

Notes from the Music & Liturgy Guy

August 8, 2017

Unavailable Dates – Deadline for Next Schedule

Please provide unavailable dates for November / December no later than October 10—earlier than normal.

This schedule will include everything from All Saints Day through Christmas and the New Year, so make your list of unavailable dates and check it twice! (There's that Christmas reference again!)

A Special “Thank You” to our Summer Ministers!

Kudos and much appreciation go to those who agreed to take multiple slots on the schedule this summer. Thanks for your help in keeping things running smoothly!

Holy Day / Special Mass Schedule – Upcoming Dates

* All Saints Day ó Vigil ó Tuesday, Oct. 31 at 7:00 PM (remember, this is Halloween!)

Feast Day ó Wednesday, Nov. 1 at **6:30 AM, 8:00 AM, Noon, and 5:30 PM**

* All Souls Day ó The Mass of Remembrance should be set for 7:00 PM on Thursday, Nov. 2

Training Dates for 2016-17 – TENTATIVE

After a crazy number of distractions, I have completed the TENTATIVE training dates for the entire upcoming 2017-18 school year. Please note the following:

- 1) ***Unless otherwise directed, ministers should meet in the church.***
- 2) EMHCs ó If you require training and commissioning, please pay close attention to the Commissioning Weekends, as *we cannot schedule a “make-up” commissioning outside of Mass.*
- 3) If dates must change due to funeral or other unplanned event, rescheduling will be communicated ASAP.

Trainings (new / returning)

(Readers, Hospitality / Offertory Ministers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion)

Sept.: 25 / 26 MO / TU 6:00 ó 8:00 pm (EMHC on Monday)

Jan.: 28 SU 1:00 pm / 3:00 pm (HM / OM / R at 1:00 PM)

Apr.: 16 / 17 MO / TU 6:00 ó 8:00 pm (EMHC on Monday)

EMHC Commissioning (normally offered **during** all regular weekend Massesó ***cannot be outside of Mass***)

Oct.: 21 / 22

Feb.: 10 / 11

May: 5 / 6

Children's Liturgy of the Word (held in **Flanagan Hall**)

Aug.: 29 TU 6:30 ó 8:00 pm Flanagan Hall

Jan.: 23 TU 6:30 ó 8:00 pm Flanagan Hall

May: 15 TU 6:30 ó 8:00 pm Flanagan Hall

Beginner Altar Server Trainings (***for TU/TH months, both sessions required for ministers to be scheduled***)

Aug.: 22 / 24 TU **and** TH 6:00 ó 8:00 pm Church (start of school)

Oct.: 3 / 5 TU **and** TH 6:30 ó 8:00 pm Church

Jan.: 16 / 18 TU **and** TH 6:30 ó 8:00 pm Church

Apr.: 24 / 26 TU **and** TH 6:30 ó 8:00 pm Church (after Easter)

I have tried diligently to work around regular events that occur in the church / Flanagan Hall, but I cannot schedule around every Parish / school event, so please mark your calendars in advance regarding these dates.

Altar Server Appreciation Party – Saturday, November 4 (TENTATIVE DATE)

As a thank-you to all of the Servers who have helped out this year, the Parish is offering an appreciation party.

RSVP NO LATER THAN MONDAY OCTOBER 30 to Paul at musicliturgy@ourladyoflourdes.org. The location and time are not set yet, so I'll provide further details once everything is squared away. Chaperones will be needed, so interested parents should contact me as we near this date!

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Ministry Reminders

There are a few things that I wanted to remind everyone about, as I've noticed some procedural issues over the summertime.

Altar Servers

- 1) When you are leaving the sanctuary at the end of Mass, please remember that ***you should face the altar until the priest bows and turns to head down the aisle***. Until the priest bows and turns, the focus of the Mass is still the altar, so keep facing that direction.
- 2) ***Make sure that you are selecting the correctly-sized alb***. I'm seeing an awful lot of Servers with albs that come up to their knees. Remember that as you get older, you do get taller. ;-) Be sure that you are selecting an alb that reaches your ankles, not your knees.
- 3) ***Remember to hold the Roman Missal where the priest can read it—no lower than your chin if you're less than 6 feet tall***. Resist the urge to hold it where it is comfortable for you—the priest may not have good enough eyesight to read the words at that distance. And if he moves the Roman Missal higher, keep your hands on / under it—don't hand it to him.
- 4) ***After the Sign of Peace, if the Throne for the Book of the Gospels is still sitting on the corner of the altar, put it away before bringing the empty patens from the credence table***. I have seen several instances where the Throne was nearly knocked on the floor as Servers tried to put the patens on the altar. Make room for the patens by first removing the Throne, if it's still there.

Hospitality Ministers

When the census is taken in October, you are responsible for writing down some of those numbers. The people in the Cry Room (all of them, no matter what age), people standing in back (again, all of them—don't forget yourselves), and clergy / Servers at the altar should all be counted and individually recorded in the correct section on the count sheet in the Vesting Sacristy. The procedure for this is normally found in the Vesting Sacristy next to the Sign-In Sheets, so if you are not sure what to do, please review the instructions before Mass begins.

Musicians

- 1) ***Before you leave, make sure the organ is OFF!*** Over the past several weeks, I have found the organ OPEN AND ON when I arrive on Monday morning. This is hard on the instrument due to the heat generated and a potential issue during thunderstorm season. Always double-check all the equipment to make sure it is properly stored, turned off, and/or closed!
- 2) ***If you need to move the chairs to make room*** for more musicians / instruments, please insure that ALL the rows in the choir area are inside the tiled area and that chairs on the outside of the rows are not encroaching on the carpet / aisle. Having chairs sticking out is not only a tripping hazard, especially to those with crutches / walkers, but it breaks fire code and safety standards, so please check this. Thank you!

Personal Notes / Update on Dorothy, my Mother-in-Law

Some of you have noted that Dorothy moved out of the Terrace and have asked if she is OK. Not to worry, she is fine. She is moving to a less-expensive apartment here in town, but you'll still see her at church on weekends. This new move has been a transition for all of us, so all three of us may need a bit of time to get mentally organized again. We continue to appreciate everyone's support and prayers, so thanks for asking. ☺