

Helping families grow in their Catholic faith.

## The Liturgical Year

The seasons of the Church follow one universal liturgical calendar. The liturgical year is made up of six seasons; Advent, Christmas, Lent, Sacred Paschal Triduum, Easter, Ordinary Time.



### Important dates:

The Ascension: May 10th, 2018

Pentecost: Sunday, May 20th, 2018

Feast of St. Columba: June 9th, 2018

Feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: August 15th, 2018

Feast of St. Vincent de Paul:  
September 27th, 2018

Feast of St. Martin de Porres:  
November 3rd, 2018

Thanksgiving: November 22nd, 2018

Advent: 1st Sunday, December 2nd

2nd Sunday, December 9th

3rd Sunday, December 16th

4th Sunday, December 24th

Immaculate Conception: December 8th, 2018

Christmas: Tuesday, December 25th

Lent: Ash Wednesday March 6th 2019

Palm Sunday: April 14th, 2019

Easter: Sunday, April 21st, 2019

Pentecost: Sunday, June 9th, 2019

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Each liturgical year becomes a living reminder of our lifelong pilgrimage to God.

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## Advent

Advent marks the beginning of the liturgical calendar. It consists of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas.

## Christmas

In the Catholic Church, Christmas is more than one day – it is a season that begins on Christmas Eve (Dec. 24), continues through the Feast of the Epiphany and includes the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God . Christmas time concludes with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord in January.

## Lent

The forty days of Lent is reminiscent of Jesus' forty days in the desert. Lent is a season of repentance and renewal, in solidarity with those preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation to be received at Easter. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues until the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

## Triduum (or Holy Week)

The Triduum is the most important three days in the liturgical year. Holy Thursday (which commemorates the Last Supper), Good Friday (which commemorates Jesus' crucifixion and death on the cross), and Holy Saturday (where the Church pauses to commemorate the Lord's burial). The Easter Vigil is celebrated on Holy Saturday night, when new members of the faith receive the Sacraments of Initiation and are welcomed into the Church.

## Easter

Alleluia – He is Risen! The Easter season celebrates Christ's resurrection from the dead, his victory over death. Christ's Ascension into heaven is celebrated on the 7th Sunday after Easter. Easter time concludes at Pentecost, where Jesus sends the Holy Spirit upon the apostles to spread the Gospel to all nations.

## Ordinary Time

The season of Ordinary Time explores Christ's mission and message through the Gospels. This season includes Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi. Ordinary Time concludes with the Solemnity of Christ the King which brings the liturgical year to a close.

During the year, in addition to the Sunday worship, the Church also celebrates Solemnities, Feasts, and Memorials which may be on any day of the week. These occur during the year to commemorate special events or persons that are highly revered by the Catholic Church.

