



DIOCESE
of
LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA

To: Priests, Deacons, and Liturgy Coordinators
of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana
From: Jonathan F. Sullivan, Pastorate Consultant
Re: 2026 Liturgical Year Overview
Date: Friday, September 12, 2025 (Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Mary)

General Directives

1. The 2026 liturgical year begins with First Vespers (Evening Prayer I) of the First Sunday of Advent (November 30, 2025).
2. This year's Lectionary readings are from:
 - a. Sundays: Year A
 - b. Weekdays: Year II
3. On all Holy Days of Obligation and Ash Wednesday pastorates are to schedule Masses appropriately to facilitate the participation of the faithful.
 - a. The scheduling of Anticipatory Masses and Vigil Masses, where applicable, is encouraged.
4. Masses may be livestreamed over the internet with the following directives:
 - a. There shall be no livestreaming of still images, tabernacles, monstrances, etc. outside the time of streaming a live Mass.
 - b. Music for livestreaming Masses requires proper copyright licensing.
 - c. Only Masses in which the faithful participate may be streamed.
 - i. Private Masses may not be streamed.
5. When holy days fall on consecutive days, guidance published in 1984 from the Congregation for Divine Worship states that for the pastoral needs of the faithful, in the celebration of evening Mass, precedence is always to be given ("*præcedentia semper danda est*") to the feast of precept, regardless of the ranks of the two consecutive feasts.
 - a. For a more thorough treatment of this issue, see the [May-June 2016 USCCB Divine Worship Newsletter](#).
6. The USCCB's 2026 Calendar is available at www.usccb.org/resources/2026cal.pdf.
7. Additional details can be found in the Ordo of the Province of Indianapolis (available from Paulist Press at www.paulistpress.com/Products/202617/Ordo-17--Indianapolis-2026.aspx).
8. The most up-to-date version of this memo and other liturgical guidance can be found at www.dol-in.org/LiturgicalNorms.

Notes for the 2026 Liturgical Calendar

1. Sunday, November 30, 2025 – First Sunday of Advent

- a. Saturday, November 29, 2025, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Mass of Anticipation for the First Sunday of Advent.
- b. On this date the Advent Wreath placed in the church is blessed.
 - i. The Order for the Blessing of an Advent Wreath is found in the *Book of Blessings*.
 - ii. The wreath may be placed in the sanctuary but should not obscure the altar, ambo, or presider's chair.
 - iii. The wreath is blessed at the first Mass celebrated in the church at which the wreath is present.
 1. The blessing is given after the Universal Prayer and is not repeated at subsequent Masses.
 2. The blessing may also be led by a deacon or layperson within a Service of the Word or Vespers (Evening Prayer).

2. Monday, December 8, 2025 – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- a. A Holy Day of Obligation.
- b. The patronal feast of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana and the United States of America.
- c. Because the Second Sunday of Advent is also a day of precept and takes precedence, no anticipatory Masses are held this year.
 - i. However, per Bishop Doherty, a person may fulfill their Holy Day obligation by participating in a Sunday evening Mass (assuming they have participated in another Sunday Mass to fulfill their Sunday obligation).

3. Friday, December 12, 2025 – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

- a. The prayers and readings are proper to the feast.
- b. A novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe may be observed beginning on December 4.

4. Thursday, December 25, 2025 – The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

- a. A Holy Day of Obligation.
- b. Pastorates are to schedule Mass times appropriately to facilitate the participation of the faithful.
 - i. Pastors wishing to schedule additional Masses must take into account the resources and staffing of the pastorate such as priests, pastorate staffs, volunteers, musicians, and liturgical ministers.
 - ii. Pastorates have permission, in order to assist in Mass scheduling, to utilize other spaces on campus in which Masses are led by a celebrant in each location.
- c. "The Vigil Mass of the Nativity is used on the evening of December 24, either before or after First Vespers (Evening Prayer I). On the day of the Nativity of the Lord... Mass may be celebrated three times, that is, in the night, at dawn, and during the day." (*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*, no. 34) This would seem to indicate that the earliest the Mass during the Night ("Midnight Mass") may be celebrated is midnight the morning of December 25.
 - i. Vigil Masses may not begin before 4:00p.
- d. Per the instruction in the *Lectionary for Mass*, the Vigil Mass must use its proper readings, but the Masses during the Night, at Dawn, and during the Day may use any of the four sets of Christmas readings "according to the pastoral needs of each

congregation.” (no. 13) However, all three readings and the psalm should be proclaimed from the same set of readings.

- i. The antiphons, collect prayer, etc. are taken from the Mass being celebrated, regardless of which readings are selected.
 - e. “The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ from the *Roman Martyrology*” may be chanted or recited before the beginning of Christmas Mass during the Night.
 - i. The text and musical notation may be found in Appendix I of the *Roman Missal, Third Edition*.
 - f. The Gospel at all Christmas Masses must be proclaimed by a deacon or priest.
 - i. Pageants and plays never occur during Mass but may be performed outside the liturgy.
 - ii. The scriptures proclaimed at the Mass are not to be dramatized with players and/or parts.
- 5. Sunday, December 28, 2025 – Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
 - a. The prayers and readings are proper to the feast.
- 6. Thursday, January 1, 2026 – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**
 - a. A Holy Day of Obligation.
 - b. Wednesday, December 31, 2025, evening Mass celebrated after 4p is a Mass of Anticipation for Mary, the Holy Mother of God.
- 7. Sunday, January 4, 2026 – Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**
 - a. The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (January 6) is transferred to Sunday, January 4.
 - b. Saturday, January 3, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Vigil Mass for the Epiphany of the Lord.
 - i. The prayers are proper to the Vigil Mass.
 - c. The regular Sunday schedule should be observed where possible.
 - d. The traditional “Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts” may be chanted or recited.
 - i. After the proclamation of the Gospel and before the homily, a deacon or cantor announces from the ambo the moveable feasts of the current year.
 - ii. The text and musical notation are found in Appendix I of the *Roman Missal, Third Edition*.
 1. The form to be used for announcing each date is: the ____ day of ____, e.g., “the seventh day of April.”
 - e. The 2025 Ordinary Jubilee ends on this date.
 - f. Tuesday, January 6, 2026, is observed as the Optional Memorial of Saint André Bassette, Religious.
- 8. Sunday, January 11, 2026 – Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**
 - a. The prayers and readings are proper to the feast.
- 9. Thursday, January 22, 2026 – Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children**
 - a. Optionally on this day may be celebrated (with proper prayers and readings):
 - i. Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions: For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life (*Roman Missal*, Masses for Various Needs and Occasions no. 48/1), with white vestments;
 1. The readings for this Mass are found in the 2017 Supplement to the *Lectionary for Mass*.

- ii. or For the Preservation of Peace and Justice (*Roman Missal*, Masses for Various Needs and Occasions no. 30), with violet vestments.

10. Sunday, January 25, 2026 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

- a. This day is observed as Word of God Sunday.
 - i. The Blessing of Readers (found in the *Book of Blessings*) may be celebrated during Mass.

11. Monday, February 2, 2026 – Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

- a. At this Mass candles are blessed.
 - i. Either form found in the *Roman Missal* (Procession or Solemn Entrance) may be used.

12. Tuesday, February 3, 2026 – Memorial of Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr

- a. On this date throats are traditionally blessed.
 - i. The Order for the Blessing of Throats on the Feast of Saint Blaise is found in the *Book of Blessings*.
 - 1. The blessing may be administered by a priest, deacon, or lay person.
 - ii. If the blessing is conferred during Mass it takes place after the homily or it takes the place of the final blessing.
 - iii. If the blessing is celebrated in the context of Lauds (Morning Prayer) it is given after the responsory and before the Gospel Canticle (*Benedictus*).

13. Wednesday, February 11, 2026 – Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes

- a. The World Day of the Sick is observed on this date.
- b. The following goes into effect on this date:
 - i. *Order of the Anointing of the Sick and Their Pastoral Care / Ritual de la Uncion de Los Enfermos y de Su Atencion Pastoral* (optional use date).

14. Wednesday, February 18, 2026 – Ash Wednesday

- a. Not a Holy Day of Obligation.
- b. The blessing and distribution of ashes may take place outside of Mass.
 - i. In such cases it is preceded by a Liturgy of the Word (with the Entrance Antiphon, Collect, and readings) followed by the Homily and blessing and distribution of ashes. The rite is concluded with the Universal Prayer, the Prayer over the Faithful, and the Dismissal of the Faithful.
 - ii. This option may be led by a priest or deacon and may be useful in offering additional opportunities to receive ashes without the need for scheduling additional Masses.
- c. During Lent the altar should not be decorated with flowers, musical instruments should only be used as needed to support singing, and instrumental music is not permitted (cf. *Roman Missal, Third Edition*: Ash Wednesday, no. 4; and *Musicam Sacram*, no. 66)
 - i. The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday), solemnities, and feasts are exceptions to this rule.

15. Sunday, February 22, 2026 – First Sunday of Lent

- a. The Rite of Election will be celebrated *in English* at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception at 2:30p ET.
 - i. This is a required rite for catechumens who are deemed ready to be baptized at the Easter Vigil.
 - ii. Registration information will be shared in January.

16. Sunday, March 1, 2026 – Second Sunday of Lent

- a. The Rito de Elección will be celebrated *in Spanish* at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception at 2:30p ET.
 - i. This is a required rite for catechumens who are deemed ready to be baptized at the Easter Vigil.
 - ii. Registration information will be shared in January.

17. Sunday, March 8, 2026 – Third Sunday of Lent

- a. The first Scrutiny is celebrated with the Elect.
- b. All three Scrutinies are required rites of the initiation process. (cf. *Order of Christian Initiation*, no. 20; Diocesan Policy Manual, Book Four §103.7)
- c. The text of the Scrutinies is found in the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*.
 - i. If the Roman Canon is used during a Mass at which the Scrutinies are celebrated, there is a commendation of the godparents and a proper form of the *Hanc igitur*. Similar insertions are made in Eucharistic Prayers II and III (cf. Mass for the Celebration of the Scrutinies: For the First Scrutiny).

18. Sunday, March 15, 2026 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

- a. The second Scrutiny is celebrated with the Elect.
- b. All three Scrutinies are required rites of the initiation process. (cf. *Order of Christian Initiation*, no. 20; Diocesan Policy Manual, Book Four §103.7)
- c. The text of the Scrutinies is found in the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*.
 - i. If the Roman Canon is used during a Mass at which the Scrutinies are celebrated, there is a commendation of the godparents and a proper form of the *Hanc igitur*. Similar insertions are made in Eucharistic Prayers II and III (cf. Mass for the Celebration of the Scrutinies: For the First Scrutiny).

19. Thursday, March 19, 2026 – Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- a. Not a Holy Day of Obligation.
- b. Wednesday, March 18, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Mass of Anticipation for Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- c. On this day it is customary to bless breads and pastries, and for a share to be given to the poor.
 - i. The Order for the Blessing of Saint Joseph's Table is found in the *Book of Blessings*.

20. Sunday, March 22, 2026 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

- a. The third Scrutiny is celebrated with the Elect.
- b. All three Scrutinies are required rites of the initiation process. (cf. *Order of Christian Initiation*, no. 20; Diocesan Policy Manual, Book Four §103.7)
- c. The text of the Scrutinies is found in the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*.
 - i. If the Roman Canon is used during a Mass at which the Scrutinies are celebrated, there is a commendation of the godparents and a proper form of the *Hanc igitur*. Similar insertions are made in Eucharistic Prayers II and III (cf. Mass for the Celebration of the Scrutinies: For the First Scrutiny).
- a. Crosses, statues, and images may be covered for the remainder of Lent.
 - i. Crosses remain covered until after the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday.
 - ii. Statues and images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.

21. Wednesday, March 25, 2026 – Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

- a. Not a Holy Day of Obligation.
- b. Tuesday, March 24, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Mass of Anticipation for the Solemnity.

22. Sunday, March 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

- a. Saturday, March 18, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4p is a Mass of Anticipation for Palm Sunday.
- b. The memorial of the entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem takes place at all Masses.
 - i. Three options are given:
 - 1. The first form (The Procession) should be celebrated at the principal Sunday Mass.
 - a. The Procession forms outside the church in a suitable location.
 - b. For the Procession the priest wears a red chasuble or, optionally, a cope.
 - i. If the cope is worn it is set aside after the procession and veneration of the altar, and the chasuble is put on.
 - c. The blessing of palm branches is celebrated.
 - d. The Gospel concerning the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem is proclaimed by a deacon or priest.
 - e. After the Procession the priest prays the Collect; Mass continues in the usual way.
 - 2. The second form (Solemn Entrance) may be used at the principal celebration if the Procession cannot take place.
 - a. The Solemn Entrance (but not the Procession) may be repeated at other Masses.
 - b. The blessing of palm branches is celebrated.
 - c. The Gospel concerning the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem is proclaimed by a deacon or priest.
 - 3. The third form (Simple Entrance) may be used at all other Masses.
- c. While, when Mass is celebrated with the congregation, an option is given to read only two of the three readings, or even the Passion alone, it is recommended that all the readings be proclaimed.
 - i. The Passion may be proclaimed, according to the needs of the community,
 - 1. by a deacon alone;
 - 2. if no deacon is present, by a priest alone; or
 - 3. in parts, with the priest taking the part of Jesus.
 - ii. The Passion is proclaimed without candles or incense.
 - iii. The proclamation of the Passion begins without the greeting ("The Lord be with you"), the signing of the book, or the acclamation of the people ("Glory to you, O Lord").
 - iv. The Passion ends in the usual way ("The Gospel of the Lord...").

23. Tuesday, March 31, 2026 – Chrism Mass

- a. Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception at 11a ET.

24. Thursday, April 2, 2026 – Mass of the Lord’s Supper

- a. By ancient custom, the only Masses celebrated on this day are the Chrism Mass and the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, and Masses without the participation of the people are forbidden.
- b. The Mass of the Lord’s Supper begins in the evening.
 - i. The Mass is to be scheduled at a time which facilitates the participation of the faithful.
 - ii. A second celebration of the Mass of the Lord’s Supper may be held with permission; contact the Office of the Vicar General.
- c. Additional guidance on the liturgies of the Paschal Triduum will be sent in January.

25. Friday, April 3, 2026 – Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

- a. Liturgies are to be scheduled at times which facilitate the participation of the faithful.
 - i. The traditional time of 3p is recommended unless, for pastoral reasons, it is scheduled later in the day.
 - ii. Additional celebrations may be held with permission; contact the Office of the Vicar General.
- b. Additional guidance on the liturgies of the Paschal Triduum will be sent in January.

26. Saturday, April 4, 2026 – Easter Vigil

- a. The *Roman Missal, Third Edition* indicates that “The entire celebration of the Easter Vigil must take place during the night, so that it begins after nightfall and ends before daybreak on the Sunday.” (no. 3)
 - i. A strict reading of the rubric would set the start of the Easter Vigil after dusk:
 - 1. Muncie: 8:36p ET
 - 2. Lafayette: 8:43p ET
 - 3. Rensselaer: 7:45p CT
- b. Additional guidance on the liturgies of the Paschal Triduum will be sent in January.

27. Sunday, April 5, 2026 – Sunday of the Resurrection (Easter)

- a. The following goes into effect on this date:
 - i. *Order of the Anointing of the Sick and Their Pastoral Care / Ritual de la Uncion de Los Enfermos y de Su Atencion Pastoral* (mandatory use date).

28. Sunday, April 12, 2026 – Sunday of Divine Mercy

- a. On this day, or on the Vigil of Pentecost, it is preferable to bring baptized candidates into full communion with the Church.
 - i. The reception of baptized Christians into full communion is normally celebrated during a Mass.
 - 1. The rite may be found in the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults* (nos. 487-498).
 - ii. The priest who admits a person baptized in another ecclesial community into full communion has the right and duty to confirm the person (cf. *Code of Canon Law*, c. 883.3). Permission from the bishop is not required.

29. Sunday, April 26, 2026 – Fourth Sunday of Easter and Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

- a. The Fourth Sunday of Easter takes precedence this year.

30. Sunday, May 10, 2026 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

- a. Since the Ascension of the Lord is transferred to the following Sunday, the second reading and Gospel from the Seventh Sunday in Easter may be used on this day.
- b. This day is observed as Mother's Day in the United States.
 - i. The Order for the Blessing of Mothers on Mother's Day may be found in the *Book of Blessings*.
 - 1. It includes intercessions for the Universal Prayer.
 - 2. The blessing may take the place of the solemn blessing of the Easter season at the end of Mass with the invitation "Bow down for the blessing."

31. Sunday, May 17, 2026 – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

- a. A Holy Day of Obligation.
- b. The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (Thursday after the Sixth Sunday of Easter) is transferred to Sunday, May 17.
- c. Saturday, May 16, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Vigil Mass of the Ascension of the Lord.
 - i. The prayers are proper to the Vigil Mass.
- d. The regular Sunday schedule should be observed where possible.
- e. Thursday, May 14, 2026, is observed as the Feast of Saint Matthias.

32. Sunday, May 24, 2026 – Solemnity of Pentecost

- a. Saturday, May 23, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Vigil Mass of Pentecost.
 - i. The prayers and readings are proper to the Vigil Mass.
 - ii. The Extended or Simple Form of the Vigil may be celebrated.
 - 1. The sequence of readings for the extended form may be found in the 2017 Supplement to the *Lectionary for Mass*.
 - 2. In the Extended Form, as at the Easter Vigil, each reading is followed by a psalm or canticle and a prayer. The Gloria and Collect follow the fourth reading, psalm, and prayer, and are then followed by the reading from St. Paul to the Romans.
 - iii. Mass during the Day on Pentecost includes the Sequence *Veni, Sancte Spiritus* after the second reading.

33. Saturday, May 30, 2026 – Saturday of the Eighth Week of Ordinary Time

- a. The Ordination of a Priest will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception at 11a ET.

34. Sunday, June 7, 2026 – Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

- a. Saturday, June 6, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Mass of Anticipation for the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.
- b. Optionally, the Sequence *Lauda Sion* is sung or recited after the second reading.
- c. On this date processions with the Blessed Sacrament, following the Mass, are desirous.
 - i. The host to be used in the procession should be consecrated at the Mass celebrated immediately before the procession.
 - ii. The monstrance, with the host to be carried in procession, is placed on the altar after Communion. Following the Prayer after Communion, the Concluding Blessing is omitted and the procession forms.
 - iii. Processions may be made to another church or may return to the church at which the procession began.

1. If, on the day of the procession, inclement weather or another impediment causes the procession to be canceled or delayed, a period of Exposition and Adoration, followed by Benediction, may be observed.
2. “[Eucharistic processions] within the body of a church are no longer permitted.” (*Order for the Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist*, no. 20; cf. *Notitia* vol. 11, no. 2 [1975], p. 64)

iv. The procession ends with Benediction in the church.

35. Friday, June 12, 2026 – Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

- a. Not a Holy Day of Obligation.
- b. Thursday, June 11, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Mass of Anticipation for the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

36. Sunday, June 21, 2026 – Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time

- a. This day is observed as Father’s Day in the United States.
 - i. The Order for the Blessing of Fathers on Father’s Day may be found in the *Book of Blessings*.
 1. It includes intercessions for the Universal Prayer.
 2. The prayer over the people may be used at the end of Mass with the invitation “Bow down for the blessing.”

37. Wednesday, June 24, 2026 – Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

- a. Not a Holy Day of Obligation.
- b. Tuesday, June 23, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Mass of Anticipation for the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist.

38. Monday, June 29, 2026 – Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

- a. Not a holy day of obligation.
- b. Because Sunday is a day of precept it takes precedence over the solemnity and no Vigil Mass for the solemnity is celebrated this year.

39. Thursday, August 6, 2026 – Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

- a. The prayers and readings are proper to the feast.

40. Saturday, August 15, 2026 - Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- a. Because the solemnity falls on a Saturday it is not a Holy Day of Obligation.
 - i. Evening Mass after 4p are anticipatory Masses for the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- b. Friday, August 14, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Vigil Mass for the Assumption.
 - i. The prayers and readings are proper to the Vigil.

41. Tuesday, September 15, 2026 – Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows

- a. Optionally, the Sequence *Stabat Mater* is sung or recited after the psalm.

42. Sunday, September 20, 2026 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- a. This day is observed as Catechetical Sunday in the dioceses of the United States.
 - i. The Blessing of Those Appointed as Catechists (found in the *Book of Blessings*) may be celebrated during Mass.

43. Saturday, October 3, 2026 – Memorial of Saint Theodore Guérin

- a. Secondary patroness of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana.
 - i. Observed as an obligatory memorial using texts from the Common of Virgins, with the proper Collect found in the Ordo of the Province of Indianapolis.

44. Sunday, November 1, 2026 – Solemnity of All Saints

- a. Saturday, October 31, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Mass of Anticipation for All Saints.

45. Thursday, November 26, 2026 – Thanksgiving

- a. Individuals and families may be invited to bring food to be blessed for the Thanksgiving feast or to be distributed for the poor.
 - i. The Order for the Blessing of Food for Thanksgiving Day may be found in the *Book of Blessings*.
 - ii. The blessing takes place in the context of the Universal Prayer.

Celebrating the Patronal Feast & Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church in a Parish

1. The feast corresponding to the patron or title of a church and the anniversary of the dedication of a church are celebrated as proper solemnities within the parish (*Table of Liturgical Days According to their Order of Precedence*, no. I.4) unless another feast takes precedence.
 - a. The celebration of patrons and titles uses the proper Mass.
 - i. When there is no second reading assigned, a second reading from the appropriate Common is used.
 - b. Per a 1997 “Notification on Certain Aspects of the Proper Liturgical Calendars and Texts” from the Congregation for Divine Worship, parishes named for the Blessed Virgin Mary with no other title (or under a title with no fixed date on the calendar) celebrate their patronage on the Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Mary (September 12).
 - c. The anniversary of the dedication of the church uses the appropriate Mass from the Common of the Dedication of a Church in the *Roman Missal*.
2. The anniversary of the dedication of the diocesan cathedral is celebrated as a proper solemnity in the cathedral church and a feast throughout the diocese, unless another feast or solemnity takes precedence.
 - a. The Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception was dedicated by Bishop William Higi on April 26, 2001.
 - b. Masses celebrated on this date use the appropriate Mass from the Common of the Dedication of a Church in the *Roman Missal*, unless another feast or solemnity takes precedence.
3. If a patronal feast or anniversary of the dedication of the church fall on a weekday in Ordinary Time, for the benefit of the faithful, it may be observed on the preceding or following Sunday of Ordinary Time provided the proper solemnity ranks above the Sunday (*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar*, no. 58).

Non-Liturgical Observances in the Dioceses of the United States

In addition to the Church's liturgical calendar, various non-liturgical days are observed throughout the year. It is fitting on these days and on federal holidays to celebrate appropriate Masses for Various Needs and Occasions from the *Roman Missal* (when permitted) and/or offer related blessings from the *Book of Blessings*.

Date (2026)	Observance	Suggested Texts
January 18-25	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	Mass for the Unity of Christians Mass for the New Evangelization*
January 22	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn	Mass for Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life
January 25	Word of God Sunday	Blessing of Readers
January 25-February 1	Catholic Schools Week	Mass for the New Evangelization* Blessing of Students and Teachers
February 2	World Day for Consecrated Life	
February 7-14	National Marriage Week	Mass for the Family Blessing of Married Couples Blessing of an Engaged Couple
February 11	World Day of the Sick	Blessing of the Sick
April 26	World Day of Prayer for Vocations	
May 10	Mother's Day	Blessing of Mothers
May 17	World Communications Day	
June 21	Father's Day	Blessing of Fathers
July 19-25	Natural Family Planning Week	
September 1	World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation	Mass for the Care of Creation***
September 13**	World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly	
September 20	Catechetical Sunday	Blessing of Those Appointed as Catechists
September 27	Priesthood Sunday; World Day of Migrants & Refugees	
October 5	Respect Life Sunday	
October 18	World Mission Sunday	
November 1-7	National Vocations Awareness Week	Mass for Vocations to Holy Orders Mass for Vocations to Religious Life
November 15	World Day of the Poor	

*The texts for the Mass for the New Evangelization were approved in 2012 and may be found on the Year of Faith web site: www.annusfidei.va/content/novaevangelizatio/en/annus-fidei/missa.html.

**Per the USCCB, this observance is transferred in the United States to coincide with National Grandparents Day.

***As of this writing there is no English translation of this Mass approved for liturgical use.

A Look Ahead: 2027 Liturgical Calendar

1. The 2027 liturgical year begins with Evening Prayer I of the First Sunday of Advent (November 29, 2026).
2. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (December 8) falls on a Tuesday.
 - a. The solemnity is a holy day of obligation.
 - b. Monday, December 7, 2026, evening Mass celebrated after 4:00p is a Mass of Anticipation for the Immaculate Conception.

WHAT unhappy Eve lost thou dost restore by thy holy Child; thou dost open the gates of heaven that sinners may rise to the stars.



QUOD EVA TRISTIS ABSTULIT TU REDDIS ALMO GERMINE
INTRENT UT ASTRA FLEBILES CÆLI RECLUDIS CARDINES