Diocese of Madison | Office of Worship

Holy Days of Obligation 2018-2020

2018

**Monday, January 1** (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God) is not a holy day of obligation since it falls on a Monday. The funeral Mass may be celebrated.

**Sunday, May 13** (Solemnity of the Ascension, observed) is transferred to this Sunday.*

**Wednesday, August 15** (Solemnity of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) is a holy day of obligation. The funeral Mass may not be celebrated.

**Thursday, November 1** (Solemnity of All Saints) is a holy day of obligation. The funeral Mass may not be celebrated.

**Saturday, December 8** (Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception) is a holy day of obligation even though it falls on a Saturday (Patronal Feast of the United States of America). Please note the requirements for wedding & funeral Masses.

**Tuesday, December 25** (Christmas) is a holy day of obligation.

2019

**Tuesday, January 1** (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God) is a holy day of obligation. The funeral Mass may not be celebrated.

**Sunday, June 2** (Solemnity of the Ascension, observed) is transferred to this Sunday.*

**Thursday, August 15** (Solemnity of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) is a holy day of obligation. The funeral Mass may not be celebrated.

**Friday, November 1** (Solemnity of All Saints) is a holy day of obligation. The funeral Mass may not be celebrated.

**Monday, December 9** (Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception—observed). When December 8th falls on a Sunday, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday. While the day remains a solemnity, *the faithful are not obligated to attend Mass.*

**Wednesday, December 25** (Christmas) is a holy day of obligation.

2020

**Wednesday, January 1** (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God) is a holy day of obligation. The funeral Mass may not be celebrated.

**Sunday, May 24** (Solemnity of the Ascension, observed) is transferred to this Sunday.*

**Saturday, August 15** (Solemnity of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) is not a holy day of obligation in 2020 since it falls on a Saturday. Please note the requirements for wedding & funeral Masses.

**Sunday, November 1** (Solemnity of All Saints) is celebrated in place of the Ordinary Time Sunday.

**Tuesday, December 8** (Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception) is a holy day of obligation (Patronal Feast of the United States of America). The funeral Mass may not be celebrated.

**Friday, December 25** (Christmas) is a holy day of obligation.

In the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite the Solemnity of the Ascension is not transferred and is celebrated on Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter (as is dictated by the pre-Conciliar liturgical calendar).
Notes on Wedding Masses

Please note that when a **Solemnity** falls on a Saturday, the prayers & readings from the Mass of the Day are to be used for Wedding Masses. This is true regardless of whether or not the Solemnity is a holy day of obligation. The parts proper to the Wedding Mass (for example the consent, blessing of rings, vows) are, of course, always used. The nuptial blessing and special blessing may be used according to the circumstances. (For more information see the introduction to the *Rite of Marriage*; GIRM, 372.) This will have an impact on the following Saturdays:

- Saturday, December 8, 2018 (The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception)
- Saturday, April 27, 2019 (Saturday within the Octave of Easter)
- Saturday, June 29, 2019 (Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul)
- Saturday, November 2, 2019 (Commemoration of All Souls)
- Saturday, August 15, 2020 (Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

If a Wedding is celebrated outside of Mass on a solemnity, there are no restrictions regarding the Scripture or prayers.

Notes on Funeral Masses

The Funeral Mass “may be celebrated on any day except for Solemnities that are holydays of obligation, Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday), the Paschal Triduum, and the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter, with due regard also for all the other requirements of the norm of the law” (GIRM, 380). On days when the Funeral Mass may not be celebrated, the Funeral Liturgy Outside Mass may be used (see *Order of Christian Funerals*, no. 177).

Please note that the nature of the Masses of the Dead is such that a Funeral Mass should not be “combined” with a solemnity. For example, one wouldn't want to sing the Gloria at a funeral, but if someone tried to “combine” a funeral Mass with the Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, that's exactly what would happen. So you could celebrate a Baptism or a Wedding during the Mass of Immaculate Conception (using the texts of the Mass of the Day), but not the funeral rites.

---

**Diocese of Madison**
**Office of Worship**

702 S. High Point Road, Suite 225
Madison, WI 53719

(608) 821-3080 | worship@straphael.org
www.madisondiocese.org/worship