



**ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE of ORANGE**

PASTORAL CENTER: OFFICE FOR WORSHIP

13280 CHAPMAN AVENUE, GARDEN GROVE, CA 92840

MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Clergy, Liturgy Coordinators, Music Directors, and Wedding Coordinators

**FROM:** Deacon Modesto Cordero, Director, Office for Worship

**RE:** 2023 LITURGICAL NOTES FOR THE DIOCESE OF ORANGE (Year A, Cycle I)

**DATE:** July 19, 2022

**Miscellaneous Notes**

1. As a reminder in our diocese the Holydays of Obligation for 2022 & 2023 are: the **Solemnity of All Saints** (November 1); the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception** (December 8, the Patroness of the USA); and **Christmas** (December 25). In addition, in 2023 the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary** (August 15) is a Holyday of Obligation. Pastors are therefore asked to provide practical opportunities for more people to attend Mass on these days by celebrating a Vigil Mass (when permitted) as well as an extra Mass or two at hours convenient for the faithful.
2. The 2023 liturgical year begins on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2022 (Year A, Cycle I).
3. Anniversary of the Dedication of the Parish Church – This date should be celebrated as a Solemnity by the parish, unless impeded by a day of higher rank. [*The Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar*, Chapter II, para #27 and *General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar*, para # (R10)].
4. Memorial of the Patron(s) of the Parish – This date should be celebrated as a Solemnity by the parish, unless impeded by a day of higher rank. [*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar* (by Pope Paul VI in 1969) para # 59 (Table of Liturgical Days) I, #4a.]
5. The celebration of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord in our diocese is transferred to Sunday, May 21, 2023. Thursday, May 18, 2023 is observed as an Easter weekday [6].
6. Outside Advent, Christmas Time, Lent, and Easter Time, on Saturdays which have no commemoration having the rank of Obligatory Memorial or higher, a Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary may be celebrated. The readings and prayers may be selected from the *Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary*.
7. We are including wedding coordinators, as the memo notes when a Mass for Celebrating Matrimony (i.e., a ritual Mass) would not be celebrated. Options to celebrate marriage on these days includes using the Mass of the day with the inclusion of the Nuptial Blessing and, if appropriate, the proper formula for the final blessing. One of the readings may be taken from the texts for the celebration of Marriage (Lectionary nos. 801-805). Another option is to use the Order of Celebrating Matrimony without Mass (Chapter II in "The Order of Celebrating Matrimony").

DEACON MODESTO CORDERO

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## **Dates to Remember for the rest of 2022 Liturgical Year (Year C, Cycle II)**

July 24, 2022 (Sun.)	<p><b>World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly</b> For more information: <a href="https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-01/pope-establishes-world-day-for-grandparents-and-the-elderly.html">https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-01/pope-establishes-world-day-for-grandparents-and-the-elderly.html</a></p>
July 29, 2022 (Fri.)	<p><b>Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus</b> <i>The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments expanded the Memorial of St. Martha to become the Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus. The Gospel for this memorial is proper (Lectionary no. 607). The first reading may be taken from the weekday, the reading found at the link below, or from the Common of Holy Men and Women, #737-742. The interim mass formularies in English and Spanish are found at:</i> <a href="https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/saints-martha-mary-and-lazarus">https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/saints-martha-mary-and-lazarus</a></p>
August 13, 2022 (Sat.)	<p><b>St. Emydius, bishop and martyr</b> Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange</p>
August 15, 2022 (Mon.)	<p><b>Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary</b> <i>Not a Holyday of Obligation this year</i></p>
Third week of September	<b>Special Days of Prayer, Harvest and Fruits of the Earth</b>
September 18, 2022 (Sun.)	<b>Catechetical Sunday</b>
September 20 - 25, 2022	National Migration Week, moved to the last week in September. For resources, please go to USCCB Migration and Refugee Services <a href="https://www.usccb.org/events/2022/national-migration-week">https://www.usccb.org/events/2022/national-migration-week</a>
September 25, 2022 (Sun.)	<b>Priesthood Sunday</b>
October 2, 2022 (Sun.)	<p><b>Life and Dignity Sunday</b> Please note that the month of October is Life and Dignity Month.</p>
October 23, 2022 (Sun.)	<b>World Mission Sunday</b>
<b>November 1, 2022 (Tue.)</b>	<p><b>All Saints (Solemnity)</b> Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted. <i>Holyday of Obligation</i></p>

November 2, 2021 (Wed.) **Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed** (All Souls' Day)  
Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.

November 6 -12 2022 **National Vocation Awareness Week**, for resources, click here:  
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/national-vocation-awareness-week>

November 20, 2022 (Sun.) **Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe** (Solemnity)

November 24, 2022 (Thur.) **Thanksgiving Day**

### **2023 Liturgical Year (Year A, Cycle I)**

November 27, 2022 (Sun.) **First Sunday of Advent**

First Week of December **Special Week of Prayer**, World Justice and Peace

**December 8, 2022 (Thur.)** **Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary** (Solemnity)  
Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.  
*Holyday of Obligation*

December 12, 2022 (Mon.) **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
Principal patroness of the Diocese of Orange.  
Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange.

**December 25, 2022 (Sun.)** **The Nativity of the Lord / Christmas** (Solemnity)  
*Holyday of Obligation*

January 1, 2023 (Sun.) **Mary, the Holy Mother of God** (Solemnity)  
The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord  
*Not a Holyday of Obligation in our Diocese*

January 8, 2023 (Sun.) **The Epiphany of the Lord** (Solemnity)

January 9, 2023 (Mon.) **The Baptism of the Lord** (Feast)  
End of the Christmas Season

January 18-25, 2023 **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**  
For resources, please go to the website:  
<http://www.christianunity.va/content/unitacristiani/en.html> and  
[http://www.geii.org/week\\_of\\_prayer\\_for\\_christian\\_unity/index.html](http://www.geii.org/week_of_prayer_for_christian_unity/index.html)

- January 22, 2023 (Sun.) **Word of God Sunday**  
Observed as a special day devoted to “the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God”. For more information:  
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/divine-worship/sunday-word-god>
- January 23, 2023 (Mon.) **Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children**  
Particular Day of Penance  
*Masses celebrated before 4:00PM on this anniversary of Roe v. Wade observe a “day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life **in all USA** (and the world) and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion” (GIRM #373). The readings for Mass can be found in the new Lectionary for Mass Supplement (2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Mk 3:22-30 (317). For the Day of Prayer, the reading from the “Lectionary for Mass Supplement,” or any of the readings from the “Lectionary for Mass” from the section “For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life,” (nos.947 A-947 E) or from “For Peace and Justice” (nos. 8987-891) could be used.*
- February 2, 2023 (Thur.) **Presentation of the Lord and World Day for Consecrated Life**  
For resources go to: <https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/world-day-consecrated-life>
- February 11, 2023 (Sat.) **World Day of the Sick / Our Lady of Lourdes**  
All are invited to participate in our Diocesan Celebration for World Day of the Sick Mass on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at Christ Cathedral at 10:00am. There will be anointing of the sick and a blessing for those who care for the sick.
- February 12, 2023 (Sun.) **World Marriage Day, Second Sunday in February.**  
For clergy and parish resources go to: <http://wmd.wvme.org/>  
More information about a diocesan celebration honoring wedding anniversaries is to follow by the Office of Pastoral Care for Families. For more information contact that office at (714) 282-4203/3040.
- February 22, 2023 (Wed.) **Ash Wednesday/Day of Fast and Abstinence**  
Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.

February 24-28, 2023	<b>Rites of Election</b> (for Catechumens to be initiated at the Easter Vigil) In the Diocese of Orange, the Rites of Election and Call to Continuing Conversation will be held at Christ Cathedral on Friday, February 24 <sup>th</sup> ; Saturday, February 25 <sup>th</sup> ; Monday, February 27 <sup>th</sup> ; and Tuesday, February 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2023. Date assignments for parishes will be sent in December 2022. Priests should be sure to schedule one or more occasions for the anointing of catechumens with the Oil of Catechumens.
February 26, 2023 (Sun.)	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>
March 17-18, 2023	24 Hours for the Lord
Fourth Week of Lent	<b>Special Days of Prayer</b> , General Needs of Humankind
March 20, 2023 (Mon.)	<b>Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.
March 25, 2023 (Sat.)	<b>The Annunciation of the Lord</b> (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.
April 3, 2023 (Mon.)	<b>Chrism Mass</b> at 5:30 PM at Christ Cathedral. Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted. <i>All the faithful are invited to participate in this Mass. The teens preparing for Confirmation are to be especially encouraged to witness the consecration of Holy Chrism.</i>
April 6, 2023 (Thur.)	<b>Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper</b> Ritual Masses including Funeral masses are not permitted
April 7, 2023 (Fri.)	<b>Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)</b> Ritual Masses including Funeral masses are not permitted.
April 8, 2023 (Sat.)	<b>Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil</b> after 7:50 PM Ritual Masses including Funeral masses are not permitted <i>The entire celebration of the Vigil is to take place at night: it should begin after nightfall and end before the dawn of Sunday. <u>Please note that there is to be only one Easter Vigil: for pastoral reasons an additional Mass may be celebrated after the Mass of the Easter Vigil using the liturgy of the Word of the Mass of the Easter Vigil and omitting the Service of Light.</u> The intention of the Missale Romanum is clear: the Easter Vigil is to take place in darkness.</i>

- April 9, 2023 (Sun.) **Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord** (Solemnity)
- May 21, 2023 (Sun.) **The Ascension of the Lord** (Solemnity)  
*Our ecclesiastical province (and most dioceses in USA) has transferred this Solemnity from Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup>. Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> is observed as an Easter weekday.*
- May 28, 2023 (Sun.) **Pentecost** (Solemnity)  
*The extended Vigil Mass for Pentecost has additional readings, each with its own responsorial psalm. The Pentecost Sequence, "Veni Sancte Spiritus," is obligatory on Pentecost Sunday and may be omitted at the Vigil. It is fitting to use the sprinkling rite on this day and the Paschal candle is to be lit at all masses. The Paschal Candle is moved to the baptistery after the last Mass or Vespers, which concludes the Easter Season.*
- May 29, 2023 (Mon.) **The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church**  
This Obligatory Memorial has its own propers found under Votive Mass for the Blessed Virgin Mary, option #10B, Our Lady, Mother of the Church. There are also readings proper for the day (Lectionary no. 1002). Additionally, proper text for Liturgy of the Hours can be found at <http://www.usccb.org/motherofthechurch> .
- June 4, 2023 (Sun.) **The Most Holy Trinity** (Solemnity)
- June 11, 2023 (Sun.) **The Most Body and Blood of Christ - *Corpus Christi*** (Solemnity)
- June 16, 2023 (Fri.) **Most Sacred Heart of Jesus** (Solemnity)  
Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.
- Third week of June **Special Days of Prayer, Human Rights and Equality**
- June 29, 2023 (Thur.) **Sts. Peter and Paul** (Solemnity)
- July 1, 2023 (Sat.) **Saint Junípero Serra**  
Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange in California.
- July 5, 2023 (Wed.) **Our Lady, Refuge of Sinners**  
Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange in California. This Marian feast honors the first patroness of California, established by Bishop Garcia Diego in 1843.

July 17, 2023 (Mon.)	<b>Dedication of Christ Cathedral</b> The anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral is observed with the rank of Feast at churches and chapels in the Diocese of Orange. At Christ Cathedral, the anniversary is observed as a Solemnity.
July 23, 2023 (Sun.)	<b>World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly</b> Pope Francis designated the 4th Sunday of July (closest to the memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne) to be "World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly."
July 29, 2023 (Sat.)	<b>Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus</b> <i>The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments expanded the Memorial of St. Martha to become the Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus. The Gospel for this memorial is proper (Lectionary no. 607). The first reading may be taken from the weekday, the reading found at the link below, or from the Common of Holy Men and Women, #737-742. The interim mass formularies in English and Spanish are found at: <a href="https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/saints-martha-mary-and-lazarus">https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/saints-martha-mary-and-lazarus</a></i>
<b>August 15, 2023 (Tue.)</b>	<b>Assumption of the Virgin Mary</b> (Solemnity) <b>Holiday of Obligation</b>
Third week of September	<b>Special Days of Prayer</b> , Harvest and Fruits of the Earth
September 17, 2023 (Sun.)	<b>Catechetical Sunday</b>
September 24, 2023 (Sun.)	<b>Priesthood Sunday</b>
September 24-30, 2023	<b>National Migration Week</b> , moved to the last week in September.
October 1, 2023 (Sun.)	<b>Life and Dignity Sunday</b> Please note that the month of October is Life and Dignity Month.
October 23, 2023 (Mon.)	<b>Saint John of Capistrano</b> , secondary patron of diocese of Orange. Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange
October 22, 2023 (Sun.)	<b>World Mission Sunday</b>
<b>November 1, 2023 (Wed.)</b>	<b>All Saints Day</b> (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted. <b>Holiday of Obligation</b>

November 2, 2023 (Thur.)	<b>Commemoration of All the Faithful departed (All Souls' Day)</b> Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.
November 5-11 2023	<b>National Vocation Awareness Week</b>
November 23, 2023 (Thur.)	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>
November 26, 2023 (Sun.)	<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Solemnity)</b>

Please feel free to contact the Office for Worship, (714) 282-3040 / 3041 or email at [mcordero@rcbo.org](mailto:mcordero@rcbo.org) / [iarbizo@rcbo.org](mailto:iarbizo@rcbo.org) should you have any questions.

Blessings!