



2018

DECEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5 	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 	20	21	22	23
24	25 <small>Christmas Day</small>	26 	27	28	29	30

ZETA OPHIUCHI

Zeta Ophiuchi was once in close orbit with another star, before being ejected when this companion was destroyed in a supernova explosion. Infrared data from Spitzer, seen in this composite image, reveal a spectacular shock wave (red and green) that was formed by matter blowing away from the star's surface and slamming into gas in its path. Data from Chandra show a bubble of X-ray emission (blue) located around the star, produced by gas that has been heated by the shock wave to tens of millions of degrees. The Chandra data help tell more of the story of this runaway star. X-ray: NASA/CXC/Dublin Inst. Advanced Studies/S. Green et al.; Infrared: NASA/JPL/Spitzer