

## **“LAST THINGS”**

These are some last-minute reminders for those attending the October 2024 Convocation which begins in just a few days.

**WEATHER** – My weather app says that the temps next week will be in the upper 60's to upper 70's for highs, and low/mid 40's- mid-50's for lows. Also, there may be a good view of our visiting comet about 30 minutes after sunset while we're there. 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. We will have a few printed copies of the music for Matins and Vespers, but there is a pdf copy of the music attached to this email, which you can print out or load onto your device if you prefer. I am bringing printouts of the “ordinary” music for Vespers (Phos Hilaron) and Eucharist (Gloria and Sanctus), but the rest you will want to have, either as print-outs or on your device.

**FOR THOSE FLYING** – When you arrive in Kansas City, locate an airport courtesy phone (near baggage) and contact the FOUR POINTS SHERATON KCI AIRPORT HOTEL. They will pick you up and bring you to the hotel. A bus/van will pick up you at 12:00 PM (Noon) SHARP on Monday for the trip to Conception Abbey. Sr. Genevieve Lynn will be your bus “mom.” Her cell number is 770-490-0063. 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; the keys to your rooms will be on a desk to the right as you enter the lobby area.

In addition to the music, the Tri-fold (schedule) is also attached. You can print it out or store it on your device. There will also be printed copies available at Conception. Please review it and make note of your assigned ministries. If you are a Reader for one of the Offices or 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.

I think that's all. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at Conception. This will be our last Convocation there - a time for making and recalling memories.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me or shoot me text. I will be traveling beginning on Friday. Traveling mercies to us all.

Peace,

Sr. Madeleine Sophie