



# Memo

**Date:** February 26, 2018

**To:** Priests, Deacons and Liturgical Directors

**From:** Patricia DeJarnett, Liturgical Coordinator, Office for Divine Worship

**Re:** Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception for 2018

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The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in 2018 is celebrated on Saturday, December 8. As the Patronal Feast Day of the United States, this solemnity is always a holy day of obligation. The obligation is fulfilled by attending a Vigil Mass on Friday evening, December 7 or Mass during the day on Saturday morning.

In the Table of Liturgical Days, a solemnity of the Virgin Mary ranks lower than a Sunday of Advent. Therefore, the Immaculate Conception will end on the afternoon of Saturday, December 8. On Saturday evening, Evening Prayer I of the Second Sunday of Advent is celebrated instead of Evening Prayer II of the Immaculate Conception, and Masses are that of the Second Sunday of Advent.

Please note that the readings for the Solemnity must be used at all Masses prior to 4:00 p.m. celebrated on that day.

For questions, please contact Dr. Patricia DeJarnett at [pdejarnett@archatl.com](mailto:pdejarnett@archatl.com) or 404-920-7339.