

HOLY FEAST DAY BATMAN! WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

What is a Holy Day of Obligation?

A holy day of obligation is a day when the faithful are obliged to attend Mass.

What are the Holy Days of Obligation in the United States?

Jan 1 Mary, Mother of God*
Aug 15 Solemnity of the Assumption*
Nov 1 Solemnity of All Saints*
Dec 8 The Immaculate Conception**
Dec 25 The Nativity of the Lord.

* If 1/1, 8/15, or 11/1 fall on a Monday or Friday, the obligation to attend Mass is lifted.

** If 12/8 falls on the 2nd Sunday of Advent, it is moved to 12/9, and the obligation is lifted.

What is a Solemnity?

A Solemnity is the highest ranking liturgical day. On Solemnities, the Gloria and Creed are sung, and there two readings before the Gospel. All Holy Days of Obligation are Solemnities.

What is a Feast?

A Feast is a second ranking liturgical day commemorating major saints, events, or churches. On these days, the Gloria is sung and particular readings are used.

What is a Memorial?

A Memorial is a liturgical day commemorating a lesser saint, event, or church. Some are obligatory, some are optional. There may be a particular Gospel for a memorial.

What is a Feria?

Feria is the Latin word for "weekday," and a feria is a weekday in the liturgical cycle. The readings follow the annual cycle of weekday readings, and a votive Mass may be used instead of the feria Mass at the discretion of the priest.

What Solemnities fall on Sundays?

Epiphany, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, Holy Trinity, Body and Blood of Christ, Christ the King.

What are other annual Solemnities?

Mar 19 St. Joseph
Mar 25 The Annunciation
*** The Sacred Heart of Jesus
Jun 24 Birth of St. John the Baptist
Jun 29 Ss. Peter and Paul

*** The Sacred Heart of Jesus falls on the Friday after the Sunday celebration of Corpus Christi

What Feasts usually fall on Sundays?

Holy Family, and Baptism of the Lord.

What are other annual Feasts?

Jan 25 The Conversion of St. Paul
Feb 2 The Presentation of the Lord
Feb 22 The Chair of St. Peter
Apr 25 St. Mark, Evangelist
May 3 Ss. Philip and James, Apostles
May 14 St. Matthias, Apostle
May 31 Visitation of the BVM
Jul 3 St. Thomas, Apostle
Jul 22 St. Mary Magdalene
Jul 25 St. James, Apostle
Aug 6 Transfiguration of the Lord
Aug 10 St. Lawrence, Deacon
Aug 24 St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Sep 8 Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sep 14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Sep 21 St. Matthew, Apostle/Evangelist
Sep 29 Ss. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael
Oct 18 St. Luke, Evangelist
Oct 28 Ss. Simon and Jude, Apostles
Nov 9 Dedication of Lateran Basilica
Nov 30 St. Andrew, Apostle
Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe
Dec 26 St. Stephen, 1st Martyr/Deacon
Dec 27 St. John, Apostle/Evangelist
Dec 28 Holy Innocents



January	25 ST MARK, EVANGELIST Feast	26 Sts Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial	7 Our Lady of the Rosary Memorial
1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD	28 St Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest	29 St Martha Memorial	9 St Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; St John Leonardi, Priest
2 Sts Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church	29 St Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church	30 St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	14 St Callistus I, Pope and Martyr
3 The Most Holy Name of Jesus*	30 St Pius V, Pope Memorial	31 St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest Memorial	15 St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Memorial
4 [USA] St Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious Memorial	May	August	16 St Hedwig, Religious; St Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin
5 [USA] St John Neumann, Bishop Memorial	1 St Joseph the Worker	1 St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Memorial	17 St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr Memorial
6 [USA] St André Bessette, Religious	2 St Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Memorial	2 St Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop; St Peter Julian Eymard, Priest	18 ST LUKE, EVANGELIST Feast
7 St Raymond of Penyafort, Priest	3 STS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES Feast	4 St John Vianney, Priest Memorial	19 [USA] Sts John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs Memorial
13 St Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	10 [USA] St Damien de Veuster, Priest	5 The Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major	23 St John of Capistrano, Priest
17 St Anthony, Abbot Memorial	12 Sts Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs St Pancras, Martyr	6 THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD Feast	24 St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop
20 St Fabian, Pope and Martyr, St Sebastian, Martyr	13 Our Lady of Fatima	7 St Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; St Cajetan, Priest	28 STS SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES Feast
21 St Agnes, Virgin and Martyr Memorial	14 ST MATTHIAS, APOSTLE Feast	8 St Dominic, Priest Memorial	20 [USA] St Paul of the Cross, Priest
22 [USA] Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children	15 [USA] St Isidore	9 St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr	November
23 [USA] St Vincent, Deacon and Martyr	18 St John I, Pope and Martyr	10 ST LAWRENCE, DEACON AND MARTYR Feast	1 ALL SAINTS Solemnity
24 St Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Memorial	20 St Bernardine of Siena, Priest	11 St. Clair, Virgin Memorial	2 THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS' DAY)
25 THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE Feast	21 St Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs	12 St Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious	3 St Martin de Porres, Religious
26 Sts Timothy and Titus, Bishops Memorial	22 St Rita of Cascia, Religious	13 Sts Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs	4 St Charles Borromeo, Bishop Memorial
27 St Angela Merici, Virgin	25 St Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church; St Gregory VII, Pope; St Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi, Virgin	14 St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest and Martyr Memorial	9 THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA Feast
28 St Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church Memorial	26 St Philip Neri, Priest Memorial	15 THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Solemnity	10 St Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church Memorial
31 St John Bosco, Priest Memorial	27 St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop	16 St Stephen of Hungary	11 St Martin of Tours, Bishop Memorial
February	31 THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Feast	19 St John Eudes, Priest	12 St Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr Memorial
2 THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD Feast	June	20 St Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church Memorial	13 [USA] St Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin Memorial
3 St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St Ansgar, Bishop	1 St Justin, Martyr Memorial	21 St Pius X, Pope Memorial	15 St Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
5 St Agatha, Virgin and Martyr Memorial	2 Sts Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs	22 The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial	16 St Margaret of Scotland; St Gertrude, Virgin
6 St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs Memorial	3 St Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs Memorial	23 St Rose of Lima, Virgin	17 St Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious Memorial
8 St Jerome Emiliani; St Josephine Bakhita, Virgin	5 St Boniface, Bishop and Martyr Memorial	24 ST BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE Feast	18 Dedication of Basilica of Sts Peter & Paul, Apostles; [USA] St Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin
10 St Scholastica, Virgin Memorial	6 St Norbert, Bishop	25 St Louis; St Joseph Calasanz, Priest	21 The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial
11 Our Lady of Lourdes	9 St Ephrem, Deacon and Doctor of the Church	27 St Monica Memorial	22 St Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr Memorial
14 Sts Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop Memorial	13 St Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church Memorial	28 St Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Memorial	23 St Clement I, Pope and Martyr; St Columban, Abbot; [USA] Bl Miguel Agustín Pro, Priest and Martyr
17 The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order	19 St Romuald, Abbot	29 The Passion of St John the Baptist Memorial	24 St Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs Memorial
21 St Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	21 St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious Memorial	September	25 St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr
22 THE CHAIR OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE Feast	22 St Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; Sts John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs	3 St Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church Memorial	30 ST ANDREW, APOSTLE
23 St Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr Memorial	24 THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST Solemnity	8 THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Feast	December
March	27 St Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	9 [USA] St Peter Claver, Priest Memorial	3 St Francis Xavier, Priest Memorial
3 [USA] St Katharine Drexel, Virgin	28 St Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr Memorial	12 The Most Holy Name of Mary	4 St John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
4 St Casimir	29 STS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES Solemnity	13 St John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Memorial	6 St Nicholas, Bishop
7 Sts Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs Memorial	30 The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church	14 THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS Feast	7 St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Memorial
8 St John of God, Religious	July	15 Our Lady of Sorrows Memorial	8 [USA] THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Solemnity
9 St Frances of Rome, Religious	1 [USA] Bl Junipero Serra, Priest	16 Sts Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs Memorial	9 St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
17 St Patrick, Bishop	3 ST THOMAS, APOSTLE Feast	17 St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	11 St Damasus I, Pope
18 St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	4 [USA] Independence Day	19 St Januarius, Bishop and Martyr	12 [USA] OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Feast
19 ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Solemnity	5 St Anthony Zaccaria, Priest; [USA] St Elizabeth of Portugal	20 Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Priest, Paul Chông Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs Memorial	13 St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr Memorial
23 St Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop	6 St Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr	21 ST MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST Feast	14 St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church Memorial
25 THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD Solemnity	9 St Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs	23 St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest Memorial	21 St Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
April	11 St Benedict, Abbot Memorial	26 Sts Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs	23 St John of Kanty, Priest
2 St Francis of Paola, Hermit	13 St Henry	27 St Vincent de Paul, Priest Memorial	25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS) Solemnity
4 St Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	14 [USA] Bl Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin Memorial	28 St Wenceslaus, Martyr; St Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs	26 ST STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR Feast
5 St Vincent Ferrer, Priest	15 St Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Memorial	29 STS MICHAEL, GABRIEL AND RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS Feast	27 ST JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST Feast
7 St John Baptist de la Salle, Priest Memorial	16 Our Lady of Mount Carmel	30 St Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church Memorial	28 THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS Feast
11 St Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr Memorial	18 [USA] St Camillus de Lellis, Priest	October	31 St Sylvester I, Pope
13 St Martin I, Pope and Martyr	20 St Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr	1 St Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Memorial	
21 St Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	21 St Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church	2 The Holy Guardian Angels Memorial	
23 St George, Martyr; St Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr	22 St Mary Magdalene Memorial	4 St Francis of Assisi Memorial	
24 St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr	23 St Bridget, Religious	6 St Bruno, Priest, [USA] Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin	