



**A REPORT TO THE  
CATHOLIC ACADEMY OF LITURGY  
JANUARY 2023**

## MEMBERSHIP & INCOME

Our records indicate that we have

702	active full members	<i>was 675 in October 2021</i>
243	associate members	<i>was 176</i>
11	industry members	<i>same</i>
2	Newsletter-only subscribers	<i>same</i>
2	Seminary Memberships	<i>same</i>

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

We have received a substantial increase in associate members from the webinar series on the OCIA. Membership applications are easily accessed on the website. Fees are currently \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. I am especially pleased that we are reaching parish leaders.

### PUBLICATIONS

- Our income from publication sales is actually very steady. We make a sale about 5-6 times per week.
- However, the expenses of the warehouse and distribution nearly outpace this income.

### INCOME FROM FORMATION

- The OCIA webinar series has been offered free of charge, so has not generated income; but it has generated interest in the OCIA process and tremendous goodwill.
- The expenses associated with the OCIA webinar series have largely been in stipends for speakers and a modest stipend to Spanish moderators. Over 70% of our speakers donated their presenter fee!
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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The Board of Directors met Monday October 3 in New Orleans. Among the items on their agenda was the election of new officers. **Ms. Laura Bertone** was elected as the new Chair of the Board of Directors. She becomes the seventeenth person in the history of the Federation to serve as Chair and only the third woman to hold that position. Sr. Janet Baxendale, SC of New York served as Chair from 1982-1983 and Sr. Anthony Poerio, IBVM of Phoenix served from 1991-1993.

Ms. Bertone has been a member of the Board since 2017, representing Region Eleven. She formerly served as the treasurer. Laura is the Director of the Office of Worship in the Archdiocese of San Francisco. She holds degrees in business from Santa Clara University and a masters in Liturgy from the University of Notre Dame. She is currently a student of Canon Law at St. Paul University in Canada.

**Mr. Todd Williamson** (Region VII, Archdiocese of Chicago) remains as Vice Chair. He has served on the Board since 2019, has been a member of the Formation Committee, and continues to offer outstanding leadership of the OCIA Task Force.

**Ms. Letitia “Tish” Thornton** (Region XII, Diocese of Boise) was elected as Board Treasurer. Tish has served on the Board since 2018 and has most recently served as facilitator of the Pastoral Liturgy Committee, guiding us through several major projects.

## THE FDLC AND ITS MISSION OF FORMATION

### FREE WEBINARS ON THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH

ENGLISH	SPANISH	TOPIC	SPEAKERS IN ENGLISH	SPEAKERS IN SPANISH
Wednesday	Thursday			
Aug 31	Sept 1	Vision of the OCIA	Lesya Truxaw	Fr. Victor Reyes
Sept 7	Sept 8	History of Initiation / USA edition	Rita Thiron	Fr. Pedro Lopez
Sept 14	Sept 15	Preaching for the Rites	Fr. Michael Connors, CSC	Fr. Richard Vega
Sept 21	Sept 22	Canonical Issues in OCIA Process	Msgr. Michael Ibach, JCL	Fr. Jesús Mariscal, JCL
Sept 28	Sept 29	Discernment	Fr. Tom Ranzino Sr. Donna Steffen, SC	Dcn. Modesto Cordero Sr. Rosanne Belpedio, CSJ
Oct 12	Oct 13	Music for the Rites	Dr. Steven Janco	Dr. Dolores Martinez
Oct 19	Oct 20	OCIA as Adapted for Children	Sr. Sandy DeMasi, SSJ	Rose Hernandez
Oct 26	Oct 27	The Revised National Statutes	Postponed	Postponed
Nov 2	Nov 3	Role of the Bishop in the Process of Initiation	Rita A. Thiron & D. Todd Williamson	Fr. Michael Lewis
Nov 9	Nov 10	Initiating Community: Roles and Proper Ministers	Dr. Donna Eschenauer	Dr. Ximena DeBroeck
Nov 16	Nov 17	Period of Evangelization/ Pre-Catechumenate	Victoria Tufano	Nelly Lorenzo
Dec 7	Dec 8 *	About the Rite of Entrance	Dr. Patricia Hughes	Dr. Dolores Martinez and Fr. Carlos Velasquez
Dec 14	Dec 15	Catechumenate Period/ Catechesis	Todd Williamson	Dr. Ximena DeBroeck
Jan 4	Jan 5	About the Rites of Sending/ Election	Laura Bertone	Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller & Dr. Dolores Martinez
Jan 11	Jan 12	Period of Purification & Enlightenment; Scrutinies	Fr. Jan Michael Joncas	Fr. Pedro Lopez
Jan 18	Jan 19	Handing on Rites/Rites of Immediate Preparation	Fr. Paul Turner	Fr. Paul Turner
Jan 25	Jan 26	Initiation Rites	Fr. Robert Kennedy	Fr. Richard Vega
Feb 1	Feb 2	Initiation in Exceptional Circum.	Dr. Eileen Jaramillo, JCL Dr. Carmel Ann Sperti	Nelly Lorenzo
Feb 8	Feb 9	Rites for the Baptized	Fr. Ron Oakham, O Carm.	Fr. Mike Lewis
Feb 15	Feb 16	Period of Mystagogy	Fr. Marcus McFadin	Rose Hernandez

**CURRENT ENROLLMENT    2,973 ENGLISH SERIES    729 SPANISH SERIES**

## STATISTICS – ENROLLMENT IN OCIA WEBINARS (as of 11-7-2022)

ROLE	ENGLISH SERIES	SPANISH SERIES
Bishop	1	0
Priests	324	26
Deacons	420	54
Laity	1,981	566
Religious	180	54
Seminarians	11	6

### WEBINAR ON THE REVISED ORDER OF PENANCE



On October 25, 2022, the FDLC and the USCCB Secretariat for Divine Worship co-sponsored a webinar on the newly revised *Order of Penance*. Presenters included **Fr. Andrew Menke**, Executive Director of the Secretariat and **Fr. Rob Spaulding**, Director of the Office of Worship in Cheyenne. The webinar examined the changes to the liturgical text and offered a renewed appreciation of the theology of the sacrament.



Over 1000 people registered for the webinar. Even more have seen the recorded version which has been embedded in the FDLC website. To see the full recording and to access the handouts: <https://fdlc.org/2022/07/may-god-grant-you-pardon-and-peace-webinar-on-the-revised-order-of-penance/>

### WEBINAR – INTRODUCTION TO THE REVISED OCIA

After the Bishops of the Conference approved the English and Spanish translations of the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults* in November 2021, we received many inquiries regarding the revision process, the adaptations for the U.S. edition, and the extent of the revised translation. To squash rumors, to allay fears, and to answer frequently asked questions, the FDLC offered an introductory webinar on December 15, 2021. It featured Rita Thiron and Todd Williamson (Archdiocese of Chicago and OCIA Task Force chair). It also offered opportunities for additional questions and anticipated the FDLC's plans for 2022-2023 and the various methods of formation. <https://fdlc.org/2021/11/ocia-whats-new-whats-not-whats-next/>

## FORMATION: WRITTEN MATERIALS

### Seasonal Preparation Aids distributed free of charge to all dioceses

- full text for Reconciliation Service, Liturgical Calendar Advisories, preparation sheets, and more
- Advent & Christmas – October 2021
- Lent-Triduum-Easter – January 2022
- Advent & Christmas -- November 2022

### *Solemnly and For All Time: A Pastoral Guide to the Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar*

- Published January 2022
- General Introduction and historical background
- A treatment of each chapter of the ODCA – includes outline, when this chapter is used, lists of requisites, list of liturgical ministers, preparation sheets

## FORMATION: EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

In April 2022, the FDLC distributed a thirty-six page planning guide for the preparation of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ on June 19. Below, please find a glimpse at its table of contents.

### The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

- Preparation for the Order of Mass

- Universal Prayers – sample intercessions

- Music suggestions for Mass

### Eucharistic Processions

- Introduction

- The Order of the Eucharistic Procession

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

- Presider Text: Morning Prayer with Exposition

- Presider Text: Evening prayer with Exposition

- Scripture suggestions during a Period of Exposition

- Music suggestions for a Period of Exposition

### General Resources

- Vocabulary Lists

- Related Liturgical Books and Church documents

- Frequently-asked Questions

## UPCOMING FDLC WEBINARS AND RESOURCES

### *COMING IN LENT 2023 – A NEW SERIES ON THE MASS*

#### **EUCHARIST: THE WORK OF OUR REDEMPTION**

“We are required every day to rediscover the beauty of the truth of the Christian celebration. ... as *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (7) describes it: the Liturgy is the priesthood of Christ, revealed to us and given in his Paschal Mystery, rendered present and active by means of signs addressed to the senses (water, oil, bread, wine, gestures, words), so that the Spirit, plunging us into the Paschal Mystery might transform every dimension of our life, conforming us more and more to Christ” (Pope Francis, *Desiderio Desideravi*, 21).

In response to Pope Francis’ call for a “serious and dynamic liturgical formation” (*ibid*, 31), the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions is pleased to present a five-part Lenten series which will explore the Mass – “**Eucharist: The Work of Our Redemption.**” We offer this in harmony with the United States Bishops’ campaign for a Eucharistic Revival.

We have assembled some of the nation’s most respected theologians and liturgists. They will offer not merely an exploration of the elements of the Mass but will reflect on its rich theology and identify implications for pastoral practice.

DATE	TOPIC	PRESENTER
Feb 23	Celebration of the Paschal Mystery: Theological Foundations	Dr. James Starke
Mar 2	The Church at Prayer: The Introductory Rites	Sr. Joyce Ann Zimmerman, CPPS
Mar 9	Proclamation and Response: The Liturgy of the Word	Fr. Regis Armstrong, OFM Cap
Mar 16	Joining in the Sacrifice: The Liturgy of the Eucharist	Fr. Matthew Ernest
Mar 23	Glorifying the Lord by Your Life: The Concluding Rite	Fr. Ajani Gibson

The sessions will be offered live each Thursday in Lent at 1:00 PM (Eastern). Each webinar will be 75 minutes in length and will include time for questions and answers. As with our previous series, the sessions will be recorded so that all registered participants may watch it at a convenient time.

For over fifty-three years, liturgical formation has been the mission of the FDLC. Once again, these webinars will be offered FREE of charge. Online registration is now open: [www.fdlc.org/eucharistseries2023](http://www.fdlc.org/eucharistseries2023). Please join us and encourage others to do the same.

## SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN



Since June 19, the FDLC has been posting quotations on the Eucharist daily. These are drawn from Sacred Scripture, liturgical texts, Patristic literature, the writing of the Saints, and Church documents. The quotations are chosen in harmony with the liturgical day. We have encouraged our members to “like” our page and to “share” the quotation with others (including their parish secretaries or web masters). Statistics show that we are reaching, on average, 13,500 people each day! [www.facebook.com/FoDLC](https://www.facebook.com/FoDLC).



FIFTY-THIRD NATIONAL MEETING OF DIOCESAN COMMISSIONS  
OCTOBER 4-6, 2022 | NEW ORLEANS  
*ARS CELEBRANDI: SOMETHING MORE IS REQUIRED*

Over one hundred thirty members travelled to New Orleans; another fifty joined virtually. Thirty members attended their very first national meeting – a sign of present and future growth. The week was yet another manifestation of the value of this Federation, the networking it engenders and supports, and its dedication to the liturgical apostolate. What follows are highlights from that meeting.

### **Panel on the Revised OCIA**

- On Tuesday morning, a panel offered updates and insights on the formation on the revised OCIA.
- Father Andrew Menke gave a history of the process of translation of this text and offered updated its status
- Todd Williamson, OCIA Task Force Chair, gave statistics on the current OCIA webinars (over 3600 people participating in English and Spanish) and an overview of future FDLC plans.
- Dr. James Starke gave a snapshot on the formation of seminarians nationwide and how they are schooled in the rites of initiation – in the classroom and in the parish.
- Sr. Lois Paha gave an overview of diocesan programming, successes, and challenges when forming local clergy and leaders.

### **Four Plenary Presentations**

- Father Patrick Beidelman explored the historical roots of the notion of *ars celebrandi* and wove in fascinating tales of the importance of ritual and the spiritual dimensions of our encounter with Christ in the Liturgy.
- Father Bruce Cinquegrani explored the vital “empathetic attending” that is so necessary for the assembly to enter into the liturgical act and for the presider to engage with the assembly.
- Sr. Judith Kubicki spoke of the essential role of music in the liturgy and the crucial need for the liturgical formation of the pastoral musician.
- Dr. Marchita Mauck drew upon Pope Francis’s recent apostolic letter as she explored the role of art and architecture in the celebration of the liturgical rites.
- Father Thomas Ranzino served as facilitator for the meeting, weaving the presentations together, leading our discussions, aiding our reflection with a participant’s journal, and offering a poetic summary.

### **Journal for reflection**

- Early on, we wanted to focus on the role of the pastoral liturgist in the formation of clergy and the faithful. What does *ars celebrandi* mean for a liturgist’s daily tasks?
- A journal invited reflection after each presentation and after each liturgy
- Quotations from *Desiderio Desideravi* were found on each page.

### **Liturgies**

- Oct 4 - Archbishop Gregory Aymond welcomed us to the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis King of France where he encouraged us to reflect on the Collect for the Mass for Ministers of the Church – “...that they may be effective in action, gentle in ministry, and constant in prayer.”
- Oct 5 - Church of the Immaculate Conception; Mass on the memorial of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos who holds a special place in the heart of parishioners in New Orleans. The Choir from Notre Dame Seminary provided music.

- Oct 6—Mass at the historic St. Peter Claver parish in the heart of the city where we were warmly welcomed by a sixty-voice Gospel choir and by Father Ajani Gibson, parochial vicar, who presided over a joyful celebration.
- Oct 4 – Opening Rite included an “office of readings” on the Council’s vision of *ars celebrandi*
- Oct 3-6 Liturgies of the Hours – Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer
- Oct 6 – Liturgy of Remembrance honored deceased members of the FDLC.

### **Morning with the BCDW**

- Archbishop Blair, Chair of the BCDW, addressed us via video. Thank you! [The full text of his talk appears in the October 2022 edition of the *BCDW Newsletter*.]
- The Secretariat staff updated us on the status of the liturgical texts.

### **Business Sessions**

- The members passed resolutions to offer formation on the Mass and on the protocols for eucharistic adoration and exposition.
- They shared what they were doing in their dioceses regarding the Eucharistic Revival.
- We will continue to populate a page of our FDLC website with these resources.

### **Banquet**

- The 2022 Frederick R. McManus Award was given to Carmen Fernandez Aguinaco in recognition of her tireless efforts on liturgical translations.
- The 2022 Alleluia Award – given in recognition of outstanding service to the Federation by one of our own – was awarded posthumously to Msgr. Andrew Varga (Diocese of Bridgeport) for his decades of service to the FDLC. Msgr. Varga passed away in early March.
- Many thanks to our sponsors and exhibitors, to Michael Poradek, who handled all the technology, and to the incredible Committee from Region V who had worked tirelessly and showed true Southern Hospitality.

## OTHER AREAS OF COLLABORATION

During our spring regional meetings, the FDLC participated in the nationwide **synod process**. A standardized process was distributed to all Board representatives prior to the fourteen gatherings. The comments were summarized and submitted to the USCCB on June 11, 2022. (A copy of that submission appeared in the August 2022 edition of the *FDLC Newsletter*.) The FDLC was part of the “Sixteenth Region” which welcomed comments from national organizations.

Rita continues to participate in the monthly meetings of the **Executive Directors’ Network** (EDN). This is a wonderful opportunity for mutual sharing on a variety of issues related to non-profits and the Church’s mission. Semi-annual gatherings provide opportunities for learning and prayer.

Rita continues to meet with the **Bishops’ Subcommittee on Certification of Lay Ecclesial Ministers** regarding standards for formation and future programming. Even after the dissolution of the Alliance, each member organization continues to certify and train. The FDLC has two applicants in process.