



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**Saint Kateri  
Council 12229**

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## **DECEMBER 2019**

### **Newsletter Editor's Message**

Brothers, how about a little refresher this month with the Immaculate Conception Holy Day? This year, our St Isaac Jogues parish is NOT requiring this Holy Day to be a Holy Day of Obligation, but read on to learn why. The content below was captured from the website: <https://www.learnreligions.com/when-is-the-feast-of-the-immaculate-conception-541628>

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception celebrates the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. This conception is called "immaculate" because Mary was conceived without Original Sin. When is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception?

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is normally celebrated on December 8, exactly nine months before the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (September 8). However, because the celebration of the Immaculate Conception falls during Advent every year, the feast is transferred to December 9 when December 8 falls on a Sunday (as it does in 2019). While the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation (even when December 8 falls on a Saturday or Monday), the obligation is abrogated when the celebration of the feast is transferred to December 9.

In the United States and other countries, the bishops have received permission from the Vatican to abrogate (temporarily waive) the requirement for Catholics to attend Mass on certain Holy Days of Obligation when those Holy Days fall on either Saturday or Monday.

However, if December 8 falls on a Sunday (as in, for instance, 2019), the celebration of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9. This is because Sundays in Advent take precedence over any other feast. When the celebration is transferred, rather than naturally falling on a Monday, the obligation to attend Mass does not transfer with it.

So, now you know why sometimes this Holy Day is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation!