

LITURGY BYTES

Our New Year

This week we begin a new liturgical season in the life of the Church. Unlike the weather seasons of fall, winter, spring and summer, the Church's seasons number six.



*First Sunday
of Advent*

The meaning of the liturgical celebrations of the Church is as follows: The Church celebrates the saving work of Christ on prescribed days in the course of the year with sacred remembrance. Each week, on the day called the Lord's Day, she commemorates the Resurrection of the Lord, which also is celebrated once a year known as Easter. Throughout the year, the Church unfolds the entire mystery of Christ and observes the birthdays of the saints. Here are the six seasons and their meaning that make up the liturgical year:

Advent – Four weeks of preparation before the celebration of the birth of Our Lord

Christmas – Yes, it is a season that recalls the nativity of Jesus and his manifestation to the peoples of the world. Traditionally, it ends on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord in January.

Lent – A six-week period of penance leading up to Easter, beginning on Ash Wednesday

Paschal Triduum – The holiest of days in the Church's year, where we recall the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus

Easter – The great 50 days celebrating the Lord's Resurrection from the dead and his sending forth of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost

Ordinary Time – It is divided into two sections: one span after Christmas season and the other lasting about six months beginning after the Easter season. At this time, we consider the fullness of Jesus' teachings and great works among the people.

The mystery of Christ unfolded through the above cycles, calls us to live His mystery in our own lives.

Don't forget, there is a change of colors in the church with all of the above seasons!

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