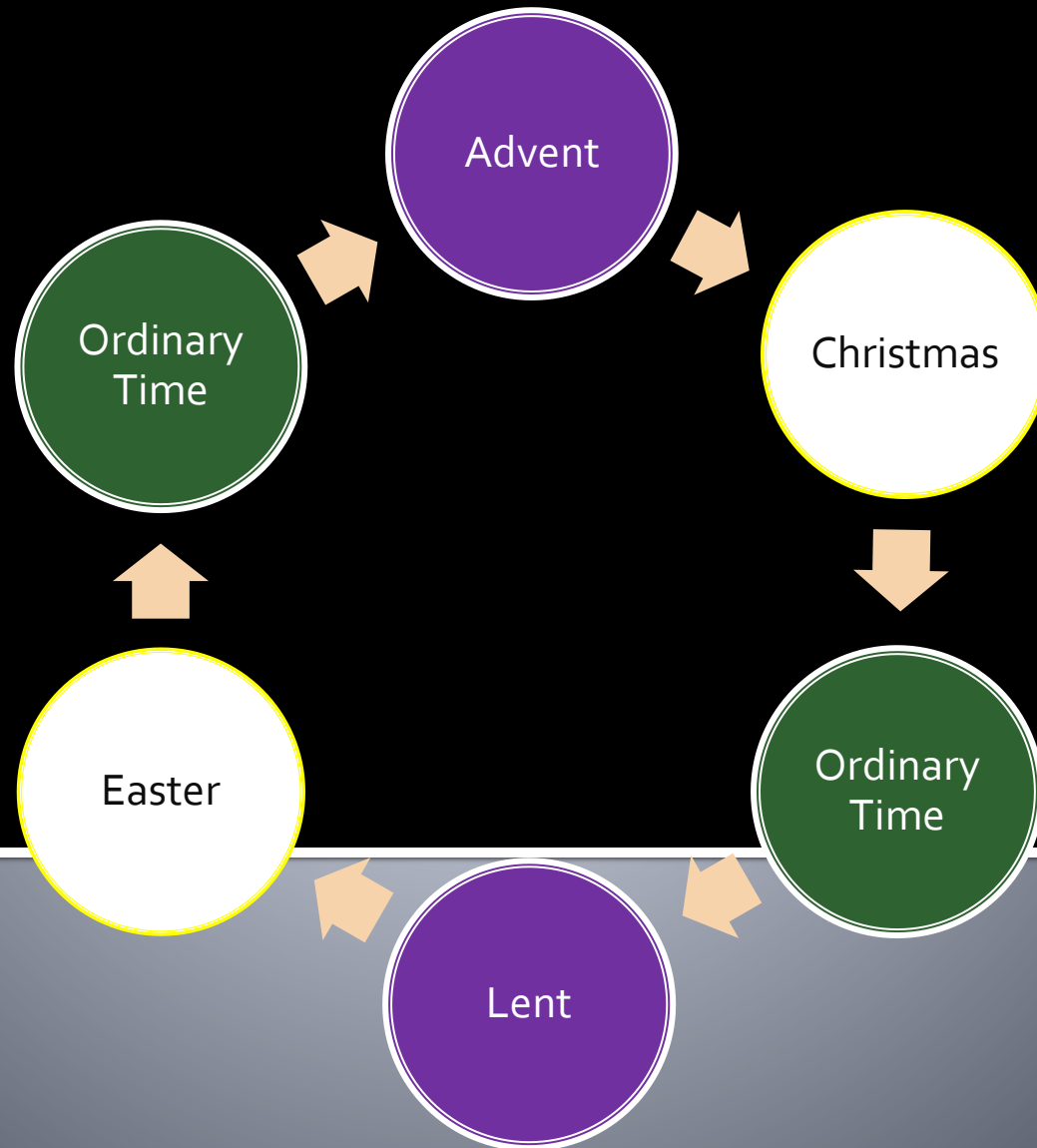


The Liturgical Year



Liturgical Calendar

- Organizational tool
 - Celebrates the Mystery of Christ
- Liturgical year celebrations
 - Proper of Seasons
 - Solemnities and Feasts

Mystery of Christ

- Story of Redemption
- Incarnation
- Second Coming

Proper of Seasons

- Advent
- Christmas
- Lent
- Easter
- Ordinary Time

Colors Used in Liturgy

- White (or Gold)
 - Joy, Triumph, Glory, Light, Innocence, Purity
 - Christmas, Easter, Feast Days of Saints
- Red
 - Blood
 - Passion of Jesus, Pentecost, Martyrdom, Apostles
- Green
 - Creation, life
 - Ordinary Time
- Violet (Purple)
 - Penance, humility
 - Advent, Lent
- Rose
 - Joy (replaces Violet 3rd Sunday of Advent; 4th Sunday of Lent)
- Black
 - Mourning, sorrow
 - Traditional use on All Souls Day

Solemnities and Feasts

- Holy Days of Obligation
 - Sunday (eighth day)
 - Immaculate Conception of Mary
 - Christmas
 - Solemnity of Mary
 - Ascension
 - Assumption
 - All Saints

Lectionary

- Cycle of Sunday Readings
 - Year A: Matthew
 - Year B: Mark
 - Year C: Luke
 - John throughout each year
- Daily Readings
 - Year 1 or 2
- ***Over the course of the 3 year cycle, we will have proclaimed a vast majority of Scripture***

Lectionary

- Sundays and Feast Days
 - Four readings
 - Old Testament: Corresponds with Gospel of the Day
 - Psalm: Reflection
 - Apostolic letter: Semi-continuous reading
 - Gospel
- Weekdays
 - Three readings
 - Old Testament or Apostolic letter: Semi-continuous reading
 - Psalm
 - Gospel

Advent: Preparation for the Coming of Jesus the Christ

Advent

- Begins the Church year
- Closest Sunday to Nov 30
 - November 29, 2015
- About 4 weeks long
 - Ends Christmas Eve
- Violet

Advent

- First appeared in 380 AD
- Begins at the time we began to celebrate the FEAST of Christmas
- In 1180 Pope Gregory VII standardized to 4 weeks before Christmas

Time of Preparation

- Prepare to celebrate the anniversary of the Incarnation
- Prepare our souls to be fitting abodes for the Redeemer
- Prepare ourselves to be ready for the 2nd coming

Mass Readings: First Week

- Theme of anticipation
 - Stay awake!
 - Be prepared!

Mass Readings: 2nd Week

- Theme of repentance
 - John the Baptist
 - Prepare through repentance
 - Visibly change our lives

Mass Readings: 3rd Week

- Theme is rejoicing and patience
 - Kingdom of heaven revealed in the works of Christ
 - Expectation
 - Rejoice in the Lord always, the Lord is near!

Mass Readings: 4th Week

- Theme of Emmanuel, “God With Us”
 - Prophecy is fulfilled
 - Incarnation via Holy Spirit
 - Mary is blessed among women

Feasts during Advent

- Immaculate Conception
 - December 8
 - Celebrates Mary's immaculate soul
 - Holy Day of Obligation
- Our Lady of Guadalupe
 - December 12
 - Celebrates Mary as Patroness of the Americas

So, Advent is....

- A time of preparation for the coming of Jesus
- A penitential and joyous aspect
- Not to be confused with our culture's interpretation as a time to shop

Christmas: The Incarnation

Christmas

- Christ's birth and early manifestations
- December 25
- Holy Family
- Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God
- Epiphany
- Baptism of Jesus
- White/Gold

Christmas

- First appeared in the calendar of 354
- Pagan feasts of Winter Solstice
 - December 25 in Rome
 - January 6 in Egypt
- Christ is the Sun of Justice and Light of the World

Christmas

- The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
 - Sunday within the Octave of Christmas
 - December 26
- Gospel of Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23
 - Childhood story
 - Flight to Egypt

Christmas

- Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God
 - Octave day of Christmas
 - January 1
 - Celebrates Mary as the Virgin Mother of God
 - Celebrates the giving of the name of Jesus

Christmas

- Epiphany
 - Celebrates Christ's manifestation
 - Matthew 2: 1-12
 - January 6 or the Sunday between January 2 and January 8
 - January 2
- Baptism of the Lord
 - Matthew 3: 13-17
 - Sunday after January 6
 - January 9

Ordinary Time: A Season of Sundays

Ordinary Time

- Ideal Christian Sunday
- 34 Sundays
- Begins Monday following January 6
- Pauses during Lent and Easter seasons
- Begins again Monday following Pentecost Sunday
- Finishes before the First Sunday of Advent
- Green

Ordinary Time

- Gospels presented in semi continuous reading
- Present Jesus' life and preaching
- Old Testament readings chosen to correspond to Gospel
- Reading from the Apostles are semi continuous letters from Paul and James

**Lent: Turn from sin and be
faithful to the Gospel**

Lent

- Preparation for the Celebration of Easter
- Begins on Ash Wednesday
 - Moveable date
- Ends at the Mass of the Lord's Supper
 - Holy Thursday
- 6 Sundays
 - Passion or Palm Sunday
- Violet/Purple

Lenten Gospels for the RCIA

- First Sunday
 - Temptation
- Second Sunday
 - Transfiguration
- Third Sunday
 - Samaritan woman
- Fourth Sunday
 - Man born blind
- Fifth Sunday
 - Raising of Lazarus

Lenten Readings

- Old Testament presents the History of Salvation
- Letters of the Apostles selected to provide a connection between Old Testament and Gospel

Passion or Palm Sunday

- Two Gospel readings
 - Christ's solemn entry into Jerusalem
 - Account of the Passion
- Marks the beginning of Holy Week
- Red

Triduum

- Holy Thursday
 - Mass of the Lord's Supper (White)
- Good Friday
 - Lord's Passion (Red)
- Holy Saturday
 - Easter Vigil (White)

Easter: Rejoice in the Resurrection

Easter

- One Great Sunday
- 50 Sacred Days
 - Easter Sunday
 - Ascension
 - Pentecost
- 7 Sundays
- Divine Mercy Sunday
- White

Easter

- Major themes
 - Presence of the risen Christ
 - Transforming power of the Paschal Mystery
 - Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Ascension

- 40 Days after Easter
- Transferred to the 7th Sunday of Easter
- Celebrates Christ's ascending into Heaven
- First reading from the Acts of the Apostles 1: 1-11
 - An account of the Ascension
- Second reading from Ephesians 1: 17-23
- Gospel of Luke 24:46-53
 - Promise of Pentecost (power of the Holy Spirit)

Pentecost Sunday

- Week of weeks (7x7+1 festival day)
- Jewish celebration of God's covenants
- Birthday of the Church
- First reading from Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-11
 - Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles
- Second reading from 1Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13
 - Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Gospel of John 20: 19-23
 - "Receive the Holy Spirit"
- Red

Ordinary Time: A Season of Sundays

Ordinary Time

- Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity
 - Sunday following Pentecost Sunday
- Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (*Corpus Christi*)
 - 2nd Sunday following Pentecost
- Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
 - Friday following Corpus Christi Sunday

Ordinary Time Feasts

- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 - August 15
- All Saints
 - November 1
- All Souls
 - November 2
- Christ the King
 - 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Readings: 2nd Week A

- Theme of repentance
- First reading from Isaiah 11:1-10
 - Kingdom of peace and harmony
- Second reading from Romans 15: 4-9
 - Hope and encouragement
- Gospel of Matthew 3: 1-12
 - John the Baptist
 - Prepare through repentance
 - Visibly change our lives

Breaking Open the Word

- Where is your “desert spot” where you can quiet your inner noise to listen to God?

Breaking Open the Word

- When I hear John's harsh language, my first inclination is to

Breaking Open the Word

- What “good fruit” is ripening in you?