



Route20Catholic

A Family of Catholic Parishes

St. Joan's Morrisville, St. Bernard's Waterville, St. Mary's Hamilton, St. Joseph's Oriskany Falls

Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest Spring Schedule 2023

Saturday, January 21 - SCAP at St. Joseph's, Oriskany Falls

Sunday, January 22 - First Colgate Mass of the Spring Semester

Saturday, January 28 - SCAP at St. Joan of Arc, Morrisville

Saturday, February 4 - SCAP at St. Joseph's, Oriskany Falls

Saturday, February 11 - SCAP at St. Joan of Arc, Morrisville

Sunday, February 19 - SCAP at St. Bernard's, Waterville

Sunday, February 26 - SCAP at St. Mary's, Hamilton

Sunday, March 19 - SCAP at St. Bernard's, Waterville

Sunday, March 26 - SCAP at St. Mary's, Hamilton

Saturday, April 22 - SCAP at St. Joan of Arc, Morrisville

Sunday, April 29 - SCAP at St. Joseph's, Oriskany Falls

Sunday, May 7 - Last Colgate Mass of the Spring Semester

Considerations from the Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest

Approved for Use in the Dioceses of the U.S.A by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Prepared by the Committee on the Liturgy of the USCCB

§8. “When it is difficult to have the celebration of the Mass on a Sunday in a parish church or in another community of Christ’s faithful, the diocesan Bishop together with his Priests should consider appropriate remedies. Among such solutions will be that other Priests be called upon for this purpose, or that the faithful transfer to a church in a nearby place so as to participate in the Eucharistic Mystery there.”

§14. When a priest cannot be present for the celebration of Mass on the Lord’s Day, it is of paramount importance that the parish or mission community still come together to celebrate the resurrection of the Lord. Even so, however, “it is unthinkable on the Lord’s Day to substitute for Holy Mass, either ecumenical celebrations of the word or services of common prayer with Christians from the... Ecclesial Communities or even participation in these Communities’ liturgical celebrations.” If, in the judgement of the diocesan bishop, it is not practical or possible for the community to participate in the celebration of the Mass in a church nearby, they should assemble for Sunday worship in their own community under the leadership of the person whom the bishop and pastor have designated to lead them in prayer.

§15. Before Sunday celebrations in the absence of a priest are begun, it should be explained to the faithful that although these celebrations substitute for the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist, they should not be regarded as the real solution to present circumstances nor as a surrender to mere convenience. These celebrations are held within communities that await a priest and these solutions must be considered merely temporary. There should normally be only one liturgical assembly of this kind in each place on a given Sunday. One of these services may never be held in a location where Mass has been celebrated that weekend. Because of the emphasis on Sunday as the Lord’s Day, such liturgical assemblies should be held on Sunday.

§16. Any confusion in the minds of the faithful between this kind of liturgical assembly and a Eucharistic celebration must be carefully avoided. These celebrations should increase the desire of the faithful to be present at and participate in the celebration of the Eucharist.

§17. To this end, the faithful need to be led to an understanding that the Eucharistic Sacrifice cannot take place without a priest, even though the reception of Holy Communion which they receive in this kind of liturgical assembly is closely connected with the Sacrifice of the Mass, but not equal to it. This serves as an urgent reminder for prayers that those whom God has called to the priesthood will respond generously.