Work the Land**—This booklet is based on many of the prayers noted above, and is intended for anyone who wishes to set their springtime work in the context of prayer. The booklet can be downloaded from the Office of Worship website.
Eucharistic Revival Resources and Information

Beginning on Corpus Christi of this year, June 19, 2022, and eventually culminating in a National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis from July 17–21, 2024, the USCCB has announced a period of National Eucharistic Revival. On the national level, the two years leading up to the National Eucharistic Congress are divided into two phases: a diocesan phase (June 19, 2022–June 11, 2023) and a parish phase (June 11, 2023–July 17, 2024).

When the idea for the Eucharistic Revival was first proposed to the USCCB, the following rationale was given for the project: “Two significant developments have highlighted the need for a revival of Eucharistic faith and practice. In 2019, a Pew Research Study revealed that less than one-third of self-identified Catholics expressed a belief in the Real Presence. Less than a year later, the COVID-19 crisis forced the Church in the U.S. to suspend public liturgies. During this crisis, many of the faithful expressed a renewed desire for the Eucharist, but there is also a concern that some may lose the sense of the need for the Eucharist and not come back to regular mass attendance. Beyond these significant developments lies a deeper concern, which is the loss of the robust Eucharistic mindset of the Church in her faithful. ... The fact of Catholics not knowing or believing in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist signifies a profound loss of identity that needs to be regained.” For more information regarding the Eucharistic Revival on a national level, as well as to find links to multiple resources, please go to: www.EucharisticRevival.org.

Bishop Siegel has asked the Office of Catechesis to coordinate this initiative on a diocesan level. In our diocese, this initiative will be referred to as a “Eucharistic Renewal.” Within our diocese, the diocesan phase and the parish phase will coincide for the most part. In other words, the Office of Catechesis will coordinate efforts to carry this initiative out on both a diocesan and a parish level from Corpus Christi 2022 (June 19) until Corpus Christi 2023 (June 11). Beginning on Corpus Christi 2023, the Diocesan Office of Catechesis will refocus its efforts on promoting the National Eucharistic Congress in 2024, and each parish will be responsible for continuing the Eucharistic Renewal on the parish level.

The Eucharistic Renewal has four goals that guide it:

1. **Believe:** Foster belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.
2. **Worship:** Foster attendance at Mass, as well as valuing Mass in its entirety.
3. **Live:** Encourage living in such a way so as to reflect the Eucharist in our daily lives.
4. **Share:** Encourage sharing the truth, beauty and goodness of Mass with others so that they in turn may be drawn to it.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Catechesis.

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**PRAYER FOR THE REVIVAL**

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly. I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which He is offended. And, through the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of sinners.

*Our Lady of Fatima*
Upcoming Conference

Sacred Music Colloquium 2022
June 20-25, 2022
St. Mary’s Parish, Hagerstown, MD
Church Music Association of America

The Church Music Association of America and The Collegium (of Hagerstown, MD) are proud to invite you to the 32nd Colloquium in 2022, at St. Mary’s Parish in Hagerstown, Maryland. The CMAA’s Sacred Music Colloquium continues to be the largest and most in-depth teaching conference and retreat on sacred music in the world. The 2022 program offers new opportunities for learning, singing, listening, and interacting with some of the best minds and musicians in the Catholic world today. The Colloquium is primarily focused on instruction and experience in chant and the Catholic sacred music tradition, participation in chant choirs, lectures and performances and daily liturgies. During the week, you’ll be able to participate in ordinary and extraordinary form Masses, in Latin, Latin/Spanish and English, Vespers, and daily sung morning and night prayer.

As a participant, you are an integral part of the beautiful music from the Roman Catholic tradition. Experience not only the traditional Gregorian chant and Renaissance polyphony of the church’s musical treasure, but also new compositions of English propers and ordinaries by various composers, as well as modern motets. Again, the Sacred Music Colloquium will also offer Mass in Spanish, with Spanish propers and will feature a newly commissioned Spanish Mass Ordinary.

Who should attend?
* Anyone interested in sacred music in Catholic worship
* Professional musicians
* Volunteer singers
* Priests, deacons and seminarians

For more information on registration, schedule, housing and costs, please visit the CMAA Colloquium website.

Upcoming Conference & Chant Information

Summer Chant Workshop
July 11-15, 2022
Institute for Sacred Music
Saint Meinrad Archabbey Guest House and Retreat Center

This workshop is designed for directors of parish liturgical music and singers in parish liturgies. Come spend a week immersed in the beauty of liturgical chant. Learn how to incorporate English and Latin chant into today’s parish liturgy. Through the week, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in the liturgies of Saint Meinrad’s Benedictine monastic community, as well as to form and sing in a chant schola.

The Institute for Sacred Music advances the call for both the full and active participation of the faithful through their singing as well as their intellectual and spiritual training in the musical tradition of the Church. Through its events, resources, and course offerings, it brings together scholars with practitioners to promote sacred music as a living and vibrant tradition, grounded in history but always responsive to the unique demands of the moment.

For more information on this workshop as well as other resources for chant and sacred music, please visit the Saint Meinrad Institute for Sacred Music website.
Upcoming Conference

45th Annual Convention
National Association of Pastoral Musicians
In-person: June 28-July 1, 2022; Louisville, KY
Virtual: July 5-7, 2022

The 2022 National Convention will offer both in-person and virtual experiences. The in-person convention will be held in Louisville, KY, June 28 - July 1, 2022, at the historic Galt House in downtown Louisville. The virtual convention will take place July 5 - 7, 2022, with recorded content available for both in-person and virtual participants through September 30, 2022.

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 the NPM national convention website.

Online Courses/Liturgical Retreat

Online Study Program
The Liturgical Institute
University of Saint Mary of the Lake
Mundelein, IL.

This Liturgical Institute online liturgy program is a resource for clergy, church professionals and the laity. It extends the mission of the Institute to diocesan and parish professionals as well as interested individual Catholics. Composed of five one-hour classroom sessions followed by online quizzes, each course awards one-half Continuing Education Unit and brings a fresh, energized approach to the study of liturgical renewal. Available as individual courses or as a bundle. View them at your own pace, on your own time.

Liturgical Retreats
June 14-16; June 21-23; June 28-June 30; July 5-July 7

Visit the Liturgical Institute this summer for a private retreat that will refresh your soul and reveal the riches of the Sacred Liturgy. Spend three days and two nights on the beautiful 1,000-acre campus at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake. Join the students in chanted liturgy of the hours and sung Mass as you allow the treasures of the Church’s worship to enliven your mind and strengthen your love of the Church.

Retreat includes:
★ Private sleeping room and bathroom.
★ Meals included (two breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners).
★ Weeklong access to the Liturgical Institute’s Online Liturgy Program.
★ Use of tablet with preloaded content: Online courses, Liturgy Guys podcast episodes, and additional retreat/prayer resources.
★ Daily liturgies with the Liturgical Institute: Sung Mass, chanted Lauds and Vespers.
★ And much more!

For more information on either of these offerings, please visit the Liturgical Institute website.

OCP Parish Grants Program

OCP is honored to partner with communities of faith across the country through their annual OCP Parish Grants Program, aimed at supporting and enhancing parish worship. Since its inception in 2001, the Program has awarded more than $3.3 million to parishes throughout the United States.

Applications for the 2022 Program are being accepted through May 30. All applicants are required to fill out an online application at ocp.org/parish-grants, providing information about their parish—demographics, pastoral ministries offered and intentions for the grant. Grant recipients will be announced in August.

The Program is open to all Roman Catholic parishes and campus ministry programs in the U.S., so long as they have not received an OCP grant the previous year. Awarded grants must be used for liturgical and/or musical purposes. Applicants do not need to currently use an OCP worship program in order to qualify.

For more information, please visit ocp.parish-grants or call 1-800-LITURGY (548-8749).