

## Liturgical Seasons

**Opening Prayer:** Lord Jesus Christ, Shepherd of souls, we come to you in humility, requesting by Your most Sacred Heart that we will be converted to You, so that we are fully pleasing to You, full of good works for Your Kingdom. Precious Blood and Word of God, You are our only hope of eternal salvation. Beloved Deliverer may Your Spirit draw us to You.

Amen.

### 1. Advent

- The season of Advent is a 4-week preparation for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### What is Advent?

- It comes from *adventus*, a Latin word meaning arrival, coming or presence of someone or some event.
- Advent starts after the last Sunday in Ordinary Time, (Solemnity of Christ the King).
- Color of vestments: Violet

### 2. Christmas

- Christmas season starts from the eve prior to December 25, (Commemoration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ), till January 12<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Our Lord's Baptism.
- This season commemorates **Our Lord's Birth in Bethlehem** and the other events which occurred immediately after **the Visit and Adoration of the Magi, the Feast of the Holy Innocents, the Flight to Egypt, the Feast of the Holy Family (Sunday after Christmas), and the Feast of Our Lord's Baptism.**
- We celebrate the mysteries of the hidden life of Our Lord during the Christmas Season.
- Color of vestments: White

### 3. Ordinary Time, (prior to Lent)

- Ordinary Time is the season which refers to the period when Jesus began His public ministry, evangelizing the peoples of Israel.
- This season consists in 34 weeks, which begins on the day after January 13<sup>th</sup> and culminates with the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of

the Universe, (which celebrates the Second Coming of Our Lord during the Final Judgment).

- Color of Vestments: GREEN

#### 4. Lent

- Lent starts on Ash Wednesday and ends on the Saturday of the fourth week of Lent.
- It is a 40 day of preparation for the commemoration of the Paschal Mystery during the Holy Week, an interior preparation of personal conversion.
- Color of vestments: VIOLET

#### 5. Holy Week

- Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday and ends on the eve of Easter Sunday. It commemorates the **Passion and Death of our Lord** on the cross for our salvation, in what is called the *Sacred triduum* (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil).
- Color of vestments:
  - Palm Sunday: Red
  - Holy Thursday: white or Gold
  - Good Friday: Red

#### 6. Easter

- Easter begins on **Easter Eve** which commemorates the **Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ** and ends on **Pentecost Sunday**.
- It also consists in the 7 weeks which narrate Our Lord's appearance to His disciples after rising from the dead, His **Ascension into Heaven**, and the **Descent of the Holy Spirit** on the Apostles, (**Pentecost**).

#### 7. Ordinary Time

- After Easter, the Church resumes its liturgical year with **Ordinary Time** which ends on the Saturday after **Christ the King Sunday**, and a new liturgical year and season begins.
- Color of vestments: WHITE or GOLD



**White: Light, innocence, purity, joy, triumph, glory**

Season of Christmas

Season of Easter

Feasts of the Lord, other than of His passion

Feasts of Mary, the angels, and saints who were not martyrs

All Saints (1 November)

Feasts of the Apostles

Nuptial Masses

Masses for the dead



**Red: The Passion, blood, fire, God's Love, martyrdom**

Feasts of the Lord's passion, (Good Friday)

Feasts of the martyrs

Palm Sunday

Pentecost



**Green: The Holy Ghost, life eternal, hope**

Time After Epiphany

Time After Pentecost



**Violet: Penance, humility, melancholy**

Season of Advent

Season of Lent



**Black: Mourning, sorrow**

All Souls Day

Masses for the dead



**Rose: Joy**

Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday of Advent)

Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent)



**Gold: Joy**

Gold can replace white, red, or green (but not violet or black)