



**APOSTOLIC VICARIATE OF NORTHERN ARABIA**  
**LITURGICAL CALENDAR**  
**2017 - 2018**



## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**2017 - 2018**

*The Holy Eucharist is the summit, both of the action by which God sanctifies the world in Christ and of the worship that the human race offers to the Father, adoring Him through Christ, the Son of God, in the Holy Spirit.*  
**(General Instruction of the Roman Missal)**



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| December  | ..... 6  | June      | ..... 18 |
| January   | ..... 8  | July      | ..... 20 |
| February  | ..... 10 | August    | ..... 22 |
| March   | ..... 12 | September | ..... 24 |
| April   | ..... 14 | October   | ..... 26 |
| May   | ..... 16 | November  | ..... 28 |
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## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

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**1. THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR IS MEANT TO SUPPLEMENT THE LITURGICAL ORDO THAT IS USED IN THE PARISHES OF OUR VICARIATE (AVONA), FOR CONSULTATION ON OBLIGATORY CELEBRATIONS AND THOSE PROPER TO THE VICARIATE.**

**2. ON FRIDAYS (MORNING AND EVENING) AND SATURDAYS (EVENING ONLY), MASS IS THAT OF THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED IN THE CALENDAR.**

**3. WHERE APPLICABLE, ON SATURDAY MORNING, MASS OF THE DAY IS CELEBRATED.**

**4. FOR REGULATIONS CONCERNING FAST AND ABSTINENCE, HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATIONS, ETC, SEE PAGES 30 AND 31.**

**5. THE MONTHLY DEDICATION AND PAPAL PRAYER INTENTIONS HAVE BEEN ADDED AS AN AID TO PERSONAL PRAYER.**

**6. THE APPENDICES IN THE BOOKLET ARE MEANT FOR YOUR REFERENCE ONLY.**



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## UNIVERSAL CHURCH CELEBRATIONS - 2018

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Below is a list of commemorative days observed in the Universal Church to raise awareness of a particular issue, commemorate an event, or celebrate something.

Please follow the links for more information about the event.

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Jan 1          | <a href="#">World Day of Peace</a>                                     |
| Jan14          | <a href="#">104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees</a>               |
| Jan18 – Jan 25 | <a href="#">Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</a>                     |
| Feb 2          | <a href="#">World Day for Consecrated Life</a>                         |
| Feb 11         | <a href="#">26th World Day of the Sick / World Marriage Day</a>        |
| Mar 25         | <a href="#">33rd World Youth Day (Diocesan Level)</a>                  |
| April 22       | <a href="#">55th World Day of Prayer for Vocations</a>                 |
| May 13         | <a href="#">52nd World Communications Day</a>                          |
| June 8         | <a href="#">World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests</a>  |
| July 8         | <a href="#">Sea Sunday</a>   |
| Aug 22-26      | <a href="#">9th World Meeting of Families</a>                          |
| Sept 1         | <a href="#">World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation</a>           |
| October        | <a href="#">15th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops</a> |
| Oct 21         | <a href="#">World Mission Sunday</a>                                   |
| Nov 18         | <a href="#">2nd World Day of the Poor</a>                              |



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## THE LITURGICAL YEAR

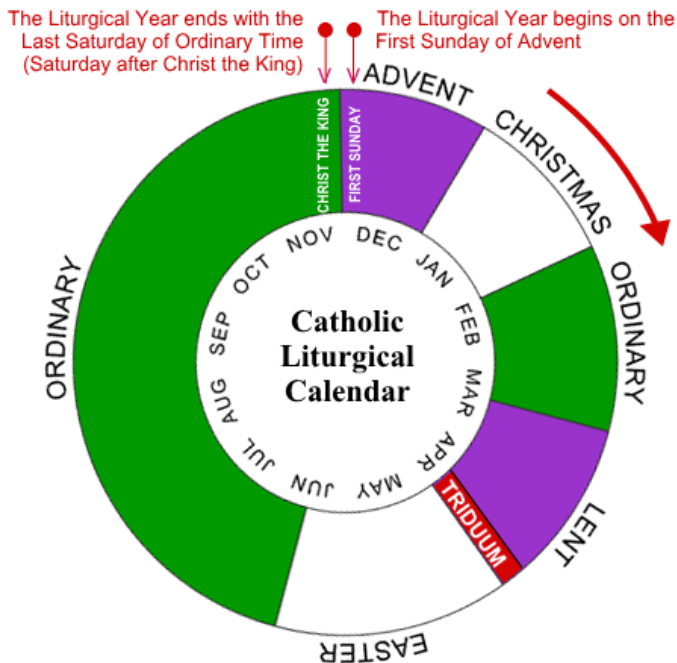
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The Liturgical Year is the year-long unfolding of the whole “mystery of Christ”, made special by the Seasons (cycles of celebration) during the year. The Church through her public worship recalls and celebrates these mysteries, dispensing to her members the treasure of Christ’s merits, so that these are made present at all times.

The Liturgical Year begins on the first Sunday of Advent, which usually occurs around the end of November/ beginning of December and runs through to the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe.

### GRAPHIC REPRESENTATION OF THE LITURGICAL YEAR





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## PRINCIPAL CELEBRATIONS OF THE LITURGICAL YEAR 2017 - 2018

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|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| First Sunday of Advent                 | December 3, 2017   |
| Ash Wednesday                          | February 14, 2018  |
| Easter Sunday                          | April 1, 2018      |
| Ascension of the Lord                  | May 13, 2018       |
| Pentecost Sunday                       | May 20, 2018       |
| The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ | June 3, 2018       |
| Jesus Christ King of the Universe      | November 25 , 2018 |

### CYCLES — LECTIONARY FOR MASS

|               |          |
|---------------|----------|
| Sunday Cycle  | YEAR B   |
| Weekday Cycle | CYCLE II |

### LITURGICAL COLORS — SEASONS OF THE YEAR

|   |                                     |                          |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|   | White - Purity, Joy, Triumph, Glory | Christmas, Easter        |
|  | Red - God's Love, Martyrdom         | Triduum                  |
|  | Green - Life, Eternal Hope          | Ordinary Time            |
|  | Violet - Penance, Humility          | Advent, Lent             |
|  | Rose - Joy, Anticipation            | Gaudete / Laetare Sunday |

In Year "B", the Church meditates on the Gospels of St. Mark and St. John. Mark's account is unique in many ways. It is the shortest and seems to be the earliest. He begins his account with Jesus' public ministry and the mission of John the Baptist. Three major themes appear in Mark's Gospel: the identity of Jesus, the nature of the kingdom of God and the characteristics of genuine discipleship.

  
**DECEMBER 2017**  


|                 |            |   |
|-----------------|------------|---|
| <b>Saturday</b> |            | <i>Vesp I, 1<sup>st</sup> Sun of Adv., Psalter Wk 1 Divine Office Vol I / */**</i>  |
| <b>3</b>        | <b>Sun</b> | <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / * / **</b>  |
| <b>4</b>        | <b>Mon</b> | St. John Damascene, <i>memorial</i>   |
| <b>7</b>        | <b>Thu</b> | St. Ambrose, <i>memorial</i>  |
| <b>8</b>        | <b>Fri</b> | <b>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, Solemnity</b>   |
| <b>9</b>        | <b>Sat</b> | <i>Vespers I of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Psalter Week 2</i>   |
| <b>10</b>       | <b>Sun</b> | <b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>  |
| <b>11</b>       | <b>Mon</b> | St. Damasus I, Pope, <i>memorial</i>  |
| <b>12</b>       | <b>Tue</b> | Our Lady of Guadalupe, <i>memorial</i>  |
| <b>13</b>       | <b>Wed</b> | St. Lucy, <i>memorial</i>   |
| <b>14</b>       | <b>Thu</b> | St. John of the Cross, <i>memorial</i>  |
| <b>17</b>       | <b>Sun</b> | <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Psalter Week 3</b>   |
| <b>21</b>       | <b>Thu</b> | St. John de Matha, <i>memorial</i>  |
| <b>23</b>       | <b>Sat</b> | <i>Vespers I of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, Psalter Week 4</i>   |
| <b>24</b>       | <b>Sun</b> | <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>  |
| <b>25</b>       | <b>Mon</b> | <b>CHRISTMAS, Solemnity, Holy Day of Obligation</b>   |
| <b>26</b>       | <b>Tue</b> | St. Stephen, Protomartyr, <i>feast</i>  |
| <b>27</b>       | <b>Wed</b> | <b>St. John, Apostle and Evangelist, feast</b>  |
| <b>28</b>       | <b>Thu</b> | Holy Innocents, Martyrs, <i>feast</i>   |
| <b>30</b>       | <b>Sat</b> | <i>Vespers I of tomorrow's feast</i>  |
| <b>31</b>       | <b>Sun</b> | <b>THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH, feast</b><br><i>Titular Feast of the Holy Family Cathedral, Kuwait City</i> |

\* *Apostles' Creed is said.* \*\* Year "B". Lectionary Year II.

**DECEMBER IS DEDICATED TO: The Immaculate Conception.**

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2017**

**THE ELDERLY:** That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.



## **DECEMBER 2017: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Is 63: 16-17. 19b; 64: 2-7/ Ps 80: 2-3. 15-16. 18-19/ 1 Cor 1: 3-9/ Mk 13: 33-37**

The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. Our faithfulness to God at all times shows our readiness for His coming.

### **THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Gn 3: 9-15. 20/ Ps 98: 1. 2-3ab. 3cd-4/ Eph 1: 3-6. 11-12/ Lk 1: 26-38**

God preserved Mary from the stain of original sin from the moment of her conception. Thus, Mary was the first to receive the benefit of the redemption that her Son would merit for all.

### **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Gn 3: 9-15. 20/ Ps 98: 1. 2-3ab. 3cd-4/ Eph 1: 3-6. 11-12/ Lk 1: 26-38**

John the Baptist preached repentance and baptized the people, in preparation for the One who would baptize with the Holy Spirit. Like John, we too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord.

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: GAUDETE (REJOICE!) SUNDAY**

**Is 61: 1-2a. 10-11/ Lk 1: 46-48. 49-50. 53-54/ 1 Thes 5: 16-24/ Jn 1: 6-8. 19-28**

John announces that Jesus has already come into the world as our Saviour. The joyful theme echoes in today's readings. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**2 Sm 7: 1-5. 8-12. 14. 16/ Ps 89: 2-3. 4-5. 27. 29/ Rom 16: 25-27/ Lk 1: 26-38**

Both John and Mary serve well for our reflection during Advent; Like John, Mary, already full of God's grace, was able to cooperate in God's great plan of salvation. Thus, God's Son would be born fully human and also fully divine.

### **CHRISTMAS**

**Is 52: 7-10/ Ps 98: 1. 2-3. 3-4. 5-6 (3c)/ Heb 1: 1-6/Jn 1: 1-18**

Today a great light has shone down upon the earth. God has spoken to us through His Son. The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.

### **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

**Gn 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3/ Ps 105: 1-2. 3-6. 8-9 (7a. 8a)/ Col 3: 12-21/ Lk 2: 22-40**

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him.

  
**JANUARY 2018**  


|    |     |  |
|----|-----|--|
| 1  | Mon | <b>MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, Solemnity.</b> <i>World Day of Peace</i>       |
| 2  | Tue | SS. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzus, <i>memorial -Psalter Wk 1</i> |
| 3  | Wed | The Most Holy Name of Jesus, <i>memorial</i>                           |
| 7  | Sun | <b>EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, Solemnity / Collect. for Holy Childhood</b>   |
| 8  | Mon | Baptism of the Lord, <i>feast</i>                                      |
| 9  | Tue | <i>Ordinary Time of the Year, 1<sup>st</sup> Week, Psalter Week 1</i>  |
| 12 | Fri | <b>OUR LADY OF ARABIA, Patroness of our Vicariate, Solemnity *</b>     |
| 13 | Sat | <b>OUR LADY OF ARABIA, Patroness of our Vicariate, Solemnity *</b>     |
| 14 | Sun | <b>OUR LADY OF ARABIA, Patroness of our Vicariate, Solemnity *</b>     |
| 15 | Mon | <i>Ordinary Time of the Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> Week, Psalter Week II</i> |
| 17 | Wed | St. Anthony, Abbot, <i>memorial</i>                                    |
| 18 | Thu | <b>Christian Unity Week begins</b>                                     |
| 20 | Sat | <i>Vespers I of 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, Psalter Wk 3</i>                |
| 21 | Sun | <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, Psalter Week 3</b>                   |
| 22 | Mon | <b>CLERGY MEETING (22-25 January)</b>                                  |
| 27 | Sat | <i>Vespers I of 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Psalter Wk 4</i>                |
| 28 | Sun | <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, Psalter Week 4</b>                  |
| 29 | Mon | <i>Ordinary Time of the Year, 4th Week, Psalter Week 4</i>             |
| 31 | Wed | St. John Bosco, Priest, <i>memorial</i>                                |

\* *Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed is said.*

**JANUARY IS DEDICATED TO:** The Divine Infancy and The Holy Name of Jesus.

**HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 2018**

**EVANGELIZATION: *Religious Minorities in Asia***

That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practise their faith in full freedom.

The Holy Father’s monthly intentions for this Year 2018 alternate between evangelization / universal intentions.

For more information, visit: [WWW.APOSTLESHIPOFPRAYER.ORG](http://WWW.APOSTLESHIPOFPRAYER.ORG)

## **JANUARY 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

**Nm 6: 22-27/ Ps 67: 2-3. 5. 6. 8 (2a)/ Gal 4: 4-7/ Lk 2: 16-21**

God took flesh by being born of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We, by adoption, are children of the same Father as Christ is, and equally share the same mother. Mary presents herself as the perfect disciple and model of motherhood by being obedient and fulfilling all that she was told to do.

### **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

**Is 60: 1-6/ Ps 72: 1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13/ Eph 3: 2-3a. 5-6/ Mt 2: 1-12**

It has now been revealed that pagans share the same inheritance. The Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. In the adoration of the Magi can be seen the beginnings of Christian faith.

### **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**Is 55: 1-11 or 1 Jn 5: 1-9/ Is 12: 2-3. 4bcd. 5-6 (3)/ Mk 1: 7-11**

God appears in three Persons at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan. Jesus' baptism is a preparation for our own Baptism. At our Baptism the Trinity takes abode in our soul; we become the adopted sons of God and heaven is opened to us.

### **SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA**

**Zeph 3: 14-18/ Is 12: 2-6/ Gal 4: 4-7/ Lk 1: 39-56**

"Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel! He has visited His people and redeemed them; He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, as He had promised to our fathers by the lips of His holy prophets." (Entrance Antiphon)

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Jon 3: 1-5. 10/ Ps 25: 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 (4a)/ 1 Cor 7: 29-31/ Mk 1: 14-20**

"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Dt 18: 15-20/ Ps 95: 1-2. 6-7. 7-9 (8)/ 1 Cor 7: 32-35/ Mk 1: 21-28**

The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching, for He taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.



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## FEBRUARY 2018

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|    |     |   |
|----|-----|---|
| 1  | Thu | Presentation of the Lord, <i>feast, World Day of Consecrated Life</i> |
| 3  | Sat | <i>Vesp 1 of the 5<sup>th</sup> Sun., Psalter Wk 1</i>                |
| 4  | Sun | <b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, <i>Psalter Week 1</i></b>           |
| 5  | Mon | St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr, <i>memorial</i>                        |
| 6  | Tue | SS. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs, <i>memorial, Fifth Week</i>    |
| 8  | Thu | <b>St. Josephine Bakhita, Sudanese, Patroness of the migrants</b>     |
| 10 | Sat | St. Scholastica, Virgin, <i>memorial</i>                              |
| 11 | Sun | <b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, <i>Psalter Week 2</i></b>           |
| 12 | Mon | <i>Ordinary Time of the Year, 6th Week, Psalter Week 2</i>            |
| 14 | Wed | <b>Ash Wednesday, <i>Psalter Week 4 / * /</i></b>                     |
| 17 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent, Psalter Week 1</i> |
| 18 | Sun | <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, <i>Psalter Week 1</i></b>                    |
| 22 | Thu | Chair of St. Peter, the Apostle, <i>feast</i>                         |
| 24 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent, Psalter Week 2</i> |
| 25 | Sun | <b>SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, <i>Psalter Week 2</i></b>                   |
| 28 | Wed | <i>Retirement of Pope Benedict XVI</i>                                |

\* *Apostles' Creed is said.*

**FEBRUARY IS DEDICATED TO: The Holy Family and The Holy Trinity.**

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2018**

**UNIVERSAL: *Say "No" to Corruption***

**That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.**

## **FEBRUARY 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

**Mal 3: 1-4/ Ps 24: 7. 8. 9. 10/ Heb 2: 14-18/ Lk 2: 22-40**

Simeon exclaimed, "My eyes have seen Your salvation, which You prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for Your people Israel."

### **FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Jb 7: 1-4. 6-7/ Ps 147: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/ 1 Cor 9: 16-19. 22-23/ Mk 1: 29-39**

Jesus' compassion and preaching, curing the sick and driving out demons, is a sign of the Kingdom of God.

### **SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Lv 13: 1-2. 44-46/ Ps 32: 1-2. 5. 11 (7)/ 1 Cor 10: 31 – 11: 1/ Mk 1: 40-45**

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited His people. He took our sicknesses away, and carried our diseases for us. He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

**Jl 2: 12-18/ Ps 51: 3-4. 5-6ab. 12-13. 14. 17/ 2 Cor 5: 20--6:2/ Mt 6: 1-6.16-18**

Be reconciled to God... now is the favourable time. Jesus said to His disciples: "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; and your Father, who sees all that is done in secret, will reward you."

### **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Gn 9: 8-15/ Ps 25: 4-5. 6-7. 8-9/ 1 Pt 3: 18-22/ Mk 1: 12-15**

Immediately after His baptism Jesus went into the desert for forty days. The desert marks the beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all by His death on the cross.

### **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Gn 22:1-2.9.10-13. 15-18/Ps 116: 10.15.16-17.18-19/Rom 8: 31-34/Mk 9:2-10**

Jesus was transfigured and His clothes became dazzling white. From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to Him."

  
**MARCH 2018**  


|    |     |  |
|----|-----|--|
| 3  | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent, Psalter Week 3</i>        |
| 4  | Sun | <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, Psalter Week 3</b>                                  |
| 7  | Wed | <i>SS. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs, memorial</i>                          |
| 10 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Psalter Week 4</i>        |
| 11 | Sun | <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, Psalter Week 4</b>                                 |
| 13 | Tue | <i>5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Election of Pope Francis</i>            |
| 17 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Psalter Week 1</i>        |
| 18 | Sun | <b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT, Psalter Week 1. Vespers 2 of the 5<sup>th</sup></b> |
| 19 | Mon | <b>St. JOSEPH, solemnity. Vespers 2 of the solemnity</b>                     |
| 24 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of Palm Sunday, Psalter Week 2</i>                              |
| 25 | Sun | <b>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Psalter Week 2</b>                |
| 26 | Mon | <i>Monday of the Holy Week</i>   |
| 27 | Tue | <i>Tuesday of the Holy Week. <b>Chrism Mass in Kuwait</b></i>                |
| 28 | Wed | <i>Wednesday of the Holy Week</i>  |
| 29 | Thu | <b>Holy Thursday</b>   |
| 30 | Fri | <b>Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord *</b>                              |
| 31 | Sat | <b>Holy Saturday</b>   |

- *Collection of Good Friday is for the Holy Land*

**MARCH IS DEDICATED TO: Saint Joseph - Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Foster Father of Jesus.**

**HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MARCH 2018**

**EVANGELIZATION: *Formation in Spiritual Discernment***

**That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.**

## **MARCH 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Ex 20: 1-17/ Ps 19: 8. 9. 10. 11/ 1 Cor 1: 22-25/ Jn 2: 13-25**

Jesus is the Temple that will be destroyed, but in three days God will raise Him up again. The Christian understanding of worship was transformed in light of Jesus' Resurrection.

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT: LAETARE (REJOICE!) SUNDAY**

**2 Chr 36: 14-16. 19-23/ Ps 137: 1-2. 3. 4-5. 6 (6ab)/ Eph 2: 4-10/ Jn 3:14-21**

We rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter. God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life.

### **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Jer 31: 31-34/ Ps 51: 3-4. 12-13. 14-15 (12a)/ Heb 5: 7-9/ Jn 12: 20-33**

Jesus predicts His suffering, death and resurrection and prepares His disciples to believe in the salvation that His death would accomplish. Anyone who would be Jesus' disciples must follow His example of sacrifice.

### **SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH**

**2 Sm 7: 4-5a. 12-14a. 16/ Ps 89: 2-3. 4-5. 27 and 29/ Rom 4: 13. 16-18. 22/ Mt 1: 16. 18-21. 24a or Lk 2: 41-51a**

St. Matthew presents the familiar account of the tradesman Joseph and his marriage to a young girl and the Angel's command to him in a dream.

### **PALM SUNDAY**

**Procession: Mk 11: 1-10 or Jn 12: 12-16. Mass: Is 50: 4-7/ Ps 22: 8-9. 17-18. 19-20. 23-24/ Phil 2: 6-11/ Mk 14: 1 – 15: 47 or Mk 15:1-39**

Jesus, in His obedient suffering and dying, reveals Himself to us as God's Son. Like the Roman centurion can we recognize Jesus, the Son of God, who loves us and is with us always?

### **PASCHAL TRIDUUM**

Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are:

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord



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## APRIL 2018

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|    |     |   |
|----|-----|---|
| 1  | Sun | <b>EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD</b>  |
| 2  | Mon | <i>Liturgy of Hours of the weekday within Easter octave</i>   |
| 3  | Tue | <i>Octave of Easter</i>   |
| 4  | Wed | <i>Octave of Easter</i>   |
| 5  | Thu | <i>Octave of Easter</i>   |
| 7  | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</i>   |
| 8  | Sun | <b>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Divine Mercy Sunday)</b><br><i>Vespers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</i> |
| 9  | Mon | <b>THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD, solemnity</b>  |
| 10 | Tue | <i>Second Week of Easter, Psalter Week 2</i>  |
| 11 | Wed | <i>St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr, memorial</i>  |
| 14 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter, Psalter Week 3</i>                             |
| 15 | Sun | <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER, Psalter Week 3</b>   |
| 21 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Psalter Week 4</i>                                       |
| 22 | Sun | <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, Psalter Week 4</b>  |
| 25 | Wed | <i>St. Mark, Evangelist, feast</i>  |
| 28 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Psalter Week 1</i>                                       |
| 29 | Sun | <b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, Psalter Week 1</b>   |
| 30 | Mon | <i>St. Pius V, Pope, memorial</i>   |

**APRIL IS DEDICATED TO: The Holy Eucharist and The Holy Spirit.**

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL 2018**

**UNIVERSAL: *For Those who have Responsibility in Economic Matters***

**That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths.**



## **APRIL 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **EASTER SUNDAY**

**Acts 10: 34a. 37-43/ Ps 118: 1-2. 16-17. 22-23/ Col 3: 1-4 or 1 Cor 5: 6b-8/ Sequence Victimae Paschali Laudes/ Jn 20: 1-9 or Mk 16: 1-7 or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Lk 24: 13-35**

“The Prince of Life, Who died, reigns immortal. Christ, indeed from death, is risen, our new life obtaining. Let us then feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!” (Easter Sunday, Sequence)

### **SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER [Divine Mercy Sunday]**

**Acts 4: 32-35/ Ps 118: 2-4. 13-15. 22-24/ 1 Jn 5: 1-6/ Jn 20: 19-31**

Jesus greets His disciples with the gift of peace and commissions them to continue the work that He has begun. Thomas gives witness to us that the Jesus Who was raised is the same Jesus Who died.

### **THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

**Is 7: 10-14; 8: 10/ Ps 40: 7-8a. 8b-9. 10. 11/ Heb 10: 4-10/ Lk 1: 26-38**

God chose a human person to give birth to His Son so that all humanity would know God’s salvation. Mary’s faith and obedience to God are traits which permit her to cooperate in this great plan for our salvation.

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Acts 3: 13-15. 17-19/ Ps 4: 2. 4. 7-8. 9 (7a)/ 1 Jn 2: 1-5a/ Lk 24: 35-48**

Jesus greets His disciples with the words, “Peace be with you.” Jesus often connects this greeting of peace with another gift - forgiveness. Like the disciples, we are sent to announce the good news of Jesus’ forgiveness of sins.

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Acts 4: 8-12/ Ps 118: 1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28. 29 (22)/ 1 Jn 3: 1-2/ Jn 10: 11-18**

As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices Himself for the sake of His sheep. This willingness is rooted in the unity that He shares with His Father.

### **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Acts 9: 26-31/ Ps 22: 26-27. 28. 30. 31-32 (26a)/ 1 Jn 3: 18-24/ Jn 15: 1-8**

In His metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus teaches His disciples that He will remain with them always. Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in His name.

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**MAY 2018**  


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|    |     |   |
|----|-----|---|
| 1  | Tue | St. Joseph the Worker, <i>memorial</i>                                  |
| 2  | Wed | St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor, <i>memorial</i>                      |
| 3  | Thu | <b>SS. Philip and James, Apostles, feast</b>                            |
| 5  | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Psalter Week 2</i> |
| 6  | Sun | <b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, Psalter Week 2</b>                           |
| 12 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the Ascension</i>                                       |
| 13 | Sun | <b>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD, solemnity</b>                             |
| 14 | Mon | <b>St. Matthias, Apostle, feast. Seventh Week of Easter. Psalter</b>    |
| 20 | Sun | <b>PENTECOST, solemnity</b>   |
| 21 | Mon | <i>Seventh Week of Ordinary Time. Psalter Week 3</i>                    |
| 22 | Tue | St. Rita of Cascia, <i>memorial</i>                                     |
| 27 | Sun | <b>THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, solemnity</b>                                 |
| 28 | Mon | <i>Eight Week of Ordinary Time. Psalter Week 4</i>                      |
| 31 | Thu | Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, <i>feast</i>                     |

**MAY IS DEDICATED TO: The Blessed Virgin Mary.**

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MAY 2018**

**EVANGELIZATION: *The Mission of the Laity***

**That the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.**

## **MAY 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Acts 10: 25-26. 34-35. 44-48/ Ps 98: 1. 2-3. 3-4/1 Jn 4: 7-10/ Jn 15: 9-17**

Jesus taught that love is the sign of a true disciple and thus, a true Christian. A true disciple shows a particular kind of love, a sacrificial love. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we have received the grace to love others as Jesus has commanded.

### **THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

**Acts 1: 1-11/ Ps 47: 2-3. 6-7. 8-9 (6)/ Eph 4: 1-13/ Mk 16: 15-20**

Jesus' ascension affirms the glory He received from God after His death and Resurrection. Those who believe in Jesus will be empowered to do what Jesus Himself has done. "Go and teach all nations," says the Lord; "I am with you always, until the end of the world."

### **PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**Acts 2: 1-11/ Ps 104: 1. 24. 29-30. 31. 34/ 1 Cor 12: 3b-7. 12-13 or Gal 5: 16-25/ Sequence Veni Creator Spiritus/ Jn 20: 19-23 or Jn 15: 26-27; 16: 12-15**

Pentecost marks the beginning of the Church. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit upon the apostles mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam. The Lord sends forth His Spirit, and the face of the earth is renewed.

### **THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

**Dt 4: 32-34. 39-40/ Ps 33: 4-5. 6. 9. 18-19. 20. 22 (12b)/ Rom 8: 14-17/ Mt 28:16-20**

Jesus commissions His disciples to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. As baptized Christians, we share in the life of the blessed Trinity and seek to invite others to share in God's love.

### **VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Zep 3: 14-18a or Rom 12: 9-16/ Is 12: 2-3. 4bcd. 5-6/ Lk 1: 39-56**

Mary sees a most remarkable thing about God: He is about to change the course of all human history; and yet in all eternity, He chooses two obscure, humble women—one old and barren, the other, young and virginal. She is so moved by this vision of God, the lover of the lowly, that she breaks out in song—a song that has come to be known as the Magnificat.

  
**JUNE 2018**  


|    |     |  |
|----|-----|--|
| 2  | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of Corpus Christi</i>                                 |
| 3  | Sun | <b>CORPUS CHRISTI, solemnity</b>                                   |
| 4  | Mon | <i>Ninth week of Ordinary Time. Psalter Week 1</i>                 |
| 5  | Tue | St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr, <i>memorial</i>                   |
| 6  | Wed | St. Norbert, Bishop, <i>memorial</i>                               |
| 8  | Fri | <b>The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, solemnity</b>                   |
| 9  | Sat | <b>The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, memorial</b>   |
| 10 | Sun | <b>10TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, Psalter Week 2</b>                |
| 11 | Mon | <b>St. Barnabas, Apostle, memorial</b>                             |
| 12 | Tue | <i>10<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time. Psalter Week II</i>      |
| 13 | Wed | St. Anthony of Padua, <i>memorial</i>                              |
| 14 | Thu | St. Romuald, Abbot, <i>memorial</i>                                |
| 16 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 11<sup>th</sup> Sun., Week 3</i>               |
| 17 | Sun | <b>11<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, Psalter Week 3</b>     |
| 21 | Thu | St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious, <i>memorial</i>                   |
| 23 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist</i>           |
| 24 | Sun | <b>THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, Solemnity</b>             |
| 25 | Mon | <i>Twelfth Week of Ordinary Time, Psalter Week 4</i>               |
| 27 | Wed | Our Lady of Perpetual Help, <i>memorial</i>                        |
| 28 | Thu | St. Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr. <i>Vespers I of the solemnity</i> |
| 29 | Fri | <b>SS. PETER and PAUL, Apostles. Solemnity *</b>                   |
| 30 | Sat | First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church, <i>memorial</i>            |

\* *Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed is said.*

\**Peter's Pence collection for the Holy Father's humanitarian works*

**JUNE IS DEDICATED TO: The Sacred Heart of Jesus.**

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JUNE 2018**

**UNIVERSAL: *Social Networks***

**That social networks may work towards that inclusiveness which respects others for their differences.**

## **JUNE 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **CORPUS CHRISTI**

**Ex 24: 3-8/ Ps 116: 12-13. 15-16. 17-18 (13)/ Heb 9: 11-15/ Optional Sequence Lauda, Sion/ Mk 14: 12-16. 22-26**

The Eucharist is a memorial of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. We believe that Jesus is truly present to us in the elements of bread and wine. Each time we celebrate this sacrament, we prepare for the Kingdom of God. The Eucharistic Celebration is the source and summit of the Christian life.

### **THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

**Hos 11: 1. 3-4. 8c-9/ Is 12: 2-3. 4. 5-6 (3)/ Eph 3: 8-12. 14-19/ Jn 19: 31-37**

The soldier pierced His side with a lance and immediately there came out blood and water. Out of the heart of Jesus, flowed forgiveness and healing as symbolized by the water, and also mercy and love as symbolized by the blood. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is the symbol of the fidelity of the love of God.

### **TENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Gn 3: 9-15/ Ps 130: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8 (7bc)/ 2 Cor 4: 13 – 5: 1/ Mk 3: 20-35**

Jesus says that He would regard as family those who accept Him in truth. As members of God's family doing the will of God will require that we are sensitive to sin and to goodness so as to be able to live accordingly.

### **ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Ez 17: 22-24/ Ps 92: 2-3. 13-14. 15-16/ 2 Cor 5: 6-10/ Mk 4: 26-34**

God's kingdom is not yet fully established. Although already present in Jesus and His group of twelve, it has yet to come to fruition. Just as the seed in the parable needs time to grow, so does God's kingdom.

### **THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

**Is 49: 1-6/ Ps 139: 1b-3. 13-14ab. 14c-15/ Acts 13: 22-26/ Lk 1: 57-66. 80**

"The child's name is John," his father said. For surely the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel.

### **SS. PETER AND PAUL**

**Acts 12: 1-11/ Ps 34: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9/ 2 Tm 4: 6-8. 17-18/ Mt 16: 13-19**

"Both apostles share the same feast day even though they suffered on different days. Let us embrace what they believed, their life, their labours, their sufferings, their preaching, and their confession of faith." (St. Augustine)

  
**JULY 2018**  


|           |            |   |
|-----------|------------|---|
| <b>1</b>  | <b>Sun</b> | <b>13<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 1</b>    |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>Mon</b> | <i>Thirteenth Week of Ordinary Time, Psalter Week 1</i>           |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>Tue</b> | <b>St. Thomas Apostle, feast</b>                                  |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>Wed</b> | <i>St. Elizabeth of Portugal, memorial</i>                        |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>Thu</b> | <i>St. Anthony Zaccaria, memorial</i>                             |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>Sat</b> | <i>Vespers 1 of 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Week 2</i>                |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>Sun</b> | <b>14<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 2</b>    |
| <b>11</b> | <b>Wed</b> | <i>St. Benedict, Abbot, memorial</i>                              |
| <b>14</b> | <b>Sat</b> | <i>St. Camillus De Lellis, Priest, memorial</i>                   |
| <b>15</b> | <b>Sun</b> | <b>15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 3</b>    |
| <b>16</b> | <b>Mon</b> | <i>Our Lady of Mount Carmel, memorial</i>                         |
| <b>21</b> | <b>Sat</b> | <i>Vespers 1 of 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Week 4</i>                |
| <b>22</b> | <b>Sun</b> | <b>16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week IV</b>   |
| <b>23</b> | <b>Mon</b> | <i>Sixteenth Week of Ordinary Time</i>                            |
| <b>24</b> | <b>Tue</b> | <i>St. Charbel Makhlof, memorial</i>                              |
| <b>25</b> | <b>Wed</b> | <b>St. James, Apostle, feast</b>                                  |
| <b>26</b> | <b>Thu</b> | <i>SS. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Virgin Mary, memorial</i> |
| <b>28</b> | <b>Sat</b> | <i>Morning: St. Alphonsa, Virgin, memorial</i>                    |
| <b>29</b> | <b>Sun</b> | <b>17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week I</b>    |
| <b>30</b> | <b>Mon</b> | <i>St. Peter Crysologus, Bishop and Doctor, memorial</i>          |
| <b>31</b> | <b>Tue</b> | <i>St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest, memorial</i>                   |

**JULY IS DEDICATED TO: The Most Precious Blood of Jesus.**

**HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY 2018**

**EVANGELIZATION: *Priests and their Pastoral Ministry***

**That priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.**

## **JULY 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Wis 1: 13-15; 2: 23-24/ Ps 30: 2. 4. 5-6. 11. 12. 13 (2a)/ 2 Cor 8: 7. 9. 13-15/  
Mk 5: 21-43**

Each individual must make his or her own act of faith in affirming Jesus as God's Son. Faith leads Jairus and a woman afflicted with a hemorrhage to seek out Jesus in their time of need. Their faith is rewarded and Jesus heals the woman and raises Jairus' daughter from death.

### **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Ez 2: 2-5/ Ps 123: 1-2. 2. 3-4/ 2 Cor 12: 7-10/ Mk 6: 1-6**

His kinsfolk know Jesus as the Nazarene, but they do not know Jesus, the Son of God. Jesus is surprised as He did not predict or foresee this rejection. Jesus is hampered from performing miracles in Nazareth because of the people's lack of faith.

### **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Am 7: 12-15/ Ps 85: 9-10. 11-12. 13-14 (8)/ Eph 1: 3-14/ Mk 6: 7-13**

By naming twelve apostles, Jesus shows His mission to be in continuity with the mission of God's people, Israel. Jesus continues to send us into the world as His disciples. But like the first disciples, we are not sent alone. Jesus has given us the Church, through which His message can only authentically be proclaimed.

### **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Jer 23: 1-6/ Ps 23: 1-3. 3-4. 5. 6 (1)/ Eph 2: 13-18/ Mk 6: 30-34**

Jesus affirms the importance of times of rest and renewal. Jesus wants His disciples to come away and spend time alone with Him. This is what we seek and find in our life of prayer and in our celebration of the Eucharist.

### **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**2 Kgs 4: 42-44/ Ps 145: 10-11. 15-16. 17-18/ Eph 4: 1-6/ Jn 6: 1-15**

Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and the fishes speaks of His authority and divinity. The meaning and significance of this miracle is seen as a sharing of His Body and Blood. Each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we are anticipating the eternal banquet of heaven.




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## AUGUST 2018

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|    |     |   |
|----|-----|---|
| 1  | Wed | St. Alphonsus Ligouri, Bishop and Doctor, <i>memorial</i>             |
| 4  | Sat | St. John Vianney, priest, <i>memorial</i>                             |
| 5  | Sun | <b>18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 2</b>        |
| 6  | Mon | <b>The Transfiguration of the Lord, Feast</b>                         |
| 7  | Tue | SS. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs, <i>memorial</i>         |
| 8  | Wed | St. Dominic, Priest, <i>memorial</i>                                  |
| 9  | Thu | St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr, <i>memorial</i> |
| 11 | Sat | St. Clare, Virgin, <i>memorial</i>                                    |
| 12 | Sun | <b>19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 3</b>        |
| 13 | Mon | SS. Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs, <i>memorial</i>   |
| 14 | Tue | St. Maximilian Kolbe, <i>memorial. Vespers I of the Assumption</i>    |
| 15 | Wed | <b>THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, solemnity</b>           |
| 16 | Thu | St. Stephen of Hungary, <i>memorial</i>                               |
| 18 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of the 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday</i>                        |
| 19 | Sun | <b>20<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 4</b>        |
| 20 | Mon | St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor, <i>memorial</i>                        |
| 21 | Tue | St. Pius X, <i>memorial</i>   |
| 22 | Wed | The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, <i>memorial</i>             |
| 23 | Thu | St. Rose of Lima, Virgin, <i>memorial</i>                             |
| 26 | Sun | <b>21<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, Psalter Week 1</b>        |
| 27 | Mon | St. Monica, <i>memorial</i>   |
| 28 | Tue | St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor, <i>memorial</i>                       |
| 29 | Wed | The Passion of St. John the Baptist, <i>memorial</i>                  |

**AUGUST IS DEDICATED TO: The Immaculate Heart of Mary.**

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST 2018**

**UNIVERSAL: *The treasure of Families***

That any far-reaching decisions of economists and politicians may protect the family as one of the treasures of humanity.



## **AUGUST 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Ex 16: 2-4. 12-15/Ps 78: 3-4. 23-24. 25. 54(24b)/Eph 4: 17. 20-24/ Jn 6: 24-35**

The people ask Jesus for a sign so that they might know that Jesus is from God. Jesus answers that He is the Bread of Life Who satisfies every hunger and thirst. As God fulfilled their ancestors' needs in the desert, so God has provided them with food for eternal life.

### **THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

**Dn 7: 9-10. 13-14/ Ps 97: 1-2. 5-6. 9/ 2 Pt 1: 16-19/ Mk 9: 2-10**

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of Peter, James and John. The Transfiguration occurs after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus' prediction about His passion. The voice heard from heaven confirms the truth of Peter's testimony about Christ.

### **NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**1 Kgs 19: 4-8/ Ps 34: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 (9a)/ Eph 4: 30 – 5: 2/ Jn 6: 41-51**

Those who listen to God will recognize that Jesus is the One sent from God. Jesus tells us that the Bread of Life will be His own flesh, given for the life of the world. We celebrate this gift of Jesus each time we gather for Mass.

### **THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Rv 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a. 10ab/ Ps 45: 10. 11. 12. 16/ 1 Cor 15: 20-27/ Lk 1: 39-56**

Mary's Assumption shows us our own destiny as God's adoptive children and members of the body of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to share fully in the Lord's victory over sin and death, and to reign with Him in His Kingdom.

### **TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Prv 9: 1-6/ Ps 34: 2-3. 10-11. 12-13. 14-15 (9a)/ Eph 5: 15-20/ Jn 6: 51-58**

Jesus Himself is the Bread sent by God. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ, Jesus Himself comes to dwell within us. We believe that receiving Jesus in the Eucharist will lead us to eternal life.

### **TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Jos 24:1-2a.15-17 18b/Ps 34: 2-3.16-17.18-19.20-23/Eph 5: 21-32/ Jn 6: 60-69**

Many of Jesus' disciples struggle with Jesus' teaching and no longer accompany Him. Jesus acknowledges their unbelief and affirms that only those chosen by the Father will follow Jesus to the end. Simon Peter confesses his faith that Jesus alone has the words of eternal life.



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## SEPTEMBER 2018

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|    |     |   |
|----|-----|---|
| 1  | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, Week 2</i>                              |
| 2  | Sun | <b>22<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, Psalter Week 2</b>                  |
| 3  | Mon | St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor, <i>memorial</i>                         |
| 5  | Wed | St. Teresa of Calcutta, <i>memorial</i>   |
| 8  | Sat | <b>THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, Feast. Ves 1 of 23<sup>rd</sup></b> |
| 9  | Sun | <b>23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 3</b>                  |
| 12 | Wed | The Most Holy Name of Mary, <i>memorial</i>                                     |
| 13 | Thu | St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor, <i>memorial</i>                         |
| 14 | Fri | The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, <i>Feast</i>                                  |
| 15 | Sat | Our Lady of Sorrows, <i>memorial</i>  |
| 16 | Sun | <b>24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 4</b>                  |
| 17 | Mon | St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor, <i>memorial</i>                       |
| 20 | Thu | SS. Andrew Kim, Priest, and Companion, Martyrs, <i>memorial</i>                 |
| 23 | Sun | <b>25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, Psalter Week 1</b>                  |
| 26 | Wed | SS. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs, <i>memorial</i>                                 |
| 27 | Thu | St. Vincent de Paul, Priest, <i>memorial</i>                                    |
| 29 | Sat | <i>Morning: The Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, feast</i>         |
| 30 | Sun | <b>26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 2</b>                  |

**SEPTEMBER IS DEDICATED TO: The Holy Cross and Our Lady of Sorrows.**

### **HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018**

**UNIVERSAL: *Young People in Africa***

That young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries.

## **SEPTEMBER 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Dt 4: 1-2.6-8/Ps 15:2-3. 3-4. 4-5/Jas 1:17-18.21b-22.27/Mk 7:1-8.14-15. 21-23**

Jesus teaches that a person is not defiled by the food that enters his body, but rather by sin that emerges from his words and actions.

### **THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Mi 5: 1-4a or Rom 8: 28-30/ Ps 13: 6ab. 6c/ Mt 1: 1-16. 18-23**

‘Mary is the flower from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed.’ - St. Augustine

### **TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Is 35: 4-7a/ Ps 146: 7. 8-9. 9-10 (1b)/ Jas 2: 1-5/ Mk 7: 31-37**

Jesus restores a man’s hearing and speech using spittle. The Church celebrates the sacraments using physical means: water and oil, bread and wine. We are a sacramental people who believe in God’s grace through these physical signs.

### **THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS**

**Nm 21: 4b-9/ Ps 78: 1bc-2. 34-35. 36-37. 38/ Phil 2: 6-11/ Jn 3: 13-17**

The Cross is the sign of triumph and victory, the sign of God, Who is love. Through the power of the Cross, may we share in the triumph of Christ Jesus.

### **TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Is 50: 5-9a/ Ps 116: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 8-9 (9)/ Jas 2: 14-18/ Mk 8: 27-35**

Jesus rebukes Peter for obstructing the divine mission. The Son of Man is destined to suffer grievously, and to be His disciple calls for a radical commitment and sacrifice that Jesus calls us to adopt for the sake of the Gospel.

### **TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Wis 2: 12. 17-20/ Ps 54: 3-4. 5. 6-8 (6b)/ Jas 3: 16 – 4: 3/ Mk 9: 30-37**

Jesus teaches that if anyone wants to be first, he must make himself servant of all. When we serve the least ones among us, we serve Jesus Himself.

### **TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Nm 11: 25-29/ Ps 19: 8. 10. 12-13. 14 (9a)/ Jas 5: 1-6/ Mk 9: 38-43. 45. 47-48**

Jesus teaches us not to create obstacles for those who are beginning to have faith, but to encourage them. Jesus acknowledges that deeds of faith can precede words of faith.

  
**OCTOBER 2018**  


|    |     |  |
|----|-----|--|
| 1  | Mon | St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Patroness of the Missions, <i>mem</i>        |
| 2  | Tue | The Holy Guardian Angels, <i>memorial</i>                                    |
| 4  | Thu | St. Francis of Assisi, <i>memorial</i> . Feast of Pope Francis               |
| 7  | Sun | <b>27<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME.</b> <i>Psalter Week 3</i>        |
| 10 | Wed | <b>St. Daniel Comboni</b> ( <i>Feast of the Parish of Jleeb al-Shuyoukh,</i> |
| 11 | Thu | St. John XXIII, Pope, <i>memorial</i>  |
| 13 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Week 4</i>                           |
| 14 | Sun | <b>28<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME.</b> <i>Psalter Week 4</i>        |
| 15 | Mon | St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor, <i>memorial</i>                      |
| 16 | Tue | St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, <i>memorial</i>                                  |
| 17 | Wed | St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr, <i>memorial</i>                  |
| 18 | Thu | St. Luke, Evangelist, <i>feast</i>   |
| 20 | Sat | <i>Vespers 1 of 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Week 1</i>                           |
| 21 | Sun | <b>29<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME.</b> <i>Psalter Week 1</i>        |
| 22 | Mon | St. John Paul II, <i>memorial</i>  |
| 24 | Wed | <b>St. Arethas and Companions, Martyrs,</b> <i>memorial</i>                  |
| 28 | Sun | <b>30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME.</b> <i>Psalter Week 2</i>        |
| 31 | Wed | <i>Vespers I of the following Solemnity</i>                                  |

- *Collection of Sunday (October 22) will be for the Propagation of the Faith*

**OCTOBER IS DEDICATED TO: The Guardian Angel and The Holy Rosary.**

**HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER 2018**

**EVANGELIZATION: *The Mission of Religious***

**That consecrated religious men and women may bestir themselves, and be present among the poor, the marginalized, and those who have no voice.**

## **OCTOBER 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Gn 2: 18-24/ Ps 128: 1-2. 3. 4-5. 6/ Heb 2: 9-11/ Mk 10: 2-16**

Jesus teaches about the importance of the family; the faithfulness of husband and wife to God's covenant and the love and the acceptance of children. Jesus offers these children as an example of the kind of complete trust and dependence upon God that ought to be the attitude of all believers.

### **TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Wis 7: 7-11/ Ps 90: 12-13. 14-15. 16-17 (14)/ Heb 4: 12-13/ Mk 10: 17-30**

Jesus laments the challenges faced by those who are rich, in following Him and entering the Kingdom of God. The invitation that Jesus extends to all would-be disciples to follow Him is an invitation to a personal relationship with Him. Jesus acknowledges that those who have given up everything for the sake of the Gospel will be rewarded. Our personal relationship with Jesus is also an invitation to the community of faith, the Church.

### **TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Is 53: 10-11/ Ps 33: 4-5. 18-19. 20. 22 (22)/ Heb 4: 14-16/ Mk 10: 35-45**

Jesus explains the importance of service and sacrifice in the life of a disciple. James and John ask to be given seats of honor when Jesus enters into His glory. They want to share Jesus' glory, but do not appear to understand that His glory will be preceded by His suffering; the Son of Man came to give His life as a ransom for many. Jesus predicts the suffering they will endure for the sake of the Gospel.

### **THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Jer 31: 7-9/ Ps 126: 1-2. 2-3. 4-5. 6 (3)/ Heb 5: 1-6/ Mk 10: 46-52**

When Jesus restores Bartimaeus's sight, no elaborate action is required. (In other healing stories in Mark's Gospel, actions accompany Jesus' words). In this instance, Jesus simply says that Bartimaeus's faith has saved him. Bartimaeus's exclamation — "Son of David" prepare us for Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

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## NOVEMBER 2018




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| 1  | Thu | <b>ALL SAINTS</b> , <i>Solemnity. Evening prayer II of All Saints</i>      |
| 2  | Fri | <b>ALL SOULS</b> , <i>Mass of All Souls Day. Divine Office of the Dead</i> |
| 4  | Sun | <b>31<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 3</b>             |
| 10 | Sat | St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor, <i>memorial</i>                        |
| 11 | Sun | <b>32<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 4</b>             |
| 12 | Mon | St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr, <i>memorial</i>                           |
| 15 | Thu | St. Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor, <i>memorial</i>                   |
| 17 | Sat | St. Elizabeth of Hungary, religious, <i>memorial</i>                       |
| 18 | Sun | <b>33<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME. Psalter Week 1</b>             |
| 21 | Wed | Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, <i>memorial</i>                   |
| 22 | Thu | St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr, <i>memorial</i>                            |
| 24 | Sat | SS. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs,                      |
| 25 | Sun | <b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Solemnity</b>              |
| 26 | Mon | <b>26-29 NOV: SPIRITUAL RETREAT OF THE CLERGY</b>                          |
| 30 | Fri | St. Andrew, Apostle, <i>Feast</i>  |

**NOVEMBER IS DEDICATED TO: The Holy Souls in Purgatory.**

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 2018**

**UNIVERSAL: *In the Service of Peace***

That the language of love and dialogue may always prevail over the language of conflict.

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**DECEMBER IS DEDICATED TO: The Immaculate Conception.**

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2018**

**EVANGELIZATION: *In the Service of the Transmission of Faith***

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

## **NOVEMBER 2018: FOCUS OF THE LITURGY -**

### **ALL SAINTS**

**Rv 7: 2-4. 9-14/ Ps 24: 1b-2. 3-4ab. 5-6/ 1 Jn 3: 1-3/ Mt 5: 1-12a**

“We are God’s children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know, however, that when it is revealed we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. Everyone who has this hope based on Him makes himself pure, as He is pure.” (1 John 3:2-3)

### **ALL SOULS**

**Wis 3: 1-9/ Rom 5: 5-11 or Rom 6: 3-9/ Jn 6: 37-40 / or other readings**

Today we pray for all the souls who are still in Purgatory undergoing purification and growing in love before they are ready to see God face to face in heaven.

### **THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Dt 6: 2-6/ Ps 18: 2-3. 3-4. 47. 51 (2)/ Heb 7: 23-28/ Mk 12: 28b-34**

Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart. This is the first commandment. The second is this: love your neighbour as yourself.” This connection is heard in a new and fresh way when spoken by Jesus. Love of God finds its expression in our love for our neighbour.

### **THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**1 Kgs 17: 10-16/ Ps 146: 7. 8-9. 9-10 (1b)/ Heb 9: 24-28/ Mk 12: 38-44**

Jesus commends the poor widow because her small offering was an act of profound generosity, giving from her livelihood rather than her surplus. To give from our livelihood is not only an act of generosity; it is also an act of trust in God.

### **THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Dn 12: 1-3/ Ps 16: 5. 8. 9-10. 11 (1)/ Heb 10: 11-14. 18/ Mk 13: 24-32**

Jesus predicts the signs of the coming of the Son of Man. He teaches how to read these signs so one can be prepared for the end times.

### **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

**Dn 7: 13-14/ Ps 93: 1. 1-2. 5 (1a)/ Rv 1: 5-8/ Jn 18: 33b-37**

Jesus is King, but His kingdom does not belong to this world. Those who know the truth and see with eyes of faith will recognize that Jesus, through His crucifixion and death, is indeed King and Saviour of all.



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## REGULATIONS ON FAST, ABSTINENCE AND FEASTS FOR THE APOSTOLIC VICARIATE OF NORTHERN ARABIA

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1. **Fast and abstinence** are prescribed for Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, limited to the ages from 21 to 60.
2. **Abstinence** is prescribed as a general rule for every Friday in Lent, applicable to the age of 14 onwards. But for particular circumstances in our Vicariate, abstinence is to be observed on the Wednesdays of Lent. Out of devotion, abstinence may be observed every Wednesday during the year.
3. **Eucharistic Fast:** The faithful must abstain from solids and liquids for one hour before receiving Holy Communion. This regulation is applicable to Masses celebrated in the morning, afternoon, evening or at midnight. Water does not break the fast. Those who are sick, even though not confined to bed, may take any liquid or food as well as medicines at any time before Holy Communion.

**ON FRIDAYS (MORNING AND EVENING) AND  
SATURDAYS (EVENING ONLY) THE HOLY MASS IS THAT OF THE  
FOLLOWING SUNDAY, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.**

4. **Feasts of Obligation:**
  - a. Sundays or Fridays or Saturday evenings
  - b. Christmas (25<sup>th</sup> December)
  - c. Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (January 1<sup>st</sup>)
  - d. **Solemnity of Our Lady of Arabia, Patroness of both the Vicariates in the Gulf** (Second Sunday of Ordinary Time)
  - e. Feast of St. Thomas, 3<sup>rd</sup> July (obligation is only for the Syro-Malabar Rite)
  - f. Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 15<sup>th</sup> August
  - g. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 8<sup>th</sup> September (obligation is only for the Syro-Malankara Rite)



### **Feasts of Devotion:**

- a. St. Joseph, 19<sup>th</sup> March
- b. St. Mark the Evangelist, 25<sup>th</sup> April (for the Coptic Rite)
- c. Saints Peter and Paul, 29<sup>th</sup> June
- d. All Saints Day, 1<sup>st</sup> November
- e. All Souls Day, 2<sup>nd</sup> November
- f. Immaculate Conception, 8<sup>th</sup> December

### **5. Feasts transferred to the following Friday or Sunday:**

- a. Epiphany
- b. Corpus Christi
- c. Ascension
- d. St. Maroun, 9<sup>th</sup> February

### **6. Feasts of the Parishes**

- a. Holy Family Cathedral, Kuwait: Sunday after Christmas
- b. Parish of Our Lady of Arabia, Ahmadi, Kuwait: Second Sunday of Ordinary Time
- c. Parish of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Salmiya, Kuwait: 1 October
- d. Parish of Saint Daniel Comboni, Jleeb al-Shuyoukh, Kuwait: 10 October
- e. Mission of Saint John Bosco Mission, Jahra, Kuwait: 31 January (this Mission is temporarily closed.)
- f. Parish of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Qatar: 7 October
- g. Parish of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Bahrain: Friday following the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.
- h. Mission of Our Lady of the Visitation, Awali, Bahrain: 31 May
- i. Parish of Saint Arethas: 24 October
- j. Parish of St. Joseph: 19 March
- k. Parish of Our Lady of Fatima: 13 May
- l. Parish of Our Lady of Arabia: Second Sunday of Ordinary Time.

### **DAYS ON WHICH SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ARE TO BE MADE IN ALL THE CHURCHES OF THE VICARIATE:**

- 1. Epiphany for the Holy Childhood**
- 2. Good Friday for the Holy Land**
- 3. Sts. Peter & Paul for Peter's Pence**
- 4. Mission Sunday for the Propagation of the Faith**



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## SEASONS OF THE LITURGICAL YEAR

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The Liturgical Year consists of six liturgical seasons: Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time after Epiphany, Lent (& Triduum), Easter, and Ordinary Time after Pentecost. Seasons begin or end based on a movable feast and so some seasons vary in length from year to year, and vary according to the dates of the calendar.

**ADVENT** (a season of four weeks), is the time of preparation for both the celebration of Jesus' birth and His second coming. This season lasts until 24 December (Christmas Eve).

**CHRISTMASTIDE** follows, beginning with First Vespers of Christmas on the evening of 24 December and ending with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Sunday after January 6).

**ORDINARY TIME I** or **TIME AFTER EPIPHANY**, extends from the day following the Feast of the Baptism of Christ until the day before Ash Wednesday. It contains anywhere from three to eight Sundays, depending on when Easter falls. (There are 2 periods of Ordinary Time in the year. These are the common weeks which do not belong to a proper season.)

**LENT** is a major penitential season of preparation for Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday, which occurs between February 4 and March 11, and lasts for forty days, since the six Sundays within the season are not counted. Ash Wednesday is 46 days before Easter Sunday. The week before Easter is called "Holy Week" and opens with Passion or Palm Sunday, recalling Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

**EASTER TRIDUUM** in Holy Week begins with evening Mass of the Lord's Supper and ends with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday. In this period we celebrate Maundy Thursday (Mass of the Lord's Supper and the Commemoration of Holy Orders and the Chrism Mass in the morning), Good Friday (Commemoration of the Passion of the Lord) and Holy Saturday (the day during which Christ lay in the tomb). The Easter Vigil is held on the night between Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. The central

celebration of the Easter Triduum is the key to the liturgical calendar as it commemorates the supreme saving act of Jesus in His death and resurrection to which all other observances and acts of worship are related.

EASTER is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. The date of Easter varies from year to year and occurs between March 22 and April 25. Beginning with Easter Sunday, the Church celebrates an Octave (8 days) of the Resurrection – Easter Monday, Easter Tuesday, etc. Each day of the Octave is a Solemnity, in essence, an extension of Easter Sunday. The Second Sunday of Easter is called Mercy Sunday. The Easter Season extends from the Easter Vigil through Pentecost Sunday, which is the fiftieth and last day of the Easter season. It celebrates the sending of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles, which marks the birth of the Church.

ORDINARY TIME II or TIME AFTER PENTECOST – follows the Easter season and the feasts of Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost resumes on Pentecost Monday. It ends on the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent. Important Feasts during this season include: Trinity Sunday; Corpus Christi; Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Feast of Christ the King.



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## THE LITURGICAL CYCLES

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The Lectionary (Mass Readings) follows a Sunday Cycle and a Weekday Cycle.

The Sunday Cycle is 3-yearly and denoted by the letters A, B and C. 2011 was Year A, 2012 was Year B, 2013 was Year C, etc. The year of the cycle changes on the First Sunday of Advent which is the beginning of the liturgical year. Each year follows through one of the Gospels: A-Matthew, B-Mark, C-Luke. The Gospel of John is proclaimed on particular Sundays in each of the years.

Weekdays in Ordinary Time follow a 2 year cycle numbered I and II. Year I is read in odd number years such as 2011, 2013, 2015, etc. Year II is read in even years such as 2010, 2012, 2014, etc.



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## SOLEMNITIES, FEASTS AND MEMORIALS

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Liturgical celebrations enhance the richness of the Church's calendar as the Church attempts to live out the mystery of Christ and salvation history within the year. Additionally the Church commemorates the lives of the Saints by designating certain days of the year to remember them. These days are both an act of remembrance, as well as a way to instruct the faithful by making the calendar reflect the life of Christ.

From our common understanding of liturgical celebrations, we know that there are three kinds that are possible in the Church: solemnities, feasts and memorials. The difference between the three categories resides in their importance, which in turn is reflected in the presence or absence of different liturgical elements.

### SOLEMNITIES:

A solemnity is the highest rank of celebration in the Church calendar and is usually reserved for the most important mysteries of faith which include Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, Holy Trinity, Corpus Christi, Assumption, Immaculate Conception, Christmas, Mary Mother of God, Epiphany and the Annunciation; also, the principal titles of Our Lord, such as Christ the King and Sacred Heart; and celebrations that honour All Saints (Nov 1) and some saints of particular importance, such as St. Joseph, Sts. Peter and Paul, and St. John the Baptist on his day of birth.

Solemnities are like Sundays having the same basic elements of celebration: three readings, prayer of the faithful, the Gloria and Creed which are recited even when the solemnity occurs during Advent or Lent. It also has proper prayer formulas exclusive to the day: Entrance antiphon, Opening prayer, Prayer over the gifts, Communion antiphon, and Prayer after Communion. In most cases it also has a particular preface. Solemnities begin with evening prayer (Vespers) the night before, unlike other liturgical days, which begin at midnight.

Some solemnities are holy days of obligation, but these vary from country to country. Some solemnities have a fixed date on which they are celebrated, such as Christmas. Other solemnities are moveable, such

as Easter. A solemnity is celebrated if it falls on a Sunday of Ordinary Time or Christmastide, but it is usually transferred to the following Monday if it falls on a Sunday of Advent, Lent or Easter, or during Holy Week or the Easter octave.

There are also special solemnities, which are observed in particular places or in particular religious orders, for instance, when a parish celebrates the feast of its patron or titular Saint.

### **FEASTS:**

Feasts are celebrations next in rank. A feast honours a mystery or title of the Lord, of Our Lady, or of Saints of particular importance such as the Apostles, Evangelists and the Archangels. Feasts have only two readings and the Gloria, but not the Creed. All feasts, except that of the Holy Family (Sunday after Christmas), are fixed in date. The “feasts of the Lord” take precedence over Sundays of Christmas and Ordinary Time, but the feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary do not. All feasts take precedence over all weekdays except Ash Wednesday, weekdays of Holy Week (including the Triduum) and days within the octave of Easter.

### **MEMORIALS:**

A memorial is a feast day of relatively low importance. A memorial is usually a commemoration of a Saint, but it may also celebrate some aspect of the Lord or of Mary, such as the optional memorial of the Holy Name of Jesus or the obligatory memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Gloria is not said on these days. Memorials have only two readings and some “proper” prayers for the individual Saint or the occasion. Some Saints do not have specific prayers. There are generic prayers written for each category of Saint being honoured in a memorial. These generic prayers are known as the “common” for the occasion. Such Saints will usually fall into the category of pope, bishop, priest, religious, virgin or martyr.

Memorials are fixed in date. Memorials can be either obligatory or optional. Obligatory memorials must be observed. Optional memorials may be observed. An optional memorial is the lowest in rank of celebration. The priest is permitted to celebrate a feast day that does not appear in his local calendar out of personal devotion to the Saint, as long as no feast of higher rank is anticipated for that day.



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## MOVEABLE FEASTS

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A moveable feast is a feast day whose date changes each year because it depends on the date of Easter, which is itself a moveable feast.

However, the term moveable feast is used for any event on, or related to, the Christian calendar that varies from year to year. Thus the Baptism of the Lord, while not related to the date of Easter, is celebrated on a different date each year, and Mardi Gras or Shrove Tuesday, while not officially a Christian celebration, is linked to the date of Easter, and both are referred to as moveable feasts.

### MOVEABLE FEASTS OF THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Ash Wednesday  
Palm Sunday  
Holy Thursday  
Good Friday  
Solemnity of Easter  
Ascension  
Solemnity of Pentecost  
Trinity Sunday  
Corpus Christi  
Solemnity of the Sacred Heart  
Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Solemnity of Christ the King  
Feast of the Holy Family of Our Lord  
Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ



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## DATES OF ASH WEDNESDAY AND EASTER

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### YEARS OF CURRENT INTEREST

| <b>CALENDAR YEAR</b> | <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> | <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>2018</b>          | <b>February 14</b>   | <b>April 1</b>       |
| <b>2019</b>          | <b>March 6</b>       | <b>April 21</b>      |
| <b>2020</b>          | <b>February 26</b>   | <b>April 12</b>      |
| <b>2021</b>          | <b>February 17</b>   | <b>April 4</b>       |
| <b>2022</b>          | <b>March 2</b>       | <b>April 17</b>      |
| <b>2023</b>          | <b>February 22</b>   | <b>April 9</b>       |
| <b>2024</b>          | <b>February 14</b>   | <b>March 31</b>      |
| <b>2025</b>          | <b>March 5</b>       | <b>April 20</b>      |

**This Liturgical Calendar is meant to supplement the Liturgical Ordo used in the Parishes of the Apostolic Vicariate of Northern Arabia (Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Saudi Arabia), for consultation on obligatory celebrations and those proper to the Vicariate.**

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**COVER PICTURE:**

**The Last Supper** (*centre detail only*) by Leonardo da Vinci; 1498; tempera and oil on plaster (housed in the monastery of Santa Maria della Grazie, Milan, Italy). The Last Supper is Jesus' final meal with His Apostles. It is remembered for two events: the founding moment of the sacrament of the Eucharist (the miraculous transformation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ) and Jesus' announcement that one of His Apostles (Judas) would betray Him.