



# Prairie Praise

A newsletter from the  
Office of Worship  
Diocese of New Ulm  
May 2007

We congratulate Bishop Nienstedt as the appointed Coadjutor Archbishop of the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis! We continue to address him as “Bishop” in the Eucharistic prayer, since he continues to be a Bishop and is still in charge of the Diocese as Apostolic Administrator. It is recommended that prayers for the Archbishop and for the selection of a new Bishop be added to the Prayers of the Faithful during this transition. Parishes are asked to pray the following Prayer of Gratitude through September.



**Diocesan Worship Committee**

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Ms. Megan Enninga

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**L**ord, our God,  
You chose your servant, John,  
In the tradition of the apostles,  
To be the shepherd of your flock in the  
Diocese of New Ulm.

We thank you for his ministry with us  
And for his spirit of courage, knowledge,  
wisdom and love.

Bless him in his new duties as Archbishop  
Guide him to be a faithful teacher, a wise  
administrator and a holy priest.

May you sustain us with loving care as we  
await a new Bishop,  
And guide us as we continue to grow in  
faith, holiness, charity, and loving service.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

**A**men.

## Marian Devotions in the Parish

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that “The Church’s devotion to the Blessed Virgin is intrinsic to Christian worship” (#971). Many parishes have added devotions to Mary during the month of May. What are some of the ways in which parishes appropriately celebrate the month of Mary without obscuring the importance of the Eucharistic liturgy and the season of Easter?

One church document that could give us some insight into this is the *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy: Principles and Guidelines*. You can find it on the web at [www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/congregations/ccdds/documents/rc\\_con\\_ccdds\\_doc\\_20020513\\_vers-direttorio\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccdds/documents/rc_con_ccdds_doc_20020513_vers-direttorio_en.html)

Throughout the document there is a stress on the liturgy as the primary prayer of the Church. Careful attention is needed to the way in which we balance the prayer to Mary so as not to obscure the significance of the liturgy. The addition of a Hail Mary in the intercessions, for instance, is not appropriate because the Prayers of the Faithful are addressed to Christ.

Marian devotions have a special place in our Catholic tradition. When celebrated well and in a balanced manner, they can lead us to a greater understanding of the mysteries of Christ. The Crowning of Mary is one such devotion. The following is an outline of the Order of Crowning within a Celebration of the Word of God that could be celebrated in parishes:

- INTRODUCTORY RITES
- Entrance Song
- Greeting
- Brief Instruction
- Opening Prayer
- READING OF THE WORD OF GOD
- Readings
- Homily
- RITE OF CROWNING
- Thanksgiving and Invocation
- Crowning
- Litany
- CONCLUDING RITES
- Blessing and Dismissal
- Antiphon or Song



May crowning may take place at any time of the year, but is especially fitting during May or on solemnities and feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The crown should be fashioned out of simple material of a kind that will symbolize the singular dignity of the Blessed Virgin.

Pentecost falls on May 27<sup>th</sup> this year. It was in and through Mary, by the power of the Spirit that Christ and the Church began to be manifested” (*Catechism*, #721). It is appropriate for Christians to gather together on the Feast of Pentecost to recall the fulfillment of the Holy Spirit’s plan and Mary’s involvement with that plan. The Church also offers us the feast of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary, May 31, which can be another day that devotions to Mary can be heightened.

While we want to be careful to avoid mixing the devotion of Mary with the Eucharistic liturgy, the *Directory on Popular Piety* reminds us that “... authentic expressions of popular piety are not at odds with the centrality of the Sacred Liturgy. Rather, in promoting the faith of the people, who regard popular piety as a natural religious expression, they predispose the people for the celebration of the Sacred Mysteries.”

# Parish Liturgy

People + Process + Procedure

*“... the primary and indispensable source from which the faithful are to derive the true Christian spirit...”*  
(Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 14)

## ***Save the date!***

October 24, 2007	7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	Holy Redeemer, Marshall
October 25, 2007	7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	St. Mary’s, Willmar
October 26, 2007	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	St. Mary’s, New Ulm

***Mini workshops***

## ***Full day Workshop***

October 27, 2007 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Church of St. Catherine, Redwood Falls

Presenter: Sr. Joyce Ann Zimmerman, C.P.P.S,  
Editor of “Living Liturgy” and “Liturgical Ministry”  
Complete brochure and registration coming soon.  
Invite your liturgy teams now to save the date!

## You are invited! Diocesan Events

**Ordination of Paul Timmerman:** Saturday, May 26 - Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, New Ulm

**National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) Convention:** July 9-13 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Go to [www.npm.org](http://www.npm.org) for more information on registration. Musicians from St Joseph's Church in Montevideo have arranged for a bus. They would be happy to fill the bus with Minnesota musicians from our churches. The bus will depart from Minnesota on Sunday, July 8th and return on Friday, July 13th. It will be a 15 hour trip. The best part of the bus trip is that you have room to move around, bring your pillows and blankets to rest with, bring snacks and watch a movie, be brought right to the door of your hotel and be picked up right at the door of the hotel and best of all you can leave all your traveling gear on the bus for the trip home. The number of people who ride the bus would determine the price. It is less expensive than flying and parking vehicles and renting shuttles to get to the hotels. We can also arrange several stops along the way to pick people up at central locations. If you have questions or if you are interested in joining us please contact Sue Botten at 320-269-8672 or email her at [swbotten@charter.net](mailto:swbotten@charter.net). Come and join us on a musical, liturgical journey that will enhance your involvement in your parish music worship forever!

**Family Bible Camp:** Need to get away from your church ministering duties for the weekend? Consider taking your family to the annual Family Bible Camp July 13-15, 2007. Call Jan Crowe for more information at (320) 275-2424.

**RCIA Workshop:** The Diocese of Winona is sponsoring a North American Forum Institute on August 23-25, 2007 · [Imaging The Initiation Process In Small Church Communities, Winona, MN](#) For more information or to register, go to [www.naforum.org](http://www.naforum.org) or call them at 202-884-9758. This workshop is being held our own backyard, in Owatonna, MN. This is a great opportunity for learning more about the RCIA process and how to make it work in your parish. Make plans now to attend.

**Parish Liturgy Workshops:** October 24-27, 2007 with presenter Sr. Joyce Ann Zimmerman. See details above.

**The Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord** is always transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter in the Diocese of New Ulm. Therefore, May 20 readings and songs should be for the Ascension.

Thursday, May 17 readings should be those specified for the Easter Weekday, Acts 18: 1-8, John 16: 16-20.