the LIFE of OUR LORD 2025 CALENDAR



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January

The Baptism of Christ, Bartolome Esteban Murillo. 1655, oil on canvas, Gemäldegalerie, Berlin / Restored Traditions.

February

Presentation in the Temple, Sebastien Bourdon (1616-1671). 1644, oil on canvas, Louvre Museum, Paris / Restored Traditions.

March

St. Veronica's Veil, Philippe de Champaigne (1602-74). 1640, oil on canvas, Royal Pavilion, Brighton & Hove / Bridgeman Images.

April

The Incredulity of St. Thomas, 1823 (oil on canvas), Navez, Francois Joseph (1787-1869) / Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, USA / Museum purchase funded by the Agnes Cullen Arnold Endowment Fund / Bridgeman Images.

May

Ascension of Christ, Jean-Baptiste Jouvenet (1644-1717). Painting / Restored Traditions.

June

The Sermon on the Mount, Carl Bloch (1834-1890). 1877, oil on copper, The Museum of National History, Denmark / Restored Traditions.

Tuly

Christ Healing the Paralytic at the Pool at Bethesda, Bartolome Esteban Murillo (1617-1682). 1667, oil on canvas, National Gallery, London / Wikimedia Commons. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Curacion_del_paralitico_Murillo_1670.jpg

August

Jesus Walks on Water, Ivan Konstantinovich Aivazovsky (1817-1900). 1863, oil on canvas, Private Collection. Photo © Fine Art Images / Bridgeman Images.

September

Christ in the House of Martha and Mary, Johannes Vermeer (1632-1675). 1654, oil on canvas, National Galleries Scotland / Wikimedia Commons. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Johannes_(Jan)_Vermeer_-_Christ_in_the_House_of_Martha_and_Mary_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg

October

The Holy Family, Charles Le Brun (1619-1690). Louvre Museum, Paris / Restored Traditions.

November

Light of the World, William Holman Hunt (1827-1910). 1851, oil on canvas, Keble College, Oxford. By Kind Permission of the Warden, Fellows, and Scholars of Keble College, Oxford / Bridgeman Images.

December

The Adoration of the Magi, Matthias Stom (1615-1649). 1630s, oil on canvas, Nationalmuseum, Stockholm / Wikimedia Commons. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Adoration_of_the_Magi_(Matthias_Stom) _-_Nationalmuseum_-_18796.tif

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 self-centeredness, 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.



SUNDAY The Holy Trinity	MONDAY The Holy Angels	TUESDAY The Apostles	WEDNESDAY Saint Joseph	THURSDAY Holy Eucharist	FRIDAY The Passion	SATURDAY Our Lady
December 2024 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February 2025 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	31	New Year's Day Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Mother of God, New Octave Day of the Nativity,	St. Basil the Great 379, New St. Gregory Nazianzen 389, New	The Most Holy Name of Jesus, New	4
Epiphany of the Lord New	6	7	New, Trad.	St. Macarius the Younger 394, Hist.	St. Genevieve 389, Hist.	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton 1821, New
The Most Holy Name of Jesus, Trad. St. John N. Neumann 1860, New St. Telephorus 136, Trad. The Holy Family Trad.	St. André Bessette 1937, New Epiphany of the Lord Trad. Sts. Caspar, Balthasar & Melchior 1st C., Hist. St. Raphaela Mary 1925, Hist.	St. Raymond of Peñafort 1275, New St. Lucian of Antioch 312, Hist.	St. Apollinaris the Apologist 175, Hist. St. Severin of Noricum 480, Hist.	St. Adrian of Canterbury 710, Hist. Sts. Julian & Basilissa 304, Hist.	St. William of Bourges 1209, Hist. St. Nicanor 76, Hist. St. John Camillus Bonus 660, Hist.	St. Hyginus 142, <i>Trad.</i> St. Paulinus 804, <i>Hist.</i> St. Theodosius 529, <i>Hist.</i>
The Baptism of the Lord New St. Marguerite Bourgeoys 1700, New/some places St. Arcadius 304, Hist. St. Benedict Biscup 690, Hist. 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time New 2nd Sunday after Epiphany Trad.	King Jr. Day	St. Felix of Nola 260, <i>Trad.</i> St. Sava 1235, <i>Hist.</i>	St. Paul the First Hermit 342, <i>Trad.</i> St. Maurus 580, <i>Trad.</i> Our Lady of Prompt Succor <i>Trad./some places</i> St. Ita 570, <i>Hist.</i> Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children	23	St. Antony the Abbot 356, New, Trad. 24	St. Prisca 270, <i>Trad.</i> St. Volusian 496, <i>Hist.</i>
Sts. Marius, Martha, Audifax & Abachum 270, <i>Trad.</i> St. Canute 1086, <i>Trad.</i> St. Wulstan 1095, <i>Hist.</i> 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time New 3rd Sunday after Epiphany <i>Trad.</i>) /	St. Agnes 304, New, Trad.	St. Vincent of Saragossa 304, <i>Trad.</i> St. Anastasius 628, <i>Trad.</i>	St. Vincent of Saragossa 304, New St. Marianne Cope 1918, New St. Raymond of Peñafort 1275, Trad. St. Emerentiana 304, Trad. Espousals of the Blessed Virgin Mary 1 B.C., Hist.	St. Francis de Sales 1622, New St. Timothy 97, Trad.	Conversion of St. Paul 36, New, Trad.
Sts. Timothy 97, & Titus 96, New St. Polycarp 166, Trad. St. Paula 404, Hist.	St. Angela Merici 1540, New; Trad./some places St. John Chrysostom 407, Trad.	St. Thomas Aquinas 1274, New St. Peter Nolasco 1256, Trad. Second Feast of St. Agnes 304, Trad.	St. Francis de Sales 1622, <i>Trad</i> . St. Gildas the Wise 570, <i>Hist</i> .	St. Martina 228, <i>Trad.</i> St. Bathildis 680, <i>Hist.</i>	St. John Bosco 1888, New, Trad.	