

2008
LITURGICAL DATES
DIOCESE OF NEW ULM

YEAR A: Sunday Cycle

YEAR 2: Weekday Cycle

First Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2007

Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2007 *Holy Day of Obligation*

Nativity of the Lord, December 25, 2007 Holy Day of Obligation

Mary, Mother of God, Jan. 1, 2008 *Principal Patroness of the Diocese of New Ulm, Holy Day of Obligation*

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins Friday, January 18, 2008

Ash Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion, February 10, 2008

Chrism Mass, March 13, 2008

Day of Prayer for the General Needs of Humankind, March 15, 2008

Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008

Day of Prayer for the Harvests and Fruits of the Earth, April 25, 2008

Day of Prayer for Human Rights and Equality, May 1, 2008

The Ascension of the Lord, Sunday May 4, 2008

Pentecost Sunday, May 11, 2008

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, May 25, 2008

Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination of John Clayton Nienstedt, July 9 (1996)

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: August 15, 2008 Holy Day of Obligation

All Saints Day, November 1 2008: Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year

All Souls Day, November 2, 2008: *Readings chosen from no. 668*

First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2008

January 22, 2008 shall be observed as a particular day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person. Readings may be chosen from the Ritual Masses II: For Public Needs, The Mass of Peace and Justice, nos. 887-891.

The solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of Mary, March 19, 2008 and the solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, March 25, 2008 are transferred this year to March 15 and March 31 respectively.

Time of the Easter Vigil: On March 22, 2008, **the Easter Vigil should not begin before 8:15 p.m.** With its emphasis on vigil and light," the entire celebration of the Easter Vigil takes place at night. It should not begin before nightfall; it should end before daybreak on Sunday" (*Sacramentary, "The Easter Vigil"#3*). Sunset on March 22, 2008 is 7:33 p.m. in New Ulm; nightfall occurs 45 minutes later. Thus, 8:15 p.m. is the earliest appropriate time for scheduling the Easter Vigil on March 22, 2008.

Saturday evening anticipation Masses can not be celebrated before 4:00 p.m.

Other important dates in the Diocese of New Ulm include the Diocesan Festival June 22, 2008 and the Closing Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Diocese November 16, 2008.

A Funeral Mass is not permitted on solemnities of obligation, Holy Thursday, the Triduum, and on the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and the Easter Season. See the introduction to the *Rite of Marriage*, no. 11, for guidance on the choice of readings and Mass for Weddings.

For the complete list of liturgical dates, please consult the *Order of Prayer in the Liturgy of the Hours and Celebration of the Eucharist*, 2008 (Ordo). To order call 1-800-652-9767.