



**ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE of ORANGE**

PASTORAL CENTER: OFFICE FOR WORSHIP
13280 CHAPMAN AVENUE, GARDEN GROVE, CA 92840

MEMORANDUM

TO: Clergy, Liturgy Coordinators, Music Directors, and Wedding Coordinators

FROM: Deacon Modesto Cordero, Director, Office for Worship

RE: **2025 LITURGICAL NOTES FOR THE DIOCESE OF ORANGE (Year C, Cycle I)**

DATE: July 10, 2024

The calendar information provided in this memorandum is to assist parishes in their planning for the 2024-2025 Liturgical Year in the Diocese of Orange. This information is based on the *Secretariat of Divine Worship of the United States of America Conference of Catholic Bishops' Liturgical Calendar for the Dioceses of the United States of America* and the General Roman Calendar.

As a reminder, in our diocese, the Holy Days of Obligation for 2024 and 2025 are: the **Solemnity of All Saints** (November 1, 2024 only); the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception** (December 8, the Patroness of the USA); and **Christmas** (December 25). In addition, in 2025, the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary** (August 15) is a Holy Day of Obligation. Pastors are asked to provide practical opportunities for more people to attend Mass on these days by celebrating a Vigil Mass (when permitted) as well as an extra Mass or two at convenient times for the faithful.

The 2025 liturgical year begins on the **First Sunday of Advent**, December 1, 2024.

During the year 2025:

- Since December 8, 2024, is the Second Sunday of Advent, the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** is transferred to Monday, December 9. The obligation to attend Mass, however, does not transfer. The Optional Memorial of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin, December 9, is omitted this year.
- **The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord** in our diocese is transferred to Sunday, June 1, 2025; on Thursday, May 29, 2025, the Easter Weekday or the Optional Memorial of St. Paul VI, Pope is observed.
- In a notification dated December 8, 1998, from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments (Prot. n. 2671/98/L), the Obligatory Memorial of the **Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary** becomes an Optional Memorial in years when it conflicts with another Obligatory Memorial. Therefore, Saturday, June 28, 2025, is a weekday in Ordinary Time, as well as the Optional Memorials of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Irenaeus, Bishop, Martyr, and Doctor of the Church.

- Saturday, November 1, 2025, is the **Solemnity of All Saints**. In accord with the complementary norm to canon 1246 §2 confirmed for the dioceses of the United States of America, because it is a Saturday, the obligation to attend Mass on this date is abrogated.

Anniversary of the Dedication of the Parish Church – This date should be celebrated as a Solemnity by the parish, unless impeded by a day of higher rank. [*The Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar*, Chapter II, para #27 and *General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar*, para # (R10)].

Memorial of the Patron(s) of the Parish – This date should be celebrated as a Solemnity by the parish, unless impeded by a day of higher rank. [*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar* (by Pope Paul VI in 1969) para # 59 (Table of Liturgical Days) I, #4a.]

Funeral Masses may be celebrated on all days except Solemnities which are holy days, Sundays of Advent, Lent, or Easter, on Holy Thursday and the Easter Triduum. Funeral rites on these days make use of a liturgy of the Word, closing with the rite of Farewell, as found in the *Order of Christian Funerals*, Part I, no. 4 (nos. 177-203). [*ORDO, Masses for the Dead*.]

Outside Advent, Christmas Time, Lent, and Easter Time, on Saturdays which have no commemoration having the rank of Obligatory Memorial or higher, an Optional Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary may be celebrated [*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar*, no. 15]. The readings and prayers may be selected from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary or Votive Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the *Roman Missal*, or in the *Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary*.

We are including wedding coordinators, as the memo notes when a Mass for Celebrating Matrimony (i.e., a ritual Mass) would not be celebrated. Options to celebrate marriage on these days includes using the Mass of the day with the inclusion of the Nuptial Blessing and, if appropriate, the proper formula for the final blessing. One of the readings may be taken from the texts for the celebration of Marriage (Lectionary nos. 801-805). Another option is to use the Order of Celebrating Matrimony without Mass (Chapter II in "The Order of Celebrating Matrimony").

Dates to Remember for the rest of 2024 Liturgical Year (Year B, Cycle II)

July 17 th , 2024 (Wed)	<p>Dedication of Christ Cathedral The anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral is observed with the rank of Feast at churches and chapels in the Diocese of Orange. At Christ cathedral, the anniversary is observed as a Solemnity.</p>
July 28 th , 2024 (Sun)	<p>World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly Pope Francis designated the 4th Sunday of July (closest to the memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne) to be "World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly."</p>
July 29 th , 2024 (Mon)	<p>Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus <i>The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments expanded the Memorial of St. Martha to become the Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus. The Gospel for this memorial is proper (Lectionary no. 607). The first reading may be taken from the weekday, the reading found at the link below, or from the Common of Holy Men and Women, #737-742. The interim mass formularies in English and Spanish are found at: https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/saints-martha-mary-and-lazarus</i></p>
August 13 th , 2024 (Tue)	<p>St. Emydius, bishop and martyr Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange in California.</p>
August 15th, 2024 (Thu)	<p>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral Masses are not permitted. <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i></p>
Third week of September	Special Days of Prayer, Harvest and Fruits of the Earth
September 15 th , 2024 (Sun)	Catechetical Sunday
September 23 rd – 29 th , 2024	National Migration Week , moved to the last week in September.
September 29 th , 2024 (Sun)	Priesthood Sunday
October 6 th , 2024 (Sun)	<p>Life and Dignity Sunday Please note that the month of October is Life and Dignity Month.</p>
October 20 th , 2024 (Sun)	World Mission Sunday
October 23 rd , 2024 (Wed)	<p>Saint John of Capistrano, secondary patron of Diocese of Orange. Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange.</p>

November 1st, 2024 (Fri)**All Saints (Solemnity)**

Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted.
Funeral masses are not permitted.

Holy Day of ObligationNovember 2nd, 2024 (Sat)**Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)**

Ritual Masses (i.e., Order of Matrimony) are not permitted.
Funeral masses are permitted.

November 3rd – 9th, 2024**National Vocation Awareness Week**November 24th, 2024 (Sun)**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Solemnity)**November 28th, 2024 (Thu)**Thanksgiving Day****2025 Liturgical Year (Year C, Cycle I)**December 1st, 2024 (Sun)**First Sunday of Advent**

First Week of December

Special Week of Prayer, World Justice and Peace**December 9th, 2024 (Mon)****The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary**

(Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America)

Ritual Masses (i.e., Order of Matrimony) are not permitted.
Funeral masses are permitted. (Solemnity)

Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.December 12th, 2024 (Thu)**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (USA)**

Principal patroness of the Diocese of Orange.
Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange.

December 25th, 2024 (Wed)**The Nativity of the Lord / Christmas (Solemnity)**

Ritual Masses (i.e., Order of Matrimony) are not permitted.
Funeral masses are not permitted. (Solemnity)

Holy Day of ObligationJanuary 1st, 2025 (Wed)**Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Solemnity)**

The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord
Ritual Masses (i.e., Order of Matrimony) are not permitted.
Funeral masses are not permitted. (Solemnity)

Holy Day of ObligationJanuary 5th, 2025 (Sun)**The Epiphany of the Lord (Solemnity)**

- January 12th, 2025 (Sun) **The Baptism of the Lord** (Feast)
End of the Christmas Season
- January 18th – 25th, 2025 **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**
For resources, please go to the website:
<http://www.christianunity.va/content/unitacristiani/en.html> and
http://www.geii.org/week_of_prayer_for_christian_unity/index.html
- January 19th, 2025 (Sun) **Word of God Sunday**
Observed as a special day devoted to “the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God”. For more information:
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/divine-worship/sunday-word-god>
- January 22nd, 2025 (Wed) **Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children**
Particular Day of Penance
*Masses celebrated before 4:00 PM observe a “day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life **in all the USA** (and the world) and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion” (GIRM #373). The readings for Mass can be found in the new Lectionary for Mass Supplement (2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Mk 3:22-30 (317)). For the Day of Prayer, the reading from the “Lectionary for Mass Supplement,” or any of the readings from the “Lectionary for Mass” from the section “For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life,” (nos. 947 A- 947 E) or from “For Peace and Justice” (nos. 8987-891) could be used.*
- February 2nd, 2025 (Sun) **Presentation of the Lord and World Day for Consecrated Life**
For resources go to: <https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/world-day-consecrated-life>
- February 9th, 2025 (Sun) **World Marriage Day**, Second Sunday in February.
For clergy and parish resources go to: <http://wmd.wvme.org/>
More information about a diocesan celebration honoring wedding anniversaries is to follow by the Office for Family Life. For more information contact that office at (714) 282- 4203/6059.
- February 11th, 2025 (Tue) **World Day of the Sick / Our Lady of Lourdes**
In our Diocese a special Celebration for World Day of the Sick will be celebrated on Saturday, February 8th at Christ Cathedral at 10:00 am. There will be anointing of the sick and a blessing for those who care for the sick.

March 5 th , 2025 (Wed)	Ash Wednesday/Day of Fasting and Abstinence Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.
March 7 th – 11 th , 2025	Rites of Election (for Catechumens to be initiated at the Easter Vigil) In the Diocese of Orange, the Rites of Election and Call to Continuing Conversation will be held at Christ Cathedral on Friday, March 7 th ; Saturday, March 8 th ; Monday, March 10 th ; and Tuesday, March 11 th , 2025. Date assignments for parishes will be sent in January 2025. Priests should be sure to schedule one or more occasions for the anointing of catechumens with the Oil of Catechumens.
March 9 th , 2025 (Sun)	First Sunday of Lent
March 19 th , 2025 (Wed)	Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.
March 25 th , 2025 (Tue)	The Annunciation of the Lord (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.
March 28 th - 29 th , 2025	24 Hours for the Lord Parishes are encouraged to remain open all day to allow extra time to the faithful to make time for adoration and to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.
Fourth Week of Lent	Special Days of Prayer, General Needs of Humankind
April 14 th , 2025 (Mon)	Chrism Mass at 5:30 PM at Christ Cathedral. Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted. <i>All the faithful are invited to participate in this Mass. The teens preparing for Confirmation are to be especially encouraged to witness the consecration of Holy Chrism.</i>
April 17 th , 2025 (Thu)	Triduum begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper Ritual Masses including Funeral masses are not permitted
April 18 th , 2025 (Fri)	Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday) Ritual Masses including Funeral masses are not permitted.

- April 19th, 2025 (Sat) **Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil** after 7:50 PM
Ritual Masses including Funeral masses are not permitted
The entire celebration of the Vigil is to take place at night: it should begin after nightfall and end before the dawn of Sunday. Please note that there is to be only one Easter Vigil: for pastoral reasons an additional Mass may be celebrated after the Mass of the Easter Vigil using the liturgy of the Word of the Mass of the Easter Vigil and omitting the Service of Light. The intention of the Missale Romanum is clear: the Easter Vigil is to take place in darkness.
- April 20th, 2025 (Sun) **Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**
Although not given the title of Solemnity, “[t]he first eight days of Easter Time constitute the Octave of Easter and are celebrated as Solemnities of the Lord” [*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, no.24*].
- May 29th, 2025 (Thu) **The Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity)**
Our ecclesiastical province (and most dioceses in USA) has transferred this Solemnity from Thursday, May 29th to Sunday, June 1st. Thursday, May 29th is observed as an Easter weekday [6].
- June 1st, 2025 (Sun) **The Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity)**
Celebrated in the Diocese of Orange.
- June 8th, 2025 (Sun) **Pentecost (Solemnity)**
The extended Vigil Mass for Pentecost has additional readings, each with its own responsorial psalm. The Pentecost Sequence, “Veni Sancte Spiritus,” is obligatory on Pentecost Sunday and may be omitted at the Vigil. It is fitting to use the sprinkling rite on this day and the Paschal candle is to be lit at all masses. The Paschal Candle is moved to the baptistery after the last Mass or Vespers, which concludes the Easter Season.
- June 9th, 2025 (Mon) **The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church**
This Obligatory Memorial has its own proper found under Votive Mass for the Blessed Virgin Mary, option #10B, Our Lady, Mother of the Church. There are also readings proper for the day (Lectionary no. 1002). Additionally, proper text for Liturgy of the Hours can be found at <http://www.usccb.org/motherofthechurch> .
- June 15th, 2025 (Sun) **The Most Holy Trinity (Solemnity)**
- Third week of June **Special Days of Prayer, Human Rights and Equality**
- June 22nd, 2025 (Sun) **USA: The Most Body and Blood of Christ - *Corpus Christi* (Solemnity)**

June 27 th , 2024 (Fri)	Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e. Celebration of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted.
June 29 th , 2025 (Sun)	Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles (Solemnity)
July 1 st , 2025 (Tue)	Saint Junípero Serra Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange in California.
July 5 th , 2025 (Sat)	Our Lady, Refuge of Sinners Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange in California. This Marian feast honors the first patroness of California, established by Bishop Garcia Diego in 1843.
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September 22 nd – 28 th , 2025	National Migration Week, moved to the last week in September.
September 28 th , 2025 (Sun)	Priesthood Sunday
October 5 th , 2025 (Sun)	Life and Dignity Sunday Please note that the month of October is Life and Dignity Month.

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October 23 rd , 2025 (Thu)	Saint John of Capistrano , secondary patron of diocese of Orange. Obligatory Memorial in the Diocese of Orange
November 1st, 2025 (Sat)	All Saints Day (Solemnity) Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are permitted. Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.
November 2 nd , 2025 (Sun)	Commemoration of All the Faithful departed (All Souls' Day) Ritual Masses (i.e. Order of Matrimony) are not permitted. Funeral masses are not permitted.
November 2 nd – 8 th , 2025	National Vocation Awareness Week
November 23 rd , 2025 (Sun)	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Solemnity)
November 27 th , 2025 (Thu)	Thanksgiving Day

Please feel free to contact the Office for Worship, (714) 282-3040 / 3041 or email at mcordero@rcbo.org / nhuerta@rcbo.org should you have any questions.

Blessings!