

# 2024 CALENDAR



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#### January

*Song of the Angels* by William-Adolphe Bouguereau (1825-1905). Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:William-Adolphe\_Bouguereau\_(1825-1905)\_-\_Song\_of\_the\_Angels\_(1881).jpg.

# February

*Christ in the Desert Served by Angels* by Ludovico Carracci. Used with permission via Restored Traditions.

### March

*Virgin and Child with Singing Angels* by Sandro Botticelli. Richard Mortel from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, CC BY 2.0 <https://creativecommons.org/ licenses/by/2.0>, via Wikimedia Commons.

### April

Mary Magdalene at the Jesus tomb by Philip Richard (1838-1902), Lebrecht Authors / Bridgeman Images.

### May

*Madonna of the Rocks* by Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519), oil on panel transferred to canvas / Bridgeman Images.

#### June

*Temptation of St. Thomas Aquinas* by Restout, Diego Rodriguez de Silva y Velazquez (1599-1660), oil on canvas / Bridgeman Images.

# July

*Tobias and the Angel* by Giovanni Girolamo Savoldo (c. 1480-1548), oil on canvas, Alinari / Bridgeman images.

#### August

*Rest on the Flight into Egypt* by Caravaggio (1571-1610), oil on canvas. Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons. https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/com-mons/7/73/Rest\_on\_the\_Flight\_into\_Egypt-Caravaggio\_%28c.1597%29.jpg.

#### September

*St. Michael* by Luca Giordano, oil on canvas. Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fa\_Presto\_-\_St.\_ Michael\_-\_Google\_Art\_Project.jpg.

# October

The Golden Ladder by Janmot. Used with permission via Restored Traditions.

#### November

Das Spiel der Hl. Cäcilia von Engeln begleitet by Simon Glücklich (1863-1943). Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons. https://commons.wikimedia.org/ wiki/File:Simon\_Gl%C3%BCcklich\_C%C3%A4cilia\_von\_Engeln\_begleitet\_1886.jpg.

#### December

*The Shepherds and the Angel* by Carl Bloch. Used with permission via Restored Traditions.

# Saturdays of Our Lady

Saturdays are especially dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary in both the New and the Traditional liturgical calendars. This tradition honors Our Lady for her steadfast faith on the first Holy Saturday, when the faith of the Apostles had been shaken by Our Lord's crucifixion.

# **Inclusion of Saints**

In keeping with its purpose as an aid to devotion rather than an official liturgical Ordo, this calendar includes even those saints who are not commemorated in the liturgy (whether Novus Ordo or Traditional) in the current year. Such saints are principally those whose days fall in Lent or on Sunday.

Note: Many of the dates given for the year of death of Saints of the early centuries are considered uncertain, but we have, for the most part, avoided the use of the symbol c. (circa, around) so as not to encumber this calendar with additional detail.



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# NOTES

#### The Church Calendar

This calendar includes both the New or Novus Ordo ("Ordinary Form") Sundays and feast days, and the Traditional ("Extraordinary Form") Sundays and feast days (as of 1962). These latter are observed when the Traditional Latin Mass is offered. The Novus Ordo Sundays and feast days, which date from 1970 or later whenever they differ from the Traditional ones, are designated: (New). The Traditional Sundays and feast days, most of which go back centuries, are designated: (Trad.). Also included here are many feast days which no longer appear on either the New or the Traditional calendar (as of 1962)—such as the feasts of St. Philomena, St. Dismas (the Good Thief), St. Tarcisius, St. Gemma Galgani and St. Dominic Savio; these Historical feasts are designated: (Hist.). The date after the name of a Saint is the year of the Saint's death.

#### **Fast and Abstinence**

The Church's current regulations in the U. S. require fasting and abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday; abstinence from meat on the Fridays of Lent; and abstinence from meat *or* some other penitential or charitable work on every non-Lenten Friday of the year, unless the Friday falls on a solemnity. Abstinence is binding from age 14; fasting is binding from age 18 until age 59.

"According to the Church's law, the 'substantial observance' of Fridays as days of penance, whether by abstinence or in other ways, 'is a grave obligation." (Pope Paul VI, *Paenitemini*, 1966, Norm II, 2)." (Fr. John Hardon, S.J., *Modern Catholic Dictionary*, 1979).

#### What Is Fasting?

Fasting according to the Church's norms means eating only one full meal per day. Two smaller meals or snacks may also be eaten, sufficient to maintain one's strength, but together they should not equal the one full meal. No food may be taken between meals; but liquids, including milk and juice, may be taken between meals. Expectant mothers and the sick are not bound to fast. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. In the current regulations, fasting is always accompanied by abstinence from meat. That is, both of the obligatory fasting days (Ash Wednesday and Good Friday) are also days of abstinence from meat. "Self-imposed observance of fasting on all weekdays of Lent is strongly recommended." (NCCB, November 18, 1966). Fasting on Holy Saturday is specifically recommended by the Church (currently).

#### What Is Abstinence?

Abstinence from meat means that no meat (the flesh and organs of mammals and fowl), meat gravy, or meat soup may be taken.

#### **Fish Symbols**

The dark fish indicates days of *obligatory* abstinence from meat; the shaded fish indicates days of *obligatory* abstinence from meat or *obligatory* substitution of some other sacrifice (see explanation above); the unshaded fish indicates days of *recommended* (formerly obligatory) abstinence from meat.

#### Former Penitential Observances

This calendar also marks the "Ember Days," that is, the Wednesday, Friday and Saturday of four weeks during the year. Ember Fridays were formerly days of fasting and abstinence; Ember Wednesdays and Saturdays were formerly days of fast and *partial* abstinence (meat permitted only at the main meal). Days on which fasting and partial abstinence were formerly required are indicated by an unshaded half-fish <. The Ember days, of ancient origin, were days of fasting for the special sanctification of the four seasons and for obtaining God's blessing on the clergy. They occur during the third week of Advent, the first (full) week of Lent, the week after Pentecost, and the third (full) week in September. Fasting and partial abstinence were formerly required also on the weekdays of Lent (Monday through Saturday, with full abstinence on Friday) and on the vigil of (day before) Pentecost. Holy Saturday and the vigils of the Immaculate Conception and Christmas (December 24 or 23: a choice was permitted) were formerly days of fasting and of complete abstinence from meat (except when the vigil fell on Sunday).

It is praiseworthy to continue the former penitential observances, even though they are no longer obligatory. Penance serves to rectify our selfcenteredness, to make up for sins (our own and those of others), to strengthen our wills and to guide us in the steps of our Saviour. It can be a very pure form of love for God, and can be offered up for the conversion of sinners and the relief of the souls in Purgatory.

Notes: Abstinence from meat was formerly binding from age 7; parents who voluntarily maintain this discipline in their families are to be highly commended. Moreover, the new Code of Canon Law states that "pastors and parents are to see to it that minors who are not bound by the law of fast and abstinence are educated in an authentic sense of penance." (Canon 1252). Fasting was formerly binding from age 21.

UNSEEN ANGELS GLITTER

like stars in hidden realms.

—St. Gregory the Great



# Month of the Holy Name

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