

December 1, 2009

MEMO

TO: Clergy

FROM: Monsignor Robert Mazur

CONCERNING: (1) January 21, 2010 / January 22, 2010
(2) Dates of Ecumenical Services
(3) Week of Christian Unity
(4) Easter Vigil 2010
(5) Winter Ordinary Time Bulletin Liturgical Inserts

(1) January 21, 2010 - Prayer at Altoona Cathedral

On Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona, there will be a prayer service on the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision of *Roe vs. Wade*. There will be a blessing for the pilgrims attending the March For Life in Washington, D.C. the next day. All are welcome to participate in this prayer. All who have a respect for life from conception to natural death are welcome to join their brothers and sisters at the Cathedral in Altoona.

January 22, 2010 - Day of Penance

Friday, January 22, 2010, is observed as a Day of Penance in all the dioceses of the United States of America. The Mass *For Peace and Justice* (Number 22 from *Masses for Various Needs*) should be celebrated with violet vestments as an appropriate liturgical observance for this day. The priest-celebrant is also free to pray the *Eucharistic Prayer For Masses for Various Needs and Occasions* (with the fourth Preface, *Jesus, the Compassion of God*.)

Possible Petition for Sunday, January 17 for General Intercessions:

*That the Church may continue to proclaim life's value and dignity,
and that our lives manifest the conviction of this teaching, we pray to the Lord...*

Prayer on January 22 - RESPECT for LIFE

God of life and love, you created us in your image and sent your Son to bring us life. Instill in us a respect for all life, from conception to natural death. Empower us to work for justice for the poor. Nourish us that we may bring food to the hungry. Inspire us to cherish the fragile life of the unborn. Strengthen us to bring comfort to the chronically ill. Teach us to treat the aging with dignity and respect. Bring us one day into the glory of everlasting life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. © WLP

(2) Dates of Ecumenical Services

Clergy are asked to vest in alb and white (anniversary) stole. Below are copy-ready bulletin inserts.

On Sunday, January 31, 2010, Metropolitan Nicholas of the Orthodox tradition will host an ecumenical service at Christ the Saviour Cathedral, 300 Garfield Street, Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The service begins at 3:00 P.M. Bishop Joseph will be in attendance. All are invited to participate in this prayer.

On Sunday, February 14, 2010, Bishop Joseph Adamec of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown will host an ecumenical service at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, One Cathedral Square, Altoona, Pennsylvania. The service begins at 3:00 P.M. All are invited to participate in this prayer.

Clergy are encouraged to participate in these two prayer services for Christian unity. Invite members of your faith community to join in this prayer. You may place the appropriate boxed announcement in your bulletin to inform your people.

(3) Week of Christian Unity

Parishes are encouraged to sponsor, along with other Christian churches, Prayer Services for Christian Unity. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on Monday, January 18, and concludes on Monday, January 25. The Book of Blessings, numbers 553 through 573, is a great resource for such an ecumenical service.

The Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute suggests *You Are Witnesses of These Things* (Luke 24:48) as the theme for the Week of Christian Unity 2010. A sample prayer service and information are available at: www.geii.org

Possible Petition for Sunday, January 17 and 24 for General Intercessions:

*That the Christian Family seek the unity that Christ won for all
through his death and resurrection, we pray to the Lord...*

(4) Easter Vigil 2010

Saturday, April 3rd, sunset is at **7:40 PM Daylight Saving Time**. The Easter Vigil is to begin no earlier than **8:30 PM Daylight Saving Time** on **April 3, 2010**.

(5) Winter Ordinary Time Bulletin Liturgical Inserts

Bulletin Liturgical Inserts are enclosed for the period of Winter Ordinary Time. The inserts discuss and explain the upcoming revised **ROMAN MISSAL**. Please place these inserts in your weekly bulletin. This is an important form of catechesis for us and all the faithful.

WINTER ORDINARY TIME, 2010

J
a
n
u
a
r
y
17

**ROMAN
MISSAL**

Liturgical Reflection...

In 2002 Rome issued the third edition of the **Roman Missal**, the official book of worship for the universal Church. The Catholic Church in the United States awaits the publication of the **Roman Missal** in the English language. Nonetheless, with the promulgation of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal in 2002, these liturgical directives became normative for worship in the Church. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal contains directives for the universal Church and contains particular adaptations for each country throughout the world.

2010, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 124 Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

J
a
n
u
a
r
y
17



Liturgical Reflection...

This Friday, January 22, all dioceses of the United States are observing a **Day of Penance** for the violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life. January 22 is the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, *Roe vs. Wade* (1973). Members of our Diocese are encouraged to participate at Mass this Friday, pray the rosary or the chaplet of Divine Mercy, fast and abstain, and join the Altoona-Johnstown Family in praying the following:

Father, You have created us in your image and likeness. Strengthen our resolve to protect and foster the dignity of human life. The beauty and mystery of life is a most cherished gift. Watch over the unborn and guide the parents of these children in protecting their innocence. Through prayer and example, may humanity be hailed as the divine gift it truly is. We make this prayer with Mary, Mother of God, in the name of Christ the Lord. Amen.

2010, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 124 Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

J
a
n
u
a
r
y
24

**ROMAN
MISSAL**

Liturgical Reflection...

The **Roman Missal**, the ritual text for the celebration of Mass, was promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1970 as the definitive text of the reformed liturgy of the Second Vatican Council. The Latin text was translated into various languages for use around the world; the English edition was published in the United States in 1973. The Holy See issued a revised text in 1975. Pope John Paul II promulgated the third edition of the **Roman Missal** during the Jubilee Year 2000. The English speaking countries of the Catholic Church await the translation of the third edition of the **Roman Missal**.

2010, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 124 Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

WINTER ORDINARY TIME, 2010

J
a
n
u
a
r
y

31

**ROMAN
MISSAL**

Liturgical Reflection...

Why do we have the third edition of the **Roman Missal**? Among other things, the third edition contains prayers for the celebration of recently canonized saints, additional Prefaces for the Eucharistic Prayers, additional Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Intentions, and some updated and revised rubrics (instructions) for the celebration of Mass. These updated and revised rubrics were implemented in our Diocese in 2003 at the time the General Instruction of the Roman Missal was issued in our country. We await the English translation of the third edition of the **Roman Missal**.

2010, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 124 Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

F
e
b
r
u
a
r
y

7

**ROMAN
MISSAL**

Liturgical Reflection...

We sit together, we stand together, and we kneel together. Our liturgical posture gives witness to our oneness in Jesus Christ. The universal revisions of the **Roman Missal** (implemented in 2003) invite the assembly to stand earlier at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. While the assembly is **(1) seated**, the priest celebrant says, *Pray, brethren, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the Almighty Father*, the people then **(2) stand**, and once standing **(3) respond** with one voice, *May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all the Church*.

2010, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 124 Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

F
e
b
r
u
a
r
y

14

**ROMAN
MISSAL**

Liturgical Reflection...

There are over a half dozen liturgical adaptations delegated to the Conference of Bishops within the third edition of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal. One of these is the manner of receiving Holy Communion. The norm for receiving Holy Communion in the dioceses of the United States is standing. When receiving Holy Communion, the American bishops have directed that the common gesture of reverence before receiving the Body and Blood of Christ is a BOW. This bow is to signify reverence and honor to the presence of Jesus Christ in the consecrated elements of Bread and Wine.

2010, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 124 Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.