

## RECENT CHANGES IN THE DISCIPLINE FOR HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

On January 1, 1993, particular law for the Dioceses of the United States modified the discipline for holy days of obligation. Additionally, some western provinces of the United States have received an indult to transfer the solemnity of the Ascension to the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter. This new legislation is summarized below.

- I. In addition to Sunday, the days to be observed as holy days of obligation in the Latin Rite dioceses of the United States of America, in conformity with canon 1246, are as follows:

January 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter, the solemnity of the Ascension

August 15, the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

November 1, the solemnity of All Saints

December 8, the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

December 25, the solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Whenever January 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, or August 15, the solemnity of the Assumption, or November 1, the solemnity of All Saints, falls on a Saturday or on a Monday, the precept to attend Mass is abrogated (Cf. BCL Newsletter, vol 28, Dec. 1992)

- II. Additionally, for the provinces of Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Anchorage, the solemnity of the Ascension is transferred to the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter as provided for in the Sacramentary. This indult has been issued ad experimentum for five years (until 1998). (cf. letter from Bishop Skylstad, February 15, 1993).

From the Office of the Chancellor

October 17, 1994

**Addendum:** as of September 8, 1999, the Bishops of all ecclesiastical provinces of the United States have authorization to transfer the Solemnity of the Ascension to the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter. (BCL Newsletter July, 1999).