



Dear Fathers, Deacons and Pastoral Staff,

We are approaching “this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed” (Preface of Lent I). Please review the following guidelines for the worthy celebration of the liturgies of Lent and Easter with your communities.

Consult the Ordo for full details or contact Simone Brosig at the Office of Liturgy for resources, liturgy@calgarydiocese.ca | 403-218-5524.

LOCAL INSTRUCTIONS

Ash Wednesday | March 6, 2019

- When ashes are blessed, the format of the Mass is changed. Refer to the *Roman Missal* beforehand p. 192ff.
- When ashes are blessed outside Mass, it is proper to do this in a service based on today’s liturgy. See the rubric at bottom of p. 195 of the *Roman Missal*.
- Ash Wednesday is a universal day of fasting and abstinence from meat.

Rite of Election | March 9/10, 2019

The Rite of Election ritual will be different this year. Please be sure you or your RCIA coordinator review the liturgical instructions in the Rite of Election package and contact me with any questions you may have. Be sure to bring the Book of the Elect as the catechumens will sign the book as part of the liturgy. **Do not have the book signed at the parish.**

- Days of Rite of Election at St. Mary’s Cathedral.
 - o Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 7:30 pm – [Register here](#)
 - o Sunday, March 10, 2019 at 3:30 pm – [Register here](#)

- Download the Rite of Election package [here](#).
- If your parish is not attending, [fill in this form](#). We want to have updated contact information for your RCIA team.

Chrism Mass | April 15, 2019

Instructions concerning the return and distribution of oils.

Unused Oil

On the day of the Chrism Mass, return to the Cathedral the plastic vials you received last year and any unused oil. If you transferred the oils to other vessels, you can pour any remaining oil back into the vials and return them to the cathedral. The cathedral staff will properly dispose of the oil and clean the plastic vials.

If you will be cleaning your own vessels and disposing of the oils, please ensure that you follow the correct procedure:

- any unused oil should be burned or buried
- vessels should be washed with soap and water and the water poured into the sacarium or into the ground

Picking up newly blessed and consecrated oils

Oils will be distributed following the liturgy in the same area where priests and deacons vest. The distribution process is very quick; please be sure to take the oils for your parish when you leave. Only send a lay person to pick up oils if no clergy from your parish are able to attend the Chrism Mass.

Triduum | April 18-20, 2019

All clergy are invited to model and encourage the spirit of silence in and around the church from the end of the Holy Thursday liturgy through to the Easter Vigil. The solemn paschal fast observed during this time can also include fasting from chatter and noise.

Easter Vigil Time | April 20, 2019

It is recommended that Easter Vigils in the Diocese of Calgary in 2019 begin no earlier than **9:30 pm**. The Easter Vigil Mass should begin after dark and be at a different time from the usual Saturday evening Mass. The entire celebration takes place at night and must be over before daybreak. The celebration of Mass alone without the Vigil Service is forbidden. The Easter Vigil is “the mother of all Vigils”. It should be prepared prayerfully by a team of ministers paying careful attention to the rubrics in the liturgical books and the Ordo. There should be a rehearsal with ministers to ensure a smooth execution of the various elements, especially when the liturgy includes the Sacraments of Initiation. A liturgy that is well-prepared removes distraction and nourishes the faith of those present.

GENERAL NORMS FOR LENT

RCIA

Following the Rite of Election on the First Sunday of Lent, the catechumens enter into the period of Purification and Enlightenment. Additional rites may be part of the liturgies during this time. Please plan ahead with your RCIA coordinator.

- **Dismissal** to the Rite of Election (See the Rite of Election package)
- **The Scrutinies** are on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent with the Year A readings. The **presentations** of the Our Father and of the Creed can be made during the Sunday liturgies. These liturgies are found in the “Blue Book”, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Solemnities falling during Lent

Please check the ordo for liturgical details on these days.

- Tuesday March 19, Solemnity of **St. Joseph**
- Monday March 25, Solemnity of the **Annunciation of the Lord**

Covering Images and Crosses

- In the Dioceses of Canada it is permitted to cover crosses and images throughout the church from the Fifth Sunday of Lent (April 7, 2019) until the end of the Good Friday Liturgy.
- Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord’s Passion on Good Friday. They are uncovered before beginning the Easter Vigil.

Removing Water from Holy Water Fonts

Removing water from holy water fonts during Lent is not permitted until after the Holy Thursday liturgy. It would be re-filled in preparation for the Easter Vigil (CDWDS Prot. N. 569/00/L, March 2000). Removing water from fonts during Lent is contrary to a balanced understanding of the season of Lent because Lent is marked by the themes of both penance and baptism (CSL 109)

Music

- **CCCB Liturgical music guidelines.** This document includes helpful information for music ministers with specific guidelines for Lent, the Easter Triduum, and Easter season: http://nlo.cccb.ca/images/stories/pdfs/guidelines_liturgical_music.pdf
- **Audio files for most of the Roman Missal chants** including the prefaces, the intercessions for Good Friday, the Exsultet, and at the bottom of the page some additional chants for Holy Week and the Triduum. <http://www.icelweb.org/musicfolder/openmusic.php>
- The Office of Liturgy is planning a **diocesan workshop on chant** with training for music ministers and clergy in singing the chants of Holy Week and Easter. The workshop is planned for late spring 2019 in order to help music ministers prepare their repertoire for Holy Week and Easter 2020. More information will follow.

Flowers

During Lent it is not permitted to decorate the altar or the area around it except for *Laetare* Sunday (4th Sunday of Lent), Solemnities, and Feasts

Weddings

If a wedding is to be celebrated during the season of Lent, the couple should be reminded that their wedding plans must respect the special nature of the liturgical season, especially in terms of the use of flowers and decoration as well as musical selections.

Baptisms

The season of Lent is characterized as baptismal and penitential. Catechumens prepare during Lent to celebrate Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. **The baptism of infants should not be delayed and can take place during Lent.** It is recommended that baptisms take place on Sundays when the Church commemorates the Lord's resurrection.

GENERAL NORMS FOR THE SACRED TRIDUUM AND EASTER

Presentation of the Oils at the Mass of the Lord's Supper

The oils blessed and consecrated at the Chrism Mass can be presented at the beginning of the Mass on the evening of Holy Thursday.

- Text, music, and rubrics have been updated with *Roman Missal: Third Edition* texts and are available from the CCCB on pages 132 – 133 of this document:
http://nlo.cccb.ca/images/stories/pdfs/guidelines_liturgical_music.pdf

Washing of the Feet or Mandatum

On January 6, 2016 the CDWDS changed the rubric regarding those who are to have their feet washed from "The men who have been chosen" to "Those who are chosen from amongst the people of God". The short commentary that accompanied the decree traces the history of the ritual and its "double-significance" as both an imitation of Christ's actions in the Upper Room and the model act of self-gift signified by the actions. The emphasis of the ritual is on the meaning of what Jesus did for all people and the example he has given so that we might go and do the same. Therefore, "It is for pastors to choose a small group of persons who are representative of the entire people of God – lay, ordained ministers, married, single, religious, healthy, sick, children, young people and the elderly – and not just one category or condition." ([Commentary Concerning the Decree *In Missa In Cena Domini*. +Arthur Roche](#))

Easter Sunday and Pentecost – Sequence

The proper Sequence is **obligatory** on Easter and Pentecost Sunday. It is to be sung following the second reading. The Gospel Acclamation follows the Sequence as usual. The sequence can be sung by the cantor, by the choir, or by the entire assembly. The CCCB encourages the participation of the assembly. The Easter sequence may be sung on every day of the Easter Octave including especially the Second Sunday of Easter.

Easter Sequence

- **Chant in Latin**
 - Modern notation: CBW III no. 690 | Breaking Bread 2019 on [page 151](#)
 - Square notation: [Print notation](#)
 - [Listen](#)
- **Chant in English**
 - CBW III no. 690 - Matches English text in Canadian lectionary | [Listen](#)
 - Breaking Bread 2019 on [page 151](#)
- **Alternate English Versions**
 - Breaking Bread 2019 nos. 181 and 162

Pentecost Sequence

- **Chant in Latin**
 - Modern notation: Breaking Bread 2019 on [page 177](#)
 - Square notation: [Print notation](#)
 - [Listen](#)
- **Chant in English**
 - Breaking Bread 2019 on [page 177](#) | [Listen](#)
- **Alternate English Versions**
 - CBW III no. 692 - Matches English text in Canadian lectionary | [Listen](#)
 - Breaking Bread 2019 nos. nos. 188 and 189