

Tradition in the Liturgical Year

Feast Days

On Feast Days, or Holy Days, we celebrate special services in commemoration of:

1. the sacred mysteries & events recorded in the history of our redemption,
2. His apostles, martyrs, and saints,
3. the Virgin Mother of Christ.

As we celebrate a feast, we remember (and hopefully learn from) the event it commemorates.

SYMBOL	NAME	DESCRIPTION
"S"	SOLEMNITY	A solemnity is the highest rank of celebration. Easter, Christmas, All Saints Day, the Ascension, Corpus Christi, and other celebrations of events in our Lord's life on earth and certain saints are solemnities. The Gloria and Creed are always said on such days. Solemnities are like Sundays, though most of them are not days of obligation.
"F"	FEAST	Feasts are the next rank down. They consist of the celebration of certain saints like the feast of the Archangels or most of the Apostles. The Gloria is required on these days, but not the Creed.
"M"	MEMORIAL	Memorials are the lowest rank & they are the celebrations of most of the saints.
"m"		The Gloria is not said on these days. Obligatory memorials (" M "), must be observed. Optional memorials, (" m "), may be observed but are not required.

<http://www.catholic.org/saints/>

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/source/saint-of-the-day/>

The Use of Color in the Catholic Liturgical Year

The sense of sight, including color, plays an important role in Catholic worship
The colors of a priest's vestments help us know that certain celebrations are at hand.

COLOR	SYMBOLISM	USED on ...
Violet	Quietness & Penitence	Advent and Lent
Rose	Joy	3rd Sunday in Advent & the 4th Sunday in Lent.
White or Gold	Purity & Joy	Christmas, Easter & feast days of Our Lord, the Virgin Mary, and non martyrs.
Red	Blood & Fire	The Passion, Pentecost, and feast days of martyrs
Green	Life	Sundays in Ordinary Time
Black	Mourning	Good Friday and all masses for the dead

<http://catholicherald.com/stories/What-do-liturgical-colors-mean,27638>

http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liturgical_colours

<http://www.catholic.org/clife/lcolors.php>