

Calendar Alerts

Christmas and New Year's Day

December 25, 2017 and January 1, 2018 fall on Monday, which result in a scheduling challenge for Masses on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas, Holy Family, and Mary, Mother of God. The following suggestions may be helpful as you prepare your Mass schedules.

1. Masses on Saturday evening, December 23 and Sunday morning, December 24, 2017 should use the readings and prayers for the Fourth Sunday of Advent. No Masses for the Fourth Sunday of Advent should be scheduled to begin after 12:00 noon on December 24. You may wish to adapt your schedule on Sunday morning, December 24, in order to maximize Mass attendance.
2. Masses for Christmas Eve should be scheduled no earlier than 4 p.m. on Sunday, December 24, 2017.
3. Masses for Christmas Day, December 25, 2017 may be scheduled as pastoral need dictates. (Christmas, as always, remains a holy day of obligation.)
4. Masses for Holy Family may be celebrated as usual on Saturday evening, December 30 and Sunday morning, December 31, 2017.
5. January 1, 2018, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, while **not** a day of obligation in 2018 since it falls on a Monday (USCCB policy), remains a day of celebration. Since it remains an important day in the life of the Church, Mass should be scheduled at a time convenient for parishioners and should be celebrated as fully as possible. An anticipated Mass may be celebrated in the evening of December 31.

Starting Time of the Easter Vigil 2018

Sunset on Holy Saturday, March 31, 2018, will be at 7:22 p.m. in Madison. Generally, nightfall occurs 30-45 minutes after that time. In the Diocese of Madison, the Easter Vigil may begin at 8:00 p.m. (or later).

The Office of Worship
Diocese of Madison
702 S. High Point Road, Suite 225
Madison, Wisconsin 53719
(608) 821-3080 | worship@straphael.org
www.madisondiocese.org/worship