

Holy Days of Obligation Schedule: 2017-18

In addition to Sundays, Catholics in the United States are obliged to attend Holy Mass on the following holy days of obligation in 2017:

2017

Sunday, January 1: The Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God falls on a Sunday and is celebrated that day.

Tuesday, August 15: Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday, November 1: Solemnity of All Saints

Friday, December 8: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Monday, December 25: Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord*

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) 2017

Christmas Day 2017 is on Monday 25th December which follows the 4th Sunday of Advent 24th December. There have been some questions with regard to the obligations of these Holydays.

The Archdiocese has determined that each obligation must be met by attendance at one of the Masses of the Sunday and one of the Holyday. That is, a Christmas Mass on the evening of Sunday 24th December (Vigil or Night) will not satisfy the obligation for 4th Sunday of Advent.

There are two distinct obligations: that of 4th Sunday of Advent which can be met by attendance at anticipatory Masses on Saturday 23rd December or the morning Masses of Sunday 24th December; and that of Christmas which can be met by attendance at Masses on Christmas Eve (Vigil or Night) and those on Christmas Day.

2018

Wednesday, August 15: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday, November 1: All Saints

Saturday, December 8: The Immaculate Conception of the BVM*

Tuesday, December 25: The Nativity of the Lord

NOTES:

Mary Mother of God – 1st January 2018 is not a Holyday of Obligation

The Ascension of the Lord is transferred to Sunday 13th May

*Immaculate Conception is always a Holyday of Obligation in USA.

The Monday-Saturday rule does not apply to the Solemnities of Christmas (Dec. 25) and the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8). Catholics are obliged to attend Holy Mass on these days, even when they fall on a Monday or Saturday. For the other holy days of obligation (Jan. 1, Aug. 15, Nov. 1), the obligation is removed when they fall on a Monday or Saturday (Decree of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, December 13, 1991)

<http://www.usccb.org/beliefsand-teachings/what-we-believe/canon-law/complementary-norms/canon-1246.cfm>

