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DIVINE WORSHIP

ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

MEMORANDUM

To: All Priests of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

From: Fr. Zachary Boazman, Associate Director of the Secretariat for Divine Worship

Date: October 16, 2024

Re: Immaculate Conception obligation transferred to Monday, December 9, 2024

My Brother Priests,

This year, December 8th is the Second Sunday of Advent. As a result, the observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America, will be transferred to Monday, December 9th.

In previous years when December 8th fell on a Sunday, it was the practice in our country to indicate that the obligation to attend Mass does not transfer with the liturgical observance. However, the Dicastery for Legislative Texts in the Roman curia has recently clarified that the feast “*must be observed as a day of obligation on the day to which it is transferred.*”

Therefore, **parishes should schedule a normal slate of Holyday Masses to accommodate the faithful throughout the day on Monday, December 9, 2024.**

Note: Parishes should not anticipate the Solemnity on Sunday evening but celebrate the Second Sunday of Advent for the entirety of Sunday. The Liturgy of the Hours for the Immaculate Conception will also be transferred to Monday, December 9. The optional Memorial of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin is omitted.

Since the Dicastery’s response will effect a change in our practice, we provide this information now in the hopes that appropriate explanations to the Catholic faithful can be provided.

In Christ,

Fr. Zachary Boazman
Associate Director