

January 2023  
North American Martyrs  
**Newsletter**



*Dear member of North American Martyrs,*

*Jesus wants to help and save you.*

*No matter who you are, what you've done, or where you are.*



*This world continually steps away from God and His way of life and the results are nearly impossible to ignore: division, anger, sadness, confusion, lethargy, apathy, and so much more. Have you felt this or are you currently experiencing this? We are not designed for these burdens. Instead, we are designed to be known and loved on our deepest levels. When you experience being known and loved, you can have the joy and peace that Jesus so desperately wants you to have, no matter what is happening around you.*

*In Spring of 2022, Bishop Conley called me to ask to become pastor of North America Martyrs. That's when I started to pray for all of you. My prayer was that Jesus please bless my priesthood, not just for my sake, but for the sake of the parishioners. I was instilled with a desire to serve you, my fellow priests, and those who feel isolated or distant from God.*

*That's where our parish comes in. North American Martyrs should be the place where you have safety from this harsh world and experience a sense of being in contact with the One who perfectly knows and loves you. It might be difficult in a larger parish to feel being known and loved by the priests specifically, but the main Goal of Christ was never that. Instead, the priests are called to help you achieve contact with the One for whom your heart was made. The goal is for the priests to help guide you to Him who is the remedy to your ills, the confidence for your uncertainty, and the answer to your deepest questions.*

*At North American Martyrs, we're going to be developing ways in order to help you come in contact with Jesus no matter where you are in your journey of Faith. Continue to check in at what is being offered.*

*Please know of my prayers for each of you.*

*In Christ,*

*~Rev. Nathan Hall*

*Pastor, North American Martyrs Catholic Church*

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## 2023 Holy Days of Obligation

In 2023, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, January 1, falls on a Sunday, and the Ascension of the Lord, May 21, is also on a Sunday. Catholics are obligated to attend Mass every Sunday, so we chose to include them on this list.

Christmas, December 25, 2023, will be on a Monday and will remain a Holy Day of Obligation for this year. There will be no dispensation for Christmas. Pay close attention to the local Mass schedule because the faithful will need to attend both the fourth Sunday of Advent Mass (a Vigil Mass after 4pm on Saturday, December 22, or morning Mass on Sunday, December 24) AND Christmas Mass (a Vigil on Sunday, December 24 after 4pm OR morning Mass on Sunday, December 25).

In addition to Sundays, the following holy days are obligatory in 2023:

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God | January 1  
Ascension of Jesus | May 21  
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary | August 15  
All Saints Day | November 1  
The Immaculate Conception | December 8  
Christmas | December 25



## Holy Days Of Obligation

\*Please note ALL Sundays are obligatory for the faithful to attend Mass

The Solemnity  
of Mary, the  
Holy Mother of  
God

**01**  
January

The Ascension  
of the Lord

**21**  
May

The  
Assumption of  
the Blessed  
Virgin Mary

**15**  
August

All Saint's Day

**01**  
November

The  
Immaculate  
Conception of  
the Blessed  
Virgin Mary

**08**  
December

The Nativity of  
Our Lord Jesus  
Christ  
(Christmas)

**25**  
December

The Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day and his Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life. "Sunday is the day on which the paschal mystery is celebrated in light of the apostolic tradition and is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church."