

Advent

Christmas

Ordinary Time

Lent

Triduum

Easter

Ordinary Time

The Liturgical 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 students will learn that throughout the liturgical year we remember and celebrate Jesus Christ.

For Adult Reading and Reflection

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

Catechist Background

Which of nature's seasons is most appealing to you? Why?

The celebration of the liturgical year exerts “a special sacramental power and influence which strengthens Christian life” ¹(*Sharing the Light of Faith*, 144). Each of the passing seasons is invested with spiritual meaning as the Church remembers and celebrates the Paschal Mystery of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. By participating mindfully in the seasons of the Church year, Christians keep time holy and “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 13:14).

Since the time of Moses, God's People have celebrated an annual cycle of feast days commemorating the events of salvation history. Both Christians and Jews celebrate the Passover. “For Jews, it is the Passover of history, tending toward the future; for Christians, it is the Passover fulfilled in the death and Resurrection of Christ, though always in expectation of its definitive consummation” (CCC 1096).

Go to www.webelieveweb.com, Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter's correlation to the Six Tasks of Catechesis.

Throughout the Church year, the liturgical celebrations of the Eucharist, the other sacraments, and the Liturgy of the Hours unfold the mystery of Christ. They also honor Mary, the Mother of God, and the birthdays (or days of death) of the saints. By their example and intercession, Mary and the saints draw us to the Father through the Son.

The Church each year not only recalls the mysteries of the redemption, but makes the “riches of her Lord's powers and merits” present to the faithful in every age” (CCC 1163). Thus, believers grow in grace and are formed in likeness to Christ.

How do you celebrate the meaning and significance of the liturgical year in your own life? in your family? with your students?

Lesson Planning Guide

Lesson Steps

Presentation

Materials

1 WE GATHER

page 59

Introduce the Season

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


page 60

- Discuss questions about special days and times.

2 WE BELIEVE

pages 60–62

Throughout the liturgical year we remember and celebrate Jesus Christ.

- Read and discuss the seasons of the liturgical year.
-  Complete the chart on the colors used during the liturgical year.
- Read and discuss Mary and the saints.

3 WE RESPOND

page 62

-  Fill in the calendar with events.

- 12-month calendar

Text page 63

Guide page 63–64

We Respond in Prayer

- Listen to scriptural verses.
- Respond in prayer.

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.

- pencils, colored pencils or crayons
- 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