



2012 Liturgical Notes for the Diocese of Cleveland

EASTER VIGIL: In 2012, the Easter Vigil falls on 7 April, after the change to Daylight Saving Time. Title II, Chapter I, Number 21 of the *General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar* states: “The entire celebration of this sacred Vigil must take place at night, so that it both begins after nightfall and ends before the dawn on the Sunday.” This rule is to be taken according to its *strictest* sense, thus, **in the Diocese of Cleveland the earliest possible time for the Easter Vigil to begin in 2012 is 9:15 p.m.**

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION: The Dioceses of the United States has six Holydays of Obligation; namely: The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (1 January), Ascension of the Lord¹, The Assumption of Mary (15 August), All Saints (1 November), the Immaculate Conception (8 December), and Christmas (25 December). The USCCB decision of November 1991, confirmed by the Apostolic See in July, 1992 regarding the abrogation of the precept to attend Mass on the Solemnities of Mary, Mother of God, the Assumption, and All Saints, when they fall on a Saturday or Monday, with its corresponding effects on Ritual Masses, as well as other liturgical laws regarding ritual Masses and Solemnities, works out in the manner found in the following chart for the Liturgical Year beginning on Sunday, 27 November 2011.

Date	Holyday of Obligation	Funeral Mass	Funeral Outside Mass	Wedding Mass	Wedding Outside Mass
27 November 2011 (Sunday) <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘
4 December 2011 (Sunday) <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘
8 December 2011 (Thursday) <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Patroness of the USA	Yes	No ☩	Yes	No †	Yes
11 December 2011 (Sunday) <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘

¹ In the province of the State of Ohio, the Ascension has been transferred from Thursday to the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

Date	Holyday of Obligation	Funeral Mass	Funeral Outside Mass	Wedding Mass	Wedding Outside Mass
18 December 2011 (Sunday) <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✕	No ✕
25 December 2011 (Sunday) <i>Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord</i>	Yes	No ☩	Yes	No †	Yes
27 December 2011 (Tuesday) <i>The Feast of St. John the Evangelist</i> Patron of the Diocese of Cleveland	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
30 December 2011 (Friday) <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i>	No	Yes ☩	Yes	Yes	Yes
1 January 2012 (Sunday) <i>The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ◊	Yes
8 January 2012 (Sunday) <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	Sunday	Yes ☩	Yes	No ✕	No ✕
9 January 2012 (Monday) <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>	No	Yes ☩	Yes	Yes	Yes
23 January 2012 (Monday) <i>Day of Penance for Violations to the Dignity of the Human Person² (USA)</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
19 February 2012 (Sunday) <i>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Annual Catholic Charities Appeal	Sunday	Yes ☩	Yes	No ✕	No ✕
22 February 2012 (Wednesday) <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No ◊	Yes
26 February 2012 (Sunday) <i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	Sunday	No	Yes	No ✕	No ✕
	<i>Rite of Election</i> The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 PM				
4 March 2012 (Sunday) <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✕	No ✕
11 March 2012 (Sunday) <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✕	No ✕
18 March 2012 (Sunday) <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✕	No ✕
19 March 2012 (Monday) <i>Solemnity, Joseph, Husband of the Virgin Mary</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No ◊	Yes
25 March 2012 (Sunday) <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✕	No ✕

² When 22 January falls on a Sunday the Day of Penance is observed on Monday 23 January (GIRM 373).

Date	Holyday of Obligation	Funeral Mass	Funeral Outside Mass	Wedding Mass	Wedding Outside Mass
26 March 2012 (Monday) <i>Solemnity, Annunciation of the Lord</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No [◇]	Yes
1 April 2012 (Sunday) <i>Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion</i>	Sunday	No [⚰]	Yes	No [✕]	No [✕]
3 April 2012 (Tuesday) <i>Chrism Mass</i> The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist 7:00 PM					
5 April 2012 (Thursday) <i>Holy Thursday</i>	No	No [⚰]	Yes	The celebration of marriage is forbidden. Penance and anointing of the sick may be celebrated.	
6 April 2012 (Friday) <i>Good Friday</i>	No	No [⚰]	Yes		
7 April 2012 (Saturday) <i>Holy Saturday</i>	No	No [⚰]	Yes		
8 April 2012 (Sunday) <i>Easter Sunday</i>	Sunday	No [⚰]	Yes		
9 April 2012 (Monday) <i>Easter Monday</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No [◇]	Yes
10 April 2012 (Tuesday) <i>Easter Tuesday</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No [◇]	Yes
11 April 2012 (Wednesday) <i>Easter Wednesday</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No [◇]	Yes
12 April 2012 (Thursday) <i>Easter Thursday</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No [◇]	Yes
13 April 2012 (Friday) <i>Easter Friday</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No [◇]	Yes
14 April 2012 (Saturday) <i>Easter Saturday</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No [◇]	Yes
14 April 2012 (Saturday) <i>Mass for New Catholics</i> The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist 4:30 PM					
15 April 2012 (Sunday) <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i> (Divine Mercy Sunday)	Sunday [▶]	No [⚰]	Yes	No [✕]	No [✕]
22 April 2012 (Sunday) <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>	Sunday	No [⚰]	Yes	No [✕]	No [✕]
29 April 2012 (Sunday) <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	Sunday	No [⚰]	Yes	No [✕]	No [✕]

Date	Holyday of Obligation	Funeral Mass	Funeral Outside Mass	Wedding Mass	Wedding Outside Mass
6 May 2012 (Sunday) <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘
13 May 2012 (Sunday) <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘
19 May 2012 (Saturday) <i>Ordination of Priests</i> The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist 10 AM					
20 May 2012 (Sunday) <i>Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord</i>	Yes	No ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘
26 May 2012 (Saturday) <i>Adult Confirmation</i> The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist 4:30 PM					
27 May 2012 (Sunday) <i>Pentecost</i>	Sunday	No ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘
3 June 2012 (Sunday) <i>Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity</i>	Sunday	Yes ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘
10 June 2012 (Sunday) <i>Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ</i>	Sunday	Yes ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘
24 June 2012 (Sunday) <i>The Nativity of St. John the Baptist</i>	Sunday	Yes ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘
29 June 2012 (Friday) <i>Solemnity of St. Peter & St. Paul</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No ◊	Yes
29 July 2012 (Sunday) <i>50th Wedding Anniversary Mass</i> The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist 2:30 PM					
15 August 2012 (Wednesday) <i>Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Yes	No ☩	Yes	No ✘	No ✘
6 September 2012 (Thursday) <i>Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
27 October 2012 (Saturday) <i>Ordination to the Diaconate</i> St. Mary's Seminarians The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist 10 AM					
1 November 2012 (Thursday) <i>The Solemnity of All Saints</i>	Yes	No ☩	Yes	No ◊	Yes

Date	Holyday of Obligation	Funeral Mass	Funeral Outside Mass	Wedding Mass	Wedding Outside Mass
2 November 2012 (Friday) <i>The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No [◇]	Yes
25 November 2012 (Sunday) <i>The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>	Sunday	Yes [‡]	Yes	No [✕]	No [✕]
2012-2013 LITURGICAL YEAR					
2 December 2012 (Sunday) <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>					
8 December 2012 (Saturday) <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Patroness of the USA</i>	Yes	No [‡]	Yes	No [†]	Yes
LOOKING AHEAD – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2013 Since December 8, 2013 occurs on a Sunday the USA Liturgical Calendar has transferred it to Monday, December 9 th in accord with the Table of Liturgical Days According to their Order of Precedence. In the Dioceses of the United States of American, therefore, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated on December 9, 2013 and is <i>not</i> a Holyday of Obligation. ³					

[†] The Rite of Marriage during Mass **may not** be celebrated.

If the Marriage is celebrated on a Sunday or Solemnity, the Mass of the day is used with the Nuptial Blessing and the special Final Blessing according to the circumstances. (Rite of Marriage, 11)

[◇] The Rite of Marriage during Mass **may not** be celebrated.

If the Marriage is celebrated on a Sunday or Solemnity, the Mass of the day is used with the Nuptial Blessing and the special Final Blessing according to the circumstances. The liturgy of the word as adapted to the Marriage celebration, however, is a highly effective means for the catechesis on the Sacrament of Marriage and its duties. Therefore, when the Wedding Mass may not be held, one of the Readings from the texts provided for the Marriage celebration (nos. 67 – 105) may be chosen, except from Holy Thursday to Easter, on the solemnities of Epiphany, Ascension, Pentecost, or Corpus Christi, or on Holydays of Obligation.

³ Adapted from Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy Newsletter, October 2002
<http://www.usccb.org/liturgy/innews/102002.shtml>

On the Sundays of Christmas Time and in Ordinary Time, the entire Wedding Mass may be used in Masses that are not parish Masses. (Rite of Marriage, 11)

- ✘ Marriages may be celebrated on any day of the week except Sunday. (Diocese of Cleveland 1999 Marriage Policy - X. Issues of Rite, Place and Time of Marriage – page 42).
- ▶ The Prayers, Preface, Blessing and Readings are of the Day.
- ✦ Among the Masses for the Dead, the Funeral Mass holds first place. It may be celebrated on any day except for Solemnities that are Holydays of Obligation, Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday), the Paschal Triduum, and the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter, with due regard also for all the other requirements of the norm of the law. (GIRM 380)

*** ADDITIONAL NOTES**

25 December Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord

In the November/December 1991 edition of the *National Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on the Liturgy Newsletter* (Volume XXXVII) it was noted:

“There is an increasing number of people participating in the Vigil Masses of Christmas with a corresponding decline in the number who are participating in the Masses on Christmas day. To accommodate these shifts, parishes are scheduling more Vigil Masses and discovering that they need to eliminate Masses on Christmas day. “Children’s Liturgies” or “Family Liturgies” are scheduled for Vigil Masses so that people (and, in some cases, clergy) do not need to be inconvenienced on Christmas morning. Gospel readings are changed so that the faithful can listen to the Christmas readings at the Vigil in place of the account of Christ’s genealogy. Lastly, in many instances, the care and solemnity given to the celebration of the Vigil Mass(es) is often absent from Masses during the day.

These trends need to be given critical attention by all who are involved in liturgical preparations for the Christmas season. All too often practices become enshrined as “tradition” or “custom” without a careful and serious consideration of how they may impact on the liturgical life of our communities.”

30 December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

This Feast is observed on 30 December this year as Christmas and its Octave fall on Sundays.

23 January Day of Prayer for the Full Restoration of the Legal Guarantee of the Right to Life and of Penance for Violations to the Dignity of the Human Person Committed Through Acts of Abortion

The liturgical celebrations for this day may be the Mass “**For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life**” (no. 48/1 of the Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions), celebrated with **white** vestments, or the Mass “***For the Preservation of Peace and Justice***” (no. 30 of the Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions), celebrated with **violet** vestments.⁴

19 February Catholic Charities Annual Appeal Sunday

22 February Ash Wednesday

The Penitential Act is omitted in the celebration of Mass today.

⁴ GIRM 373

7 April Paschal Vigil

In the Diocese of Cleveland the Paschal Vigil is not to begin before 9:15 PM.

The earliest time the Paschal Vigil can begin in the Diocese of Cleveland in the next three years is:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Start Time</u>
2013	(30 March)	9:00 p.m.
2014	(19 April)	9:15 p.m.
2015	(4 April)	9:00 p.m.

15 April The Second Sunday of Easter (or of Divine Mercy)

The Congregation for Divine Worship decreed (23 May 2000) that “throughout the world, the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that human kind will experience in the years to come.”

How should a person, Parish or Diocese properly prepare for and celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday? The essential celebration consists in the celebration of the liturgy of the Second Sunday of Easter during which the homily should focus on the scriptural readings of the day. It should be noted that the three cycles of Scriptural Readings and the Orations are all centered on the forgiveness of sins and God’s infinite mercy. Other celebrations are as varied as the people who plan them. Most consist of a Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction. The Sacrament of Reconciliation does not need to be celebrated or offered on that day. Private prayer includes the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Finally, in a decree dated 3 August 2002, the Apostolic Penitentiary announced that in order “to insure that the faithful would observe this day with intense devotion, the supreme Pontiff himself established that this Sunday be enriched with a plenary indulgence.” The *plenary indulgence* is granted under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who, on that day, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection of a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the *Our Father* and the *Creed*, and adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g., *Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!*)

6 September Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist

The Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral is observed as a Solemnity in the Cathedral and as a Feast in the parishes of the Diocese of Cleveland. This observance takes precedence over the Thursday of the Twenty-second week in Ordinary Time.

THE RITE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE ORDER OF CATECHUMENS

When is the Best Time to Celebrate the Rite of Acceptance into the Catechumenate?

1. It should not be too early, but should be delayed until the candidates, according to their own dispositions and situation, have had sufficient time to conceive an initial faith and to show the first signs of conversion (see no. 42).
2. In places where the number of candidates is smaller than usual, the rite of acceptance should be delayed until a group is formed that is sufficiently large for catechesis and the liturgical rites.
3. Two dates in the year, or three if necessary, are to be fixed as the usual times for carrying out this rite. (RCIA 18)

The Rite of Acceptance is celebrated when the beginnings of the spiritual life and the fundamentals of Christian teaching have taken root in the candidates. (RCIA 41)

The catechumenate should ordinarily go from at least the Easter season of one year until the next, preferably it should begin before Lent in one year and extend until Easter of the following year. (National Statutes for the Catechumenate, NCCB 1986).

The length of the catechumenate depends on the grace of God and various circumstances in the life of each catechumen.

The following Sundays are offered as times when the gospel reading is particularly appropriate for the celebration of the Rite of Acceptance into the Catechumenate (RCIA 76) can be celebrated with those who will be initiated at the 2012 Easter Vigil.

Date	Sunday	Cycle B - Gospel Reading
15 January 2012	2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*	John 1:35-42
22 January 2012	3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*	Mark 1:14-20
17 June 2012	11 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mark 4:26-34
1 July 2012	13 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mark 5:21-43
19 August 2012	20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	John 6:51-58
16 September 2012	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mark 8:27-35
14 October 2012	28 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mark 10:17-30
21 October 2012	29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mark 10:35-45
28 October 2012	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mark 10:46-52

Since the time spent in the catechumenate should be long enough for the conversion and faith of the catechumens to become strong (RCIA 76). When the Rite of Acceptance is celebrated on days with an asterisk (*) the individuals accepted into the catechumenate would normally receive the Sacraments of Christian Initiation at the 2013 Paschal Vigil.