2026 ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Advent Confession Schedule

It is fitting to prepare for the feast of the Birth of Our Lord by receiving the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation. We prepare to greet the Lord not only by decorating our homes but most especially by purifying our hearts.

A reminder that our usual times for this sacrament of the mercy of God are as follows:

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS CHURCH (DRAYTON)	ST. MARY IMMACULATE CHURCH (ELORA)
Sundays: 8:30-8:45 a.m.	Saturdays: 4:15-4:45 p.m. Mondays: 8:30-8:45 a.m. First Thursday of the Month: 6:40-7:00 p.m.

Confessions will also be heard on Saturdays after the 5:00 p.m. Mass throughout Advent. Additional times for this sacrament in St. Mary Immaculate Church (Elora) will be:

- Sun., Nov. 29: 3:00-4:00 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 3: after Benediction
- Sun., Dec. 6: after the 11:00 a.m. Mass
- Wed., Dec. 16: 8:15-8:45 a.m.*; 9:45-10:00 a.m.*
- Sun., Dec. 20: after the 11:00 a.m. Mass
- Mon., Dec. 21: 8:15-8:45 a.m.

*On Wednesday, December 16 this sacrament will be celebrated in the crying room.

You are also welcome to make an appointment for this sacrament. This can be especially helpful for those who are hard of hearing and need extra privacy. But be aware that Fr. Starczala will **not** be available for appointments on December 23 and 24 (except for those in danger of death).

Penitential Act

During Mass in the season of Advent, we will be using Form B of the Penitential Act. Please consider reviewing this and marking it in your Sunday Missal.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On Tuesday, December 8 we celebrate the patronal feast of St. Mary Immaculate Church. There will be Morning Prayer at 8:00 a.m. The Rosary will be prayed at 8:20 a.m. A sung Eucharist will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m.

A plenary indulgence is granted (under the usual conditions) to the faithful who visit St. Mary Immaculate Church on this day and pray the Our Father and the Creed.

Christmas

The Christmas season does not end with the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. In fact, his birthday is the first of several Christmas feasts.

We will celebrate some of these feasts - such as the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord - on the Sundays of Christmastide.

Please find below our schedule for Holy Mass on the two holy days of obligation that do not fall on a Sunday.

CHRISTMAS

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass *(Christmas Eve)* - St. Mary Immaculate Church (Elora)

7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass *(Christmas Eve)* – St. Martin of Tours Church (Drayton)

Midnight Mass *(Christmas)* - St. Mary Immaculate Church (Elora)

9:00 a.m. Mass *(Christmas)* - St. Martin of Tours Church (Drayton)

11:00 a.m. Mass *(Christmas)* - St. Mary Immaculate Church (Elora)

OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS/SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

5:00 p.m. Mass *(New Year's Eve)* - St. Mary Immaculate Church (Elora)

9:00 a.m. Mass *(New Year's Day)* - St. Martin of Tours Church (Drayton)

11:00 a.m. Mass *(New Year's Day)* - St. Mary Immaculate Church (Elora)

Holy days of obligation are like Sundays; the faithful are obliged to assist in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and to refrain from unnecessary work.

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is as much a holy day of obligation as Christmas Day.

Other Notices for the Christmas Season

On the Sundays of the Christmas Season our usual liturgical schedule will be in effect.

If incense will be used in the Holy Mass for the feasts and Sundays of Christmastide, advanced notice will be provided through the bulletin indicating particularly which liturgies will have incense

The office will be closed December 23 through 27 and again December 30 through January 4.