

The Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts 2018

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<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/christmas/announcement-of-easter-and-the-moveable-feasts.cfm>

Introduction

The proclamation of the date of Easter and the other moveable feasts on Epiphany dates from a time when calendars were not readily available. It was necessary to make known the date of Easter in advance, since many celebrations of the liturgical year depend on its date. The number of Sundays that follow Epiphany, the date of Ash Wednesday, and the number of Sundays that follow Pentecost are all computed in relation to Easter.

Although calendars now give the date of Easter and the other feasts in the liturgical year for many years in advance, the Epiphany proclamation still has value. It is a reminder of the centrality of the resurrection of the Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year.

Each year the proper dates for Ash Wednesday, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, and the First Sunday of Advent must be inserted into the text. Those dates are found in the table which is included with the introductory documents of the *Roman Missal*. The form to be used for announcing each date is: the *date of month*, e.g., “the seventh day of April.”

On the Epiphany of the Lord, after the singing of the Gospel, a Deacon or cantor, in keeping with an ancient practice of Holy Church, announces from the ambo the moveable feasts of the current year according to the following text. (The musical notation is found in Appendix I of the *Roman Missal, Third Edition* and also is attached.)

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Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts (for the year 2018)

Know, dear brothers and sisters,
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,
so by leave of God's mercy
we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection,
who is our Savior.

On the **fourteenth** day of **February** will fall Ash Wednesday,
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the **first** day of **April** you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,
the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In those places where the Ascension is transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter:
On the **thirteenth** day of **May** will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the **twentieth** day of **May**, the feast of Pentecost.

On the **third** day of **June** the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the **second** day of **December**,
the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ,
to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts

On the Epiphany of the Lord, after the singing of the Gospel, a Deacon or cantor, in keeping with an ancient practice of Holy Church, announces from the ambo the moveable feasts of the current year according to this formula:

Know, dear brethren, (broth-ers and sis-ters,) that, as we have re-
-joiced at the Nativity of our Lord Je-sus Christ, so by leave of
God's mer-cy we announce to you al-so the joy of his Resur-
-rection, who is our Sav - ior. On the . . . day of [February
March] will
fall Ash Wednes-day, and the beginning of the fast of the most
sacred Lent-en sea - son. On the . . . day of [March
A - pril]
you will celebrate with joy East-er Day, the Paschal feast of our
Lord Je - sus Christ. On the . . . day of [A - pril
May
June] will be the
As-cen-sion of our Lord Je - sus Christ. On the . . . day of [May,
June,]

the feast of Pen - te-cost. On the . . . day of June, the feast of the
Most Holy Bod-y and Blood of Christ. On the . . . day of
November, December, the First Sunday of the Ad-vent of our Lord Je-sus
Christ, to whom is honor and glory for ev-er and ev - er. A-men.

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