**CUSTOMARY FOR THE BISHOP’S VISITATION**

1. Time ?
2. What is the color of the day?
3. The Revised Common Lectionary (Episcopal Edition) is the norm in the Diocese of Louisiana. If there is a need for other readings, they must be approved well in advance of the visitation.
4. The Bishop would like a copy of the service leaflet at least a week before her visit.
5. Please reserve a parking space for the Bishop.
6. The Bishop would like to know the number and names of confirmands/baptisms/receptions and reaffirmations one week in advance. If there are more than five baptisms or confirmations and there are certificates and or Book of Common Prayer to be signed, it would be helpful to bring them to the diocesan office before the visit, so the Bishop does not take time away from visiting the congregation.
7. The Bishop is happy to meet with confirmands and/or teach Sunday school.
8. The Bishop will need a senior acolyte or an assisting lay minister to assist during the service.
9. Please notify the Bishop in advance if it is your custom to sing the Mass.
10. The rector should make the necessary parish announcements. *It is important to remind the congregation that the undesignated offering goes to the Bishop’s Fund for support of emergencies and non-budgeted ministries.*
11. When there are baptisms:

- the bishop will bless the water;

- a presbyter will baptize unless the person is an adult and then the bishop will baptize;

- a candle is lighted from the paschal candle and given to the newly baptized if appropriate or sponsors;

- the bishop will anoint with chrism.

- Please make the chrism available in a small container (very little is needed). An oil stock is not for liturgical use but for pastoral usage.

1. It is helpful for all persons being presented for confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation to wear nametags in large print.
2. If there are to be photos after the service, please have the person taking pictures ready promptly following the service.
3. The Bishop will regularly travel with her chaplain.

11.28-2022