

Some Liturgical Dates and Notes for the Liturgical Year 2018 (Dec. 3, 2017 through Dec. 1, 2018)

December 3 (Sunday): First Sunday of Advent.

December 8 (Friday): The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Holy Day of Obligation.

December 25 (Monday): Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord. Holy Day of Obligation.

January 1 (Monday): Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God. Not a Holy Day of Obligation in 2018.

January 18-25: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

January 22 (Monday): To be observed as a day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life. The Mass "For the Preservation of Peace and Justice" (n. 30 of the "Masses for Various Needs and Occasions") should be celebrated with violet vestments as an appropriate liturgical observance for this day. (See GIRM, n.373)

February 2 (Friday): Presentation of the Lord: *World Day for Consecrated Life*.

February 14: Ash Wednesday. Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat on this day; also, those who have celebrated their 18th birthday, until they celebrate their 59th birthday, are to fast (to fast means eating only one full meal, and, if necessary, two smaller meals to maintain strength according to one's needs; eating solid foods between meals is not permitted).

February 18 (Sunday): Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion, Cathedral of St. Joseph, 2:00 p.m.

February 23 (Friday): Day of Prayer and Penance for Diocesan and Universal Church needs. (Note: this observance is the Friday *of the first week of Lent*, not Friday after Ash Wednesday.)

March 3 (Sunday): Diocesan Sesquicentennial opening Mass, 10:00, St. Gabriel Church, Prairie du Chien

March 27 (Tuesday): Chrism Mass, 10:30 a.m., Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman.

March 31 (Saturday): Easter Vigil. Sunset in La Crosse on Saturday, March 31 is to be at 7:31 p.m. So that the Vigil may begin in darkness, 8:00 should be the earliest beginning time for the vigil, while after 8:15 is ideal.

April 9 (Monday): Solemnity of the Annunciation. Ritual Masses prohibited.

April 22 (Sunday): World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

May 1 (Tuesday): Saint Joseph the Worker, principal patron of the Diocese. The proper Mass for this solemnity, with its proper orations & readings, the *Gloria*, Creed, & the Preface of St. Joseph, is to be celebrated throughout the Diocese on this day. In the Liturgy of the Hours, the *Te Deum* is said in the Office of Readings. Proper psalms and readings are taken, where lacking, from the Office for the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of Mary, on March 19.

May 7 (Monday): Feast of the Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral, observed throughout the Diocese outside of the Cathedral as a feast (See *General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar*, Table of Liturgical Days, II.8.b). The orations and readings for the Mass are taken from the Common of the Dedication of a Church. The *Gloria* is recited and the *Te Deum* is said in the Office of Readings. White vestments are worn.

May 13 (Sunday): Solemnity of the Ascension. Transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter, Sunday, May 13, using the liturgical texts proper to the Ascension; Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter (May 10) is celebrated as an Easter weekday or an option memorial for St. Damien de Veuster.

June 30 (Saturday): Ordination to the Priesthood, Cathedral of St. Joseph, 10:00 a.m.

August 5 (Sunday): Peace Day, Diocese of La Crosse.

August 11 (Saturday): Anniversary of the installation of Bishop William Patrick Callahan as La Crosse's 10th Bishop.

August 15 (Wednesday): Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary. Holy Day of Obligation in 2018.

September 26 (Wednesday): Rural Life Day, day of thanksgiving for blessings received. Prayer texts from *The Mass for Various Needs and Occasions: After the Harvest* (n.28) can be used with Preface V of the Sundays in Ordinary Time. The readings may be taken from *After the Harvest* in the Lectionary (n.20), numbers 917-921. The *Gloria* also ought to be said.

October 4 (Thursday): Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi, secondary patron of the Diocese.

October 7 (Sunday): Diocesan Sesquicentennial closing Mass, 10:30, Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman.

October 21: World Mission Sunday.

October 27: (Saturday): Ordination to the Diaconate (permanent), Cathedral of St. Joseph, 9:30 a.m.

November 1 (Thursday): Solemnity of All Saints. Holy Day of Obligation.

November 25 (Sunday): Solemnity of Christ the King.

Also...

- The title of a parish church is celebrated with the rank of solemnity. (See *General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar*, Table of Liturgical Days, I.4.c)
- The anniversary of a church's dedication is celebrated with the rank of a solemnity. (See *Rite for the Dedication of a Church*, n.27; *General Norms for the Liturgical Year...*, Table of Liturgical Days, I.4.b)
- An annual celebration of Eucharistic adoration over a number of days is encouraged in every parish. (See Legislation of the Fifth Diocesan Synod, n.115)

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