



ARCHDIOCESE OF AGAÑA

Prot. No. 01-13

To: **ALL THE CLERGY, COMMUNITIES OF CONSECRATED PERSONS AND LAY COLLABORATORS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF AGAÑA**

From: **ARCHBISHOP RYAN P. JIMENEZ**

CC: **ARCHDIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSION**

Date: **SEPTEMBER 20, 2024**

Re: **OCCURRENCES IN THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR DURING THE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2024**

Dear Reverend Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

Pax et Bonum!

I wish to communicate to our Parishes and Religious communities the following:

1. On 2 November, All Souls' Day, the Church gathers in solemn suffrage for the souls in purgatory that God may forgive them their sins and welcome them into the fullness of His presence. The Catholic Catechism defines the Dogma of Purgatory:
"All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name 'Purgatory' to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned... From the beginning the Church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God."

The norms governing the liturgical calendar provide that Sundays in Ordinary Time (*Table of Precedence of Liturgical Days, II, 6*) take precedence over feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints in the general calendar (II, 7).

Since, All Souls' Day falls on Saturday this year, **Masses at dawn and during the day will be offered for the faithful departed. Evening Masses on November 2 (Saturday) beginning at 4pm will be celebrated as 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time.** Those who participate in these Evening Masses satisfy their Sunday obligation.

2. **All Masses on December 8 (Sunday) will be celebrated as Masses of the Second Sunday of Advent.** Solemnities *“impeded by a liturgical day that takes precedence over it should be transferred to the closest day not listed under nos. 1-8 in the Table of Precedence”* (General Norms on the Liturgical Year and Calendar, 60). Solemnities that fall on a Sunday of Advent or Lent are *“transferred to the following Monday unless they occur on Palm Sunday or on Sunday of the Lord’s Resurrection”* (GNLYC, 5). **Hence, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary this year will be celebrated on Monday, December 9, 2024.**
3. On December 8, 2024, considering the devotion of the people of Guam to Santa Marian Kamalen, Parishes and Communities may pray rosary before or after mass and/or sing a Marian hymn at the conclusion of the Mass.

We hope that these reminders and information will help you guide your community.

Attachment: Schedule of Cemetery Masses