

Advent

Christmas

Ordinary Time

Lent

Three Days

Easter

Ordinary Time

### The Church Year

By means of the yearly cycle the Church celebrates the whole mystery of Christ, from his incarnation until the day of Pentecost and the expectation of his coming again.

*(Norms Governing Liturgical Calendars, 17)*

## Overview

In this chapter the children will learn about the Church year.

### For Adult Reading and Reflection

You may want to refer to paragraph 1168 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

## Catechist Background

**W**hat seasons of the Church year do you celebrate in a special way?

The annual cycle of liturgical seasons makes present to us the mysteries of redemption that we celebrate. By opening “up to the faithful the riches of her Lord’s powers and merits,” the Church encourages us to take hold of these riches in our own lives and to be “filled with saving grace” (CCC 1163).

The Triduum is at the heart of the liturgical year. On these days, we celebrate the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. On Easter itself, the greatest feast, the Church rejoices in the Lord’s victory over death and his gift of new life to all believers. The joyful celebration of the Easter season extends until Pentecost Sunday.

During all the liturgical seasons, each Sunday is a celebration of the Lord’s Resurrection, a “little Easter.” Every week we gather in liturgical assembly to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy

Go to [www.webelieveweb.com](http://www.webelieveweb.com), Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter’s correlation to the Six Tasks of Catechesis.

of the Eucharist. Here we meet the risen Lord who strengthens us to be his disciples in our world today.

In each liturgical season, the liturgy empowers us to move beyond the limits of historical time and place and enter into God’s time of salvation. We are present to Jesus’ Death and Resurrection, present to his mercy and compassion, present to his challenges and his call to us in the here and now. In the liturgy we learn to know and love Jesus. We find that, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Hebrews 13:8).

**I**n what way will you enter into the celebration of the Church year?

# Lesson Planning Guide

## Lesson Steps

## Presentation

## Materials

### 1 WE GATHER

**page 54**  
**Introduce the Season**

- Read the *Chapter Story*.
- Introduce the Church year.
- Proclaim words on the banner.

**page 60**

- Share responses to the question.

### 2 WE BELIEVE

**pages 60–62**  
*The Church praises Jesus all year long.*

- Present the text listing the special times in the Church year.

### 3 WE RESPOND

**page 62**



Do the thanking Jesus activity.

- crayons or colored pencils

**Text page 63**  
**Guide page 63–64**  
**We Respond in Prayer**

- Together follow Jesus through the Church year in prayer.

- prayer space items: pictures or statues of Jesus, sign with symbols of the seasons

**Text page 64**  
**Guide pages 63–64, 64A**  
**Project Disciple**

- Complete the **Project Disciple** activities.
- Complete the Reproducible Master 6 activity. See guide pages 64A and 59C.
- Discuss/send home **Sharing Faith with My Family**, guide page 64B.



- “Jesus in the Morning,” #3, Grade 1 CD
- pencils, crayons or colored pencils or markers
- mural paper
- copies of Reproducible Master 6, guide page 64A
- copies of **Sharing Faith with My Family**, guide page 64B

For additional ideas, activities, and opportunities: Visit Sadlier’s

[www.WEBELIEVEweb.com](http://www.WEBELIEVEweb.com)