

LITURGY BYTES

It's Ordinary Time Again!



As we celebrated the feast of Pentecost and completed the great 50 days, the Church throws in two solemnities back-to-back: Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi, before we officially pick up with the Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

When we think of the word “ordinary,” our minds go to words like typical, routine or even mundane. Why does the Church dedicate an entire season to this? You see, the word “ordinary” in Ordinary Time does not refer to a season of dull routine, but rather it refers to the sequence of time. For example, it is the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time or the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, etc. Simply put, it refers to the order of Sundays in the Church year that do not fall into the major liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter.

Ordinary Time is divided into two parts. The Roman Missal instructs that Ordinary Time begins on the Monday following the Sunday after January 6 and continues until the beginning of Lent. The second part of Ordinary Time begins on the Monday after Pentecost and ends on the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent. Even though Ordinary Time has two parts, it is still considered one single season.

The entire liturgical year is about growing in relationship with Jesus. The richness of Ordinary Time is found in the opportunity to know Christ more intimately in the everyday realities of life. The Scripture proclaimed in Ordinary Time reveals the teaching, healing and mission of Christ, allowing us to better understand God who became human. We learn that Christ is about humility rather than pride, and vulnerability rather than power. We learn that Christ is about including the excluded, eating with social and religious outcasts, and dismantling structures of sin and injustice. We learn that Christ is about self-giving love that is only possible through authentic relationship. This season is anything but monotonous. These days we are called to grow and be, as best as we can, a living reality of what Christ invited us to embrace. HAPPY ORDINARY TIME~~~enjoy the green until late November!

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