

CONGREGATION OF THE
MOST HOLY REDEEMER

THE DIVINE OFFICE

PARTICULAR CALENDAR

PROPER OFFICES

LITURGICAL PRIVILEGES

REVISED SECOND EDITION

Approved English Text

Redemptorist Spirituality Commission

of North America

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THE SACRED CONGREGATION
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CONGREGATION OF THE MOST HOLY REDEEMER

The Particular Calendar of the Most Holy Redeemer,
with proper Latin texts for Mass and the Divine Office:

ratified and approved.

Given at the Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship,

14 July 1975.

+ A. Bugnini

Titular Archbishop of Diocletiana
Secretary

THE SACRED CONGREGATION
FOR THE SACRAMENTS AND DIVINE WORSHIP

Ref. no. 1575/77

CONGREGATION OF THE MOST HOLY REDEEMER

The proper texts for the Divine Office, in English:

ratified and approved.

Given at the Sacred Congregation
for the Sacraments and Divine Worship,

24 October 1977.

Vergilius Noè
Secretary

Approbations of
The Congregation for Divine Worship
and the Discipline of the Sacraments:

Blessed Peter Donders: 13 March 1983, Ref. no. 327/83.

Blessed Gaspar Stangassinger: 10 March 1988, Ref. no. 241/88.

Blessed Gennaro Maria Sarnelli: 13 June 1996, Ref. no. 567/96/L.

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos: 16 June 2000, Ref. no. 451/00/L.

Blessed Nicholas Charnetsky and Companions: 30 May 2006, Ref.
no. 653/06/L.

The date of the celebration to be 28 June was approved
on 6 September 2003, Ref. no. 1684/03/L.

Blessed Methodius Dominic Trčka: 30 May 2006,
Ref. no. 653/06/L.

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PARTICULAR CALENDAR OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE MOST HOLY REDEEMER

**The day the Diocese celebrates the dedication
of all churches of the respective Diocese:**

Dedication of our church: Solemnity

5 January

St. John Nepomucene Neumann, Bishop Memorial

14 January

Blessed Peter Donders, Priest Memorial

15 March

St. Clement Maria Hofbauer, Priest Feast

Thursday following the third Sunday after Pentecost

Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Optional Memorial

27 June

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Feast

28 June

Blessed Nicholas Charnetsky, Bishop,
and Companions, Martyrs Memorial

30 June

Blessed Gennaro Maria Sarnelli, Priest Memorial

Third Sunday in July

Solemnity of the Most Holy Redeemer, Titular Feast of the Congregation	Solemnity
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1 August

St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori, Bishop, Doctor, Founder of the Congregation	Solemnity
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25 August

Blessed Methodius Dominic Trčka, Martyr	Memorial
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26 September

Blessed Gaspar Stangassinger, Priest	Memorial
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5 October

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest	Memorial
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16 October

St. Gerard Majella, Religious	Memorial
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6 November

Blessed Jose Javier Gorosterratzu, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs	Memorial
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8 December

Immaculate Conception of Our Lady, Patroness of the Congregation	Solemnity
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The calendar of the universal Church is followed.

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5 January

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE NEUMANN,
BISHOP

Memorial

John Nepomucene Neumann was born in Bohemia on 28 March 1811. He studied theology in the seminary in Budweis. Eager to win persons for Christ, especially immigrants living uncared for in America, he decided to emigrate himself. The difficulties he encountered were many and various, but for nearly twenty-four years he devoted himself to pastoral work all over the United States, largely as a Redemptorist missionary. As bishop of Philadelphia, he founded a congregation of religious women, the Third Order of St. Francis of Philadelphia. On 5 January 1860, he collapsed in the street and died immediately. He was canonized by Pope Paul VI on 19 June 1977.

From the common of pastors, except for the following:

Office of Readings

SECOND READING

From an apostolic letter of Pope Paul VI

AAS 55, 1963, pp. 905-911

*The chief concern of a bishop, priest or religious
must be the love of God and the salvation of souls*

This shining light of the New World was born at Prachatitz in Bohemia. As a boy he was remarkable for his gentle ways, his intelligence, and his eagerness to learn. His heart was already set on higher things when the reading of St. Paul's epistles and of periodicals about the missions in far-off America filled him with a practical enthusiasm for that type of work, and he decided to go out there as soon as he was able. Meanwhile, in an almost soldierly effort to prepare body and soul for the fray, he practiced voluntary mortification and trained himself in virtue.

The Archbishop of New York received him with great kindness, gave him the subdiaconate and diaconate, and then on 25 June 1836, less than a month after his arrival in America, he ordained him priest.

John Neumann was sent to do missionary work, especially among German immigrants, and he used Williamsville, New York, where he had a small house, as his base. From there he toured the surrounding countryside, bringing light to those in darkness, consolation to those in sorrow, and salvation to those who were at the point of death. Words cannot describe the hardships and even insults he had to endure. Like a

enormous distances between the villages, the difficulty of the terrain, the harshness of the climate, shortage of food, and even the calumnies of those who were jealous of his success.

Desiring an ever closer union with Christ, he decided to join the Redemptorists. In 1840 he became the first Redemptorist choir novice in America. Eager to mirror in himself the characteristics of St. Alphonsus, he gave a splendid example of virtue, courageously overcoming mental distress and the assaults of the evil one. Without any concessions to self-indulgence, he cheerfully and selflessly endured the poor life of the Redemptorists of those days, and practiced in addition voluntary mortifications, often spending whole nights in prayer. At the end of his novitiate, having shown himself obedient both to the rule and to superiors, and a worthy son of St. Alphonsus, he was judged fit to make his profession. As a Redemptorist he worked very hard at parish missions, the special task of his Congregation, and promoted interest in religion and moral reform, bringing back to the path of virtue those who had strayed. It was inevitable that such a priest should be called upon to serve the Church in a higher capacity.

In 1852, on the Pope's instructions, he was made bishop of Philadelphia. He lived up to his reputation for holiness, and like a good shepherd did all in his power to lead his flock away from the paths of sin and guide them into the pastures of salvation. He preached to his people, often urging them to assist at Mass, and he encouraged his priests to discharge their duties faithfully

consolation to the imprisoned, the sick and the dying. He built many churches, including a new cathedral, founded seminaries, and took a special interest in the preparation of students for the priesthood. He established a great number of schools and orphanages and founded the Third Order of St. Francis of Philadelphia, a congregation of sisters especially devoted to this work. Being *an example that the whole flock can follow*, he guided his diocese wisely, held frequent visitations himself, and convoked a number of diocesan synods.

Aloof from the turmoil of the world, he was humble, courteous to all, full of zeal, and intent only upon God. For eight years he gave priceless service to the Church, until, while going about his daily duties on 5 January 1860, he collapsed in the street and died. When the body was carried into the bishop's residence, his hair shirt—further proof of his virtue—was discovered.

Far from dimming the glory that springs from virtue, death removes a veil and makes it shine all the more brightly. So it was that after John Neumann died his reputation for holiness kept on increasing, and God confirmed this reputation by working miracles at his intercession.

