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List of holy days of obligation

In Australia, the Catholic faithful should observe as holy days of obligation:Christmas Day (December 25 – the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ)The Assumption (August 15 – the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)All Sundays of the yearEarly in the twentieth century Catholics used to observe 36 non-Sunday Holy Days, in addition to all Sundays of the year. This was reduced by a Motu Propio of Pope Pius X to the much lesser number of eight. These were:The Nativity of our Lord Jesus ChristThe EpiphanyThe AscensionHoly Mary the Mother of GodHer Immaculate ConceptionHer AssumptionSaint Peter and Saint Paul the ApostlesAll SaintsIn 1917, the Code of Canon Law raised this figure again, to a total number of 10 non-Sunday Holy Days (adding in the Feasts of the Body and Blood of Christ and Saint Joseph), however local Bishops were permitted the ability to alter the days in their dioceses.Canon Law 1246 now provides that with the prior approval of the Apostolic See, the conference of bishops can suppress some of the holy days of obligation or transfer them to a Sunday.In May 2001 the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference exercised this option and promulgated a decree announcing the only feast days to be observed as holy days of obligation are Christmas Day, the Feast of the Assumption and all Sundays of the year.The decree was reviewed and confirmed by the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments, and signed in January 2001 by its Prefect, Cardinal Jorge Medina Estevez.The change became effective on 16 September, 2001 and remains in place.Historically derived, holy days of obligation were special occasions on which Catholics, over the age of reason, were obliged to attend Mass. They were also encouraged to refrain from any work or involvement with commerce which would interfere with their participation in divine worship.The number of holy days of obligation has changed greatly over time, cognisant of social change and the need for employment to support the family. For example in 1642, Pope Urban VIII greatly decreased the number to 36 from the much larger set which had been observed since the Middle Ages. Such a change enabled Catholics, many of whom were labourers in the fields, to more easily meet their obligations. 2021 Holy Days of Obligation and Solemnities Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Diocese of Tyler, Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church The precept of the Church specifies the law of the Lord more precisely: "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass." (CIC, can. 1247) "The precept of participating in the Mass is satisfied by assistance at a Mass which is celebrated anywhere in a Catholic rite either on the holy day or on the evening of the preceding day. Catechism of the Catholic Church #2180 All Sundays are Holy Days of Obligation. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work. Holy Days of Obligation with Special Seasons and Feasts, January 1, 2021- January 1, 2022 Note: Trinity Sunday - feast day for Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Day Holy Days of Obligation Seasons and Feasts Sunday The Resurrection of Our Lord All Sundays Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - Our Lady's divine maternity Friday, January 1 Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, Our Lord's manifestation to the world through the visit of the magi Sunday, January 3 Baptism of the Lord, Close of the Christmas Season Sunday, January 10 Our Lady of Lourdes, honoring Marian apparitions in the vicinity of Lourdes, France Thursday, February 11 Ash Wednesday+, Beginning of Lent which last until the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday night Wednesday, February 17 Passion, Palm Sunday, The Lord's entrance into Jerusalem and his betrayal – begins Holy Week Sunday, March 28 Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper Thursday, April 1 Good Friday The Lord's Passion Friday, April 2 Holy Saturday The Great Easter Vigil* Saturday, April 3 Easter Sunday, the Lord's Resurrection and Appearance, Begins the 50 days of Easter. Sunday, April 4 Divine Mercy Sunday, in celebration of the message of Divine Mercy, Sunday, April 11 Our Lady of Fatima, honoring Marian apparitions in Fatima, Portugal Thursday, May 13 Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord The Ascension of Our Lord Sunday, May 16* Pentecost, the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Closes the Easter Season Sunday, May 23 Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity, in celebration of the Holy Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit Sunday, May 30 Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of the Christ (Corpus Christ) Our Lord's Real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament Sunday, June 6 Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, devotion of his Divine love for humanity Friday, June 11 Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Assumption of Mary into Heaven Sunday, August 15 Our Lady of the Rosary, also known as Our Lady of Victory, relating to the naval victory over the Ottoman Empire fleet Thursday, October 7 Solemnity of All Saints Celebration of those God has brought into Heaven and how they model the Christ to us Monday, November 1 All Souls Day Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed Tuesday, November 2 Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Final Sunday of Church Year Sunday, November 21 1st Sunday of Advent 1st Sunday of Church Year and beginning of 4 week preparation for Christmas Sunday, November 28 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Patronal Feast of the United States Wednesday, December 8 Our Lady of Guadalupe, honoring Marian apparitions in Mexico Sunday, December 12 Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ The Birth of Our Lord Saturday, December 25 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - Our Lady's divine maternity Saturday, January 1 The 2021 Liturgical Seasons November 29, 2020 - January 10, 2021: Advent, Christmas January 11, 2021 - February 16, 2021: Ordinary Time February 17, 2021 - May 23, 2021: Lent, Triduum. Easter May 24, 2021 - November 27, 2021: Ordinary Time November 28, 2021 - January 9, 2022: Advent Christmas Regarding the Lenten Scrutinies (March 7, 14, 21) The scrutinies in preparation for the Baptism of the catechumens (the elect) who are to be admitted to the sacraments at the Easter Vigil are celebrated in a solemn manner during Mass on the Third (March 7), Fourth (March 14), and Fifth (March 21) Sundays of Lent. The scrutinies are not optional. The rites found in the liturgical book Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults are to be faithfully observed. Regarding the Easter Vigil (April 3) In order to ensure sufficient darkness and observe the law that the celebration takes place "during the night", at least 45 minutes, and preferably one hour, should elapse after sunset before the Easter Vigil may begin. In 2021, sunset on April 3 occurs at approximately 7:40 p.m. across the Diocese of Tyler. Therefore, the celebration of the Easter Vigil may not be scheduled to begin before 8:30 p.m. Lenten Days of Fast, Abstinence, and Penance All Fridays of Lent are Days of Abstinence Abstinence means not eating meat. All persons 14 years and older are bound by the law of abstinence. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are Days of both Fast and Abstinence Fasting allows one full meal, but a light breakfast and lunch are not forbidden. All adults, 18 up to the beginning of their sixtieth (60) year, are bound by the law of fasting. Pastors and parents are to see to it that children, while not bound to the law of fast and abstinence, are educated and introduced to an authentic sense of penance. On Fridays, when abstinence is not required by law, acts of penance, especially works of charity and exercises of piety are suggested. Abstinence from meat is especially recommended but under no obligation by law. The Easter Vigil, during the holy night when Christ rose from the dead, ranks as the "mother of all vigils." Keeping watch, the Church awaits Christ's resurrection and celebrates it in the sacraments. Accordingly, the entire celebration of this vigil should take place at night, that is, it should either begin after nightfall or end before the dawn of Sunday (General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, no. 21). Easter Vigil should not begin before 8:30 pm CDT. Regarding the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (May 16*) The ecclesiastical province of Galveston-Houston, which includes the Diocese of Tyler, has perpetually transferred this solemnity to the following Sunday - May 16, 2021, which is its proper day. Thursday, May 13, 2021, is observed as an Easter Weekday or the Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima. Regarding the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Aug 15) Because the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Sunday August 15 ranks higher in order of precedence than the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, the solemnity is celebrated on that Sunday. Regarding Parish Feast Days** In each parish, the anniversary of the dedication of the parish church and the feast of patron (title) of the parish are celebrated as solemnities. When these occur during Ordinary Time, they may be transferred to the next Sunday. Regarding Certain Prayers to which Indulgences are attached: In accord with the Handbook of Indulgences, pastors are invited to promote the following acts or public recitation of the prayers on the appropriate days, outside of Mass. An explanation of indulgences and reminders of the conditions necessary for obtaining the indulgence may be opportune on these days (cf. Norm 20). December 31, 2020 (Final Day of the Year) - Public singing/recitation of the Te Deum (Grant 26 §1, 2°) January 1, 2021 (First Day of the Year) - Public singing/recitation of the Veni Creator (Grant 26 §1, 1°) June 6, 2021 (Corpus Christi) - Participating in a solemn Eucharistic procession (Grant 7 §1, 3°) June 11, 2021 (Most Sacred Heart of Jesus) - Public recitation of the Act of Reparation (Grant 3) November 21, 2021 (Christ the King) - Public recitation of the Act of Dedication of the Human Race to Christ the King (Grant 2) Wednesday, February 26, 2020 – Ash Wednesday It is a common misconception that Ash Wednesday is a Holy Day of Obligation. However, it's a great way to start the Lenten season! Thursday, March 19, 2020 – Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary Wednesday, March 25, 2020 – Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord Sunday, April 5, 2020 – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Thursday, April 9, 2020 – Holy Thursday Friday, April 10, 2020 – Good Friday Saturday, April 11, 2020 – Holy Saturday Sunday, April 12, 2020 – Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Sunday, April 19, 2020 – Divine Mercy Sunday Thursday, May 21, 2020 – Ascension of the Lord or Sunday, May 24, 2020 - Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation) In several ecclesiastical provinces, the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated on Thursday. In the Los Angeles Archdiocese, the solemnity is celebrated on the following Sunday. When traveling, check with a local parish or diocese if you aren't sure. Sunday, May 31, 2020 – Pentecost Sunday, June 7, 2020 – Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity Sunday, June 14, 2020 – Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) Friday, June 19, 2020 – Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Wednesday, June 24, 2020 – Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist Monday, June 29, 2020 – Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles Saturday, August 15, 2020 – Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Day of Obligation Sunday, November 1, 2020 – All Saints Day, Holy Day of Obligation Monday, November 2, 2020 – The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day) Sunday, November 22, 2020 – Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Christ the King) Tuesday, December 8, 2020 – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Usually, a Holy Day of Obligation but is not in 2019. The USCCB explains, "Since December 8, 2019, is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to Monday, December 9, 2019. The obligation to attend Mass, however, does not transfer." Friday, December 25, 2020 - The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas), Holy Day of Obligation Click here for more information More information on Holy Days of Obligation, Solemnities and Feast Days "The Church punctuates the liturgical year by celebrating various events important to the mystery of our salvation. During the course of the liturgical year, the Church celebrates the whole mystery of Christ, from His incarnation and birth to His ascension, to Pentecost and the founding of the Church, and finally to the second coming of Christ in judgment on the Solemnity of Christ the King. On Sundays in particular, we commemorate the Resurrection, when our Lord triumphed over sin and death. In a special way, the Church also honors our Blessed Mother, marking those special events of her participation in the mystery of salvation. Finally, the Church also commemorates the memorial days of saints, who through their lives bring to the minds of the faithful the call to holiness. Saints' days are celebrated with few exceptions on the date of the saint's death- their birth into eternal life. Technically, the divisions are as follows: Solemnities are the celebrations of greatest importance. Each Solemnity begins on the prior evening with first vespers (evening prayer) and several of the solemnities have their own Vigil Mass. On these days, both the Gloria and the Creed are recited. Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation (which in the United States are the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, Ascension, Assumption, All Saints, Immaculate Conception, and Christmas) are always considered solemnities. Other examples of solemnities include the Solemnity of St. Joseph (March 19), the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Friday after the Feast of Corpus Christi), and the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul (June 29). Feasts are of secondary importance in our liturgical calendar and are celebrated on a particular day. These feasts do not have a first vespers or Vigil Mass on the prior evening. An exception would be the feasts of the Lord which occur on Sundays in Ordinary Time and Sundays in the Christmas season. For example, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (February 2) has its own first vespers. On these days, the Gloria is recited but not the Creed. Next in line are memorials, which are classified as either obligatory or optional. Memorials commemorate a saint or saints. Obligatory memorials must be observed whereas optional memorials do not have to be observed. For example, the memorial of St. John Bosco (January 31) is obligatory while the memorial of St. Blase (February 3) is optional. Only the memorials of those saints who are of "universal significance" are observed by the whole Church and marked in the general liturgical calendar. Particular churches, countries, or religious communities may also celebrate the memorials of other saints of "special significance" in accord with their special devotions. For example, the memorial in honor of the patron saint of a diocese is raised to a "feast." The celebration of memorials is also governed by the liturgical season. For instance, obligatory memorials occurring in Lent are only celebrated as optional memorials. During "Privileged Seasons" (December 17-31 and Lent) the prayer of the Saint may be substituted for the regular collect (opening prayer) of the Mass. During weekday Masses during Advent (prior to December 17), Christmas Season, Easter Season, and Ordinary Time, the priest may offer the Mass of the saint, or the Mass of any saint of the Roman Martyrology, or a Mass such as one for "Various Occasions" (e.g. Masses for the Spread of the Gospel or for Religious Vocations) or a Votive Mass (e.g. the Mass of St. Joseph or the Mass of the Angels). Also on Saturdays, when there is no obligatory memorial, it is most appropriate to offer the Mass of the Blessed Mother. For complete details on the order of precedence, please consult the General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the New General Roman Calendar issued by Pope Paul VI in 1969. Nevertheless, the basic rule of thumb is this: Sundays, other Solemnities, Holy Week, and the Octave of Easter always take precedence. These are followed by Feasts, weekdays of Advent (December 17-24), days within the Octave of Christmas, weekdays of Lent, obligatory memorials, optional memorials, weekdays of Advent (through December 16), other weekdays of the Christmas Season, other weekdays of the Easter Season, and weekdays in Ordinary Time. If reading this sequence seems a bit confusing, perhaps that is why the Bishop's Committee on the Liturgy of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops publishes an annual Ordo which outlines the proper celebrations and their particulars throughout the liturgical year." Source: ♦

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