

Tridentine Community News

October 2, 2011

Feast Days Enriched with Plenary Indulgences

A reader asked an interesting question: Can we produce a list of Feast Days on which the Church grants Plenary Indulgences? We're more than happy to oblige, especially when the end result is making the Church's treasury of graces available to more people. The following information and quotes are taken from the currently-in-force book of guidelines, the 2006 Manual of Indulgences available from www.usccbpublishing.org. All of these statements are prefaced by text such as "A plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful who..."

Octave Day of Christmas, a.k.a. Feast of the Circumcision (January 1): "Devoutly assist either at the recitation or solemn singing of the *Veni Creator*...to implore divine assistance for the course of the whole year."

Fridays of Lent: "Devoutly recite after Communion the prayer *En ego, O bone et dulcissime Jesu* before a crucifix."

Holy Thursday: "Piously recite the verses of the *Tantum ergo* after the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday during the solemn reposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament."

Good Friday: "Devoutly assist at the adoration of the Cross in the solemn liturgical action of Good Friday."

Easter Vigil: "At the celebration of the Easter Vigil...renew their baptismal vows in any legitimately approved formula."

Divine Mercy Sunday, a.k.a. Low Sunday: "In any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g.: 'Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!')."

Pentecost Sunday: "Devoutly assist either at the recitation or solemn singing of the *Veni Creator*."

Corpus Christi: "Devoutly participate in a solemn Eucharistic procession, held inside or outside of a church."

Feast of the Sacred Heart: "Publicly recite the act of reparation (*Jesu dulcissime*)."

Ss. Peter & Paul (June 29): Two plenary indulgences are possible, though not on the same day: A) "Make prayerful use of an article of devotion, as defined by Norm 15, that has been blessed by the Supreme Pontiff or by any bishop, provided the faithful also make a Profession of Faith using any legitimate formula." Norm 15 identifies these as a crucifix or cross, rosary, scapular, or medal.

B) "Visit...a minor basilica [or] the cathedral church...and there devoutly recite an Our Father and Creed."

Portiuncula Indulgence (August 2): "Visit...a minor basilica, the cathedral church, [or] a parish church...and there devoutly recite an Our Father and Creed."

Feast of Christ the King (Last Sunday in October): "Publicly recite the act of dedication of the human race to Christ the King (*Jesu dulcissime, Redemptor*)."

All Souls Day (November 2): "Devoutly visit a church or an oratory and recite an Our Father and the Creed." This plenary indulgence is applicable only to the dead.

Dedication of the Archbasilica of Our Savior (November 9): "Visit...the cathedral church...and there devoutly recite an Our Father and Creed."

Seventh Day Within the Octave of the Nativity (December 31): "Devoutly assist either at the recitation or solemn singing of the *Te Deum*...to offer thanks to God for gifts received throughout the course of the entire year."

Feast of the Titular of the place: "Visit...a minor basilica; the cathedral church; an international, national, or diocesan shrine established by competent authority; [or] a parish church...and there devoutly recite an Our Father and Creed."

Feast of the Founder: "Visit...a church or an oratory of institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life."

Some general terms: "In order to be capable of gaining indulgences one must be baptized, not excommunicated, and in the state of grace at least at the completion of the prescribed works. To gain an indulgence, one must have at least the general intention of doing so and must carry out the enjoined works at the stated time and in due fashion, according to the sense of the grant." In practical terms, one should first be aware of the possibility that an indulgence can be earned so that one can desire to gain it. We will strive to mention any relevant Indulgences in the Latin/English Propers Handouts for each of the above Feasts, and to include Latin and English texts of any associated prayers. The usual conditions apply: Prayer for the Holy Father's intentions, Confession within 20 days, reception of Holy Communion, and freedom from attachment to sin.

Certain Feasts may be moved to a Sunday in the Extraordinary Form. The rules for Indulgences anticipate this possibility: "If a liturgical celebration or its external solemnity is lawfully transferred, it is understood that an indulgence attached to that liturgical celebration is likewise transferred to the same day."

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Mon. 10/03 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *St. Josaphat* (St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Virgin)

Tue. 10/04 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *Assumption-Windsor* (St. Francis, Confessor)

Fri. 10/07 7:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Josaphat* (Our Lady of the Rosary)