



DIOCESE OF LANSING
M I C H I G A N

Office of Worship

Noteworthy Liturgical Dates from the Liturgical Calendar, 2025–2026

The following notes highlight areas of the Diocese of Lansing’s calendar that are unusual or need clarification during the 2025–2026 Liturgical Year.

November 30, 2025 (Sunday)

The First Sunday of Advent

- Funeral Mass not permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted

December 7, 2025 (Sunday)

The Second Sunday of Advent

- Funeral Mass not permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted
- Evening Masses and Vespers celebrate the Sunday

December 8, 2025 (Monday)

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- Holyday of obligation
- Funeral Mass not permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted
- The Optional Memorial of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin, December 9, is omitted this year.

December 9, 2025 (Tuesday)

Solemnity/Feast of the Anniversary of the Dedication of Saint Mary Cathedral (The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception)

- Observed with the rank of a Solemnity (*Gloria* and *Creed*) within the Cathedral,

and as a Feast (*Gloria*) in all parishes and institutions in the Diocese of Lansing

- Orations are taken from the *Roman Missal*, Common for the Dedication of a Church:
 - o I. In the Church that was Dedicated [at the Cathedral only], or
 - o II. Outside the Church that was Dedicated [in all parishes and institutions in the DoL].
 - A wide selection of proper scriptural texts are found in the Common for the Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church in the *Lectionary*, numbers 701–706.
 - The *Liturgy of the Hours* is from the Common of the Dedication of a Church
 - o I. In the Church that was Dedicated [at the Cathedral only], or
 - o II. Outside the Church that was Dedicated [in the Diocese].
 - The *Te Deum* is said.
- December 25, 2025 (Thursday)**
- The Nativity of the Lord**
- Holyday of obligation
 - Funeral Mass not permitted
 - Ritual Mass not permitted

December 28, 2025 (Sunday)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

- Funeral Mass permitted
- Ritual Mass permitted
- Mass for the Closing of the Jubilee Year at the Cathedral of Saint Mary, 11 AM

December 31, 2025 (Wednesday)

Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

- Funeral Mass permitted
- Ritual Mass permitted
- Evening Masses and Vespers observe Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 1, 2026 (Thursday)

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

- Holyday of obligation
- Funeral Mass not permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted

February 11, 2026

- The Order of the Anointing of the Sick and of Their Pastoral Care may be used beginning on February 11, 2026, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

February 18, 2026 (Wednesday)

Ash Wednesday

- Funeral Mass permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted

February 21, 2026 (Saturday)

Rite of Election/Call to Cont. Conversion

- 9:30 AM – St. Joseph, Dexter
- 2 PM – St. Matthew, Flint

February 22, 2026 (Sunday)

Rite of Election/Call to Cont. Conversion

- 3 PM – Saint Martha, Okemos

March 29-April 4, 2026

Holy Week

- Funeral Mass permitted only Monday-Wednesday
- Ritual Mass not permitted

April 2, 2026 (Thursday)

Thursday of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday)

- Only one (evening) Mass per church, unless for pastoral reasons the local Ordinary permits another
- Only the sick may receive Holy Communion outside Mass

April 3, 2026 (Friday)

Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)

- Only one Celebration of the Passion of the Lord per parish, unless due to the size or nature of the community the Diocesan Bishop permits another
- Only the sick may receive Holy Communion outside the celebration of the Lord's Passion

April 4, 2026 (Saturday)

Holy Saturday

- Holy Communion only given as Viaticum

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

- The “entire celebration of the Easter Vigil takes place at night”; based on local twilight, the 2026 Easter Vigil should not begin before 9:00 p.m.¹

¹ “The entire celebration of the Easter Vigil takes place at night. It should not begin before nightfall; it should end before daybreak on Sunday’ [Roman Missal, The Easter Vigil, n. 3]. This rule is to be taken according to its strictest sense.” –Congregation for Divine Worship, *Paschale Solemnitatis: Circular*

Letter on Preparing and Celebrating the Paschal Feasts, 78.

After the time of sunset is ascertained, “another 45 minutes or one hour should be added to that time in order to determine the approximate time of *nightfall*.” –USCCB, Instruction on Easter Vigil

April 5-12, 2026

Easter and its Octave

- Mandatory use of the Order of the Anointing of the Sick and of Their Pastoral Care
- Easter Sequence permitted throughout the octave, including the 2nd Sunday of Easter. Only the proper text of the Sequence may be used—paraphrases are not permitted.
- Funeral Mass permitted Monday–Saturday
- Ritual Mass not permitted

May 17, 2026 (Sunday)

The Ascension of the Lord

- Funeral Mass not permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted

May 23, 2026 (Saturday)

Extended Vigil of Pentecost

May 24, 2026 (Sunday)

Pentecost Sunday

- Funeral Mass not permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted
- Unbaptized adults should celebrate the Rite for Entrance into the Catechumenate so as to be a catechumen from “at least the Easter time of one year until the beginning of the Easter Time of the next year” (Nation Statutes, *Norm 4*).

June 6, 2026 (Saturday)

**Ordination of Priests & Deacons
Saint Thomas Aquinas, E. Lansing
at 10:30 AM**

June 13, 2026 (Saturday)

Optional Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or St. Anthony of Padua, or the Blessed Virgin Mary on a Saturday

- Funeral Mass permitted
- Ritual Mass permitted

- The ordinarily obligatory memorial of the Immaculate Heart becomes optional when it conflicts with another obligatory memorial.

June 28, 2026 (Sunday)

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Funeral Mass permitted
- Ritual Mass permitted
- Evening Masses observe the Sunday; Vespers observe SS. Peter and Paul

July 30, 2026 (Thursday)

Solanus Casey

- The optional memorial of Blessed Solanus Casey may be observed in the DoL as per a rescript given by the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments (July 3, 2018)

August 13, 2026 (Thursday)

Blessed Michael McGivney

- Funeral Mass permitted
- Ritual Mass permitted
- Bl. Michael McGivney is not inscribed on our diocesan liturgical calendar and therefore may not be commemorated in most liturgies. However, in accordance with [liturgical directives](#) shared by the Knights of Columbus, Bishop Boyea permits gatherings of Knights to celebrate a votive Mass in honor of their founder on this day and on other liturgical days without an obligatory observance.

August 15, 2026 (Saturday)

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- Not a holyday of obligation this year
- Funeral Mass permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted
- Evening Masses observe the Twentieth Sunday and Vespers observe the Assumption

October 12, 2026 (Monday)

St. Carlo Acutis

- see GIRM, 355.c

November 1, 2026 (Sunday)

All Saints

- Funeral Mass not permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted
- Evening Masses and Vespers observe All Saints

November 2, 2026 (Monday)

Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

- Funeral Mass permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted
- All priests permitted to offer three Masses:
 - o one for the priest's intention
 - o one for the faithful departed
 - o one for the intentions of the Holy Father

November 29, 2026 (Sunday)

The First Sunday of Advent

- Funeral Mass not permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted

December 8, 2026 (Tuesday)

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- Holyday of obligation
- Funeral Mass not permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted

December 9, 2026 (Wednesday)

Solemnity/Feast of the Anniversary of the Dedication of Saint Mary Cathedral (The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception)

- Observed with the rank of a Solemnity (*Gloria* and *Creed*) within the Cathedral,

and as a Feast (*Gloria*) in all parishes and institutions in the Diocese of Lansing

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- o II. Outside the Church that was Dedicated [in all parishes and institutions in the Diocese of Lansing].

- A wide selection of proper scriptural texts are found in the Common of the Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church in the *Lectionary*, numbers 701–706.

- The *Liturgy of the Hours* is taken from the Common of the Dedication of a Church

- o I. In the Church that was Dedicated [at the Cathedral only], or
- o II. Outside the Church that was Dedicated [in the Diocese].

The *Te Deum* is said.

December 25, 2026 (Friday)

The Nativity of the Lord

- Holyday of obligation
- Funeral Mass not permitted
- Ritual Mass not permitted

December 31, 2026 (Thursday)

Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

- Funeral Mass permitted
- Ritual Mass permitted
- Evening Masses and Vespers observe Mary, the Holy Mother of God

* Proper texts for recently-added or revised feasts may be found at the USCCB's webpage for the [Liturgical Year & Calendar](#).

TABLE OF RUBRICS GOVERNING THE USE OF RITUAL MASSES, MASSES FOR VARIOUS NEEDS,

MASSES FOR VARIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES, AND MASSES FOR THE DEAD

V1 = Ritual Masses (GIRM 372); MVNO and VM in case of serious pastoral need or advantage at the direction of the local ordinary or with his permission (GIRM 374 and 376)

V2 = MVNO and VM in cases of serious need or pastoral advantage, at the discretion of the rector of the church or the priest celebrant (GIRM 376 and 376)

V3 = MVNO and VM chosen by the priest celebrant in favor of the devotion of the people (GIRM 377)

R1 = Funeral Mass (GIRM 380)

R2 = Mass on the occasion of news of a death, final burial, or the first anniversary (GIRM 381)

R3 = Daily Mass for the Dead (GIRM 355, 379, 381). When R1 and R2 are not permitted, neither is R3.

(+)= permitted (-)= not permitted

| | | |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Holy Thursday, Easter Triduum | V1 - | R1 - |
| Sundays of Advent, Lent, and the Easter Season | V1 - | R1 - |
| Solemnities of precept | V1 - | R1 - |
| Solemnities not of precept, All Souls | V1 - | R1 + |
| Ash Wednesday, weekdays of Holy Week | V1 - | R1 + |
| Days in the Easter Octave | V1 - | R1 + |
| Sundays of Christmas, and in Ordinary Time | V1+, V2- | R1+, R2- |
| Feasts | V1+, V2- | R1+, R2- |
| Weekdays December 17-24 | V1+, V2- | R1+, R2+ |
| Days in the Christmas Octave | V1+, V2- | R1+, R2+ |
| Weekdays of Lent | V1+, V2- | R1+, R2+ |
| Obligatory Memorials | V1+, V2+ | R1+, R2+ |
| Weekdays of Advent to December 16 | V1+, V2+ | R1+, R2+ |
| Weekdays of Christmas from January 2 | V1+, V2+ | R1+, R2+ |
| Weekdays of the Easter Season | V1+, V2+ | R1+, R2+ |
| Weekdays in Ordinary Time | V1+, V2+, V3+ | R1+, R2+, R3+ |

Adapted from Appendix III, *Ceremonial of Bishops* – ICEL

RITUAL MASSES

Choice of Day for the Rite of Marriage

Whenever marriage is celebrated during Mass, white vestments are worn and the wedding Mass is used. On those days when the Ritual Mass cannot be used, the Mass of the day is chosen. The nuptial blessing and where appropriate, the special final blessing is added.

The liturgy of the word is extremely helpful in emphasizing the meaning of the sacrament and the obligations of marriage. When the wedding Mass may not be used, one of the readings from the *Rite of Marriage* (nos. 67–105) may be chosen, except from Holy Thursday to Easter and on the feast of Christmas, Epiphany, Ascension, Pentecost, Corpus Christi, and other holy days of obligation. On the Sundays of the Christmas season and throughout the year, in Masses which are not parish Masses, the wedding Mass may be used without change.

When a marriage is celebrated during Advent or Lent or other days of penance, the parish priest should advise the couple to take into consideration the special nature of these times (*Rite of Marriage*, no. 11)

Funerals

The funeral Mass is not permitted on solemnities of obligation, on Holy Thursday and the Easter Triduum, and on the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and the Easter season (*Order of Christian Funerals*, no. 178). The funeral liturgy outside Mass may be used on these days.

Other Masses

When choosing the Mass texts for Ritual Masses, Masses for Various Needs and Occasions, and Masses for the Dead, please see the chart "Table of Rubrics," above.

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