

Dear Bishops, Monsignors, Fathers, Deacons, and all others who have a love for the Liturgy:

I would like to personally invite you to the Workshop sponsored by the Office of Worship which I have been planning with Mary Dahl, our ‘fearless leader’ in the Office.

I know it’s a Saturday in February.

It’s in Fosston--equally far from everywhere (or equally near).

You probably have to be back that afternoon to minister at Masses at home. (Me, too.)

I get it. I was pastor of Sacred Heart, Baudette — 38 miles from St. Mary’s in Warroad.

This is exactly why I am inviting you, with all urgency, to make this a priority for yourself and those you serve; if at all possible, please come, thanks.

Because *it is* so hard to find/take/make time for input for oneself.

Because *we each and all need it so much*, AND more than that,

we need one another and the community that we share as ministers —sacred and lay.

I promise you more materials and resources than you can imagine, things you can use right ‘out of the box’ or ‘off the printer’. You will leave with ample resources and you’ll:

- Receive and review pre-prepared liturgies for use in your parish(es) including Penitential Services, RCIA-related Rituals, Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms, Liturgy of the Hours, Masses in special settings (nursing homes, etc), to name a few.
- Develop a firmer foundation in theological principles which underlie liturgical rites and their celebration
 - Be better able to serve as a resource for sound liturgical practice
 - Have not only the ‘what to do’s’ but the ‘who says we should do it that way’s’
- Grow in familiarity with the Liturgical Year and celebrations of the Saints as found in the Lectionary, Roman Missal, and related works.
- Spend time hands-on and in-depth with the most commonly used liturgical and ritual books--for those who think you already have seen them all, come see what more there is to know.
- Learn from and with fellow practitioners and further develop relationships with others.
- Gain exposure to new ritual and liturgical music— contemporary to classics — with suggestions for “Singing the Mass” not “Singing *at* Mass” if the need-desire arises.

Thank you for all you do, I look forward to the opportunity to be with you and nurture the liturgical life we celebrate as the Church of the Diocese of Crookston.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,
Fr. Augie Gothman