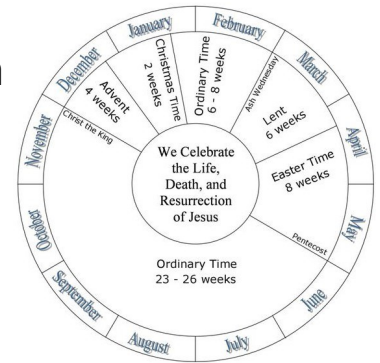


Church Seasons

Even though it is only November, the Church's year end is fast approaching. In order to help us celebrate and understand more fully the entire mystery of Jesus Christ from his Incarnation, birth, until he ascended into heaven, the day of Pentecost, and the expectation of his return in glory, we look to the liturgical calendar and the change of seasons within that special calendar. The Church's liturgical year consists of six seasons: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter, Ordinary Time.

The Liturgical Year



In a few weeks we will begin the season of Advent – the four weeks of preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth. Next up is the Christmas season, not just one day, but a few weeks of recalling the birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Then for a few weeks we have “winter” Ordinary Time, leading us right into Ash Wednesday and the solemn season of Lent which covers a six-week period. During holy week, we recall the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus within the Sacred Triduum (a three-day season) leading right into the great feast of Easter which we celebrate for fifty days in many joyful ways. At the conclusion of the Great 50 Days is Pentecost, referred to as the birthday of the Church with the sending forth of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and Mary. Then for two consecutive weeks we have Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi solemnities that return us back to Ordinary time, part two, wherein we consider the fullness of Jesus' teachings and works among his people.

The mystery of Christ, unfolded through the cycle of the year, calls us to live his mystery in our own lives. This call is best illustrated in the lives of Mary and the saints, celebrated by the Church throughout the year.

So there it is in a nutshell, another year awaiting us to grow in our Faith!

Have a blessed, healthy, and safe week! ~~*Michele Hahn*