



**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: **2024 LITURGICAL NOTES FOR THE DIOCESE OF ORANGE (Year B, Cycle II)**

DATE: June 30, 2023

Miscellaneous Notes

1. As a reminder in our diocese the Holy Days of Obligation for 2023 & 2024 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 2024 the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary** (August 15) is a Holy Day 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 2024 liturgical year begins on the First Sunday of Advent, December 3, 2023 (Year B, Cycle II).
 - Monday, January 1, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This year, the obligation to attend Mass on this date is abrogated, in accord with the complementary norm to canon 1246 §2 confirmed for the dioceses of the United States of America.
 - The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on Monday, January 8, with only one reading before the Gospel. When this Feast occurs on Monday of the First Week in Ordinary Time, the readings assigned to Monday may be joined to those of Tuesday so that the opening of each book will be read.
 - Since March 25 is the Monday of Holy Week, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord is transferred to Monday, April 8.
 - The celebration of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord in our diocese is transferred to Sunday, May 12, 2024. Thursday, May 9, 2024, is observed as an Easter weekday [6].
 - Since December 8, 2024, is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to Monday, December 9. The obligation to attend Mass, however, does not transfer. The Optional Memorial of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin, December 9, is omitted this year.
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. Outside Advent, Christmas Time, Lent, and Easter Time, on Saturdays which have no commemoration having the rank of Obligatory Memorial or higher, an Optional Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary may be celebrated [*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, no. 15*]. The readings and prayers may be selected from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary or Votive Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the *Roman Missal*, or in the *Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary*.

6. 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").

Dates to Remember for the rest of 2023 Liturgical Year (Year A, Cycle I)

August 15th, 2023 (Tue.)	Assumption of the Virgin Mary (Solemnity) <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>
Third week of September	Special Days of Prayer , Harvest and Fruits of the Earth
September 17 th , 2023 (Sun.)	Catechetical Sunday
September 24 th , 2023 (Sun.)	Priesthood Sunday
September 24 th – 30 th , 2023	National Migration Week , moved to the last week in September.
October 1 st , 2023 (Sun.)	Life and Dignity Sunday Please note that the month of October is Life and Dignity Month.
October 22 nd , 2023 (Sun.)	World Mission Sunday
October 23 rd , 2023 (Mon)	Saint John of Capistrano , secondary patron of Diocese of Orange. Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange.
November 1st, 2023 (Wed.)	All Saints (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted. <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>

November 2 nd , 2023 (Thur.)	Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) Ritual Masses (i.e., Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.
November 5 th – 11 th , 2023	National Vocation Awareness Week , for resources, click here: https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/national-vocation-awareness-week
November 23 rd , 2023 (Thur.)	Thanksgiving Day
November 26 th , 2023 (Sun.)	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Solemnity)

2024 Liturgical Year (Year B, Cycle II)

December 3 rd , 2023 (Sun.)	First Sunday of Advent
First Week of December	Special Week of Prayer , World Justice and Peace
December 8th, 2023 (Fri.)	Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e., Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted. <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>
December 12 th , 2023 (Tues.)	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Principal patroness of the Diocese of Orange. Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange.
December 25th, 2023 (Mon.)	The Nativity of the Lord / Christmas (Solemnity) <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>
January 1 st , 2024 (Mon.)	Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Solemnity) The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord <i>NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year</i>
January 7 th , 2024 (Sun.)	The Epiphany of the Lord (Solemnity)
January 8 th , 2024 (Mon.)	The Baptism of the Lord (Feast) End of the Christmas Season
January 18 th – 25 th , 2024	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

January 21st, 2024 (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 22nd, 2024 (Mon.)

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Particular Day of Penance

*Masses celebrated before 4:00 PM observe a “day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life **in all the 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 2nd, 2024 (Fri.)

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 10th, 2024 (Sat.)

World Day of the Sick / Our Lady of Lourdes

This year the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes (February 11th) is not celebrated because it is the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. In our Diocese a special Celebration for World Day of the Sick will be celebrated on Saturday, February 10th at Christ Cathedral at 10:00 am. There will be anointing of the sick and a blessing for those who care for the sick.

February 11th, 2024 (Sun.)

World Marriage Day, Second Sunday in February.

For clergy and parish resources go to: <http://wmd.wwme.org/>

More information about a diocesan celebration honoring wedding anniversaries is to follow by the Office for Family Life. For more information contact that office at (714) 282- 4203/6059.

February 14th, 2024 (Wed.)

Ash Wednesday/Day of Fasting and Abstinence

Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.

February 16th - 20th, 2024

Rites of Election (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 16th; Saturday, February 17th; Monday, February 19th; and Tuesday, February 20th, 2024. Date assignments for parishes will be sent in December 2023. Priests should be sure to schedule one or more occasions for the anointing of catechumens with the Oil of Catechumens.

February 18th, 2024 (Sun.)

First Sunday of Lent

March 8th - 9th, 2024

24 Hours for the Lord

Parishes are encouraged to remain open all day to allow extra time to the faithful to make time for adoration and to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.

Fourth Week of Lent

Special Days of Prayer, General Needs of Humankind

March 19th, 2024 (Tue.)

Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)
Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted.
Funeral masses are permitted.

March 25th, 2024 (Mon.)

Chrism Mass at 5:30 PM at Christ Cathedral.

Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted.
Funeral masses are permitted. *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.*

March 28th, 2024 (Thur.)

Triduum begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
Ritual Masses including Funeral masses are not permitted

March 29th, 2024 (Fri.)

Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)

Ritual Masses including Funeral masses are not permitted.

March 30th, 2024 (Sat.)

Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil after 7:50 PM

Ritual Masses including Funeral masses are not permitted
The entire celebration of the Vigil is to take place at night: it should begin after nightfall and end before the dawn of Sunday. 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. The intention of the Missale Romanum is clear: the Easter Vigil is to take place in darkness.

March 31 st , 2024 (Sun.)	<p>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</p> <p>Although not given the title of Solemnity, “[t]he first eight days of Easter Time constitute the Octave of Easter and are celebrated as Solemnities of the Lord” [<i>Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, no.24</i>].</p>
April 8 th , 2024 (Mon.)	<p>The Annunciation of the Lord (Solemnity)</p> <p>Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.</p>
May 9 th , 2024 (Thu.)	<p>The Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity)</p> <p><i>Our ecclesiastical province (and most dioceses in USA) has transferred this Solemnity from Thursday, May 9th to Sunday May 12th. Thursday, May 9th is observed as an Easter weekday [6].</i></p>
May 12 th , 2024 (Sun.)	<p>The Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity)</p> <p>Celebrated in the Diocese of Orange.</p>
May 19 th , 2024 (Sun.)	<p>Pentecost (Solemnity)</p> <p><i>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.</i></p>
May 20 th , 2024 (Mon.)	<p>The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church</p> <p>This Obligatory Memorial has its own proper 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 .</p>
May 26 th , 2024 (Sun.)	<p>The Most Holy Trinity (Solemnity)</p>
June 2 nd , 2024 (Sun.)	<p>The Most Body and Blood of Christ - <i>Corpus Christi</i> (Solemnity)</p>
June 7 th , 2024 (Fri.)	<p>Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (Solemnity)</p> <p>Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.</p>
Third week of June	<p>Special Days of Prayer, Human Rights and Equality</p>
June 29, 2024 (Sat.)	<p>Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles (Solemnity)</p>

July 1, 2024 (Mon.)	Saint Junípero Serra Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange in California.
July 5 th , 2024 (Fri.)	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 th , 2024 (Wed.)	Dedication of Christ Cathedral 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 28 th , 2024 (Sun.)	World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 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 th , 2024 (Mon.)	Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus <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: https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/saints-martha-mary-and-lazarus</i>
August 13, 2024 (Tue)	St. Emydius, bishop and martyr Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange in California.
August 15, 2024 (Thu.)	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity) <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>
Third week of September	Special Days of Prayer, Harvest and Fruits of the Earth
September 15 th , 2024 (Sun.)	Catechetical Sunday
September 23 th – 29 th , 2024	National Migration Week , moved to the last week in September.
September 29 th , 2024 (Sun.)	Priesthood Sunday
October 6 th , 2024 (Sun.)	Life and Dignity Sunday Please note that the month of October is Life and Dignity Month.

October 20 th , 2024 (Sun.)	World Mission Sunday
October 23 rd , 2024 (Wed.)	Saint John of Capistrano , secondary patron of diocese of Orange. Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange
November 1st, 2024 (Fri.)	All Saints Day (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted. Holy Day of Obligation
November 2 nd , 2024 (Sat.)	Commemoration of All the Faithful departed (All Souls' Day) Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.
November 3 rd – 9 th , 2024	National Vocation Awareness Week
November 24 th , 2024 (Sun.)	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Solemnity)
November 28 th , 2024 (Thur.)	Thanksgiving Day

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

Blessings!