

Proclamation of the Date of Easter on Epiphany

Introduction

1. *The Proclamation of the Date of Easter 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.
2. Although calendars now give the date of Easter and the other feasts in the liturgical year 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.
3. The proclamation may be sung or proclaimed at the ambo by a deacon, cantor, or reader either after the gospel or after the prayer after communion.
4. Each year the proper dates for Holy Thursday, Ash Wednesday, Ascension, Pentecost, and the First Sunday of Advent must be inserted into the text. These dates are found in the table which is included with the introductory documents of the *Sacramentary*. The form to be used for announcing each date is: the *date of month*, e.g., "the seventh of April."
5. On the solemnity of the Epiphany, after the homily or after the prayer after communion, the deacon or, in his absence, another minister announces the date of Easter and the other feasts of the liturgical year according to the following text.

Dear brothers and sisters, the glory of the Lord has shone upon us, and shall ever be manifest among us, until the day of his return. Through the rhythms of times and seasons let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.

Let us recall the year's culmination, the Easter Triduum of the Lord: his last supper, his crucifixion, his burial, and his rising celebrated between the evening of the (date) of (month) (date of Holy Thursday) and the evening of the (date) of (month) (date of Easter Sunday).

Each Easter - as on each Sunday - the Holy Church makes present the great and saving deed by which Christ has for ever conquered sin and death.

From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy.

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, will occur on the (date) of (month).

The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated on the (date) of (month).

Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter, will be celebrated on the (date) of (month).

Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims the passover of Christ in the feasts of the holy Mother of God, in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints, and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.

To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come, Lord of time and history, be endless praise, for ever and ever.

R. Amen. [Amen. Amen.]