

FESTAL CALENDAR
of
THE COMMUNITY OF SAINT JOHN CASSIAN
ORDER OF SAINT BENEDICT



The following explication of the Church's Liturgical Year is adapted from the Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church (Church Publishing, 1979). The dated Calendar of Festal Observances which follows that explication has been created by *The Community of Saint John Cassian, Order of Saint Benedict* (2016).

The Church Year consists of two cycles of Feasts and Holy Days: one dependent on the movable date of the Sunday of the Resurrection (the Great Feast of Easter, or Easter Day); the other, on the fixed date of December 25, the Feast of our Lord's Nativity, or Christmas Day.

The Great Feast of Easter is always the first Sunday after the full moon that falls on or after March 21. It cannot occur before March 22 or after April 25.

The sequence of all Sundays of the Church Year depends upon the date of Easter Day. But the Sundays of Advent are always the four Sundays before Christmas Day, whether it occurs on a Sunday or a weekday. The date of Easter also determines the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday (the forty days preceding Easter, excluding Sundays), and the Feast of the Ascension on a Thursday forty days after Easter Day. The Feast of Holy Wisdom (Hagia Sophia) is also thusly determined, being twenty-five days following the Great Feast of Easter.

The Principle Feasts observed in this community are the following:

The Great Feast of Easter, or the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Feast of All Saints, *November 1*

The Feast of the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ (Christmas), *December 25*

The Feast of Pentecost

The Feast of Holy Theophany (The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ), *January 6*

The Feast of the Most Holy Trinity (Trinity Sunday)

These Feasts take precedence over all other days or observances. The Feast of All Saints may always be observed on the Sunday following November 1, in addition to its observance on the fixed date.

All Sundays of the year are Feasts of our Lord Jesus Christ. In addition to the dated days listed above, only the following Feasts, appointed on fixed days, take precedence over a regular Sunday Feast:

The Feast of the Holy Name of our Lord Jesus Christ (*January 1*)

The Feast of the Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple (*February 2*)

The Feast of the Holy Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ (*August 6*)

The Feast of the Dedication of a parish or religious community, and the Feast of its Patron or title, may be observed on, or be transferred to, a Sunday, except in the seasons of Advent, Lent, and Easter. All other Feasts of our Lord, and all other Major Feasts appointed on fixed days in the Calendar, when they occur on a Sunday, are normally transferred to the first convenient open day within the week.

The following Holy Days are regularly observed throughout the year. Unless otherwise ordered in the preceding rules concerning Sundays, they have precedence over all other days of commemoration or of special observance:

Other Feasts of Our Lord

The Holy Name of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

The Holy Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Annunciation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Holy Cross

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of Holy Wisdom (Hagia Sophia)

Lazarus Saturday

Palm Sunday

Other Major Feasts

All Feasts of the Holy Apostles

All Feasts of the Holy Evangelists

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Temple

The Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Holy Innocents (Childermas)

St. Michael the Archangel and All Angels

St. Stephen the Protomartyr

St. James the Just of Jerusalem (Brother of our Lord Jesus Christ)

St. Joseph

St. Mary Magdalene

Fasts

Ash Wednesday

Good Friday

Feasts appointed on fixed days in the Calendar are not observed on the days of Holy Week or of Easter Week. Major Feasts falling in these weeks are transferred to the week following the Second Sunday of Easter, in the order of their occurrence.

Feasts appointed on fixed days in the Calendar do not take precedence over Ash Wednesday.

Feasts of our Lord and other Major Feasts appointed on fixed days, which fall upon or are transferred to a weekday, may be observed on any open day within the week.

The following days are observed by special acts of discipline and self-denial:

Ash Wednesday

Good Friday

All weekdays of both Lent and Holy Week (except the Feast of the Annunciation)

All Fridays throughout the year, in commemoration of the Lord's crucifixion (except Fridays in the Christmas and Easter seasons, and Feasts of our Lord which occur on a Friday)



JANUARY

1 The Feast of the Holy Name of our Lord Jesus Christ

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3

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5 St. Syncletica of Alexandria, Hermit, c. 350

6 Holy Theophany (The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ)

7 St. Theophan the Recluse, Bishop and Hermit of Tambov (Russia), 1894

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- 9
- 10 St. Gregory of Nyssa, Bishop and Theologian, c. 395 / Bl. William Laud, Archbishop of
Canterbury, 1645
- 11
- 12 St. Aelred, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1167
- 13 St. Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, 367
- 14 St. Seraphim of Sarov (Russia), Monk, 1833
- 15 St. Macarius the Great of Egypt, Abbot, 391
- 16 Bl. Evagrius of the Solitary of Pontus, Monk, Scholar, and Theologian, 399
- 17 St. Antony the Great of Egypt, Father of Monastics, 356 [?]
- 18 Confession of St. Peter the Apostle
- 19 St. Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095
- 20 St. Fabian, Bishop and Martyr of Rome, 250
- 21 St. Agnes, Martyr of Rome, 304
- 22 St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr of Saragossa, 304
- 23
- 24 St. Francis de Sales, Friar and Bishop of Geneva, 1622
- 25 Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
- 26 Sts. Timothy and Titus, Companions of St. Paul / St. Ammonas of Egypt, Hermit, c. 325
- 27 St. John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople, Theologian and Liturgist, 407
- 28 St. Isaac of Nineveh (Syria), Monk and Theologian, c. 700 / St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest,
Friar, and Theologian, 1274
- 29 Bl. Eckhart of Hochheim, Friar and Theologian, 1328
- 30
- 31 St. John Bosco, Priest, 1888

FEBRUARY

- 1 St. Brigid, Abbess of Kildare (Ireland), c. 525
- 2 The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)
- 3 St. Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, 865
- 4
- 5
- 6 St. John the Prophet, Monk and Theologian of Palestine, c. 560
- 7
- 8

- 9 St. Paul of Thebes, the First Hermit, c. 342
10 St. Scholastica of Nursia, Abbess and Sister of St. Benedict, 543
11
12
13 Bl. Absalom Jones, Priest, 1818
14 St. Cyril of Thessalonica, Monk and Missionary to the Slavs, 869 / St. Methodius of
Thessalonica, Bishop and Missionary to the Slavs, 885
15
16
17
18 St. Simeon, Bishop of Jerusalem, c. 117
19
20 St. Hesychius the Priest, Hieromonk and Theologian of Jerusalem, c. 440 / St. Bessarion
the Wonderworker of Egypt, 466
21 St. John Henry Newman, Priest and Theologian, 1890
22
23 St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr of Smyrna, 156
24 St. Matthias the Apostle
25
26
27 Bl. George Herbert, Poet and Priest, 1633
28 St. John Cassian, Abbot and Theologian, 435
29

MARCH

- 1 St. David, Bishop of Menevia (Wales), c. 544
2 St. Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, 672
3
4
5 St. Mark the Ascetic of Egypt, Hermit and Theologian, c. 490
6
7 St. Perpetua and her Companions, Martyrs of Carthage, 202
8
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- 10
11 St. Sophronius, Archbishop of Jerusalem, 638
12 St. Gregory the Great, Archbishop of Rome, 604 / St. Simeon the New Theologian,
Abbot and Poet, 1022
13
14
15
16
17 St. Patrick, Bishop and Missionary of Ireland, 461
18 St. Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, 386
19 St. Joseph
20 St. Cuthbert, Monk, Bishop, and Hermit of Lindisfarne, 687
21 St. Enda of Aran (Ireland), Abbot, c. 530 / St. Serapion, Scholar and Bishop of
Thmuis, c. 355
22 Bl. James DeKoven, Priest, 1879
23 St. Gregory the Illuminator, Bishop and Missionary of Armenia, c. 332
24
25 The Annunciation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Blessed Virgin Mary
26
27
28
29
30 St. John Climacus of Sinai, Abbot and Theologian, 649
31 St. Innocent of Alaska, Archbishop of Moscow and Missionary to America, 1879 / Bl.
John Donne, Priest and Poet, 1631

APRIL

- 1 St. Mary of Egypt, Ascetic and Hermit, c. 421
2 St. Titus the Wonderworker, Abbot, c. 850
3 St. Nicetas the Confessor of Caesarea, Hieromonk, 824 / St. Joseph of Sicily,
Hymnographer, 886
4 Bl. Martin Luther King, Jr., Activist and Martyr, 1968
5 Sts. Agathopous and Theodoulos, Martyrs of Thessalonica, 303 / St. Mark of Trache,
Monk, c. 400
6

7 St. Tikhon, Archbishop of Moscow and Missionary to America, 1925 / St. Nilus of Sora
(Russia), Abbot, 1508
8
9 Bl. William Law, Priest and Theologian, 1761
10 Bl. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, Scholar and Theologian, 1955
11 St. Barsanuphius of Gaza, Hermit and Theologian, 563
12
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14
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16
17
18
19 St. Alphege, Archbishop and Martyr of Canterbury, 1012
20
21 St. Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1109
22 Bl. Origen of Alexandria, Monk, Scholar, and Theologian, c. 253
23 St. George, Soldier and Martyr, 303
24
25 St. Mark the Evangelist
26
27
28
29 St. Catherine of Sienna, 1380
30

MAY

1 St. Philip the Apostle
2 St. Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, 373
3
4 St. Nicephoros the Solitary, Anchorite and Theologian of Mount Athos, c. 1290
5 St. Irene the Great Martyr of Thessalonica, c. 350
6 St. Job the Righteous and Long-Suffering / St. Sophia the Righteous, Ascetic, 1974
7 St. Arsenius the Great of Egypt, Hierodeacon and Anchorite, 445

- 8 St. Julian of Norwich, anchoress, c. 1417
- 9 St. Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, 389
- 10 St. Simon the Apostle / Bl. Thaisia of Egypt, Monastic, c. 370
- 11 St. Isidora of Tabenna, Monastic and Fool for Christ, c. 365
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15 St. Pachomius the Great of Egypt, Abbot, 348
- 16 St. Brendan the Voyager, Navigator and Abbot of Clonfert (Ireland), 577
- 17
- 18
- 19 St. Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988
- 20 St. Alcuin, Abbot and Hierodeacon of Tours, 804
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24 St. Simeon the Stylite of the Wonderful Mountain, 595
- 25 St. Bede the Venerable, Hieromonk and Scholar of Jarrow, 735
- 26 St. Augustine, Archbishop of Canterbury, 605
- 27 St. Melangell, Virgin, Hermit, and Abbess of Powys (Wales), c. 500
- 28
- 29
- 30 St. Isaac the Wonderworker of Constantinople, Abbot, 383
- 31 The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

JUNE

- 1 St. Justin, Scholar and Martyr of Rome, c. 167
- 2 The Martyrs of Lyons, 177
- 3 [The Martyrs of Uganda, 1886]
- 4
- 5 St. Boniface, Archbishop and Martyr of Mainz (Germany), 754
- 6 St. Hilarion of Dalmatia, Abbot, 845 / Sts. Archelaïs, Thekla, and Susanna, Virgins, Ascetics, and Martyrs of Rome, 293
- 7 St. Marcellinus, Hieromartyr and Archbishop of Rome, 304 / St. Daniel of Alexandria, Monk, c. 460

- 8 St. Melania the Elder of Jerusalem, Abbess, 410 / St. Zosimas of Syria, Monk, c. 560
9 St. Columba, Abbot of Iona (Scotland), 597 / St. Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria, 444
10 St. Ephrem, Hymnographer and Hierodeacon of Edessa (Syria), 373
11 St. Barnabas the Apostle
12
13
14 St. Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, 379
15 Bl. Evelyn Underhill, Scholar and Theologian, 1941
16 St. Tikhon of Cypress, Bishop of Amathus, 425
17 St. Botolph, Abbot of Ikanhoe, 680
18 St. Dorotheus of Gaza, Abbot, c. 565
19 St. Romuald, Ascetic and Abbot, 1027
20
21
22 St. Alban, Protomartyr of Britain, c. 304
23
24 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
25
26
27
28 St. Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, c. 202
29 Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles
30 Feast of the Synaxis of the Twelve Holy Apostles

JULY

- 1
2 St. John Maximovich, Archbishop of Shanghai and San Francisco, 1966
3 St. Isaiah the Solitary of Egypt, Hermit, 491 / St. Anatolios, Archbishop of Constantinople, 458
4
5 St. Athanasius the Athonite and his Six Disciples, 1003
6 St. Sisoës the Great of Egypt, Hermit, 429
7
8 St. Prokopios, Martyr of Caesarea, 303

- 9 St. Pancratius, Bishop and Martyr of Sicily, c. 95
10
11 St. Benedict of Nursia, Abbot, c. 540 / St. Olga (Helen) of Russia, 969
12 Sts. Proclus and Hilarius, Martyrs of Kallippi, c. 110
13 St. Gabriel the Archangel / St. Julian, Bishop of Le Mans, c. 85
14 Sts. Aquila and Priscilla, Apostles of the Seventy / St. Nikodemos of the Holy Mountain,
Monk and Theologian, 1809
15
16
17 St. Marina of Antioch, Virgin and Martyr, 270
18 St. Emilian of Thrace, Martyr, 362 / St. Pambo of Egypt, Anchorite, 375
19 St. Macrina (Sister of St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory of Nyssa), Ascetic, 380
20 St. Elias (Elijah) the Prophet
21 Sts. John and Symeon of Edessa, Fools for Christ, 570
22 St. Mary Magdalene
23
24 Bl. Thomas à Kempis, Priest, 1471
25 St. James the Apostle (Son of Zebedee, Brother of St. John the Theologian)
26 Sts. Joachim and Anna, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
27 St. Panteleimon the Great Healer of Nicomedia, Wonderworker and Martyr, 305
28 St. Irene of Cappadocia, Abbess, 912
29 Sts. Mary and Martha of Bethany
30
31 St. Joseph of Arimathea

AUGUST

- 1 St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest and Theologian, 1556
2 Bl. Basil of Moscow, Ascetic and Fool for Christ, 1552
3 St. Antony the Roman, Ascetic and Abbot of Novgorod, 1148
4
5
6 The Holy Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ
7
8 St. Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221
9

- 10 St. Laurence, Deacon and Martyr of Rome, 258
- 11 St. Claire, Prioress of Assisi, 1253
- 12
- 13 St. Maximus the Confessor, Monk, Scholar, and Theologian, 662
- 14
- 15 The Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20 St. Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, 1153
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24 St. Bartholomew the Apostle
- 25
- 26
- 27 St. Poemen the Great of Egypt, Anchorite, 450
- 28 St. Moses the Ethiopian, Monk of Egypt, 405 / St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, 430
- 29 The Dormition of St. John the Baptist
- 30
- 31 St. Aidan, Abbot and Bishop of Lindisfarne, 651

SEPTEMBER

- 1 St. Giles of Provence, Hermit, c. 710 / St. Symeon the Stylite of Syria, Ascetic, 459
- 2
- 3
- 4 St. Moses the Holy Prophet
- 5 St. Zacharias the Prophet (Father of St. John the Baptist)
- 6
- 7
- 8 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 9 St. Ciarán of Clonmacnoise (Ireland), Abbot, 549
- 10
- 11 St. Theodora of Alexandria, Wonderworker and Ascetic, 490

- 12
13 St. Cyprian, Bishop and Martyr of Carthage, 258 / [St. John Chrysostom: Repose]
14 The Feast of the Holy Cross
15
16 St. Ninian, Bishop of Galloway (Scotland), c. 430 / St. Euphemia of Chalcedon,
Martyr, 304
17 St. Hildegard of Bingen, Abbess, Healer, Composer, and Theologian, 1179
18 St. Sophia and her Children, Faith, Hope, and Love, Martyrs of Rome, 137
19 St. Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, 690
20
21 St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist / St. Jonas (Jonah) the Holy Prophet
22
23
24 St. Silouan the Athonite, Monk and Poet, 1938 / St. Thecla, Virgin and Protomartyr, c. 55
25 St. Sergius, Abbot of Radonezh (Russia), 1392 / St. Euphrosyne, Virgin and Monk, c. 445
26 Bl. Lancelot Andrewes, Scholar and Bishop of Winchester, 1626
27
28
29 St. Michael the Archangel and All Angels / St. Mary of Palestine, Hermit, c. 540
30 St. Jerome, Hieromonk and Scholar of Bethlehem, 420 / St. Gregory the Enlightener,
Bishop of Armenia, c. 330 / St. Thérèse of Lisieux, Monastic, 1897

OCTOBER

- 1 St. Remigius, Bishop of Rheims, c. 530
2 Sts. Cyprian the Magician and Justina of Antioch, Martyrs, 304
3 St. Dionysius the Areopagite, Bishop of Athens, c. 85
4 St. Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226
5 St. Teresa of Ávila, Abbess and Theologian, 1582
6
7
8
9 St. Denis, Bishop and Martyr of Paris, c. 250 / Bl. Robert of Grosseteste, Scholar and
Bishop of Lincoln, 1253
10

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- 12
- 13 Bl. Pseudo-Dionysius the Areopagite, Scholar and Theologian, c. 560
- 14
- 15 St. Theophilus, Archbishop of Alexandria, 412
- 16 Bl. Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1556
- 17 St. Ignatius, Bishop and Martyr of Antioch, c. 115
- 18 St. Luke the Evangelist
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23 St. James the Just, Brother of our Lord Jesus Christ, Bishop and Martyr of
Jerusalem, c. 69
- 24
- 25 Bl. John Scotus Eriugena of Ireland, Philosopher, Scholar, Poet, and Theologian, c. 877
- 26
- 27
- 28 St. Jude the Apostle
- 29
- 30 St. Serapion of Antioch, Archbishop and Theologian, 211
- 31 The Vigil of All Hallows Eve (Samhain), Celtic New Year

NOVEMBER

- 1 The Feast of All Saints
- 2 The Feast of All Souls
- 3 Bl. Richard Hooker, Priest and Scholar, 1600
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7 St. Wilibrord, Archbishop of Utrecht, 739
- 8
- 9 St. John the Dwarf of Egypt, Hieromonk and Anchorite, 405
- 10 St. Leo the Great, Archbishop of Rome, 461

- 11 St. Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397 / St. Menas, Soldier, Wonderworker, and Martyr of Egypt, c. 309
- 12 Bl. Søren Kierkegaard, Philosopher and Theologian, 1855
- 13 [St. John Chrysostom: Consecration as Archbishop of Constantinople]
- 14 St. Gregory Palamas, Monk and Theologian, 1357 / Consecration of Bl. Samuel Seabury, First American Bishop, 1784
- 15
- 16 St. Margaret of Scotland, 1093
- 17 St. Hugh, Monk and Bishop of Lincoln, 1200 / Bl. Jakob Böhme, Theologian, 1624
- 18 St. Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680
- 19 St. Elizabeth of Hungary, 1231
- 20
- 21 The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Temple
- 22
- 23 St. Clement, Bishop of Rome, c. 100
- 24 Bl. Pelagius of Britain, Ascetic and Theologian, c. 420
- 25
- 26
- 27 St. Gregory of Sinai, Monk and Theologian, 1346
- 28
- 29
- 30 St. Andrew the Apostle

DECEMBER

- 1 Bl. Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, 1637
- 2
- 3
- 4 St. John of Damascus, Hieromonk, c. 760 / St. Barbara the Great Martyr of Nicomedia, c. 290
- 5 St. Clement of Alexandria, Priest, c. 210
- 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c. 342
- 7 St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, 397
- 8
- 9
- 10 Bl. Thomas (Louis) Merton, Poet, Monk, and Theologian, 1968

11
12 St. Finnian of Clonard (Ireland), Abbot, 549
13 St. Lucia, Martyr of Syracuse, 304
14 St. John of the Cross, Poet, Friar, and Theologian, 1591
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16
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18
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20
21 St. Thomas the Apostle
22
23
24
25 The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ (Christmas Day)
26 St. Stephen, Deacon and Protomartyr
27 St. John the Theologian, Apostle and Evangelist
28 The Feast of the Holy Innocents (Childermas)
29 Bl. Rainer Maria Rilke, Poet, 1926
30
31 St. Melania the Younger of Rome, Ascetic, 439