



LITURGICAL YEAR 2026

Sunday Cycle Year A | Weekdays Cycle II

November 30, 2025 – November 22, 2026

OBSERVANCE	DATE	NOTES
First Sunday of Advent	Sunday, November 30, 2025	
Diocesan Advent Convocation	Wednesday, December 3, 2025	Hopkinsville, Bruce 10AM
Second Sunday of Advent	Sunday, December 7, 2025	
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Monday, December 8, 2025	<u>Holy Day of Obligation</u>
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Friday, December 12, 2025	
Third Sunday of Advent	Sunday, December 14, 2025	
Fourth Sunday of Advent	Sunday, December 21, 2025	
Nativity of the Lord	Thursday, December 25, 2025	Holy Day of Obligation
St Stephen, First Martyr	Friday, December 26, 2025	Diocesan Patron
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	Sunday, December 28, 2025	
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother Of God	Thursday, January 1, 2026	Holy Day of Obligation
World Day of Peace	Thursday, January 1, 2026	
The Epiphany of the Lord	Sunday, January 4, 2026	
The Baptism of the Lord	Sunday, January 11, 2026	
Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children	Thursday, January 22, 2026	
The Presentation of the Lord	Monday, February 2, 2026	
Rite of Election	Sunday, February 15, 2026	St Thomas More, Paducah, 4 PM
Ash Wednesday	Wednesday, February 18, 2026	
First Sunday of Lent	Sunday, February 22, 2026	
Rite of Election	Sunday, February 22, 2026	St. Stephen Cathedral, 2 PM & 6 PM
Second Sunday of Lent	Sunday, March 1, 2026	
Third Sunday of Lent	Sunday, March 8, 2026	1 st Scrutiny
Fourth Sunday of Lent	Sunday, March 15, 2026	2 nd Scrutiny
Youth 2000 Mass	Sunday, March 15, 2026	Brescia University (participants only)
Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Thursday, March 19, 2026	
Fifth Sunday of Lent	Sunday, March 22, 2026	3rd Scrutiny
The Annunciation of the Lord	Wednesday, March 25, 2026	
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	Sunday, March 29, 2026	

Chrism Mass	Tuesday, March 31, 2026	Owensboro Sportscenter, 6:30 PM
Holy Thursday	Thursday, April 2, 2026	
Friday of the Lord's Passion	Friday, April 3, 2026	
Holy Saturday	Saturday, April 4, 2026	
Easter Vigil	Saturday, April 4, 2026	The Easter Vigil may not begin before total darkness (around 8:00 PM)
Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection	Sunday, April 5, 2026	
Second Sunday of Easter / Sunday of Divine Mercy	Sunday, April 12, 2026	
Prayer Service for Healing and Protection	Thursday, April 16, 2026	St. Stephen, 6:00 PM
Third Sunday of Easter	Sunday, April 19, 2026	
Fourth Sunday of Easter	Sunday, April 26, 2026	
Fifth Sunday of Easter	Sunday, May 3, 2026	
Sixth Sunday of Easter	Sunday, May 10, 2026	
Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord	Sunday, May 17, 2026	In this diocese, Ascension of the Lord is transferred to Sunday.
Pentecost Sunday	Sunday, May 24, 2026	
Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church	Monday, May 25, 2026	
Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity	Sunday, May 31, 2026	
Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)	Sunday, June 7, 2026	
Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Friday, June 12, 2026	
Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary	Saturday, June 13, 2026	
The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist	Wednesday, June 24, 2026	
Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles	Monday, June 29, 2026	
Independence Day	Saturday, July 4, 2026	Am 9:11-15/Mt 9:14-17 (382) or, for Independence Day, any readings from the Mass "For the Country or a City" (882-886) or the Mass "For Peace and Justice" (887-891)
Fourteenth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, July 5, 2026	
Fifteenth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, July 12, 2026	
Sixteenth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, July 19, 2026	
Seventeenth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, July 26, 2026	
Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus	Wednesday, July 29, 2026	

Eighteenth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, August 2, 2026	
Nineteenth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, August 9, 2026	
The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Saturday, August 15, 2026	Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year
Twentieth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, August 16, 2026	
Sophia Awards Mass	Sunday August 16, 2026	St. Stephen Cathedral 2:00 PM
Twenty-First Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, August 23, 2026	
Twenty-Second Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, August 30, 2026	
Twenty-Third Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, September 6, 2026	Mass Count Weekend
100 th Anniversary of St. Stephen Church Owensboro	Sunday, September 6, 2026	St. Stephen Cathedral, 4:00 PM
Twenty-Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, September 13, 2026	Mass Count Weekend
Exaltation of the Holy Cross	Sunday, September 14, 2026	
Rainbow Mass	Wednesday, September 16, 2026	Rainbow Mass, 10:30 AM Owensboro Sportscenter
Twenty-Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, September 20, 2026	Mass Count Weekend
Marriage Celebration Mass	Sunday, September 20, 2026	St. Stephen Cathedral, 2:00 PM
Twenty-Sixth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, September 27, 2026	Mass Count Weekend
Twenty-Seventh Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, October 4, 2026	
Twenty-Eighth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, October 11, 2026	
Twenty-Ninth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, October 18, 2026	
Respect Life Mass	Saturday, October 24, 2026	St. Stephen Cathedral, 9:00 AM
Thirtieth Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, October 25, 2026	
All Saints Day	Sunday, November 1, 2026	Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a (667) Pss Prop
The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day)	Monday, November 2, 2025	<u>Any readings from no. 668 or from the Masses for the Dead (1011-1016) Pss Prop</u>
Thirty-Second Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, November 8, 2026	
Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	Sunday, November 9, 2026	
Thirty-Third Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday, November 15, 2026	
ODYC	Saturday, November 21, 2026	
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	Sunday, November 22, 2026	
First Sunday Advent	Sunday, November 29, 2026	

Second Sunday Advent	Sunday, December 6, 2026	
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Tuesday, December 8, 2026	Holy Day of Obligation
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Saturday, December 12, 2026	
Third Sunday Advent	Sunday, December 13, 2026	
Fourth Sunday Advent	Sunday, December 20, 2026	
The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)	Friday, December 25, 2026	Holy Day of Obligation
Saint Stephen, First Martyr	Saturday, December 26, 2026	Diocesan Patron
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	Sunday, December 27, 2026	

SPECIAL NOTES:

- Yellow highlighted days are diocesan or diocesan-office sponsored liturgies.
- Revisions/updates may be made throughout the year and will be made available on the Diocesan website under the Worship page.

PRINCIPAL CELEBRATIONS OF THE LITURGICAL YEAR 2024

First Sunday of Advent	November 30, 2025
Ash Wednesday	February 18, 2026
Easter Sunday	April 5, 2026
The Ascension of the Lord [Thursday]	May 14, 2026
Pentecost Sunday	May 24, 2026
The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ	June 7, 2026
First Sunday of Advent	November 29, 2026

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Nov. 30, 2025 – Jan. 11, 2026	Advent, Christmas	Vol. I
Jan 12, 2026 – Feb., 2026, 2025	Weeks 1 to 6, Ordinary Time	Vol. III
Feb. 18 – May 24, 2026	Lent, Triduum, Easter	Vol. II
May 25 – Aug 1, 2026	Weeks 8 to 17, Ordinary Time	Vol. III
Aug 2, 2026 – Nov. 28, 2026	Weeks 18 to 34, Ordinary Time	Vol. IV
Nov 29, 2026 – Jan 10, 2027	Advent, Christmas	Vol. I

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

1. Scripture citations are based on the New American Bible with the revised New Testament and may differ slightly from the citations given in the *Ordo Lectionum Missæ* (1981) due to difference in versification.
2. In the preparation of diocesan and provincial Calendars and ordines, the dedication of diocesan

cathedrals, the dedication of parish churches, and special days of prayer (cf. General Instruction of the Roman Missal [GIRM], no. 373) should be added, along with other commemorations of Saints and Blesseds which are included in those particular Calendars. More information is available in the Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, particularly Chapter II.

3. “On Saturdays in Ordinary Time when no Obligatory Memorial occurs, an Optional Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary may be celebrated (Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, no. 15). This is indicated in the calendar by “BVM.” The readings and prayers may be selected from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary or Votive Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Roman Missal, or in the Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
4. In a decree dated March 23, 1992, the Bishop of Honolulu designated Christmas and the Immaculate Conception as the only two Holydays of Obligation for the State of Hawaii. This implements the indult received from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments on May 26, 1990, and the subsequent nihil obstat from the National Conference of Catholic Bishops allowing Hawaii to legislate on this matter in accord with the policies of the Episcopal Conference of the Pacific (CEPAC).
5. This liturgical calendar has entries for Independence Day and Thanksgiving Day since they are inscribed in the Proper Calendar for the Dioceses of the United States of America, but it does not include other civic holidays commonly celebrated in this country (for example, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, etc.). Respecting these liturgical norms (cf. GIRM, nos. 368–378), the Roman Missal offers appropriate Masses, but this calendar makes no suggestion for those holidays.
6. The 2026 liturgical year begins on the First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2025. During the year 2026:
 - a. Thursday, May 14, is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord in the ecclesiastical provinces of Boston, Hartford, New York, Omaha, and Philadelphia. All other ecclesiastical provinces of the United States of America have transferred this Solemnity to the following Sunday, May 17; on Thursday, May 14, the Feast of Saint Matthias, Apostle, is observed.
 - b. In a notification dated December 8, 1998, of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments (Prot. n. 2671/98/L), the Obligatory Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary becomes an Optional Memorial in years when it conflicts with another Obligatory Memorial. Therefore, Saturday, June 13 is a weekday in Ordinary Time, as well as the Optional Memorials of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, of Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church, and of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday.
 - c. Saturday, August 15, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In accord with the complementary norm to canon 1246 §2 confirmed for the dioceses of the United States of America, because it is a Saturday, this year the obligation to attend Mass on this date is abrogated.

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MISCELLANEOUS NOTES / NOTAS MISCELÁNEAS

1. Las citas de las escrituras en inglés se basan en New American Bible con el Nuevo Testamento revisado y pueden diferir ligeramente de las citas dadas en el Ordo Lectionum Missae (1981) debido a diferencias en la versificación.
2. En la preparación de los calendarios diocesanos y provinciales y ordines, deben añadirse la dedicación de las catedrales diocesanas, la dedicación de las iglesias parroquiales y los días especiales de oración (cfr. Institución General del Misal Romano [IGMR], n. 373), junto con otras conmemoraciones de santos y beatos que se incluyen en esos calendarios particulares. Más información está disponible en las Normas universales sobre el año litúrgico y sobre el calendario, particularmente en el capítulo II.
3. “Los sábados del Tiempo Ordinario del año en los que no ocurra una memoria obligatoria se puede hacer memoria libre de la Virgen María” (Normas universales sobre el año litúrgico y sobre el calendario, n. 15). Esto se indica en el calendario por medio de las siglas “BVM”. Las lecturas y las oraciones pueden ser seleccionadas del Común de la Bienaventurada Virgen María o las Misas votivas de la Bienaventurada Virgen María en el Misal Romano, o en las Misas de la Virgen María, vols. I y II.
4. En un decreto fechado el 23 de marzo de 1992, el obispo de Honolulu designó la Navidad y la Inmaculada Concepción como las dos únicas fiestas de precepto para el estado de Hawái. Esto implementa el indulto recibido por la Congregación para el Culto Divino y la Disciplina de los Sacramentos el 26 de mayo de 1990, y el posterior nihil obstat de la Conferencia Nacional de Obispos Católicos que permite a Hawái legislar sobre este asunto de acuerdo con las normas de la Conferencia Episcopal del Pacífico (CEPAC).
5. Este calendario litúrgico tiene entradas para el Día de la Independencia de los Estados Unidos y el Día de Acción de Gracias, ya que están inscritos en el Calendario propio para las diócesis de los Estados Unidos de América, pero no incluye otros días cívicos festivos comúnmente celebrados en este país (por ejemplo, Día de Martin Luther King, Jr., Día de los Caídos, Día del Trabajo, etc.). Respetando estas normas litúrgicas (cfr. IGMR, nn. 368-378), el Misal Romano ofrece misas apropiadas, pero este calendario no hace ninguna recomendación para esas fiestas.
6. El año litúrgico 2026 comienza el primer domingo de Adviento, el 30 de noviembre de 2025. Durante el año 2026:
 - a. El jueves 14 de mayo es la solemnidad de la Ascensión del Señor en las provincias eclesiásticas de Boston, Hartford, Nueva York, Omaha y Filadelfia. Todas las demás provincias eclesiásticas de los Estados Unidos de América han trasladado esta solemnidad al domingo siguiente, el 17 de mayo; el jueves 14 de mayo se observa la Fiesta de san Matías, apóstol.
 - b. En una notificación fechada el 8 de diciembre de 1998, de la Congregación para el Culto Divino y la Disciplina de los Sacramentos (Prot. n. 2671/98/L), la memoria obligatoria del Corazón Inmaculado de la Bienaventurada Virgen María se convierte en una memoria libre cuando entra en conflicto con otra memoria obligatoria. Por lo tanto, el sábado 13 de junio es un día de la semana del Tiempo Ordinario, así como las memorias libres del Corazón Inmaculado de la Bienaventurada Virgen María, de san Antonio de Padua, presbítero y doctor de la Iglesia, y de la Bienaventurada Virgen María en sábado.

- c. El sábado 15 de agosto es la solemnidad de la Asunción de la Bienaventurada Virgen María. De acuerdo con la norma complementaria del canon 1246 §2 confirmada para las diócesis de los Estados Unidos de América, porque es sábado, este año se abroga la obligación de asistir a Misa en esta fecha.

COMMON DAYS OF PRAYER AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES (NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST):

World Day of Peace	January 1
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	January 18–25
Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children	January 22
Catholic Schools Week.....	January 28- February 3
Sunday of the Word of God	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
World Day for Consecrated Life	Sunday following February 2 [USA]
World Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking	February 8
World Marriage Day	Second Sunday of February
[including National Marriage Week USA	February 7-14]
World Day of the Sick	February 11
Child Abuse Prevention Month	April
World Day of Prayer for the Church in China.....	May 24
World Day of Prayer for Vocations	Fourth Sunday of Easter
World Communications Day	Seventh Sunday of Easter
World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests	Solemnity of the Sacred Heart
Religious Freedom Week	June 22-29
Natural Family Planning Awareness Week	Week of July 25
World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation	September 1
Catechetical Sunday	Third Sunday of September [USA]
World Day of Migrants and Refugees	Last Sunday of September
National Migration Week	Last Week of September
World Mission Sunday	Penultimate Sunday of October
Respect Life Sunday	First Sunday of October
[including Respect Life Month	October]
Priesthood Sunday	Last Sunday of October
Black Catholic History Month.....	November
World Youth Day	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time [USA]
World Day of the Poor	Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

See also USCCB 2026 Liturgical Calendar at: <https://www.usccb.org/resources/2026cal.pdf>