

## SAINTS' DAYS

The Catholic Church has a large number of saints. Only the most common saints' days are listed later in this chapter, in the glossary entitled "Principal Feast and Saints' Days". Other, more comprehensive, listings are available to the stake extractors, for determining the dates of the saints' days. In 1969 changes to the Roman Catholic Church calendar were announced and the dates for some of the saints' days were changed. Of course, for those saints that are listed here (in this chapter), the dates given are those that pertain to the old parish records.

The main purpose of this particular section is to provide you with the more important vocabulary that is used in connection with the names of saints, as found in the Latin parish registers.

The following terms pertain to Christ and Mary:

Christus, Christi (Chri, Xti) = Christ  
Jesus, Jesu = Jesus  
Dominus, Domini (Dni, Doi) = Lord, Master  
... Domini Nostri Jesu Christi (D.N.J.C., D.N.I.C.) = ... of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
... Beatae Mariae Virginis (B.M.V.) = ... of Blessed Mary the Virgin

The following vocabulary is used with the names of other saints:

abbas, abbatis (abb.) = abbot  
Apostoli, Apostolorum (App., Ap<sup>l</sup>orum) = apostles  
Apostolus, Apostoli (Ap., Apli) = apostle  
confessor, confessoris (conf., cf., cf.) = confessor  
diaconus (diac.) = deacon  
Divus = Saint [m]  
doctor ecclesiae = Doctor of the Church [a title which, by 1900, had been conferred upon 23 eminent ecclesiastical writers]  
episcopus (ep.) = bishop  
eremita, eremita (erem.) = hermit  
Evangelista, Evangelistae (Ev., Ev<sup>ag</sup>, Ev<sup>list</sup>ae) = evangelist  
martyr, martyr (m., mart., m<sup>ris</sup>) = martyr  
martyres, martyrum (MM, m<sup>rum</sup>) = martyrs  
papa, papae (p., pp) = pope  
presbyter, -teris (pb.) = priest  
sacerdos, -dotis (sac.) = priest  
Sancta, Sanctae (S., St<sup>ae</sup>) = Saint [f]  
Sancti, Sanctorum (SS) = Saints [m, mf]  
Sanctus, Sancti (S., St<sup>i</sup>) = Saint [m]  
sociae, sociarum (soc.) = companions [f]  
socii, sociorum (soc.) = companions [m]  
virgo, virginis (v., virg.) = virgin

## MOVABLE FEAST DAYS

The best-known example of a movable feast day is Easter, which appears on a different date each year -- within the 35-day period of March 22 through April 25. Most of the other Sundays of the year were included in the Easter cycle. The Easter cycle began with Septuagesima Sunday, always the 9th Sunday before Easter (January 18-February 21). The final Sunday of the Easter cycle, occurring between November 20th and 26th, was expressed as being so many Sundays after Trinity Sunday, or else after Pentecost Sunday. The individual names of the Sundays are listed in the alphabetical glossary that follows ("Principal Feast and Saints' Days").

Following the Easter cycle was the Advent season. The four Sundays of Advent are the four consecutive Sundays that precede Christmas. The Roman Catholic church year still begins with the Advent season. In the earliest Advent cycle, the first Advent Sunday is on November 27; the fourth Advent Sunday is on December 24 in the latest cycle.

The feast of the Epiphany was always on January 6, but the Sundays of the Epiphany season were on movable dates. There were as few as one Sunday 'after Trinity', and as many as six, between Epiphany and the beginning of the Easter cycle. This feast celebrates the epiphany (appearance, manifestation) of Christ to the wise men.

In summary then, the three cycles or seasons of movable feast days in a calendar year are those of Epiphany, Easter and Advent.

The names of some of the Sundays of the movable feast calendar are derived from the first word of the introit, the short passage of scripture at the beginning of the mass. For example, Oculi Sunday, four weeks before Easter, is named for the first word of the introit for that day, which is as follows:

"Oculi mei semper ad Dominum ...." =  
"Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord ...."

[Psalm 25:15; Latin Vulgate and King James Versions]

PRINCIPAL  
FEAST AND SAINTS' DAYS  
(GLOSSARY)

In the glossary that begins below, there are entries for two types of feasts: fixed and movable. The first entry is an example of a fixed feast day. The entry contains the following parts:

Latin name of feast:	Adoratio Magorum
literal translation in English:	adoration of the magi
standard name of feast in English:	Epiphany
date of the feast (standard calendar date):	6 JAN

An example of a movable feast is "Ascensio Domini", recognizable as movable from the fact that no standard calendar date is given. However, the standard calendar date for this feast for a particular year (such as 1768) can be determined. To do that you will need to study and use the material that follows this A-Z glossary.

In the definition portion sometimes no English equivalent is given, for one of two reasons: (1) the feast is referred to always by its Latin name (such as Cantate), or (2) the Latin name (such as Thomas) needs no translation..

Many of the entries refer to Easter. The following abbreviations are used for the repetitive phrases:

- S. bef. (aft.) E. = Sunday before (after) Easter
- wks. bef. (aft.) E. = weeks before (after) Easter
- wk. prec. (foll.) E. = the week preceding (following) Easter
- intr. = introit [defined in the previous section]

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A

- Adoratio Magorum = adoration of the magi [Epiphany, 6 JAN]
- Adventus, -us = Advent [season prec. Christmas]
- Alba Hebdomada = white week [wk. foll. E.]
- Albis:
  - Dominica in Albis = Sunday in whites [Quasimodo, 1st S. aft. E.]
  - Sabbatum in Albis = Saturday in whites [day bef. the above]
- Altatio Crucis = Exaltation of the Cross [14 SEP]
- Andreas, Ap. = Andrew [30 NOV]
- Animarum dies = day of souls [All Souls Day, 2 NOV]
- Annunciatio Mariae = Annunciation of Mary [25 MAR]
- Annuntiatio Domini = Annunciation of the Lord [25 MAR]
- Apparitio Domini = appearance of the Lord [Epiphany, 6 JAN]
- Ascensio Domini = Ascension of the Lord [Ascension Day, Thurs. 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> wks. aft. E.]
- Ascensio Mariae = Ascension of Mary [Assumption, 15 AUG]
- Assumptio Mariae = Assumption of Mary [15 AUG]
- Azyna Hebdomada = unleavened week [Holy Week, wk. prec. E.]
- Azymorum festum = feast of unleavened bread [Passover, Easter]

## B

Bacchanalia, -ium = carnival [Shrove-tide, the few days prec. Lent; Shrove Tuesday, 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> wks. bef. E., was the final day]  
Bartholomaeus, Ap. = Bartholomew [24 AUG]  
Benedictio Cineris = blessing of ashes [Ash Wednesday, 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> wks. bef. E.]  
Benedictio Palmarum = blessing of palms [Palm Sunday, 1st S. bef. E.]

## C

Caecilia, virg. mart. = Cecilia [22 NOV]  
Candelarum festum = feast of candles [Candelmas Day, Presentation of the Lord, Purification of Mary, 2 FEB]  
Cantate = [intr., 4th S. aft. E.]  
Caput Jejunii, Capitis J. = beginning ('head') of the fast-period [Ash Wednesday, 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> wks. bef. E.]  
Catharina, virg. mart. = [25 NOV]  
Cathedra Petri = Peter's Chair [22 FEB]  
Christi festum = feast of Christ [Christmas, 25 DEC]  
Cineris dies = day of ashes [Ash Wednesday, 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> wks. bef. E.]  
Cinerum dies = day of ashes [Ash Wednesday, 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> wks. bef. E.]  
Circumcisio Domini = Circumcision of the Lord [1 JAN]  
Circumdederunt = [intr., Septuagesima, 9th S. bef. E.]  
Coena Domini = supper of the Lord [Holy Thursday, Thurs. bef. E.]  
Commemoratio Omnium Animarum = Commemoration of All Souls [All Souls Day, 2 NOV]  
Commemoratio Omnium Fidelium Defunctorum = Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed [All Souls Day, 2 NOV]  
Commemoratio Omnium Sanctorum = Commemoration of All Saints [All Saints Day, 1 NOV]  
Conceptio Domini = Conception of the Lord [25 MAR]  
Conceptio Mariae = Conception of Mary [Immaculate Conception, 8 DEC]  
Conversio Pauli Apostoli = Conversion of Paul the Apostle [25 JAN]  
Conversio Petri = Conversion of Peter [25 JUN]  
Corpus Christi, Corporis C. = the body of Christ [Corpus Christi, Thurs. 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> wks. aft. E.]  
Crucis Exaltatio = Exaltation of the Cross [14 SEP]  
Crucis Inventio = Finding of the Cross [3 MAY]

## D

Decollatio Joannis Baptistae = Beheading of John the Baptist [29 AUG]  
Dies ... = [for a feast ('day of ...'), see under the main word; for days of the week, see "The Week", in the previous chapter; see also the next few entries, as well as the "Weekday Comp Chart" near the end of this chapter.]  
Dies Jovis Sancta = Holy Thursday [Maundy Thurs., Thurs. bef. E.]  
Dies Sabbati ... = [see Sabbatum ...]  
Dies Veneris Bona (Magna, Sancta) = [see Feria 6<sup>ta</sup> ...]

## E

Elisabetha, lantgravia vidua = Elizabeth [of Hungary, landgravine of Thuringia; 19 NOV]  
Epiphania Domini = Epiphany of the Lord [6 JAN]  
Estomihi = [intr., 7th S. bef. E.]  
Exaltatio Crucis = Exaltation of the Cross [14 SEP]  
Exaudi = [intr., 6th S. aft. E.]  
Exsurge = [intr., Sexagesima, 8th S. bef. E.]

## F

Feria ... = [for days of the week, see "The Week", in the previous chapter; see also the next several entries, as well as the "Weekday Comp Chart" near the end of this chapter.]

Feria 2<sup>da</sup> ... = [see Pascha & Pentecoste]  
Feria 4<sup>ta</sup> Cinerum = Wednesday of ashes [Ash Wednesday, 6<sup>1/2</sup> wks. bef. E.]  
Feria 5<sup>ta</sup> Sancta = Holy Thursday [Maundy Thurs., Thurs. bef. E.]  
Feria 6<sup>ta</sup> Bona = Good Friday [Fri. bef. E.]  
Feria 6<sup>ta</sup> Magna = Great Friday [Good Friday, Fri. bef. E.]  
Feria 6<sup>ta</sup> Sancta = Holy Friday [Good Friday, Fri. bef. E.]  
Feria 7<sup>ma</sup> Sancta = Holy Saturday [day bef. E.]  
Festum ... = [for a feast ('feast of ...'), see under the main word]

## H

Hebdomada Alba = white week [Easter week, wk. foll. E.]  
Hebdomada Azyma = unleavened week [Holy Week, wk. prec. E.]  
Hebdomada Major = Great Week [Holy Week, wk. prec. E.]  
Hebdomada Paschalis = Easter week [wk. foll. E.]  
Hebdomada Sacra = Holy Week [wk. prec. E.]  
Hebdomada Sancta = Holy Week [wk. prec. E.]

## I

Infantes, Infantium = infants [Holy Innocents, Childermas, 28 DEC]  
Initium Jejunii = beginning of the fast-period [Ash Wednesday, 6<sup>1/2</sup> wks. bef. E.]  
Innocentes, Innocentium = innocents [Holy Innocents, 28 DEC]  
Inventio Crucis = Finding of the Cross [3 MAY]  
Invocavit = [intr.; 6th S. bef. E.]

## J

Jacobus (Major), Ap. = James (the Greater/ the Elder) [25 JUL]  
Jacobus Minor, Ap. = James the Less:  
    Philippus & Jacobus, App. = Philip & James [1 MAY]  
Jejunium, -ii = fasting, fast-period [Lent, the 6<sup>1/2</sup> wk. period from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sun.]  
Joannes, Ap. Ev. = John [27 DEC]  
Joannes Baptista = John the Baptist [24 JUN]  
Joannis Baptistae Decollatio = Beheading of John the Baptist [29 AUG]  
Joannis Baptistae Nativitas = Birth of John the Baptist [24 JUN]

Jubilare = [intr., 3rd S. aft. E.]  
Judas Thaddaeus, Apostolus:  
    Simon & Judas, App. = Simon & Jude [28 OCT]  
Judica = [intr., 2nd S. bef. E.]

## L

Laetare = [intr., 3rd S. bef. E.]  
Laurentius, diac. mart. = Lawrence [10 AUG]  
Lucas, Evang. = Luke [18 OCT]  
Luminum festum = feast of lights [Candlemas, 2 FEB]

## M

Magi Tres, Magorum Trium = 3 magi, 3 wise men [Epiphany, 6 JAN]  
Major Hebdomada = Great Week [Holy Week, wk. prec. E.]  
Marcus, Ev. = Mark [25 APR]  
Maria Magdalena = Mary Magdalene [22 JUL]  
Mariae Annunciatio = Annunciation of Mary [25 MAR]  
Mariae Assumptio = Assumption of Mary [15 AUG]  
Mariae Conceptio = Conception of Mary [Immaculate Conception, 8 DEC]  
Mariae Natalis = Birth of Mary [8 SEP]  
Mariae Nativitas = Birth of Mary [8 SEP]  
Mariae Praesentatio = Presentation of Mary [21 NOV]  
Mariae Purificatio = Purification of Mary [Candlemas, 2 FEB]  
Mariae Visitatio = Visitation of Mary [2 JUL]  
Martinus, episc. conf. = Martin [of Tours; 11 NOV]  
Matthaeus, Ap. Ev. = Matthew [21 SEP]  
Matthias, Ap. = Matthias [24 FEB]  
Michael, archangelus = Michael the Archangel [Michaelmas Day, 29 SEP]  
Misericordia Domini = [intr., 2nd S. aft. E.]

## N

Natalis Domini = Birth of the Lord [Christmas, 25 DEC]  
Natalis Mariae = Birth of Mary [8 SEP]  
Nativitas Domini, -tatis D. = Birth of the Lord [Christmas, 25 DEC]  
Nativitas Joannis Baptistae = Birth of John the Baptist [24 JUN]  
Nativitas Mariae = Birth of Mary [8 SEP]  
Nicolaus, episc. conf. = Nicholas [of Myra; 6 DEC]  
Novus Annus, Novi Anni = new year [New Year's Day, 1 JAN]

## O

Oculi = [intr., 4th S. bef. E.]  
Omnium Animarum Commemoratio = Commemoration of All Souls [All Souls Day, 2 NOV]  
Omnium Fidelium Defunctorum Commemoratio = Commemoration of all the Faithful  
    Departed [All Souls Day, 2 NOV]  
Omnium Sanctorum Commemoratio = Commemoration of All Saints [All Saints Day,  
    1 NOV]

## P

Palmarum dies = day of palms [Palm Sunday, 1st S. bef. E.]

Sabbatum Palmarum = Saturday of palms [day bef. Palm Sunday]

Palmis:

Dominica in Palmis = Sunday in palms [Palm Sunday, 1st S. bef. E.]

Parasceve, -es = preparation [esp. for Good Friday]

Feria 6<sup>ta</sup> in Parasceve = Friday in preparation [Good Friday, Fri. bef. E.]

Pascha, Paschae/Paschatis = Easter

Feria 2<sup>da</sup> Paschae = Monday of Easter [Easter Monday, day aft. E.]

Sabbatum in Pascha = Saturday in Easter [Sat. in Easter Week, Sat. aft. E.]

paschalis (-ale) [adj.] = Easter-

Hebdomada Paschalis = Easter week [wk. foll. E.]

Pauli Apostoli Conversio = Conversion of Paul the Apostle [25 JAN]

Paulus, Apostolus:

Petrus & Paulus, App. = Peter & Paul [29 JUN]

Pentecoste, -es = Pentecost [Whit Sunday, 7th S. aft. E.]

Feria 2<sup>da</sup> Pentecostes = Monday of Pentecost [Whit Monday, day aft. Pentecost]

Sabbatum in Pentecoste = Saturday in Pentecost [Sat. in Pentecost wk., Sat. in Whit wk., Sat. aft. Pent.]

Petri Cathedra = Peter's Chair [22 FEB]

Petri Conversio = Conversion of Peter [25 JUN]

Petri Vincula, P. Vinculorum = Peter's Chains [1 AUG]

Petrus & Paulus, App. = Peter & Paul [29 JUN]

Philippus & Jacobus, App. = Philip & James [1 MAY]

Praesentatio Domini = Presentation of the Lord [Candlemas, 2 FEB]

Praesentatio Mariae = Presentation of Mary [21 NOV]

Pueri Innocentes, Puerorum Innocentium = innocent children [Holy Innocents, Childermas, 28 DEC]

Purificatio Mariae = Purification of Mary [Candlemas, 2 FEB]

## Q

Quadragesima (40<sup>ma</sup>) = [1.] Quadragesima Sunday [Invocavit, 6th S. bef. E., 1st S. in Lent]; [2.] Lent [the 6<sup>1/2</sup> wk. period from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday]

Dominica Quadragesima = Quadragesima Sunday

Dominica ... in Quadragesima = the ...th Sunday in Lent

Quasimodo = [see next]

Quasimodogeniti = [intr., 1st S. aft. E.]

Quinquagesima (50<sup>ma</sup>) = [Estomihi, 7th S. bef. E.]

## R

Rami Palmarum, Ramorum P. = branches of palms [Palm Sunday, 1st S. bef. E.]

Ramis (Ramis Palmarum):

Dominica in Ramis = Sunday in branches [Palm Sunday, 1st S. bef. E.]

Sabbatum in Ramis = Saturday in branches [day bef. the above]

Reges Tres, Regum Trium = 3 kings [Epiphany, 6 JAN]

Reminiscere = [intr., 5th S. bef. E.]

Rogate = [5th S. aft. E.]

Rogationes, Rogationum = rogations, supplications [Rogation Days, the 3 days foll. Rogate]

## S

Sabbatum ... = Saturday ... [As a feast-day phrase it usually designates the day bef. the similarly-named Sunday: see Albis, Ramis, Palmarum, as examples. However, note the exceptions for Easter and Pentecost in the following 2 phrases:]  
Sabbatum in Pascha = Saturday in Easter [Sat. in Easter week, Sat. aft. E.]  
Sabbatum in Pentecoste = Saturday in Pentecost [Sat. in Pent. week, Sat. aft. Pent.]  
Sabbatum Magnum = Great Saturday [day bef. E.]  
Sabbatum Sanctum = Holy Saturday [day bef. E.]  
Sacra Hebdomada = Holy Week [wk. prec. E.]  
Sancta Hebdomada = Holy Week [wk. prec. E.]  
Sanctorum Omnium dies = All Saints Day [1 NOV]  
Septimana ... = ... week [see Hebdomada]  
Septuagesima (70<sup>ma</sup>) = [9th S. bef. E.]  
Sexagesima (60<sup>ma</sup>) = [8th S. bef. E.]  
Simon & Judas, App. = Simon & Jude [28 OCT]  
Stephanus, protomartyr = Stephen, first martyr [26 DEC]

## T

tempus clausum, temporis clausi = closed period [during which marrying was forbidden:  
Lent, Advent]  
Thaddaeus (Judas Thaddaeus), Ap.:  
Simon & Judas, App. = Simon & Jude [28 OCT]  
Thomas, Ap. = [21 DEC]  
Transfiguratio Christi = Transfiguration of Christ [6 AUG]  
Tres Magi, Trium Magorum = 3 magi, 3 wise men [Epiphany, 6 JAN]  
Tres Reges, Trium Regum = 3 kings [Epiphany, 6 JAN]  
Trinitas, Trinitatis = Trinity [Trinity Sunday, 8th S. aft. E.]  
... Sanctissimae Trinitatis (Ss. Trin.) = ... of the Most Holy Trinity

## V

Vigilia Christi = the vigil of Christ [Christmas Eve, 24 DEC]  
Vincula Petri, Vinculorum P. = Peter's Chains [1 AUG]  
Viridium dies = day of greens [Holy Thursday, Maundy Thursday, Thurs. bef. E.]  
Visitatio Mariae = Visitation of Mary [2 JUL]  
Vocem Jucunditatis = [intr., Rogate, 5th S. aft. E.]

## NUMERICAL ABBREVIATIONS

3 ... = [see Tres ...]

40<sup>ma</sup> = [see Quadragesima]  
50<sup>ma</sup> = [see Quinquagesima]  
60<sup>ma</sup> = [see Sexagesima]  
70<sup>ma</sup> = [see Septuagesima]