



CHURCH
OF THE
ASCENSION

Notes for Worship Ministers + Ordinary Time 2021

Hello, all: Please know of our gratitude for each of you and for all of you together, for your showing up, for climbing the learning curves and adapting to frequent changes, for the consideration you have shown for others in their roles and ministries, and, of course, for your faith and gifts and offering them here. We hope that you may appreciate these updates. Feel free to scan for those most relevant to you and your ministry or ministries. We welcome your thoughts and questions. *Fr. Raymond + & Verger MB Hwang*

❖ **Calling all former acolytes – and welcoming new ones.** Those who have served before but who, for whatever reason, have been inactive during the pandemic, and those (whether new at Ascension or here for years) who have never served at the altar here but are curious are encouraged to be in touch with MB Hwang, to return to active duty or enlist for training and a first tour of duty. We'd love to hear from you.

❖ Two Changes in Vestment Protocols.

➤ **Change #1: The Return of the Vestments.** We're ready for now, we feel, to return all vestments to the lay ministers' vestry. You can help by a) moving your own vestments and b) helping a team on Sunday, June 27, to move whatever is left back to the lay ministers' vestry (sacristy).

➤ **Change #2: Your own vestments, hanger, label ... and cleaning.** Yes! Some of you have expressed appreciation for our trial system; we'd like to keep it going. Every regular worship minister will have his or her own cassock and surplice, kept on a hanger with a name tag. Please take personal responsibility for washing when needed. If you don't yet have a designated set, please see/contact MB.

❖ **Morning Prayer on Sundays via Zoom.** For the time being and through Labor Day at least, we will continue to offer Morning Prayer on Sunday (as at other times) by Zoom. Officiants on the church premises may use the 'curate's office and may invite others to join there.

❖ **Solemn High Masses—YES! When?** Limitations that prevent us from returning to a weekly Solemn High Mass include uncertainty about filling all ministers' positions regularly. Even so, we now aim to have a Solemn High Mass for the Feast of St. Mary the Virgin/Assumption, Sunday, August 15. To ready for it we aim to reintroduce the SHM on Sunday, July 25 and frequently thereafter.

❖ **About that '9AM Mass at 10AM' June 20.** If you were there, I hope you had an opportunity to read my Worship Notes explaining why we used that form of the mass that day. If you were not there and are curious, some additional information is available in the June 23 newsletter. We will use the same form of the mass two more times before Labor Day.

❖ **Ushers/Greeters: Count Sheets!** Please familiarize yourselves with the new attendance count sheets. I have a canonical responsibility to keep attendance records, and I can't do it without you. Please remember to get information from our tech ministers about remote participation and to count Communions.

❖ **The Rosary** is being offered with more regularity at the Mary shrine on the first Sunday of the month whenever possible. If you wish to share in leading the rosary or have questions, please contact George Pineda or Samuel Sommers.

❖ **Please practice welcoming others** to explore taking part in worship ministries. Most newcomers get involved because they are asked. Thank you.

quidquid@gmail.com

praymond@ascensionchicago.org



We continue in optimism and gratitude with regard to 'emerging from the pandemic' and ask you to join us in continuing to consider continuing risks and the health of all in all that we do, not only at the altar but in all participation at Ascension. Thank you.