



DIOCESE OF VENICE in FLORIDA

## Liturgy Newsletter

### Guidelines for Lent and Easter 2023

# Lent

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023, and ends prior to the celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 6, 2023. The Lenten Season is a time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as we prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of our Faith.

The Season of Lent has a twofold character: [1] by recalling or preparing for baptism and [2] by penance, it disposes the faithful, who more diligently hear the word of God and devote themselves to prayer, to celebrate the paschal mystery (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, no. 109).

In planning for the Season of Lent, the Triduum, and the Easter Season, it would be helpful to view the Seasons as a whole with the Parish Liturgy Committee and Music Director. A pertinent reference for planning these Seasons is found in the Florida 2023 Ordo: The Order of Prayer in the Liturgy of the Hours and Celebration of the Eucharist beginning on page 69. Reference to the Florida Ordo is found throughout this Lent/Easter Newsletter.

The precept of confessing grave sins and receiving Holy Communion at least once during the Easter Season indeed merits a reminder to the Faithful. To facilitate this requirement, **every Parish in the Diocese of Venice must be open with a confessor present on Friday, March 31, 2023, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Saturday, April 1, 2023, from 9:00 am to Noon.** This is the minimum requirement for all Parishes, and it is encouraged that additional times for the Sacrament also be provided so that the Faithful may find ample opportunity to receive God's mercy in the Sacrament.

“In this season of conversion, sustained by God's grace and by the communion of the Church, let us not grow tired of doing good. The soil is prepared by fasting, watered by prayer and enriched by charity. Let us believe firmly that “if we do not give up, we shall reap our harvest in due time” and that, with the gift of perseverance, we shall obtain what was promised (cf. *Heb* 10:36), for our salvation and the salvation of others (cf. *1 Tim* 4:16).

- *Pope Francis*

## REGULATIONS ON FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023, and Good Friday, April 7, 2023, are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence from meat.

**Fasting** is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics between the ages of 18 years and 59 years (inclusive). On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is to continue until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection.

**Abstinence** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age and older on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday.

Note: If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, they are urged to practice other forms of self-denial that are suitable to their condition.

**Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer** are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Parishes may wish to schedule Penance Services with Individual confession and absolution, coordinating with other Parishes in their area to offer services at different times. Further, **every Parish in the Diocese of Venice must be open with a confessor present on Friday, March 31, 2023, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Saturday, April 1, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.** This is the minimum requirement of all Parishes, and it is encouraged that additional times for the Sacrament also be provided.

### Morning and Evening Prayer

As prayer is one of the traditional disciplines of Lent, it is appropriate to offer opportunities for parishioners to join in the *Liturgy of the Hours* of the Church using Morning and Evening Prayer. Parishes could offer solemn Evening Prayer on the Fridays or Sundays of Lent. As with all liturgies, music is integral and should be a part of these celebrations where possible.

### Funerals during the Season of Lent and the Easter Triduum

A funeral Mass **may not be celebrated** on the Sundays of Lent, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday (*Order of Christian Funerals*, no. 178). On these days, the body of the deceased may be brought into the church for the *Funeral Liturgy outside Mass* using the *Order of Christian Funerals*, Part 1, Chapter 4. A Mass for the deceased should be offered when it is convenient after Easter Sunday. Further, funeral Masses should **not** be celebrated the morning of the Chrism Mass, Tuesday, April 4, so Priests can concelebrate Mass at the Cathedral.



## Marriages during Lent and the Easter Triduum

Marriages celebrated during the Season of Lent should respect the penitential character of the season, i.e., a marked moderation in festivity. The sanctuary is not to be decorated with flowers (*Ceremonial of Bishops*, no. 252). Marriages are strictly prohibited on Good Friday and Holy Saturday (*Circular Letter Paschale Solemnitatis: On Preparing and Celebrating the Paschal Feasts* [Hereafter: *Circular Letter*], no. 61, 75 & *Order of Celebrating Matrimony*, no. 32).

## Communion for the Sick and Viaticum

Communion may be brought to the sick on all days except Holy Saturday. On that day, Communion may only be given as Viaticum (*Circular Letter*, no. 75). Communion services outside of the Liturgy are not held during the Triduum.

## Liturgical Vestments for Lent

The Season of Lent also reflects a change in the color of vesture.

**Violet or purple** vestments should be worn. On the Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 19, 2023, traditionally known as *Laetare* Sunday, **rose**

**-colored** vestments may be worn (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal* [Hereafter: *GIRM*], no. 346; *Ceremonial of Bishops*, no. 252). As a reminder, blue is not an approved vestment color for the Lenten Season and should not be used.



## Lent and the Worship Environment

During Lent the altar area is **not** to be decorated with flowers (*Ceremonial of Bishops*, no. 252). The Fourth Sunday (*Laetare* Sunday, March 19, 2023), Solemnities, and Feasts are an exception to the rule (*Ordo*, p. 69). The visual goal of the Lenten environment is austerity, simplicity, and plainness.

It is highly encouraged, though not mandatory, to retain the practice of veiling crosses and images during parts of Lent. It is customary that these are veiled with a lightweight purple cloth without decoration beginning with the Vigil Mass of the Fifth Sunday in Lent (March 25-26, 2023). Crosses are unveiled after the Good Friday ceremonies while other images are unveiled before the Easter Vigil begins.

## Sacred Music

**The *Gloria* and *Alleluia* are NOT to be used during Lenten Liturgies.** Good liturgical practice would suggest reflecting on the liturgical season in the choice of music. In Lent, the playing of the organ and musical instruments is allowed only in order to support singing. Exceptions, however, are *Laetare* Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), Solemnities, and Feasts, when instruments may be played (*Ordo*, p. 69).

On Feasts and Solemnities that occur during Lent (e.g. the Solemnity of St. Joseph, which is moved to Monday, March 20, 2023, and the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, Saturday, March 25, 2023), the *Gloria* is sung, but the *Alleluia* is not used.

On the Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 19, 2023 (*Laetare* Sunday), sacred music should be chosen to reflect the joyful anticipation of the Easter mystery (*Ordo*, p. 87).

## Stations of the Cross

This is an appropriate devotion to schedule at least weekly during the Lenten Season. Parishes should coordinate with neighboring Parishes to increase the number of opportunities for the Faithful to pray the Stations in a given week and avoid scheduling conflicts. Various publishers offer a variety of formats for this most commendable and ancient devotion.



## Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023

The blessing and distribution of ashes follows the homily. The ordinary minister for the blessing and distribution of ashes is a Priest or Deacon. Others (e.g. extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion) may assist with the distributing of ashes where there is genuine need, especially for the sick and shut-ins. There is no penitential rite at the beginning of the Liturgy (*Ordo*, p. 71).

## Order of Penance

Please note that Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023, is the first day in which the new English translation of the Order of Penance may be used. The new translation remains optional until Divine Mercy Sunday, **April 16, 2023, when it becomes mandatory.**

## Rite of Election, Sunday, February 26, 2023

The Rite of Election will be celebrated at Epiphany Cathedral at 2:30 p.m. Please see details and registration information emailed to DREs and CREs by the Superintendent of Catholic Education. Questions may be directed to the Department of Education at (941)-441-1113.

## Other Lenten Ceremonies of Christian Initiation

The *Penitential Rite* for baptized candidates preparing for Confirmation and First Holy Communion or to be received into full communion at the Easter Vigil may be celebrated on the Second Sunday of Lent (*RCIA*, no. 459-472). The *Scrutinies* for the elect (those unbaptized) are celebrated on the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent. The Mass at which the *Scrutinies* take place uses the text for the *Ritual Mass for the Celebration of the Scrutinies* found in the *Roman Missal* and the *RCIA Book* (no. 150-156, 164-170, 171-177). The readings for these Masses are those given for the Sundays in the Lectionary for the Mass, Year A (*RCIA*, no. 146).

During Lent, the Creed and the Lord's Prayer may be presented to the Elect (*RCIA*, no. 147). The Presentation of the Creed takes place in the week following the First Scrutiny (Third Week of Lent), and the Presentation of the Lord's Prayer takes place in the week following the Third Scrutiny (Fifth Week of Lent). Texts for these rites may be found in ritual book, no. 157-163 (Presentation of the Creed) and no. 178-184 (Presentation of the Lord's Prayer).

## Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Monday, March 20, 2023

This is a Solemnity and thus the *Gloria* and *Creed* are sung or recited at Mass. It is the custom in some places to bless bread, pastries, and other food and to give a large portion of it to the poor. (*Catholic Household Book of Blessings and Prayers*, p. 140-141). Please note that this Solemnity is transferred to Monday the 20th in 2023, due to March 19 falling on a Lenten Sunday.

## Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, Saturday, March 25, 2023

Because this is a Solemnity, the *Gloria* and the *Creed* are sung or recited. In honor of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, all *genuflect* during the Creed at the words, “*and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.*”

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, April 2, 2023

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday. Red vestments are prescribed for this day.

On Palm Sunday, the Church remembers Christ’s entrance into Jerusalem. The commemoration, with the blessing of the palms and procession, is a ritual action that marks our own entry into Holy Week. Three forms are given for the beginning of the liturgy: the procession, the solemn entrance, and simple entrance.

The reading of the Passion is essential and cannot be omitted. It may be proclaimed using one to three or more readers, with the part of Christ, reserved to the Priest. The congregation may sit if they cannot stand for the entire Gospel.

The Gospel of the Passion of the Lord is read without candles or incense, and with no greeting or signing of the Book. As noted above, it may be read by lay readers, with the part of Christ, reserved to the Priest. At the end of the reading, the Book is not kissed, but “The Gospel of the Lord” is said with its response (*Ordo*, p. 99).



## Holy Week, Monday, April 3 – Thursday, April 6, 2023

The days of Holy Week, Monday to Thursday inclusive, have precedence over all other celebrations. It is not fitting that baptisms or confirmations be celebrated on these days since they have their natural place in the Easter Vigil (*Circular Letter*, no. 27; *Ordo*, p. 99).

## The Chrism Mass, Tuesday, April 4, 2023



In the Diocese of Venice, the Chrism Mass will be held on **Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.** at Epiphany Cathedral.

Parishes are to dispose of their old oils properly by burning or burying them prior to the Chrism Mass. (Please **do not** bring them with you to the Cathedral.) Newly consecrated Chrism for the coming year will be given to each Parish at the conclusion of the Chrism Mass. Again, the old oils are burned or buried. They may be put into the lamp which burns before the reserved Blessed Sacrament or burned in the pre-Easter Vigil fire (*Ordo*, p. 105).

# The Paschal Triduum

## The Paschal Triduum, April 6, 2023 - April 9, 2023

“Since Christ accomplished His work of human redemption and of the perfect glorification of God principally through his Paschal Mystery, in which by dying He has destroyed our death, and by rising restored our life, the sacred Paschal Triduum of the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord shines forth as the high point of the entire liturgical year” (Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, no. 18 [Hereafter: Universal Norms]).

“The Paschal Triduum of the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord begins with the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper, has its center in the Easter Vigil, and closes with Vespers (Evening Prayer) of the Sunday of the Resurrection” (Universal Norms, no. 19).

### Holy Thursday, April 6, 2023

Lent ends with the beginning of the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper. Before Mass, the tabernacle should be entirely empty; a sufficient number of Hosts should be consecrated for the communion of the clergy and laity at this Mass, as well as for the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord on Good Friday (*Ordo*, p. 105). White, silver, or gold vestments may be worn on this day.



The group whose feet are washed should represent a cross section of the local community. The number is traditionally 12, though there is no exact requirement (*Ordo*, p. 105). The washing of the feet is an optional practice, which may or may not be done, depending on pastoral circumstance.

**Church bells** are rung during the *Gloria* at the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday. Afterwards, the bells should remain silent until the *Gloria* at the Easter Vigil (*Circular Letter*, no. 50).

**Holy Water** must be removed from all fonts before the Mass on Holy Thursday and refilled with blessed water from the Easter Vigil (*Ordo*, p. 107).

In the tradition of the Church, the organ and other musical instruments are used only to support singing following the *Gloria* on Holy Thursday until the *Gloria* of the Easter Vigil (*Circular Letter*, no. 50).

It is not appropriate for First Communion or other statements of commitment to be administered at the Mass of the Lord’s Supper. Another day should be chosen instead, such as a Sunday between the Second and Sixth Sundays of Easter, the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, or Sundays in Ordinary Time (*Redemptionis Sacramentum*, no. 87; *Ordo*, p. 105).



It is appropriate that the **oils** blessed and consecrated at the Chrism Mass be carried in at the presentation of the gifts. The proper rubrics and prayers for the presentation of the oils are found in the *Sacramentary Supplement*. (See also: <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/triduum/order-for-the-reception-of-the-holy-oils.>)

After Communion, a ciborium with Hosts for Good Friday is left on the altar. Following the prayer after Communion, the procession with the Holy Eucharist takes place to transfer the Eucharist to the place of reposition (*Ordo*, p. 107). Under no circumstances should the Blessed Sacrament be exposed in a monstrance. The faithful should be encouraged to spend some time in adoration through the remainder of the evening. It should conclude by midnight (*Circular Letter*, no. 55-56). It is not permitted to reserve the Precious Blood for Adoration on Holy Thursday or for distribution on Good Friday.

After Mass, the altar is stripped privately. Votive candles should not be lit before the images of saints. It is fitting that any crosses be removed from the church, and any crosses which remain in the church should be veiled with a purple cloth (*Circular Letter*, no. 57; *Ordo*, p. 107).

On Holy Thursday and Good Friday, the Eucharist is distributed only during the Liturgy, but may be brought to the sick at any convenient hour. On Holy Saturday, the Eucharist is not given before the Easter Vigil celebration, except as Viaticum (*Ordo*, p. 109).

## Good Friday, April 7, 2023

Pastors should remind the faithful of the **Paschal Fast** which “should be celebrated everywhere on Good Friday, and where possible should be prolonged throughout Holy Saturday so that the faithful may attain the joys of the Sunday of the Resurrection with uplifted and responsive minds” (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, no. 110; *Ordo*, p. 107).



The **Liturgy of the Hours**, particularly Morning Prayer, is strongly encouraged to be said with the faithful. It is recommended that there be a communal celebration of the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer on Good Friday. As with all liturgies, music is integral and should be a part of these celebrations where possible. Parishes are reminded, however, that musical instruments should only be used to support singing from the *Gloria* on Holy Thursday until the *Gloria* of the Easter Vigil.

The **Celebration of the Passion of the Lord**, the principal celebration of this day, should take place about 3:00 p.m. If pastoral need dictates, there may be another celebration later in the day or it can be moved to the evening. Red vestments are worn for this liturgy (*Circular Letter*, no. 63; *Ordo*, p. 107).

On Good Friday, a single Crucifix, on which a corpus is present, is to be used since we venerate Christ crucified. The use of multiple crosses for the veneration is not the norm. Only one Crucifix may be used.

Following either Form 1 or Form 2 for “The Showing of the Holy Cross” found in the Roman Missal, the words of the *Ecce Lignum Crucis* (“Behold the wood of the Cross”) are repeated three times, with the Priest singing, assisted by the Deacon or, if need be, the choir. The proper response is: “Come, let us adore.” Again, please note that this Crucifix is to be the sole Crucifix to be venerated on Good Friday. There are not to be multiple crosses (*Ordo*, p. 109).



## Holy Saturday, April 8, 2023

The **Liturgy of the Hours**, particularly Morning Prayer with the participation of the people, is encouraged.

“According to custom, food may be blessed before or after the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday or on Easter morning for consumption at the first meal of Easter, when fasting is ended and the Church is filled with joy” (*Book of Blessings*, no. 1702).

“On this day the Church abstains strictly from celebration of the sacrifice of the Mass. Holy Communion may only be given in the form of Viaticum. The celebration of Marriages is forbidden, as also the celebration of other Sacraments, except those of Penance and the Anointing of the Sick” (*Circular Letter*, no. 75).



If possible, the Elect should be gathered on Holy Saturday for the Preparation Rites, such as the Return or Recitation of the Creed and the Ephphetha Rite (RCIA, no. 185-205).

### The Easter Vigil

The Easter Vigil, on the holy night when the Lord rose again, is considered the “mother of all holy Vigils,” in which the Church, keeping watch, awaits the Resurrection of

Christ and celebrates it in the Sacraments. Therefore, the entire celebration of this sacred Vigil must take place at night, so that it both begins after nightfall and ends before the dawn on Sunday (Universal Norms, no. 21).

The Easter Vigil must be the **only** Mass of the evening and is to occur **after dark**. It is **not** to be celebrated at the time of day that it is customary to celebrate the Sunday Vigil Mass. White, gold, or silver vestments are worn (*Circular Letter*, no. 78; *Ordo*, p. 111).

**Civil Twilight occurs this year at 8:14 p.m. The Easter Vigil therefore is not to be scheduled in any Parish before 8:30 p.m.**

The **Paschal Candle** should be made of wax, never be artificial, and be sufficiently large in size, and one in number, so that it may evoke the truth that Christ is the light of the world (*Circular Letter*, no. 82). The Paschal Candle is lit for all liturgical celebrations of the Easter Season (*Ceremonial of Bishops*, no. 372) and during the year at every baptism and funeral. Please note, it is **not** to be extinguished after the Gospel on the Solemnity of the Ascension or Pentecost. One option to consider is to process out with the Candle at the conclusion of Mass on Pentecost Sunday (*Ordo*, p. 153).



The **Exsultet** (Easter Proclamation) should be sung by the Deacon. In the absence of a Deacon, it may be proclaimed by a Priest, or, if he is unable to do so, a cantor (*Circular Letter*, no. 84).

At least three of the seven Old Testament **readings** should be used. The reading from the Book of Exodus should always be used (Exodus 14:15-15:1) (*Circular Letter*, no. 85; *Ordo*, p. 111).

Those parts unique to the Vigil which should always be sung are the acclamations during the procession with the paschal candle and the Easter proclamation, the responsorial “Alleluia,” the Litany of the Saints, and the acclamation after the blessing of water (*Ordo*, p. 111; See also: *Circular Letter*, no. 42).



Those being baptized or brought into Full Communion during the Vigil are to be confirmed by the presiding Priest within the rite (*RCIA*, no. 215, 305, 481; *National Statutes for the Catechumenate*, no. 14, 18 & 35; *Code of Canon Law*, 833 §2; *Ordo*, p. 111). However, a Priest who has the faculty to confirm may not administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in the case of a baptized Catholic who, without his or her fault, never put the faith into practice. In this instance, a Priest who lacks the faculty to confirm should seek it from the Diocesan Bishop (*National Statutes*, no. 28-29; *Ordo*, p. 111).

## **Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023**

For Parishes planning sunrise Liturgies, sunrise on Easter Sunday is at 7:12 a.m.

At Masses on Easter Sunday the Sequence, *Victimae paschali*, is obligatory. Further, the Renewal of *Baptismal Promises* and its accompanying sprinkling rite may replace the Creed (*Ordo*, p. 113).

The Easter Triduum ends with the conclusion of Evening Prayer Easter Sunday.



# The Easter Season



## The Easter Season, April 9, 2023 to May 28, 2023

The fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast day, indeed as one “great Sunday” (Universal Norms, no. 22). With the exception of select Feasts of the Saints, white, gold, or silver vestments are worn throughout the Easter Season.

## The Octave of Easter, April 9, 2023 to April 16, 2023

The first eight days of Easter Time constitute the Octave of Easter and are celebrated as Solemnities of the Lord (Universal Norms, no. 24).

The *Gloria* is to be sung or recited during the Octave of Easter. The *Sequence* is optional during the days of the Octave (*GIRM*, no. 64; *Ordo*, p. 113). The double Alleluia is added to the sung dismissal formulary during this time (*Ceremonial of Bishops*, no. 373).

## Divine Mercy Sunday, April 16, 2023

This Sunday reminds us of the mercy God has for us. Adoration, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and Benediction may be done on this day as a special devotion. The Octave of Easter ends with the celebration of Evening Prayer.

As a reminder, the new English translation of the Order of Penance is mandatory beginning today, April 16, 2023.

## Renewal of Baptismal Promises

During the Easter Season, as a reminder of Baptism, the blessing and sprinkling of water may replace the Penitential Act (*GIRM*, no. 51).

## The Paschal Candle

The Paschal Candle, a symbol of the presence of the risen Christ among the people of God, remains in the Sanctuary near the altar or ambo through Vespers on Pentecost (*Ordo*, p. 115).

## House Blessings

The Easter Season is a traditional time when homes may be blessed (*Book of Blessings*, no. 1597; *Ordo*, p. 115). The text for this blessing may be found in the *Book of Blessings*, no. 1601-1621.

## Sacraments of Initiation and the Easter Season

“Infant baptisms could fittingly be celebrated on any Sunday of the Easter Season, including Pentecost. It is also appropriate that children receive their First Communion on one or other of the Sundays of Easter” (*Ordo*, p. 115).

The Easter Season is also the period of post-Baptismal catechesis or mystagogy for newly initiated adults. The National Statutes for the Catechumenate say, “After the completion of their Christian initiation in the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and eucharist, the neophytes should begin the period of mystagogy by participating in the principal Sunday Eucharist of the community throughout the Easter Season, which ends on Pentecost Sunday. They should do this as a body in company with their godparents and those who have assisted in their Christian formation” (*National Statutes*, no. 22).



## May Crowning

The devotion of crowning a statue or image of the Blessed Virgin Mary takes place during the month of May. Special crowning ceremonies, Rosaries, and other devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary are encouraged during this month.

## The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, Sunday, May 21, 2023

The Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops voted in the year 2000 to transfer the Solemnity of the Ascension from the Thursday, forty-days after Easter to the Seventh Sunday of Easter, in accord with an indult granted to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops by the Holy See. Therefore, for the Catholic Churches in the State of Florida, the Seventh Sunday of Easter is replaced by the Solemnity of the Ascension.

## The Solemnity of Pentecost, Sunday, May 28, 2023

The Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Pentecost may be celebrated according to the Extended or the Simple Form as found in the *Roman Missal* (*Ordo*, p. 151). Readings for the extended form may be found in the Lectionary for the Mass Supplement.

The Pentecost *Sequence* is sung or recited at Masses after the second reading and before the Alleluia. The double Alleluia is added to the dismissal and its responsorial, as it was at the Easter Vigil. The Easter Season ends with the conclusion of Vespers on Pentecost Sunday. The Easter Candle is lit at all Masses this day and then placed near the baptismal font where it is displayed with honor. The prescribed color for this day is red (*Ordo*, p. 153).

## Ordinary Time begins again Monday, May 29, 2023, with the Eighth Week of Ordinary Time

# Important Notes for Ordinary Time

## Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, Monday, May 29, 2023

In 2018, the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, was added to the calendar by Pope Francis, to be observed on the Monday following Pentecost. The Votive Mass of Our Lady, Mother of the Church, should be used on this day. Additional information may be found at this web address: <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/mother-of-the-church>.

## The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, Sunday, June 4, 2023

White vestments are worn (*Ordo*, p. 159). Gold or silver vestments are also permitted (*GIRM*, no. 346h).



## Corpus Christi, Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, June 11, 2023

Outdoor processions, adoration, and other Eucharistic devotions are encouraged to be celebrated on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi in honor of the Most Holy Eucharist. Such devotions can truly

be a sign of common faith and adoration (*Ordo*, p. 163; *Holy Communion and the Worship of the Eucharist Outside of Mass*, no. 102).