As the moon reaches its new phase on Tuesday (March 21), the dwarf planet Ceres will lie opposite the sun in Earth's sky, in an arrangement astronomers call "opposition."

Ceres will be visible for most of the night with no moonlight to drown it out, but don't expect mind-bending views: The dwarf planet will be a star-like point of light, even through a telescope, according to In the Sky.

Located in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, the dwarf planet officially known as 1 Ceres will be in the constellation of Coma Berenices. While in opposition, Ceres will also be in perigee — its closest approach to Earth during its orbit around the sun — meaning the dwarf planet will be at its brightest.

From New York City, In the Sky added, Ceres will become observable from around 8:35 p.m. EDT (0035 GMT on March 22) when it will rise to 21 degrees over the horizon to the east. Ceres will reach its highest altitude at around 1:31 a.m. EDT (0531 GMT) on March 22, when it will be 64 degrees over the horizon to the south. Ceres will disappear when the sun's light washes it out at around 5:51 a.m. EDT (0951 GMT) as it sits at around 28 degrees over the horizon to the west. (For perspective, your clenched fist held at arm's length spans about 10 degrees of sky.)

During the close approach, Ceres will still be around 147 million miles (237 million kilometers) from Earth. It will reach a peak brightness magnitude of around 6.9, meaning that, even through a telescope, it will appear as no more than a point of light.

Ceres is the largest object in the main asteroid belt and has the distinction of being the only dwarf planet in the inner solar system. Most of these objects are located in the Kuiper Belt, a band of icy bodies out beyond the orbit of Neptune.

Spotted in 1801 by Giuseppe Piazzi, Ceres was initially believed to be an asteroid but was eventually found to be much larger than other bodies in the asteroid belt, receiving its dwarf planet designation in 2006.

Though Ceres comprises a quarter of the mass of the entire asteroid belt, the solar system's most famous dwarf planet Pluto is still 14 times more massive than Ceres, which is just 592 miles (953 km) wide. If Earth were the size of a nickel, NASA said, Ceres would be no larger than a poppy seed.