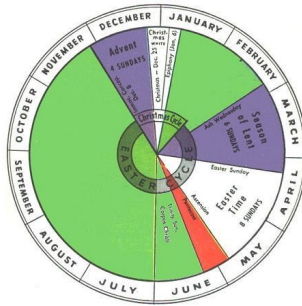


LITURGY BYTES

Liturgy Bytes – Ordinary Time



Ordinary time runs for either 33 or 34 weeks. Below are some facts you might not know about this season. It is split into two sections of the liturgical year.

Ordinary Time begins after the Baptism of the Lord in January and runs for several weeks until Lent rolls around, followed by the Easter season. Ordinary Time resumes after the celebration of Pentecost and continues without interruption until Advent begins.

The exact number of weeks of Ordinary Time depends on when the seasons of Lent and Easter fall each year, as well as the starting date of Advent. Because the Church wishes that the readings for the 34th week of Ordinary Time are always read, they will often omit the week that would naturally precede the resumption of Ordinary Time following Pentecost Sunday. For this reason, the actual number of complete or partial weeks of Ordinary Time in any year falls mostly at 33 and occasionally 34. Most of us are unaware of this fact because the season is split into two sections.

Ordinary Time is a beautiful season of the year, highlighting the growth of life in the Spirit and the holiness of the Church's saints. The color of green is the liturgical color for this season which, considering the length of the season, is why we seem to see "green" up in Church most of the time!

Have a blessed, safe and "extra-ordinary" week ahead!~*Michele Hall*

