The sacrifice of the Mass, the act by which the world was renewed and the church was consecrated, the Body of the Church and the emblem and the instrument of all truly human embodiment, whether it was understood as individual, whole or as rightly ordered human community.” Mass was a part of everyday life for people living in Early Modern Europe.

For those who worshipped in the Catholic Church, Communion was a very important part of their Mass. During the Early Modern Period, it became more important to witness the process of Communion. Witnessing the elevation and worshipping through prayer was often believed to make you a more devout Christian.

The Holy Innocents (December 28, 1590s).

Many holidays came from pagan holidays, which was of great concern to the Roman Catholic Church. Why did these holidays split from the Church of Rome? The Christian calendar consisted of over 100 Holy Days dedicated to the Saints and religious celebrations. In 1536, King Henry VIII decisively cut down the number of Holy Days to prevent men from becoming slothful and idle. Holy Days, Festivals, Feasts and Fasts were scheduled throughout the year, avoiding the days of labor necessary for the livelihoods of the community.

The Mass

The Book of Common Prayer contains a schedule of all Protestant Holy Days in their order. During this time of reformation, holidays were created disputes among reformers as they each shared opinion about the godliness of their worship. Many accused them as being purely superstitious, not holy. In some areas, law enforcement put in place to maintain observation of these holidays. Other's believed punishment for disobedience came from a heavenly manifestation.

One example was in 1589 when an ale wife, making no exception of days, would need brew upon St Mark's day, but lo, the marvelous days, would need brew upon St Mark's day, but lo, the marvelous works of God! While she was thus laboring, the top of the chimney took fire, and before it could be quenched her house was quite burnt. Surely a gentle warning to them that violate and profane forbidden days.

Many holidays came from pagan holidays, which was of great concern to the Roman Catholic Church. Why did these holidays split from the Church of Rome? The Christian calendar consisted of over 100 Holy Days dedicated to the Saints and religious celebrations. In 1536, King Henry VIII decisively cut down the number of Holy Days to prevent men from becoming slothful and idle. Holy Days, Festivals, Feasts and Fasts were scheduled throughout the year, avoiding the days of labor necessary for the livelihoods of the community.

The Holiday Calendar

The official calendar began 27 holy days:

1. St. John the Baptist (June 24, Midsummer day)
2. St. Peter the Apostle (June 29)
3. St. James the Apostle (July 25)
4. St. Bartholomew the Apostle (August 24)
5. St. Matthew the Apostle (September 22)
6. St. Michael the Archangel (September 29, Michaelmas)
7. St. Luke the Evangelist (October 18)
8. SS Simon and Jude the Apostles (October 28)
9. All Saints (November 1)
10. St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30)
11. St. Thomas the Apostle (December 21)
12. Nativity of our Lord (December 25)
13. St. Stephen the Martyr (December 26)
14. St John the Evangelist (December 27)
15. Holy Innocents (December 28, Children's Day)
16. Christmas Day (December 25)
17. Epiphany (January 6, Twelfth day)
18. Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ (January 11)
19. Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin (March 25, Lady Day)
20. Easter (April 21
21. Holy Week: Good Friday (April 20, Easter day)
22. Holy Saturday (April 21, Holy Saturday)
23. Easter Sunday (April 22, Resurrection Sunday)
24. Easter Monday (April 23)
25. Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ (May 6, Wednesday of the 6th week of Easter)
26. Pentecost (May 17, 7th Sunday after Easter)
27. Trinity Sunday (May 24, 1st Sunday after Pentecost)
28. Whit Sunday (June 17, 7th Sunday after Trinity Sunday)
29. Trinity Sunday (July 1, 2nd Sunday after Whit Sunday)
30. Name of the Blessed Virgin (August 15, Assumption)
31. Assumption of the Blessed Virgin (August 15, Assumption)
32. St. Lawrence (August 10)
33. St. Mary Magdalene (August 29)
34. St. Ignatius of Loyola (September 31)
35. St. Francis (October 4)
36. All Souls (November 2)
37. St. Martin (November 11)
38. St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30)
39. St. Thomas the Apostle (December 21)
40. Nativity of our Lord (December 25)
41. St. Stephen the Martyr (December 26)
42. St John the Evangelist (December 27)
43. Holy Innocents (December 28, Children's Day)
44. Christmas Day (December 25)
45. Epiphany (January 6, Twelfth day)
46. Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ (January 11)
47. Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin (March 25, Lady Day)
48. Easter (April 21
49. Holy Week: Good Friday (April 20, Easter day)
50. Holy Saturday (April 21, Holy Saturday)
51. Easter Sunday (April 22, Resurrection Sunday)
52. Easter Monday (April 23)
53. Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ (May 6, Wednesday of the 6th week of Easter)
54. Pentecost (May 17, 7th Sunday after Easter)
55. Trinity Sunday (May 24, 1st Sunday after Pentecost)
56. Whit Sunday (June 17, 7th Sunday after Trinity Sunday)
57. Trinity Sunday (July 1, 2nd Sunday after Whit Sunday)
58. Name of the Blessed Virgin (August 15, Assumption)
59. Assumption of the Blessed Virgin (August 15, Assumption)
60. St. Lawrence (August 10)
61. St. Mary Magdalene (August 29)
62. St. Ignatius of Loyola (September 31)
63. St. Francis (October 4)
64. All Souls (November 2)
65. St. Martin (November 11)
66. St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30)
67. St. Thomas the Apostle (December 21)
68. Nativity of our Lord (December 25)
69. St. Stephen the Martyr (December 26)
70. St John the Evangelist (December 27)
71. Holy Innocents (December 28, Children's Day)
72. Christmas Day (December 25)
73. Epiphany (January 6, Twelfth day)
74. Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ (January 11)
75. Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin (March 25, Lady Day)
76. Easter (April 21
77. Holy Week: Good Friday (April 20, Easter day)
78. Holy Saturday (April 21, Holy Saturday)
79. Easter Sunday (April 22, Resurrection Sunday)
80. Easter Monday (April 23)
81. Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ (May 6, Wednesday of the 6th week of Easter)
82. Pentecost (May 17, 7th Sunday after Easter)
83. Trinity Sunday (May 24, 1st Sunday after Pentecost)
84. Whit Sunday (June 17, 7th Sunday after Trinity Sunday)
85. Trinity Sunday (July 1, 2nd Sunday after Whit Sunday)
86. Name of the Blessed Virgin (August 15, Assumption)
87. Assumption of the Blessed Virgin (August 15, Assumption)
88. St. Lawrence (August 10)
89. St. Mary Magdalene (August 29)
90. St. Ignatius of Loyola (September 31)
91. St. Francis (October 4)
92. All Souls (November 2)
93. St. Martin (November 11)
94. St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30)
95. St. Thomas the Apostle (December 21)
96. Nativity of our Lord (December 25)
97. St. Stephen the Martyr (December 26)
98. St John the Evangelist (December 27)
99. Holy Innocents (December 28, Children's Day)