



DIOCESE OF ERIE

The Liturgical Year 2025

Issued by the Office for Divine Worship to assist you in forming the liturgical calendar for your parish or congregation.



Jubilee 2025

SPES NON CONFUNDIT
Hope does not Disappoint

With Evening Prayer I of the First Sunday of Advent, the New Year of the Church for 2025 begins.
It runs from Sunday, December 1, 2024 through November 29, 2025.

Principal Celebrations of the Liturgical Year 2025

First Sunday of Advent	December 1, 2024
Ash Wednesday	March 5, 2025
Easter Sunday	April 20, 2025
The Ascension of the Lord (Thursday)	May 29, 2025
Pentecost Sunday	June 8, 2025
The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ	June 22, 2025
First Sunday of Advent	November 30, 2025

Cycles of the Lectionary for Mass

Sunday Cycle	YEAR C	December 1, 2024 to November 23, 2025
Weekday Cycle	CYCLE I	January 13, 2025 to March 4, 2025 June 9, 2025 to November 29, 2025

Liturgy of the Hours

December 1, 2024 - January 12, 2025	Advent, Christmas	Volume I
January 13, 2025 - March 4, 2025	Weeks 1 to 8, Ordinary Time	Volume III
March 5, 2025 - June 8, 2025	Lent, Triduum, Easter	Volume II
June 9, 2025 - August 2, 2025	Weeks 10 to 17, Ordinary Time	Volume III
August 3, 2025 - November 29, 2025	Weeks 18 to 34, Ordinary Time	Volume IV

Holy Days of Obligation

In addition to Sunday, the days to be observed as Holy Days of Obligation in the Latin Rite dioceses of the United States of America, in 2025, in conformity with Canon 1246, are as follows:

January 1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
May 29, 2025	Solemnity of the Ascension (Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter)
August 15	Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
November 1	Solemnity of All Saints
December 8	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
December 25	Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Following the 1991 decision of the USCCB and with the 1992 confirmation of the Congregation for Bishops, when:

- the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1st);
- the Solemnity of the Assumption (August 15th);
- the Solemnity of All Saints (November 1st);

falls on a Saturday or Monday, the precept to attend Mass is abrogated (removed.)

As you are aware, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception occurs on Sunday, December 8, 2024, which coincides with the Second Sunday of Advent. As such, the Solemnity is transferred to Monday, December 9. Previously, when the date was transferred the obligation was abrogated: **This is no longer the case.**

Recently, the USCCB requested clarification from the Holy See about the obligation to attend Mass when a holy day of obligation in Advent, Lent, or Easter falls on a Sunday and is transferred to Monday. In a memo to U.S. Bishops dated October 10, 2024, Bishop Paprocki communicated the decision of the Dicastery for Legislative Texts: **“The feast must be observed as a day of obligation on the day to which it is transferred.”**

As December 8, 2024 falls on the Second Sunday of Advent, it is transferred to Monday, December 9, 2024, and therefore, Immaculate Conception **is** a Holy Day of Obligation.

January 1, 2025 falls on a Wednesday, and therefore, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God **is** a Holy Day of Obligation.

August 15, 2025 falls on a Friday, and therefore, the Solemnity of the Assumption **is** a Holy Day of Obligation.

November 1, 2025 falls on a Saturday, and therefore, the Solemnity of All Saints **is not** a Holy Day of Obligation.

This action only applies to the above days. *This does NOT apply to the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (December 8), the patronal feast of the United States.* The Immaculate Conception, Christmas, and Ascension are Holy Days of Obligation.

Miscellaneous Notes

- When either December 8 or December 25 falls on a Saturday or a Monday, the faithful are obligated to attend the Mass for that day in addition to that for the Sunday which either precedes or follows it. Attending the celebration of any one Mass cannot fulfill the obligation for both days. In calendar year 2024, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is observed on Monday, December 9, and is a Holy Day of Obligation.
- The Anniversary of the Dedication of Saint Peter Cathedral is May 17. This day is ranked as a feast in all places of the Diocese of Erie, outside of the Cathedral. It is observed as a solemnity in the Cathedral. The Mass includes the singing of the Gloria. The scripture readings come from the Common of the Dedication of a Church. There is a proper Preface. The Divine Office is from the Common of the Dedication of a Church.
- As noted above, *the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated on Thursday*, and not transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter.
- The Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope offers a unique opportunity to deepen faith and community engagement. Parishioners should be encouraged to participate in local pilgrimages, attend reconciliation services, and engage in acts of charity. The Jubilee should also include educational programs to help the faithful understand the significance of the Holy Year and its traditions. This period will be a time for spiritual renewal, fostering a sense of unity and hope within the diocesan community. More information will be forthcoming from the Communications Office and the Office for Divine Worship.

Funeral Masses on Holy Days

“Among the Masses for the Dead, the Funeral Mass holds first place. It may be celebrated on any day except for Solemnities that are Holy Days of Obligation, Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday), the Paschal Triduum, ...with due regard also for all the other requirements of the norm of the law.” (GIRM 380; emphasis added.)

On these days, the body of the deceased may be brought to the church and the *Funeral Liturgy Outside Mass* may be celebrated. Funeral Masses are permitted on Holy Days only when the precept to attend Mass is abrogated.

Funeral Masses on Sundays

GIRM 380 prohibits Funeral Masses on the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter. Furthermore, in the Diocese of Erie, Funeral Masses are not allowed after 3:00 pm Saturday and all day Sunday. Sunday is the day of the community, the parish assembly, and its ministers. If there is a need for a Sunday funeral in the judgment of the pastor, the regional Episcopal Vicar is to be consulted.

Ritual Masses on Sundays and Solemnities

“Ritual Masses are connected to the celebration of certain Sacraments or Sacramentals. They are prohibited on the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter, on Solemnities, on the days within the Octave of Easter, on the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day), on Ash Wednesday, and during Holy Week, and furthermore, due regard is to be had for the norms set out in the ritual books or in the Masses themselves.” (GIRM 372)

Holy Matrimony

Holy Matrimony, both within Mass as well as outside of Mass are not to begin later than 3:00 pm on Saturdays and are not to be celebrated at all on Sundays in the Diocese of Erie.

Baptism and Confirmation

The same principle (GIRM 372) applies to ritual Masses for the conferral of Baptism or Confirmation. When the ritual Mass is not celebrated, one of the readings may be replaced by one chosen from the *Lectionary for Ritual Masses* appropriate to the sacrament celebrated. The final blessing proper to the ritual Mass may always be used.

First Communion

It is appropriate that children should receive their First Communion on a Sunday of Easter (see *Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of Paschal Feasts* #103.) Above all, First Holy Communion should unite families, the parish, and all communicants more closely to the Lord's Supper on Sunday, the Lord's Day.

Additions to the Third Typical Edition of the Roman Missal in English since 2011

After the reforms of the Second Vatican Council, the General Roman Calendar was first promulgated in 1969 by Pope Saint Paul VI, and has subsequently been amended over the years by the Holy See with new celebrations. The last major revision was in 2002, but since the publication of the Roman Missal, Third Edition, the following celebrations have been added to the General Roman Calendar or otherwise changed:

Saint Marianne Cope

January 23

On July 10, 2013, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments confirmed the inscription of Saint Marianne Cope, Virgin, into the Proper Calendar for the Dioceses of the United States of America. Her proper liturgical texts in English and Spanish were confirmed the following day.

St. Marianne Cope is celebrated every year as an Optional Memorial on January 23. This is also the date of the Optional Memorial of Saint Vincent, Deacon and Martyr, which was transferred from January 22 in order to allow for the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. (In years when the Day of Prayer is transferred to January 23, the liturgical celebrations of both St. Vincent and St. Marianne Cope are omitted.)

Collect

O God, who called us to serve your Son
in the least of our brothers and sisters,
grant, we pray, that by the example and intercession
of the Virgin Saint Marianne Cope,
we may burn with love for you and for those who suffer.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Saint Gregory of Narek

February 27

On January 25, 2021, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church, into the General Roman Calendar. St. Gregory is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on February 27.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
who were pleased to imbue with mystical doctrine Saint Gregory of Narek,
the teacher and glory of the Armenian people,
grant us, by his teaching,
to learn the art of speaking with you
and constantly to fortify our life
with the Sacraments of the Church.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Saint John De Avila

May 10

On January 25, 2021, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint John De Avila, Priest and Doctor of the Church, into the General Roman Calendar. St. John is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on May 10.

Collect

O God, who gave to your clergy and people Saint John De Avila,
a teacher outstanding for the holiness and zeal of his life,
grant, we pray, that in our own time
the Church may increase in holiness
by the exceptional devotion of your ministers.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Saint Paul VI

May 29

On January 25, 2019, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint Paul VI, Pope, into the General Roman Calendar. St. Paul is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on May 29.

Collect

O God, who entrusted the governance of your Church
to Pope Saint Paul the Sixth,
a steadfast apostle of the Gospel of your Son,
grant, we pray, that enlightened by his teachings,
we may work together with you
to spread the culture of love throughout the world.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Mary, Mother of the Church

On February 11, 2018, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments inscribed a new obligatory Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, into the General Roman Calendar. This memorial is celebrated every year on the Monday after Pentecost.

For Mass, the Prayers for the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church may be found in the Roman Missal under Votive Masses: #10. Blessed Virgin Mary, B. Our Lady, Mother of the Church (page 1191 in the Catholic Book publication).

Proper readings with options are assigned for the day as follows:

First Reading: Genesis 3:9-15, 20 (The mother of all the living)

or

Acts 1:12-14 (All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus)

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 87: 1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7. Glorious things are told of you...

Gospel Acclamation: O happy Virgin, you gave birth to the Lord...

Gospel: John 19:25-34 Behold, your Son. Behold, your mother.

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha

July 14

On May 26, 2023, the Holy See's Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments confirmed English and Spanish texts of an expanded Mass formulary for the Memorial of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin, celebrated yearly on July 14. While the Roman Missal, Third Edition contains a Collect prayer (with other elements drawn from the Common of Virgins), the expanded formulary now includes proper texts for the Entrance Antiphon, Prayer over the Offerings, Communion Antiphon, and Prayer after Communion. The Collect prayer has also been emended.

Entrance Antiphon

How beautiful you are, O virgin of Christ,
who were worthy to receive the Lord's crown,
the crown of perpetual virginity.

Collect

O God, who willed the Virgin Saint Kateri Tekakwitha
to flower in a life of innocence
among the Native peoples of North America,
grant, through her intercession,
that all gathered in your Church
from every nation, tribe and tongue,
may glorify you in a single canticle of praise.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Offerings

Graciously accept, O Lord,
this offering of your holy people,
honoring Saint Kateri,
through whose intercession we ask the grace
to do always what is pleasing to you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Behold, the Bridegroom is coming;
come out to meet Christ the Lord.
(Cf. Mt 25:6)

Prayer after Communion

Refreshed by the heavenly food
of the Body and Blood of your beloved Son,
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that following the example of Saint Kateri
we may live the mystery we celebrate.
Through Christ our Lord.

Saint Mary Magdalene

July 22

On June 3, 2016, the Holy See raised the liturgical rank of the Memorial of Saint Mary Magdalene to a Feast, with the date remaining on July 22. A new Preface before the Eucharistic Prayer for the Feast was also promulgated in Latin.

The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments confirmed the English translation of the Preface for the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene on September 21, 2019. It may be used during Masses in honor of St. Mary Magdalene, especially her Feast on July 22, beginning in 2020.

The proper liturgical text in English of the Preface in honor of Saint Mary Magdalene is found below:

Preface for the Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene

Preface: Apostle to the Apostles

℣. The Lord be with you. ℞. And with your spirit.

℣. Lift up your hearts. ℞. We lift them up to the Lord.

℣. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ℞. It is right and just.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
to glorify you in all things, almighty Father, whose mercy is not less than your power,
through Christ our Lord.

He appeared in the garden and revealed himself to Mary Magdalene,
who had loved him in life, witnessed him dying on the Cross,
sought him as he lay in the tomb,

and was the first to adore him, newly risen from the dead.

He honored her with the office of being an apostle to the Apostles,
so that the good news of new life might reach the ends of the earth.

And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints,

we, too, give you thanks, as in exultation we acclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts...

Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus

July 29

On January 26, 2021, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus into the General Roman Calendar, to replace the existing celebration of Saint Martha alone. Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus are celebrated each year as an Obligatory Memorial on July 29.

The Holy See released the proper liturgical texts in Latin, and on September 30, 2024, the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments confirmed the English translation of those texts. (An approval and confirmation process is still required for a Spanish translation.) Some existing texts have remained the same - the entrance and Communion antiphons at Mass, and indications in the Lectionary—while most have been adjusted slightly or included for the first time.

Entrance Antiphon

Jesus entered a village,
where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.
(Cf. Lk 10:38)

Collect

O God, whose Son
called Lazarus back to life from the grave
and was pleased to be a guest in the home of Martha,
grant us, we pray,
that, faithfully serving him in our brothers and sisters,
we, with Mary, may be found worthy to be nourished
by the contemplation of his word.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Offerings

As we proclaim your wonders in your Saints, O Lord,
we humbly implore your majesty,
that, as their homage of love was pleasing to you,
so, too, our dutiful service may find favor in your sight.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Martha said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of God,
who is coming into this world.
(Jn 11:27)

Prayer after Communion

May the holy reception of the Body and Blood
of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord,
turn us away from the cares of this fallen world,
so that, following the example of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus,
we may grow in sincere love for you on earth
and rejoice to behold you for eternity in heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

Saint Hildegard of Bingen

September 17

The Holy See released the proper liturgical texts in Latin and on September 30, 2024, the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments confirmed the English translation of those texts. (An approval and confirmation process is still required for a Spanish translation.)

Collect

O God, fount of life,
 who imbued the Virgin Saint Hildegard
 with a spirit of prophecy,
 grant us, we pray, by her example and intercession,
 to know your ways,
 and in the darkness of this age
 to perceive the splendor of your light.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God, for ever and ever.

Saint Faustina Kowalska

October 5

On May 18, 2020, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin, into the General Roman Calendar. St. Faustina is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on October 5.

Collect

O God, who entrusted Saint Faustina with spreading the immense riches of your infinite mercy,
 grant, at her intercession, that after her example we may fully trust in your goodness
 and generously perform works of charity.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God, for ever and ever.

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

October 5

On July 25, 2014, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments confirmed the inscription of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest, into the Proper Calendar for the Dioceses of the United States of America. He is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on October 5.

Collect

O God, who made your Priest Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos
 outstanding in love,
 that he might proclaim the mysteries of redemption
 and comfort those in affliction,
 grant, by his intercession,
 that we may work zealously for your glory
 and for the salvation of mankind.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God, for ever and ever.

Saint John XXIII

October 11

On May 29, 2014, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint John XXIII, Pope, into the General Roman Calendar. St. John is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on October 11.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
 who in Pope Saint John the Twenty-Third
 has given a living example of Christ, the Good Shepherd,
 to shine throughout the whole world,
 grant us, we pray,
 that, through his intercession,
 we may joyfully pour out
 an abundance of Christian charity.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God, for ever and ever.

Saint John Paul II

October 22

On October 12, 2012, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments confirmed the inscription of Saint John Paul II, Pope, into the Proper Calendar for the Dioceses of the United States of America. Two years later, on May 29, 2014, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint John Paul II into the General Roman Calendar. St. John Paul is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on October 22.

Collect

O God, rich in mercy,
 who willed that Pope Saint John Paul the Second
 should preside over your universal Church,
 grant, we pray, that instructed by his teaching,
 we may confidently open our hearts to the saving grace of Christ,
 the sole Redeemer of the human race.
 Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God, for ever and ever.

Our Lady of Loreto

December 10

On October 7, 2019, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Our Lady of Loreto into the General Roman Calendar. She is celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on December 10.

The Collect prayer for the new celebration is identical to one already found in the Roman Missal, in the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary for Advent. If Our Lady of Loreto is celebrated, the rest of the formulary – Prayer over the Offerings, Preface, Prayer after Communion, and Entrance and Communion Antiphons – can be drawn from the same Mass formulary as the Collect. White vestments are worn.

Communal Penance Services in Advent and Lent

Every effort should be made to schedule communal celebrations of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the seasons of Advent and Lent. *No parish may schedule "general absolution."*

Although individual confessions may be scheduled in parishes according to pastoral need, Lenten communal penance services should not be scheduled during the days of the Triduum or the evening of the Chrism Mass, to allow priests and people to attend.

Christmas

In scheduling Masses, care must be taken not to multiply Masses on Christmas Eve to the detriment of Christmas Day itself. *Anticipated Masses on Sundays and Holy Days (Christmas included) are to take place in the evening.* (See Canon 1248 §1)

In general, the Diocese of Erie does not allow Christmas Eve Masses to be scheduled before 4:00 pm.

Christmas pageants or "Nativity Plays" for adults or children within Mass are to be avoided. According to Vatican II, the assembly of the baptized is to participate fully, actively and consciously (see *Sacrosanctum Concilium* #41) in various roles and functions and should never be reduced to passive spectators or an audience, as would be true for pageants, plays and dramatic presentations.

The Mass is not an historical reenactment of the events of salvation history and care should be taken not to give the impression that the Liturgy of the Word is a play. This is not to say that dramatic elements may not be used. However, in some circumstances, the need to encourage active participation over entertainment or a passive audience mode should be seriously considered.

The Season of Lent

"Lent is ordered to preparing for the celebration of Easter, since the Lenten liturgy prepares for celebration of the Paschal Mystery both catechumens, by the various stages of Christian Initiation, and the faithful, who recall their own Baptism and do penance.

The forty days of Lent run from Ash Wednesday up to but excluding the Mass of the Lord's Supper. From the beginning of Lent until the Paschal Vigil, the *Alleluia* is not said.

On Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, which is observed everywhere as a fasting day, ashes are distributed." (GIRM, nos. 27-29)

Abstinence

All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday are bound to abstain totally from meat on the following days: Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.

Fasting

All Catholics between their 18th and 59th birthdays are also bound to observe the Law of Fast on the following days: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This practice involves limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may be taken on two other occasions in the course of the day.

Easter Duty

After they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, all the faithful are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season, unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year. This obligation may be fulfilled between March 9, 2025 (First Sunday of Lent) and June 15, 2025 (Trinity Sunday.)

Baptism

There is no universal rule that would forbid the practice of Baptism during Lent. However, given that Lent is traditionally focused on the preparation of Baptism, many parishes have policies that discourage it. This is left to the discretion of the pastor/staff.

Holy Matrimony

While weddings may be celebrated during the Season of Lent (except for the Sundays of Lent,) the priest/deacon preparing the couple should make the couple aware of the special nature of the proposed date for celebration and its penitential character. They should be discouraged from too much pomp or display. (See *Order of Celebrating Holy Matrimony* #32)

The Paschal Triduum

Since Christ accomplished his work of human redemption and of the perfect glorification of God, principally through his Paschal Mystery, in which by dying he has destroyed our death and by rising he restored our life, the sacred Paschal Triduum of the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord shines forth as the high point of the entire liturgical year. Therefore, the preeminence that Sunday has in the week, the Solemnity of Easter has in the liturgical year. (*Universal Norms* #18)

The Paschal Triduum of the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, has its center in the Easter Vigil, and closes with Vespers (Evening Prayer) of the Sunday of the Resurrection.

Funerals

Funeral Masses are not permitted on Holy Thursday morning or during the days of the Easter Triduum. On these days, the body of the deceased may be brought to the church and the *Funeral Liturgy Outside Mass* may be celebrated.

Holy Matrimony

The celebration of Marriage during the Paschal Triduum is to be avoided altogether.

Holy Thursday

According to the Church's ancient tradition, all Masses without a congregation are prohibited on this day. The Mass of the Lord's Supper is celebrated in the evening. No additional Masses are to be scheduled. Only where a pastoral reason requires it, and with the permission of the local Ordinary, may another Mass be celebrated. (See *Roman Missal* "Thursday of the Lord's Supper: At the Evening Mass")

Good Friday

“The Celebration of the Lord’s Passion is to take place in the afternoon, at about three o’clock. The time will be chosen as shall seem most appropriate for pastoral reasons in order to allow the people to assemble more easily, for example, shortly after midday, or in the late evening, however no later than nine o’clock.” (*Circular Letter Concerning Preparation and Celebration of Easter Feasts #63*)

Holy Communion may only be distributed during the Solemn Celebration of the Passion. No other communal distribution of Holy Communion may take place on Good Friday (for example, during Stations of the Cross or other secondary services.)

In a situation of grave public need, the Diocesan Bishop may permit or order the addition of a special intention to the Solemn Intercessions.

Penance and Anointing of the Sick are the only Sacraments celebrated on Good Friday and the following day. *Viaticum may be administered at any time.*

Holy Saturday

“On Holy Saturday the Church is as it were at the Lord’s tomb, meditating on his passion and death, and on his descent to hell, and awaiting his resurrection with prayer and fasting. It is highly recommended that on this day the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer be celebrated with the participation of the people.” (*Circular Letter Concerning Preparation and Celebration of Easter Feasts #73*)

“On this day the Church abstains strictly from the celebration of the Sacrifice of the Mass. Holy Communion may be given only in the form of Viaticum. The celebration of marriages is forbidden, as also the celebration of other sacraments, except those of Penance and Anointing of the Sick.

The faithful are to be instructed on the special character of Holy Saturday. Festive customs and traditions associated with this day on account of the former practice of anticipating the celebration of Easter on Holy Saturday should be reserved for Easter night and the day that follows.” (*Circular Letter Concerning Preparation and Celebration of Easter Feasts #75*)

The Easter Vigil

According to a most ancient tradition, this night is “one of vigil for the Lord” and the Vigil is celebrated during it, to commemorate that holy night when the Lord rose from the dead, is regarded as the “mother of all holy vigils.” It is not an anticipated Mass, but a true vigil, and as such, may not begin before nightfall.

Sunset will be at approximately 8:06 PM on Saturday, April 19, 2025.
This means that the Easter Vigil should not begin before 8:30 PM.

The Easter Vigil is to be celebrated only once in a given church. (See *Roman Missal* “The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night” no. 2)

Nine readings are provided for the Vigil, seven from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament (the Epistle and Gospel), all of which should be read whenever possible, so that the character of the Vigil may be preserved.

Still, for serious pastoral reasons, the number of readings from the Old Testament may be reduced, bearing in mind that the proclamation of the Word of God is a fundamental part of the Easter Vigil. At least three readings should be read from the Old Testament, with their respective responsorial psalms, including always Exodus 14 and its canticle, which should never be omitted.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Rite of Election will occur on the First Sunday of Lent, March 9, 2025 at Saint Peter Cathedral in Erie **and** the Second Sunday of Lent, March 16, 2025 at Saint Catherine of Siena Church in DuBois.

Scrutinies seek to remove all obstacles to holistic conversion of the elect (unbaptized) and deepen their resolve to bind themselves to Christ, to carry out their mission to love God above all else. They take place on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent. The *Roman Missal* contains specific orations and prefaces suited to these celebrations. (See *Roman Missal*, “Ritual Masses: 2. For the Celebration of the Scrutinies.”)

Scheduling Notes for 2025

- Sunday, March 9, 2025 - The Rite of Election, Saint Peter Cathedral, Erie, 3:00 pm
- Sunday, March 16, 2025 - The Rite of Election, Saint Catherine, DuBois, 3:00 pm
- Monday, April 14, 2025 - Chrism Mass, Saint Peter Cathedral, 1:00 pm
- Sunday, June 22, 2025 - The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) “It is desirable that a procession take place after the Mass in which the Host to be carried in the procession is consecrated. However, nothing prohibits a procession from taking place even after a public and lengthy period of adoration following the Mass.” (See *Roman Missal*)

Scheduling Reminders for Weddings in 2025

- Please note that weddings are not permitted from Thursday, April 17, 2025 through Sunday, April 27, 2025 (the Triduum and Octave of Easter.)
- Please note that November 1, 2025, All Saints falls on a Saturday and ritual Masses are prohibited. It may be pastorally appropriate to avoid weddings on this day.

Changes Coming to Liturgical Celebrations

- Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is now available. The revised order may not be used until December 1, 2024; mandatory use will begin with Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025. This means that elements like the scrutinies, immediate preparation and the celebration of the sacraments will all follow the OCIA this Lent/Easter.
- A revised *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery Outside Mass* is now available to be ordered from several publishers. This new translation is to be implemented on the First Sunday of Advent, 2024.
- Presiders at Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours, and any liturgical celebration that may include a collect should note that in 2021, the phrase “one God, forever and ever” that concluded many collect prayers was revised to omit the word “one.” Please be attentive to praying simply “God, forever and ever.”

Days of Prayer for 2025

Wednesday, January 1, 2025 - World Day of Prayer for Peace

January 18-25, 2025 - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Wednesday, January 22, 2025 - Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Thursday, May 1, 2025 - National Day of Prayer

Sunday, May 11, 2025 - World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Monday, September 1, 2025 - World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Special Collections for 2025

All collections are mandatory except the following:

Food Bank Collection (for Second Harvest Food Bank or another food bank - excluding Food for the Poor - if you are not serviced by Second Harvest)

Priestly Education and Care Collection

Operation Rice Bowl (technically not a collection but a charitable program)

The collection which is a part of the Missionary Cooperative Plan is a mandated special collection. The missionary is assigned by the Mission Office and the date is determined together by the pastor and missionary.

An appeal for any collection at Mass should never replace the homily.

No pastor or administrator may schedule a new collection without the permission of the Bishop (see canon 1266 and *Diocesan Regulations for the Administration of Temporal Affairs*, no. 10.2).

Flexible Date	Priestly Education and Care Collection (<i>optional</i>)
January 1 - Ash Wednesday	Food Bank Collection (<i>optional</i>)
January 26	Help Spread the Faith Communications Collection
March 2	Catholic Services Appeal (Commitment Sunday)
Lent (March 5)	Operation Rice Bowl (<i>optional</i>)
April 18	Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land
May 11	Good Shepherd Collection
May 25	International Needs Collection
June 29	Collection for the Holy Father (Peter's Pence)
July 20	National Needs Collection
August 17	Church in Latin America Collection
September 21	Catholic Education Collection
October 19	Mission Sunday Collection
November 16	Catholic Campaign for Human Development
December 14	Retirement Fund for Religious
Arranged by Diocesan Mission Office	Missionary Cooperative Plan

Clergy 2025 Event Reminders

Lenten Day of Recollection

Tuesday, March 11

Chrism Mass

Saint Peter Cathedral, Erie

Monday, April 14

1:00 pm

Presbyteral Ordination

Saint Peter Cathedral, Erie

Friday, May 23

7:00 pm

Emmaus

Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA

June 23-26

Priest Day

TBD

Priest Retreat

Villa Maria Education and Spiritual Center, Pulaski, PA

September 8-12

Fall Day of Recollection

Wednesday, October 8

Titular Solemnities of Church Buildings Currently in Use

Thank you to Fr. Justin Pino for providing this information.

Church buildings that bear the name “Saint Mary” will celebrate their Feast Day on August 15,
unless otherwise noted.

If there are any discrepancies, please notify the Office for Divine Worship.

All Saints Church, Waterford	November 1
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Sykesville	August 15
Beloved Disciple Church, Grove City	December 27
Blessed Sacrament Church, Erie	2nd Sunday after Pentecost
Christ the King Church, Houtzdale	Last Sunday in Ordinary Time
Good Shepherd Church, West Middlesex	4th Sunday of Easter
Holy Cross Church, Fairview	September 14
Holy Family Church, Erie	Sunday after Christmas
Holy Redeemer Church, Warren	September 14
Holy Rosary Church, Erie	October 7
Holy Rosary Church, Johnsonburg	October 7
Holy Trinity Church, Erie	Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Trinity Church, Ramey	Sunday after Pentecost
Immaculate Conception Church, Brookville	December 8
Immaculate Conception Church, Clarion	December 8
Immaculate Conception Church, Mageetown	December 8
Immaculate Conception Church, Osceola Mills	December 8
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Mercer	3rd Saturday after Pentecost
Mount Calvary Church, Erie	September 14
Notre Dame Church, Hermitage	January 1
Our Lady of Fatima Church, Farrell	October 13
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Cochranon	February 11
Our Lady of Mercy Church, Harborcreek	September 24
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Erie	July 16
Our Lady of Peace Church, Erie	August 22
Our Lady of the Lake Church, Edinboro	January 1
Our Lady, Queen of the Americas Church, Conneaut Lake	December 12
Our Mother of Sorrows Parish, Erie	September 15
Queen of the World Church, St. Marys	August 22
Sacred Heart Church, Genesse	3rd Friday after Pentecost
Sacred Heart Church, St. Marys	3rd Friday after Pentecost
Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Erie	3rd Friday after Pentecost

SS. Cosmas & Damian Church, Punxsutawney	September 26
SS. Peter & Paul Church, Grassflat	June 29
SS. Peter & Paul Church, Hawk Run	June 29
St. Agatha Church, Meadville	February 5
St. Agnes Church, Morrisdale	January 21
St. Andrew Church, Erie	November 30
St. Ann Church, Erie	July 26
St. Ann Church, Marienville	July 26
St. Anne Church, Wilcox	July 26
St. Anthony Church, Tionesta	June 13
St. Anthony of Padua Church, Cambridge Springs	June 13
St. Anthony of Padua Church, Sharon	June 13
St. Anthony of Padua Church, Sheffield	June 13
St. Augustine Church, Austin	August 28
St. Bartholomew Church, Sharpsville	August 24
St. Basil the Great Church, Coalport	January 2
St. Bernadette Church, Saegertown	April 16
St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church, Bradford	August 20
St. Bernard Church, Falls Creek	August 20
St. Bibiana Church, Galetton	December 2
St. Bonaventure Church, Grampian	July 15
St. Boniface Church, Erie	June 5
St. Boniface Church, Kersey	June 5
St. Brigid Church, Meadville	February 1
St. Callistus Church, Kane	October 14
St. Casimir Church, Erie	March 4
St. Catherine of Siena Church, DuBois	April 29
St. Charles Church, New Bethlehem	November 4
St. Columbkille Church, Stoneboro	June 9
St. Dominic Church, Sigel	August 8
St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church, Smethport	November 17
St. Eulalia Church, Coudersport	December 10
St. Eusebius Church, East Brady	August 2
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Bradford	October 4
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Clearfield	October 4

St. Francis Xavier Church, McKean	December 3
St. Gabriel the Archangel Church, Port Allegany	September 29
St. George Church, Erie	April 23
St. Gregory Thaumaturgus Church, North East	November 17
St. Hedwig Church, Erie	October 16
St. Hermenegild Church, Pardoe	April 13
St. Hippolyte Church, Frenchtown	August 13
St. James Church, Driftwood	May 3
St. James Church, Erie	May 3
St. John Church, Tidioute	December 27
St. John the Baptist Church, Erie	June 24
St. John the Evangelist Church, Girard	December 27
St. Joseph Church, Erie	March 19
St. Joseph Church, Force	March 19
St. Joseph Church, Lucinda	March 19
St. Joseph Church, Mount Jewett	March 19
St. Joseph Church, Oil City	March 19
St. Joseph Church, Sharon	March 19
St. Joseph Church, Warren	March 19
St. Jude the Apostle Church, Erie	October 28
St. Julia Church, Erie	May 23
St. Lawrence the Martyr Church, Albion	August 10
St. Leo Magnus Church, Ridgway	November 10
St. Luke Church, Erie	October 18
St. Luke Church, Youngsville	October 18
St. Margaret Church, Jamestown	November 16
St. Mark Church, Emporium	April 25
St. Mark the Evangelist Church, Lawrence Park	April 25
St. Mary Church, Crown	May 24
St. Mary Church, Reynoldsville	January 1
St. Mary Church, St. Marys	December 8
St. Mary Church, Sartwell	August 15
St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Frenchville	August 15
St. Mary of Grace Church, Meadville	February 7
St. Michael Church, Fryburg	September 29
St. Michael Church, Greenville	September 29
St. Michael the Archangel Church, DuBois	September 29
St. Michael the Archangel Church, Emlenton	September 29
St. Nicholas Church, Crates	December 6

St. Patrick Church, Erie	March 17
St. Patrick Church, Franklin	March 17
St. Paul Church, Erie	June 29
St. Peter Cathedral, Erie	June 29
St. Peter Church, Conneautville	June 29
St. Philip Church, Crossingville	August 23
St. Philip Church, Linesville	May 3
St. Raphael Church, Eldred	September 29
St. Richard Church, Rimersburg	February 7
St. Severin Church, Drifting	January 8
St. Stanislaus Church, Erie	April 11
St. Stephen of Hungary Church, Erie	August 16
St. Teresa of Avila Church, Union City	October 15
St. Theresa Church, Shinglehouse	October 1
St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Corry	July 3
St. Timothy Church, Curwensville	January 26
St. Titus Church, Titusville	January 26
St. Tobias Church, Brockway	November 2
St. Venantius Church, Rouseville	May 18
St. Walburga Church, Titusville	February 25