

# Special Liturgical Notes and Comments

Revised on June 7, 2009



## Notes on the Sunday Evening Mass:

- The Sunday evening Mass, which is now held year-round, has special qualities that make it different from the other weekend Masses. During the school year, it has a more youthful tone and a more relaxed spirit, but is suitable for parishioners of all ages, who appreciate the liturgical ministry of our parish high school Youth Ministry members. The Youth Ministry Director coordinates the training and the scheduling of liturgical ministers from the Youth Ministry program, in consultation with the parish Liturgy Coordinator, and a relaxed dress code is determined by the Youth Ministry Director for the teen liturgical ministers.
- During the summer months, volunteers are needed for all the liturgical ministries, and Youth Ministry members are encouraged to continue serving throughout the summer. When not enough volunteers are available, Communion is given under one species, and the priest may serve as his own Lector and Server. These Masses are sometimes like weekday Masses, without an offertory procession. Just like weekdays, these summer Masses are usually quiet Masses without music. The Sunday Evening Mass enables many parishioners to go away for the summer weekend and still fulfill their Sunday obligation of attending Mass.

## Notes on Parish Sacramental Program Celebrations:

- For the celebration of First Confession, First Communion, and Confirmation, liturgies are planned in consultation with the Pastor, the Liturgy Coordinator, the Music Director, the Director of Religious Education, and the School Principal.
- Liturgical Ministers for these occasions are chosen from among the participants, catechists, teachers, family members, and other staff members, who are directly involved in these special sacramental celebrations for the youth of our parish.

## Notes on Daily Mass and Parish Devotions:

- People gather for weekday Masses, Monday through Saturday, at 7:30 a.m. in the main church, and serve as volunteer Lectors, Altar Servers, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.
- The Lourdes form of the Rosary is prayed in the chapel after the weekday morning Masses, and silent group adoration continues before the Tabernacle until 8:30 a.m., after the Rosary.
- The Jesus Prayer has a special place of honor in our parish spiritual and devotional life, and is recommended for all parishioners to consider as part of their prayer life.
- May Crowning is held after a weekday school Mass toward the beginning of May each year, and all parishioners are invited to attend this special parish celebration at St. Mary Church.
- Stations of the Cross are held on Lenten Fridays at noon each year. Booklets are available in the narthex.
- The Mokena-Marley Prayer Lenten Ecumenical Service and Luncheon is on a Wednesday during Lent.
- The Mokena-Marley Ecumenical Walk of the Cross is held on Good Friday each year.
- The Narthex Prayer Corner allows people to make their special intentions known to the whole parish.
- The weekly parish bulletin also publishes the names of people who are being added to our prayer lists.
- Our parish Prayer Line offers people another way of obtaining intercessory prayer for their special needs.
- Mass Intentions are regulated at this parish to give more people a chance to have a Mass celebrated:
  - Mass Intentions are only accepted in advance for the following calendar year.
  - Mass Intentions are accepted for the deceased and for major wedding anniversaries.
  - For other special intentions, the Narthex Prayer Corner book is recommended.
  - Two Mass intentions may be arranged for a deceased person during a calendar year.
  - Four Mass intentions may be allotted to any one given family during a calendar year.
  - Several people may jointly sponsor the same Mass intention for one person.
  - Married couples and whole families may be included in a single Mass intention.
  - The most important Mass Intention is when a person worthily receives Holy Communion.
  - In addition to Mass Intentions, memorial flowers for the altar may also be arranged.
- Please contact the parish office during the week for more information about all the above-mentioned items.