

LAST THINGS

These are some last-minute reminders, plus some new information for those attending the June Convocation which begins in just a few days.

WEATHER – My weather app says that the temps next week will be in the upper-70's to upper-80's for highs, and mid-to upper-60's for lows. Pack accordingly.

BRING A "SMART" DEVICE (iPad, Kindle Fire, iPhone) if you have one. We will have Kindle Fires available for those who do not. For the Daily Offices, Eucharists, and Rites we will use the Opus Dei app. For Compline we will have a printed booklet.

FOR THOSE FLYING – When you arrive in Kansas City, locate an airport courtesy phone (near baggage) and contact the FOUR POINTS SHERATON KCI AIRPORT HOTE. They will pick you up and bring you to the hotel. A bus/van will pick up up at 12:00 PM (Noon) SHARP on Monday for the trip to Conception Abbey. Sr. Marie Patricia will be your bus "mom." Her cell number is 315-702-3757. It looks like everyone who is flying is arriving Sunday or in the wee hours Monday morning. If your flight is delayed so that you will not be at the Sheraton by Noon Monday, please notify Abbess Martha (913-709-3195) or me (Sr. Madeleine Sophie, 215-435-9423) as soon as you know so we can either wait for you or make some other arrangements for you to get to Conception.

FOR THOSE ARRIVING ON SUNDAY AND STAYING AT THE SHERATON – It has become a tradition to share dinner at around 6 PM and/or breakfast as people come in. Meet at the entrance to the restaurant. If you arrive later, check to see if you can join some of the Companions for evening refreshment. If you wish to gather Monday morning to pray Matins together, please coordinate among yourselves.

ARRIVING AT CONCEPTION – For those taking the bus: the driver will take the bus to St. Gabriel's Hall; Sr. Marie Patricia - the keys will be on a desk to the right as you enter the lobby area. After you have picked up the keys, ask the driver to take you around to the central parking lot below Good Shepherd Hall.

Brother Anskar has already emailed a copy of the ROTA (Tri-Fold). Please review it and make note of your assigned ministries. If you are an Officiant for one of the Offices, or a Reader at Mass, be sure to become familiar with the text in advance. We are using the New Revised Standard Version translation. If you do not have a copy, copies of your readings will be available when we gather for our opening meeting. If this will be your first time leading an Office at Convocation, please review the rubrics (instructions) in the Opus Dei. As you

can imagine, leading at Convocation has a number of differences from leading on Zoom. In fact, it's not a bad idea for everyone (including those not leading) to review those rubrics.

HABIT – If you have been clothed, you are expected to wear your habit at all meals, services and planned events. The habit is optional during free time such as afternoons and after Compline. Remember that you should wear only black tops, bottoms, and shoes underneath. Again, consider the weather when packing.

LODGING – There has been a change in lodging. We will be staying in Good Shepherd Hall, the new student dormitory. Good Shepherd has single rooms with desk, shelves, desk chair and armchairs, AND private baths. For those who stayed there last summer and found the beds (and closets) vertically challenging, there will be foldable stepstools, probably kept in the lounge, for you to use as needed. My understanding is that we will be the only GROUP in Good Shepherd, but there may be summer staff in the building as well. We will have the use of one of the lounges.