

UNIVERSAL NORMS ON THE LITURGICAL YEAR AND THE CALENDAR

CHAPTER II THE CALENDAR

[Excerpt]

TABLE OF LITURGICAL DAYS according to their order of precedence

I

1. The Paschal Triduum of the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord.
2. The Nativity of the Lord, the Epiphany, the Ascension, and Pentecost.
Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter.
Ash Wednesday.
Weekdays of Holy Week from Monday up to and including Thursday.
Days within the Octave of Easter.
3. Solemnities inscribed in the General Calendar, whether of the Lord, of the Blessed Virgin Mary or of Saints.
The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed.
4. Proper Solemnities, namely:
 - a) The Solemnity of the principal Patron of the place, city or state.
 - b) The Solemnity of the dedication and of the anniversary of the dedication of one's own church.
 - c) The Solemnity of the Title of one's own church.
 - d) The Solemnity either of the Title or of the Founder or of the principal Patron of an Order or Congregation.

II

5. Feasts of the Lord inscribed in the General Calendar.
6. Sundays of Christmas Time and the Sundays in Ordinary Time.
7. Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of the Saints in the General Calendar.
8. Proper Feasts, namely:
 - a) The Feast of the principal Patron of the diocese.
 - b) The Feast of the anniversary of the dedication of the cathedral church.
 - c) The Feast of the principal Patron of a region or province, or a country, or of a wider territory.
 - d) The Feast of the Title, Founder, or principal Patron of an Order or Congregation and of a religious province, without prejudice to the prescriptions given under no. 4.
 - e) Other Feasts proper to an individual church.
 - f) Other Feasts inscribed in the Calendar of each diocese or Order or Congregation.
9. Weekdays of Advent from December 17 up to and including December 24.
Days within the Octave of Christmas.
Weekdays of Lent.

III

10. Obligatory Memorials in the General Calendar.
11. Proper Obligatory Memorials, namely:
 - a) The Memorial of a secondary Patron of the place, diocese, region, or religious province.
 - b) Other Obligatory Memorials inscribed in the Calendar of each diocese, or Order or Congregation.
12. Optional Memorials, which, however, may be celebrated, in the special manner described in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal and the Liturgy of the Hours, even on the days listed in no. 9.

In the same manner Obligatory Memorials may be celebrated as Optional Memorials if they happen to fall on Lenten weekdays.

13. Weekdays of Advent up to and including December 16.

Weekdays of Christmas Time from January 2 until the Saturday after the Epiphany.

Weekdays of the Easter Time from Monday after the Octave of Easter up to and including the Saturday before Pentecost.

Weekdays in Ordinary Time.

THE GENERAL INSTRUCTION OF THE ROMAN MISSAL

CHAPTER VIII

MASSES AND PRAYERS FOR VARIOUS NEEDS AND OCCASIONS AND MASSES FOR THE DEAD

I. MASSES AND PRAYERS FOR VARIOUS NEEDS AND OCCASIONS

[Excerpt]

375. Votive Masses of the mysteries of the Lord or in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary or of the Angels or of any given Saint or of all the Saints may be said in response to the devotion of the faithful on weekdays in Ordinary Time, even if an Optional Memorial occurs. However, it is not permitted to celebrate as Votive Masses those that refer to mysteries related to events in the life of the Lord or of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with the exception of the Mass of the Immaculate Conception, since their celebration is in integral part of the course of the liturgical year.

376. On days when there occurs an Obligatory Memorial or on a weekday of Advent up to and including December 16, of Christmas Time from January 2, and of Easter Time after the Octave of Easter, Masses for Various Needs and Occasions and Votive Masses are in principle forbidden. If, however, some real necessity or pastoral advantage calls for it, in the estimation of the rector of the church or the Priest Celebrant himself, a Mass appropriate to the same may be used in a celebration with the people.