

THE LITURGICAL YEAR 2018



About the art: *Upper left* the journey begins by the baptized spreading the Gospel by living their lives as disciples.

Upper right candidates & catechumens received instruction surrounded by the community of faith.

Lower right Lent, a time of formation.

Center Easter Vigil, baptism for catechumens & coming into full communion.

Lower left Easter Time & Mystagoga, unlocking the mysteries for all baptized.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL (CHURCH) YEAR - BEGINS WITH THE SEASON OF ADVENT



The days and night leading up to the Nativity of our Lord, we call Advent (Coming).

A time of quiet waiting and preparation; preparation to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord, but also for His triumphant second coming.

Advent begins 4 Sundays before Christmas.

We read and sing about God's promises and tell stories of many holy people; Mary the first disciple and John the Baptist.

The seasons colors are purple or violet except for the third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday when Rose vestments are worn. Purple is the color of preparation and repentance.

The Rose color symbolizes our joy as the coming of our Lord and Savior nears.

Celebrate Advent with an Advent wreath and Jesse Tree, for the Messiah will come from the root of Jesse.

CHRISTMAS TIME, THE COMING OF OUR SAVIOR



Begins with the Evening Prayer on the Vigil of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, Dec 24th.

On December 25th we proclaim, "Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord!"

The Color of Christmas Time is white, festive, celebration.

The season ends after the Evening Prayer on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, The Epiphany.

Epiphany means manifestation, celebrating the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world Jesus is revealed as the Light to all nations.

In the Magnificat, three mysteries are encompassed in this solemnity: the adoration of the Christ Child by the Magi, the Baptism of Christ and the wedding feast at Cana.

FOLLOWING CHRISTMAS, IS ORDINARY TIME...



But it ain't ordinary, if you know what I mean!

Ordinary Time, comes from the word Ordinal, or counting. A counting of the weeks.

The color of the season is Green.

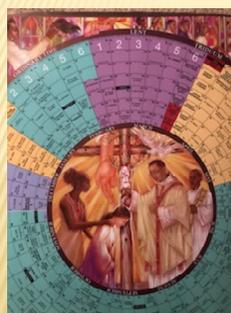
Green represents the fertile and abundant life that God has blessed us with.

As you can see more than half of the Church year is Ordinary Time, so it's certainly not ordinary.

This year Ordinary Time between Christmas and Lent is six, but this season can be as long as eight weeks just two years ago.

Begins after evening prayer on the feast of the Baptism of Jesus and ends the day before Ash Wednesday.

THE SEASON OF LENT



Begins on Ash Wednesday and ends before the celebration of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

Pop Quiz, is Ash Wednesday a holy day of obligation?

The 40 days of Lent are not literally 40, but the number evokes all the other uses of 40 in scripture. Jesus fasted for 40 days, Moses & Elijah had 40 day fasts, for Noah it rains 40 days to bring about a new beginning, the chosen people of Israel wandered for 40 years.

The color of the Lenten Season is purple, repentance.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting, prayer & alms giving.

Fasting, is not punishment, but a way to show obedience to God & strengthen our will to serve Him.

Alms giving, a way to share the love & abundance God gives to those around us.

Palm Sunday begins the last short week of Lent, Holy Week.

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM



Begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

Triduum means three days.

For the Jewish people, Passover celebrates God's deliverance of His people from slavery in Egypt.

The followers of Jesus proclaim this deliverance in his Life, Passion, Death & Resurrection. Through Jesus God has freed and saved us!

The color of Holy Thursday and Good Friday is red, the paschal sacrifice.

Holy Thursday we celebrate Jesus washing the feet of the apostles and the institution of the Eucharist.

Good Friday, we have a Eucharistic service and venerate the cross. It's the only day of the year Mass is not celebrated.

Easter Vigil, the color turns to white, CELEBRATION!

EASTER TIME - MYSTAGOGIA, UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES



Begins with the Easter Vigil and Ends after Evening prayer on the Solemnity of Pentecost.

Jesus Christ Has RISEN! He is RISEN indeed.

We live as if God's Kingdom has come, because it has.

We put away fasting for feasting & celebration. The color of the season is white.

We bless ourselves with baptismal waters to remind us of our share in Jesus' Passion, Death & Resurrection

We read of Jesus encounters with Thomas, Mary Magdalene, meals with Him, stories of the Good Shepherd and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

The Feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church.

THE CHURCH YEAR CLOSES WITH ORDINARY TIME



But as we know, there ain't nothing 'ordinary' about this story and this journey!

Questions?