

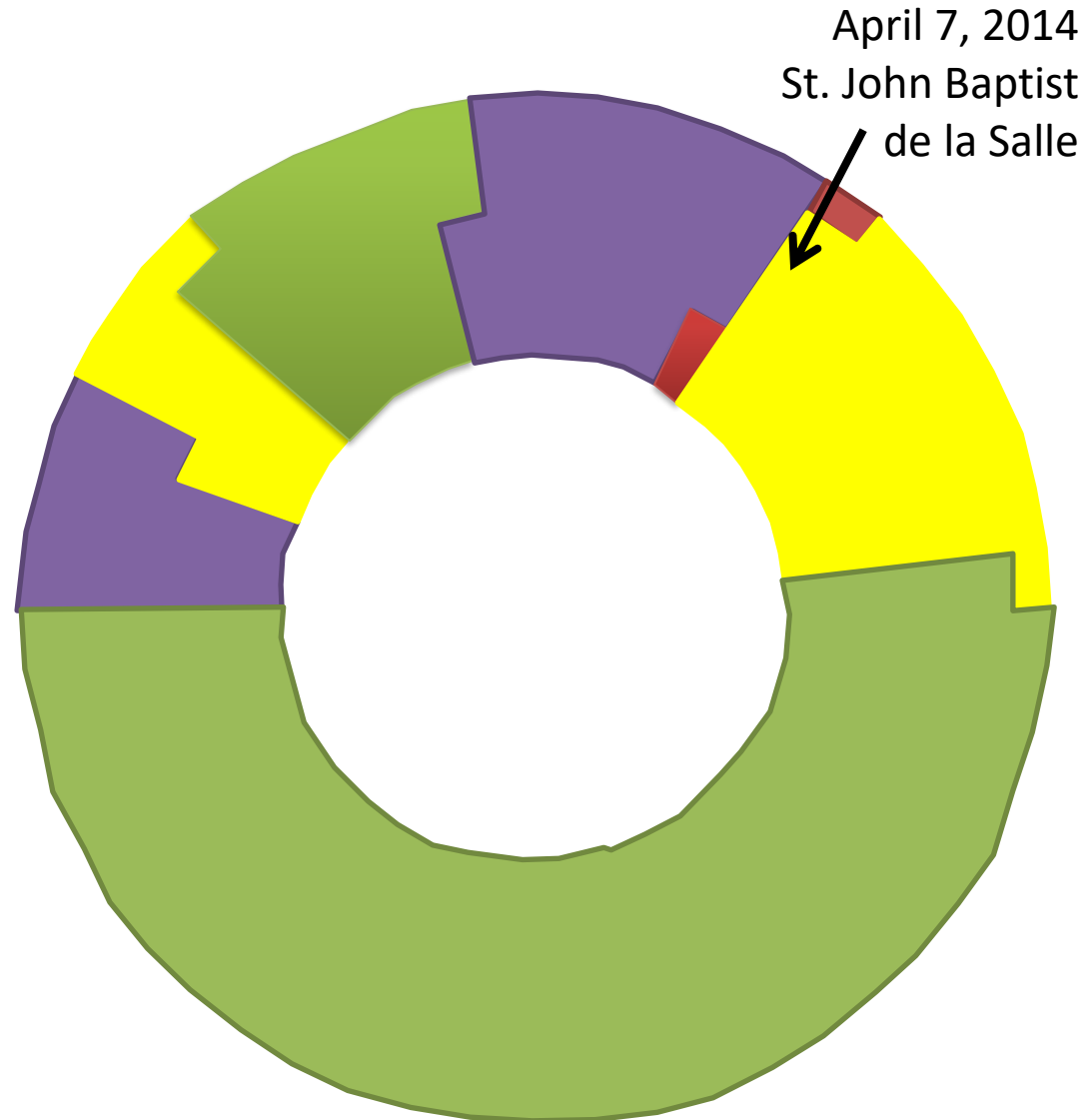
# The Liturgical Calendar

Praying & Celebrating the Life of Christ throughout the Whole Year



# Liturgical Year – Combining Two Cycles

- Foundation of the calendar is the cycle of liturgical seasons and feasts that recall all God's saving acts through Jesus Christ (the temporal cycle)
- Sanctoral cycle is cycle of feasts that commemorate Mary, the Apostles, the Martyrs & Saints
- The Sanctoral cycle is date-specific (for example, the day we recall the life of St. John Baptist de la Salle is ALWAYS April 7, which could be during Lent, the Triduum, or Easter season)
- When two or more events fall in the same day (because of combining the schedules) there are rules in place about which one takes precedence



# Cycle of Readings

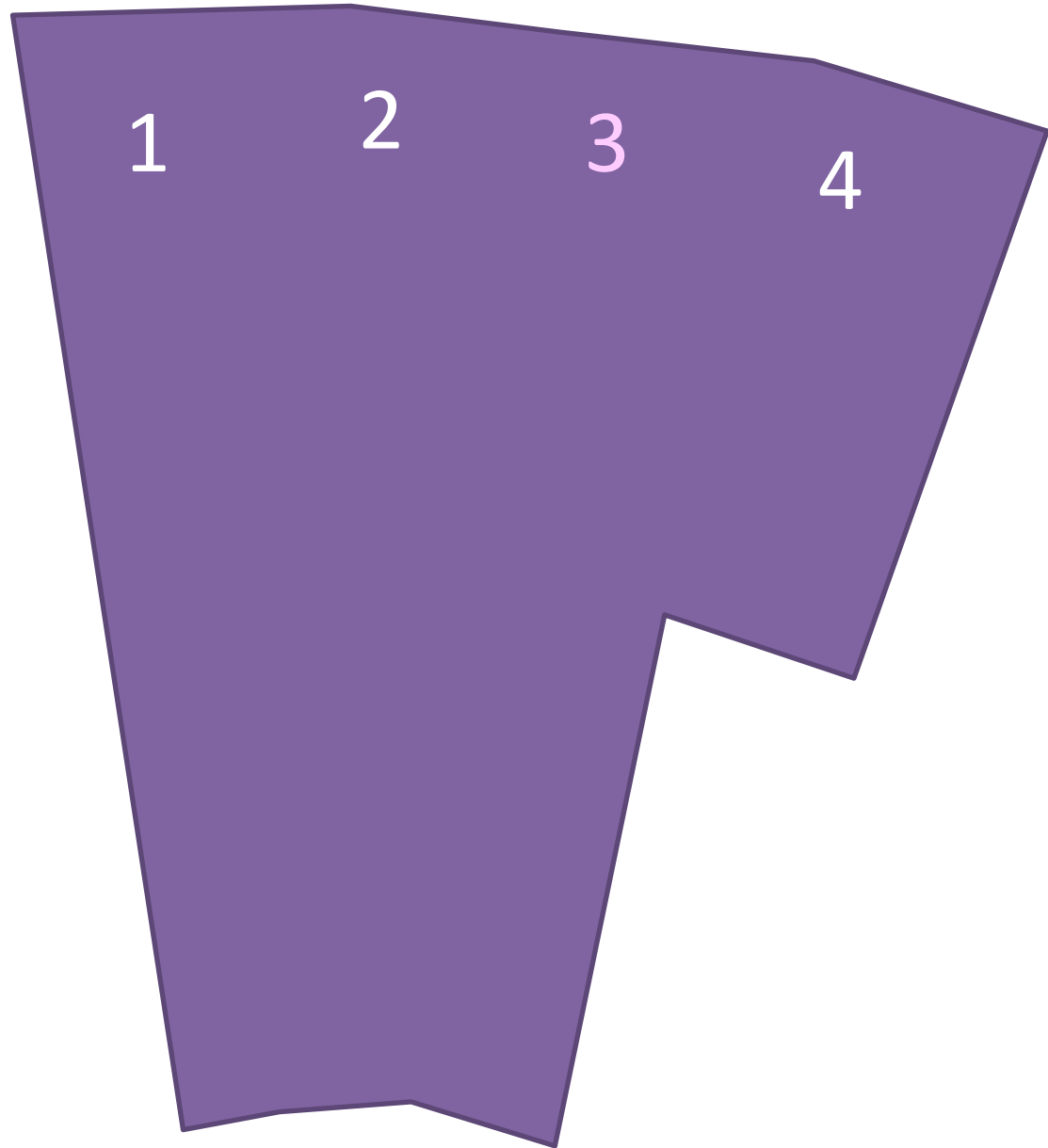
	Nov 29, 2020 – Nov 27, 2021	Nov 28, 2021 – Nov 26, 2022	Nov 27, 2022 – Dec 2, 2023	Dec 3, 2023 – Nov 30, 2024
<b>SUNDAYS</b>	YEAR B	YEAR C	YEAR A	YEAR B
<b>WEEKDAYS</b>	YEAR I	YEAR II	YEAR I	YEAR II

# Advent Season



# Advent Season

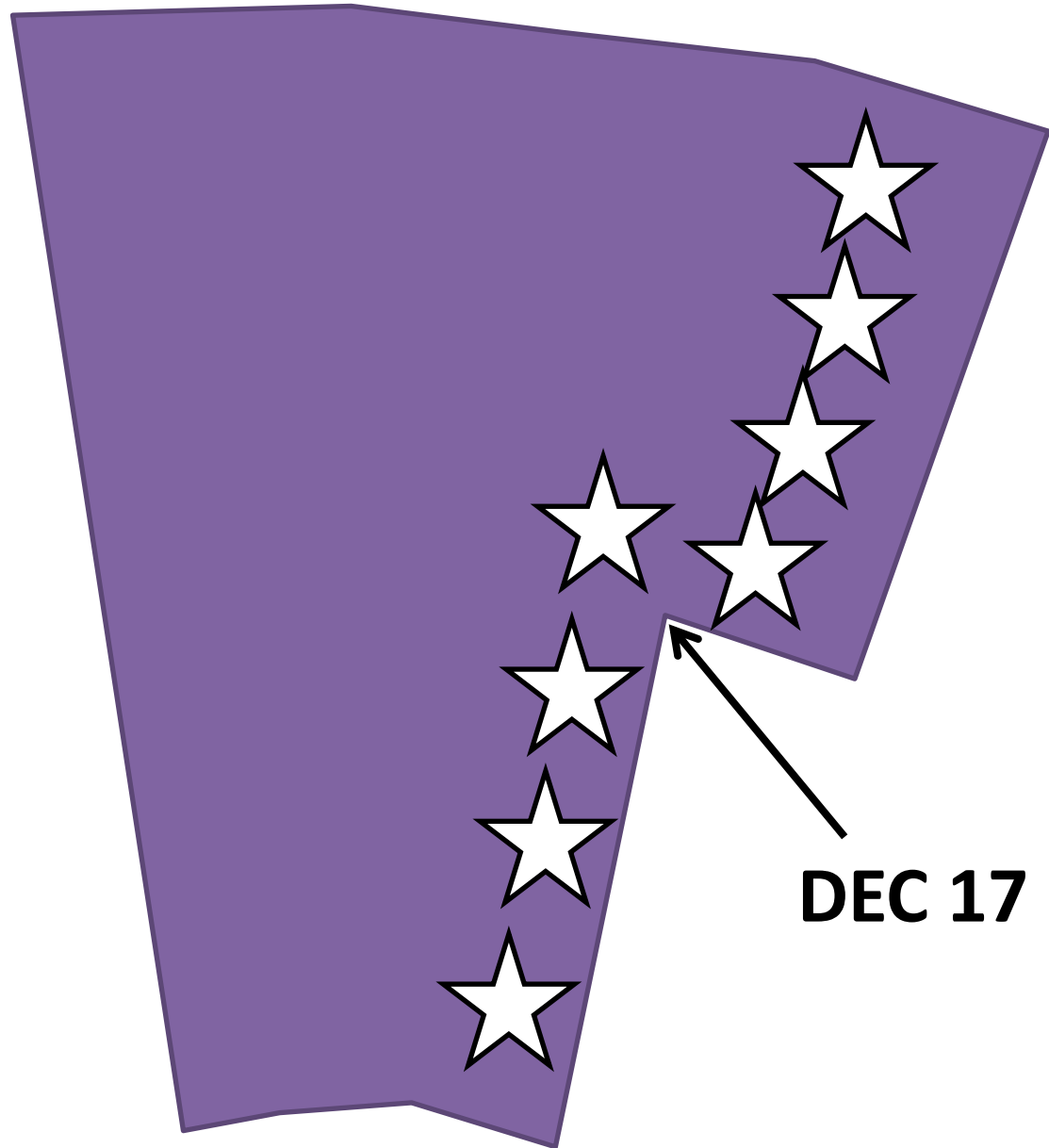
- Start of the liturgical year
- Especially recalls the events in salvation history leading up to the birth of Christ
- Begins four Sundays before Christmas; ends on December 24<sup>th</sup>
- Longest - Advent 28 days (when Christmas falls on Sunday)
- Shortest - Advent 22 days (when Christmas falls on Monday)
- Vestments are violet (symbol of preparation & penance)
- Rose may be used on 3<sup>rd</sup> "Gaudete" Sunday (symbol of joy)



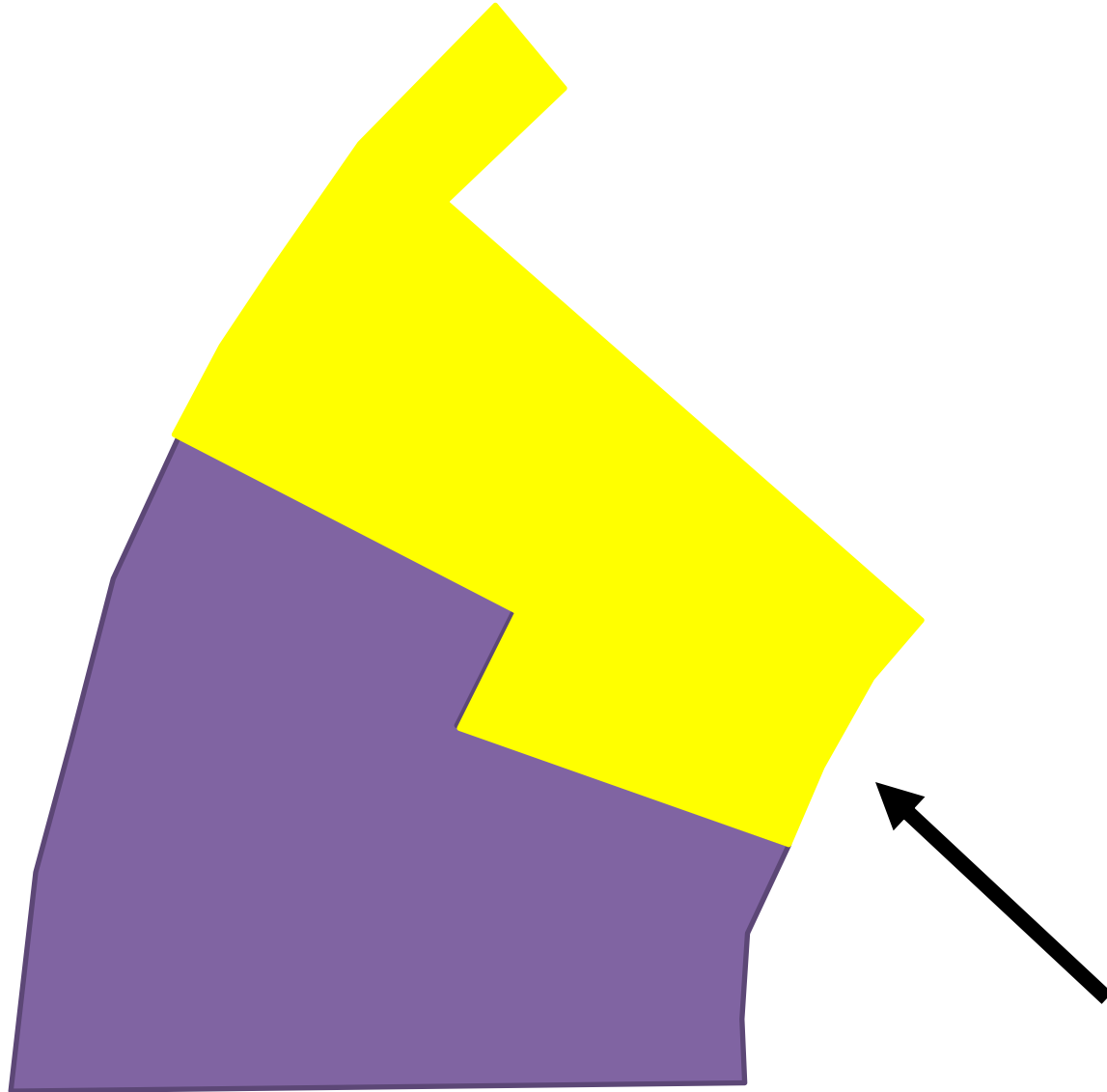
# Advent Season

- Intensification begins in part two of Advent

**(Dec. 17-24)**



# Christmas Season



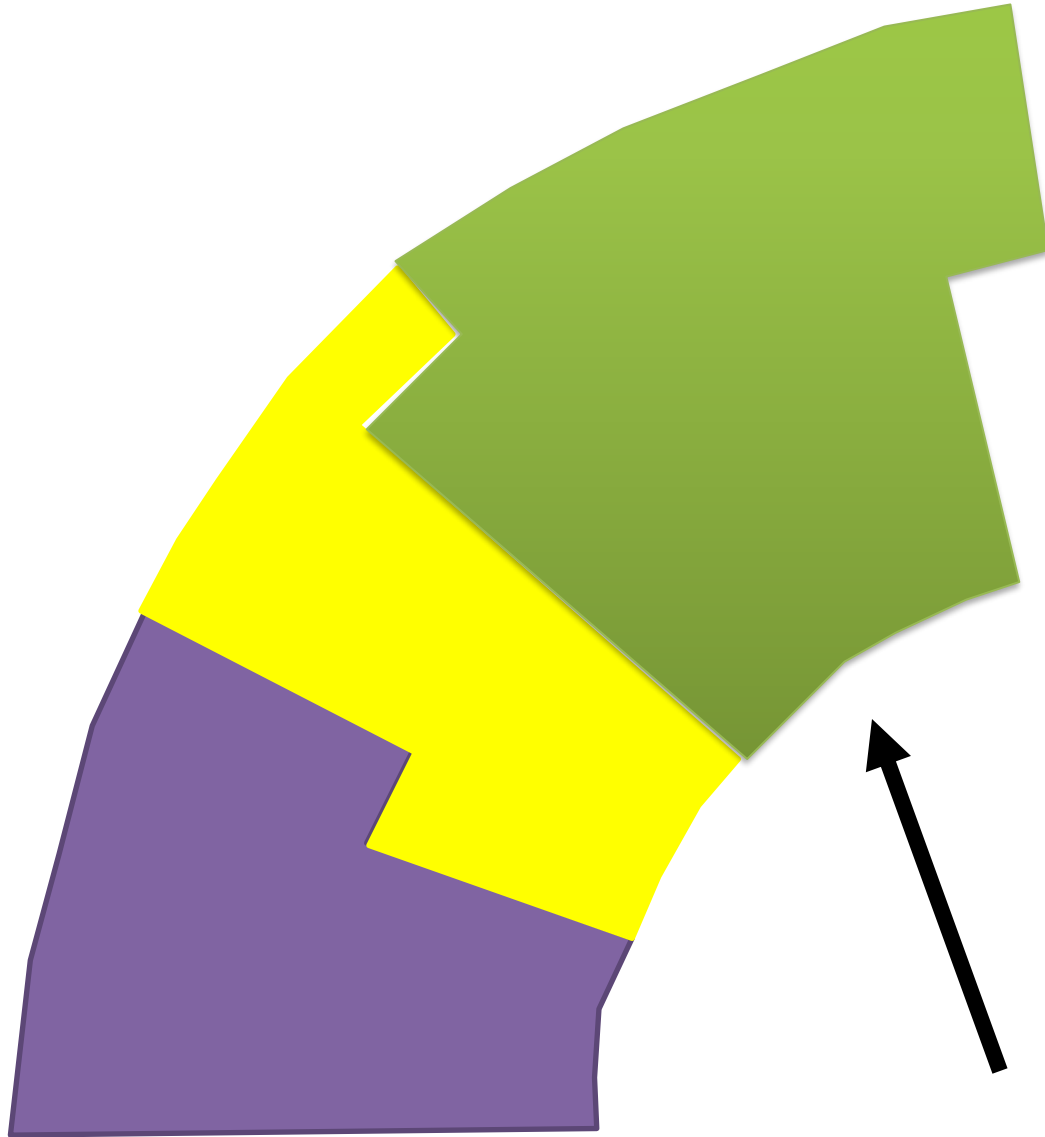
# Christmas Season

- Especially recalls the birth of Christ up through His baptism in the Jordan (includes His infancy & “hidden life” in Nazareth)
- Christmas Octave is 8 days (Dec 25 – Jan 1)
- Epiphany is second Sunday after Christmas; commemorates Jesus revealed to the Magi – salvation offered to all people
- Christmas season ends on feast of Baptism of the Lord (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Christmas)
- Baptism of Jesus commemorates how God is revealed in Jesus
- White vestments used during this season (symbol of rejoicing)





# Ordinary Time (Part 1)



# Ordinary Time (Part 1)

- Especially recalls the public life of Jesus (from His Baptism in the Jordan until His Passion)
- Starts Monday after the Baptism of the Lord (begins 1<sup>st</sup> week)
- “Ordinary” as in “counted” vs. “not extraordinary”
- Count 6-10 weeks (depending on how early Easter falls)
- Last “week” is only 3 days
- It’s a time to reflect on God’s role in our everyday lives
- Green vestments (a symbol of hope & growth) used except for important feast days
- Includes the Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2



# “Hierarchy” of Celebrations

- **Solemnity** – Highest level of celebration “with all the bells and whistles”
- **Feast** – Second highest level of celebration
- **Memorial** – Celebrated throughout the universal Church (when it commemorates a saint it is often on the day he/she died)
- **Optional Memorial** – Priest has an option to recall the life of a particular saint or event (based on its significance locally), especially since there are more than 365 saints



# Holy Days of Obligation (in the USA)



**Immaculate Conception**  
(December 8)†

**Christmas** (December 25)

**Mary, Mother of God**  
(January 1)\*

**Ascension**  
(40 days after Easter)\*\*

**Assumption of Mary**  
(August 15)\*

**All Saints Day** (November 1)\*

*†Moved to Dec. 9 if falls on a Sunday and then not obligatory*

*\*Obligation removed if it falls on a Saturday or Monday*

*\*\*Transferred to following Sunday in many dioceses (including Lafayette-in-Indiana)*

# Set Major Feasts & Solemnities of the Year

- Jan 1 ***Mary, Mother of God\****
- Jan 25 Conversion of St. Paul
- Feb 2 Presentation of the Lord
- Feb 22 Chair of Peter
- Mar 19 *Joseph, Spouse of Mary*
- Mar 25 *Annunciation of the Lord*
- Apr 25 Mark the Evangelist
- May 1 Joseph the Worker
- May 3 Philip & James, Apostles
- May 14 Matthias, Apostle
- May 31 Visitation of Mary
- June 24 *Nativity of John the Baptist*
- June 29 *Peter & Paul, Apostles*
- July 3 Thomas, Apostle
- July 22 Mary Magdalene
- July 25 James, Apostle
- Aug 6 Transfiguration
- Aug 10 Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr
- **Aug 15 *Assumption of Mary\****
- Aug 24 Bartholomew, Apostle
- Sept 8 Nativity of Mary
- Sept 14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- Sept 21 Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist
- Sept 29 Feast of the Archangels
- Oct 18 Luke the Evangelist
- Oct 28 Simon & Jude, Apostles
- **Nov 1 *All Saints\****
- Nov 2 *All Souls*
- Nov 9 Dedication of Lateran Basilica
- Nov 30 Andrew, Apostle
- **Dec 8 *Immaculate Conception\****
- Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **Dec 25 *Christmas\****
- Dec 26 Stephen, First Martyr
- Dec 27 John, Apostle & Evangelist
- Dec 28 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

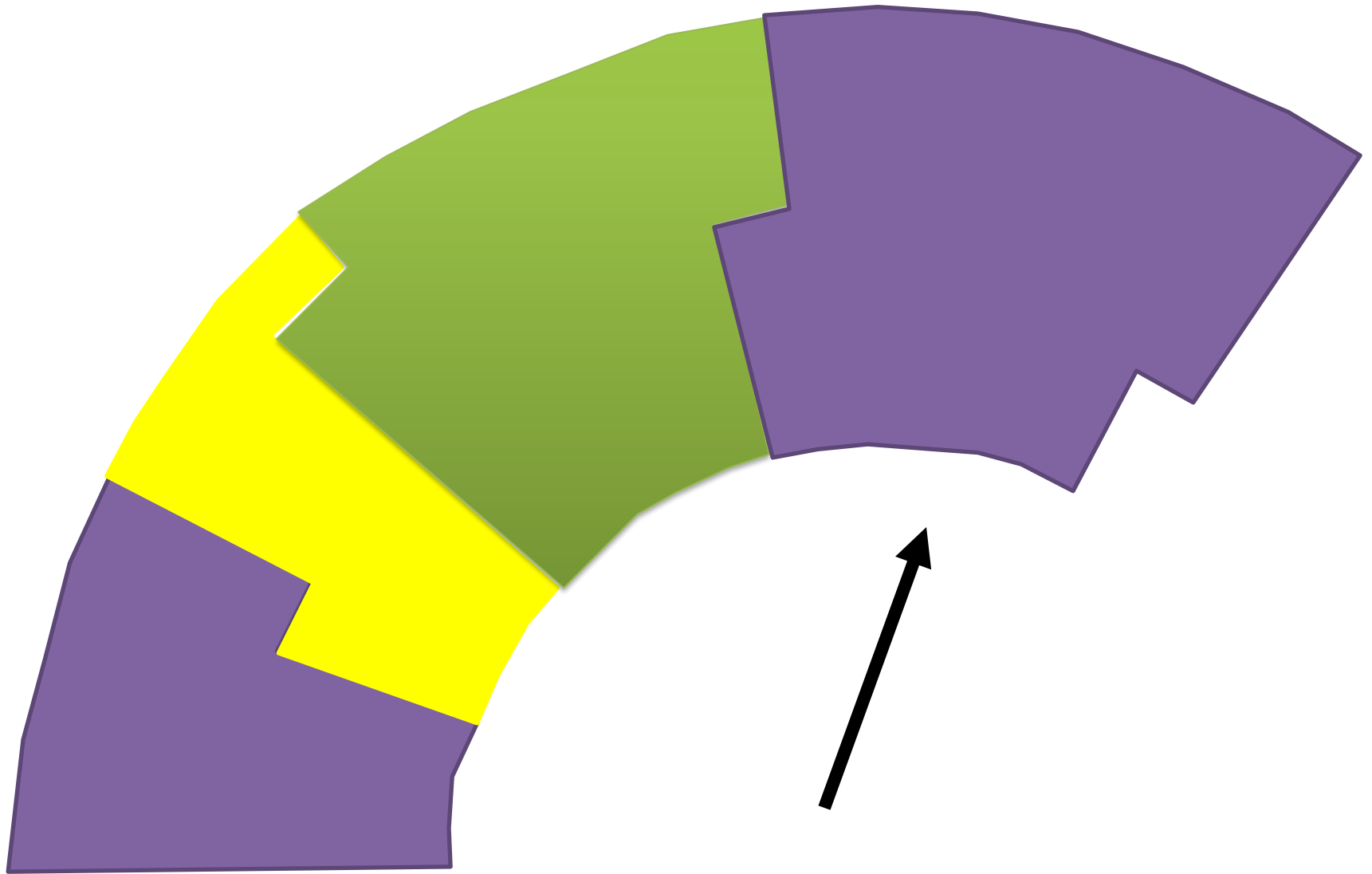
**\*Holy Day of Obligation**      *Italics - Solemnity*

# Moving Feasts & Solemnities of the Year

- Epiphany – Sunday between Jan 2 & Jan 8
- Feast of the Baptism of the Lord – Sunday after Jan 6
- Ascension – 40 Days after Easter (or following Sunday)
- Pentecost – 50 Days after Easter
- Holy Trinity – First Sunday after Pentecost
- Corpus Christi – Second Sunday after Pentecost
- Sacred Heart of Jesus – Friday after Corpus Christi
- Christ the King – Last Sunday in Ordinary Time

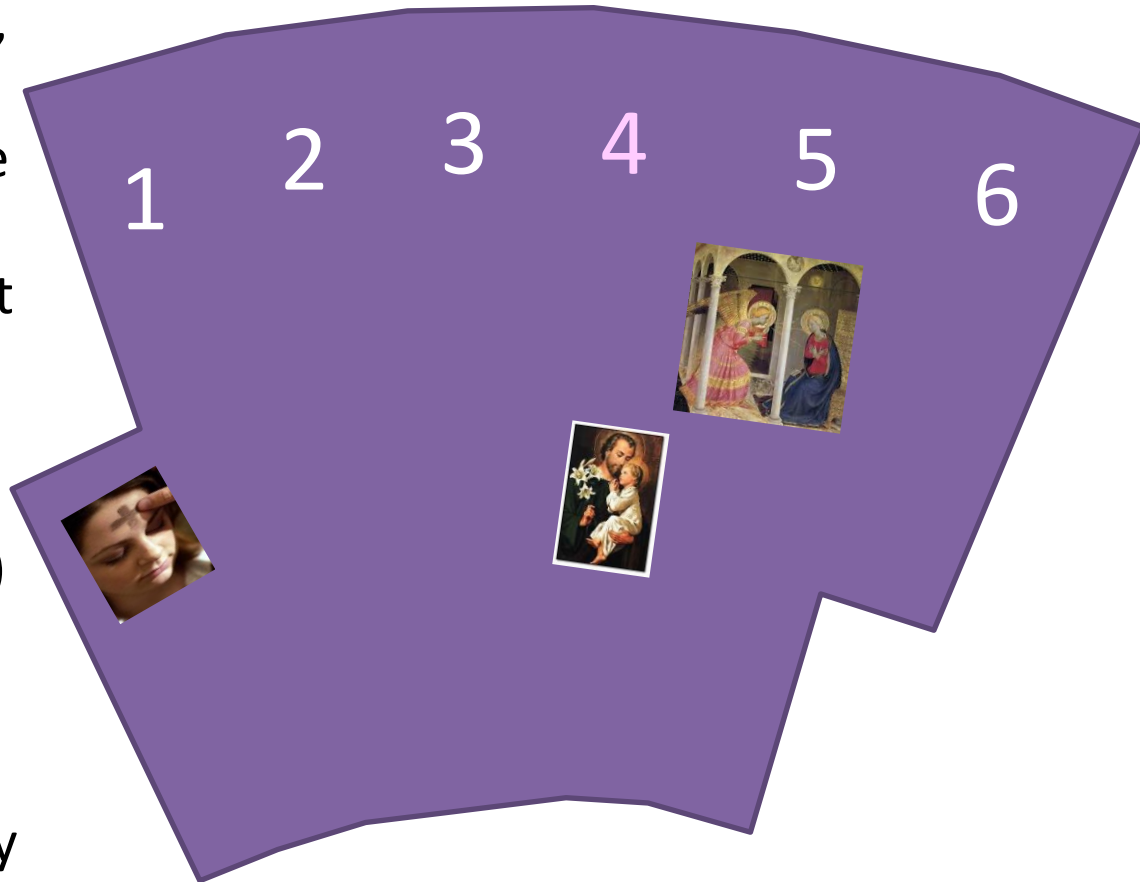


Lent



# Lent

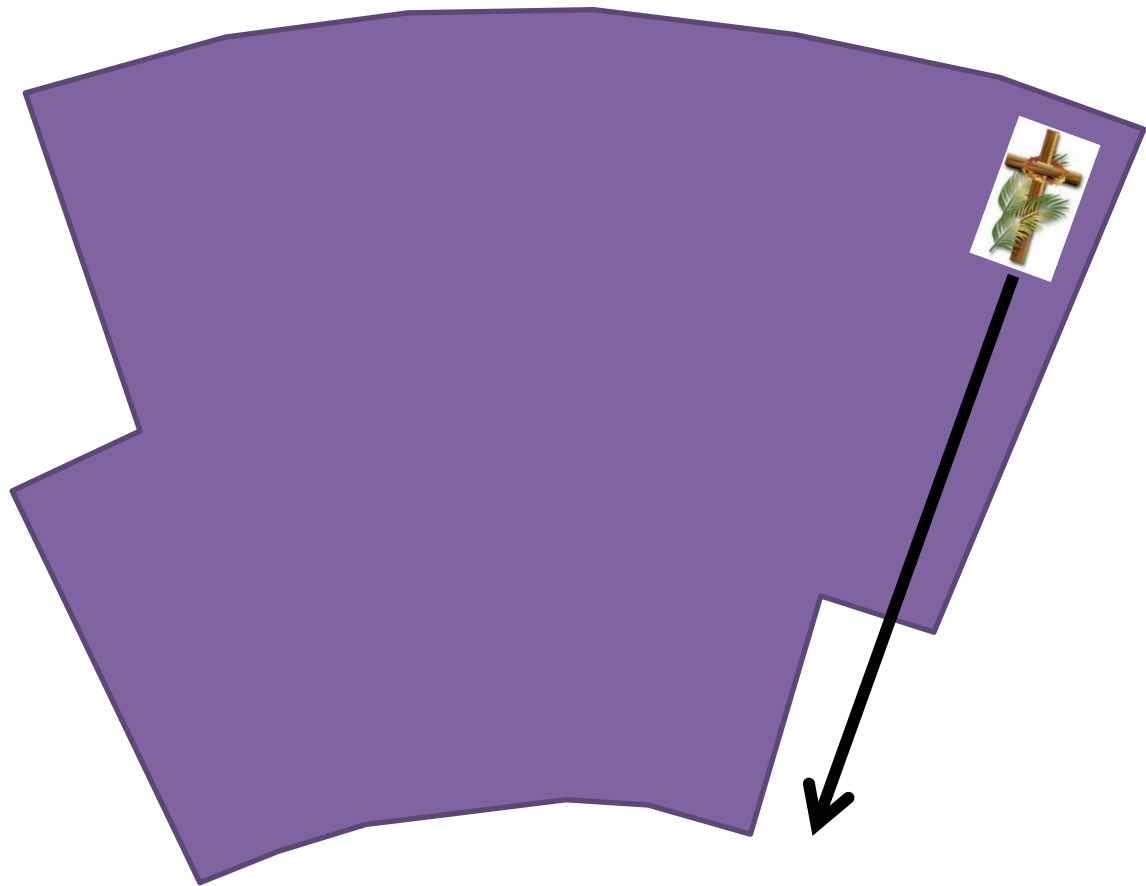
- Time of prayer & penance
- Strive to do good works, fast, practice abstinence, deepen our faith through prayer, give freely to others & pray for those who will be baptized at the Vigil
- Starts on Ash Wednesday (6.5 weeks before Easter & begins our preparation for it)
- Concentrate on turning away from sin & toward God
- Violet vestments worn
- Rose may be worn 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)
- Two feasts during Lent: St Joseph (Mar 19) & Annunciation (Mar 25)



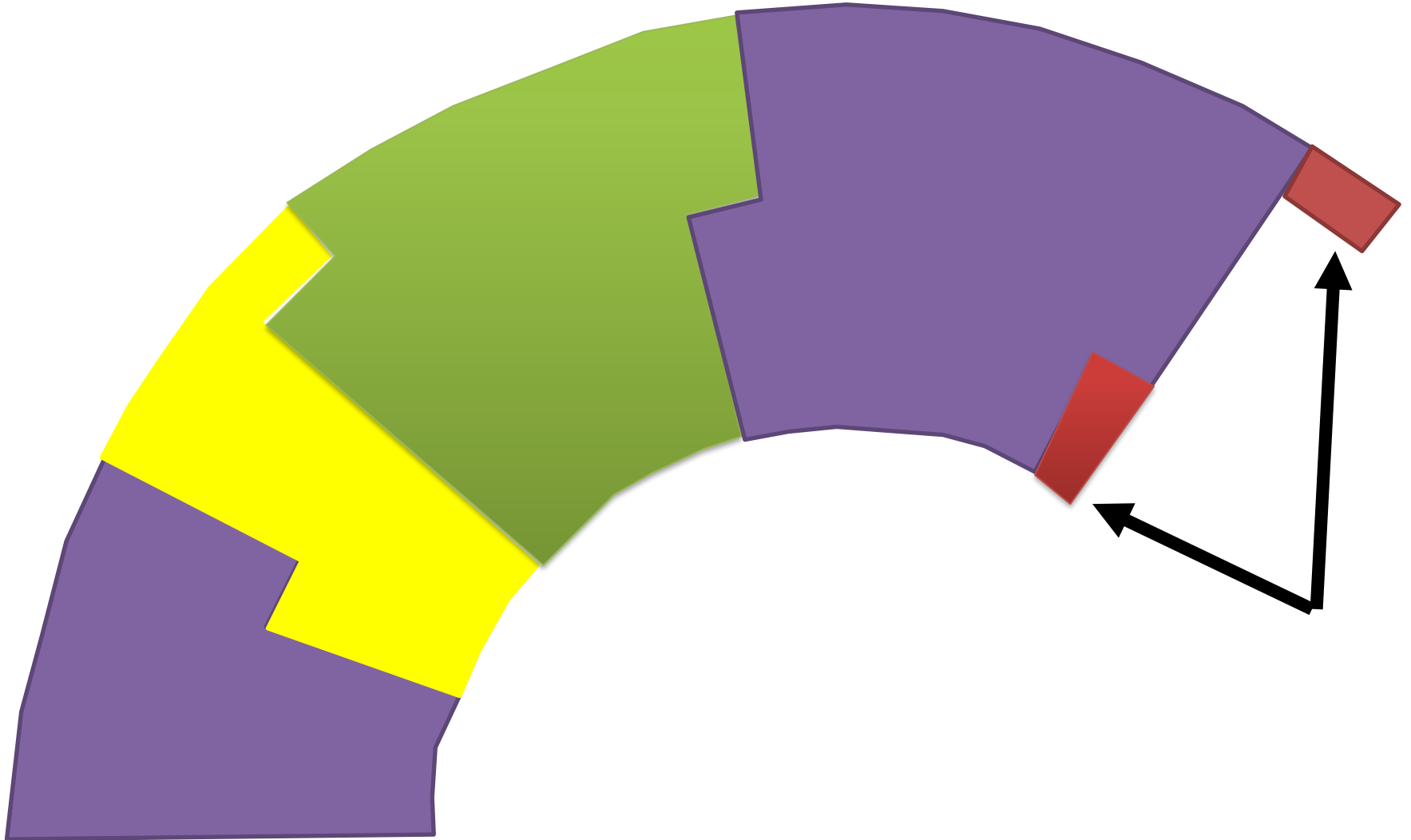


# Lent

- Intensification during Holy Week
- Lent technically ends on Holy Thursday in early evening, but we continue our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving into Good Friday and Holy Saturday



# Triduum

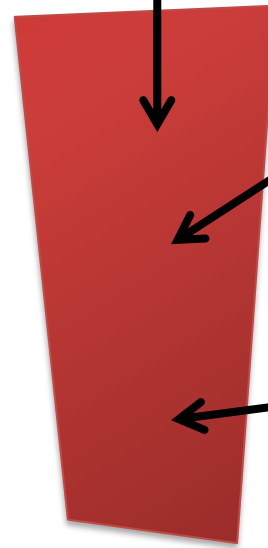
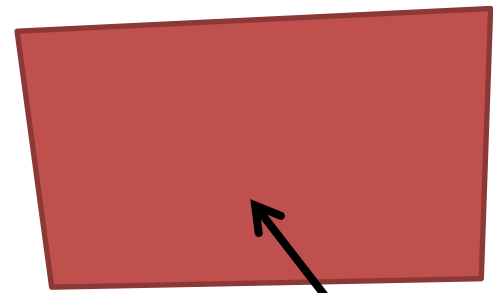


# Triduum

- Holiest days of the entire year
- ONE united, salvific event (Passion, Death, & Resurrection)
- Literally means “Three days”
- Preceded by Chrism Mass on Holy Thursday morning

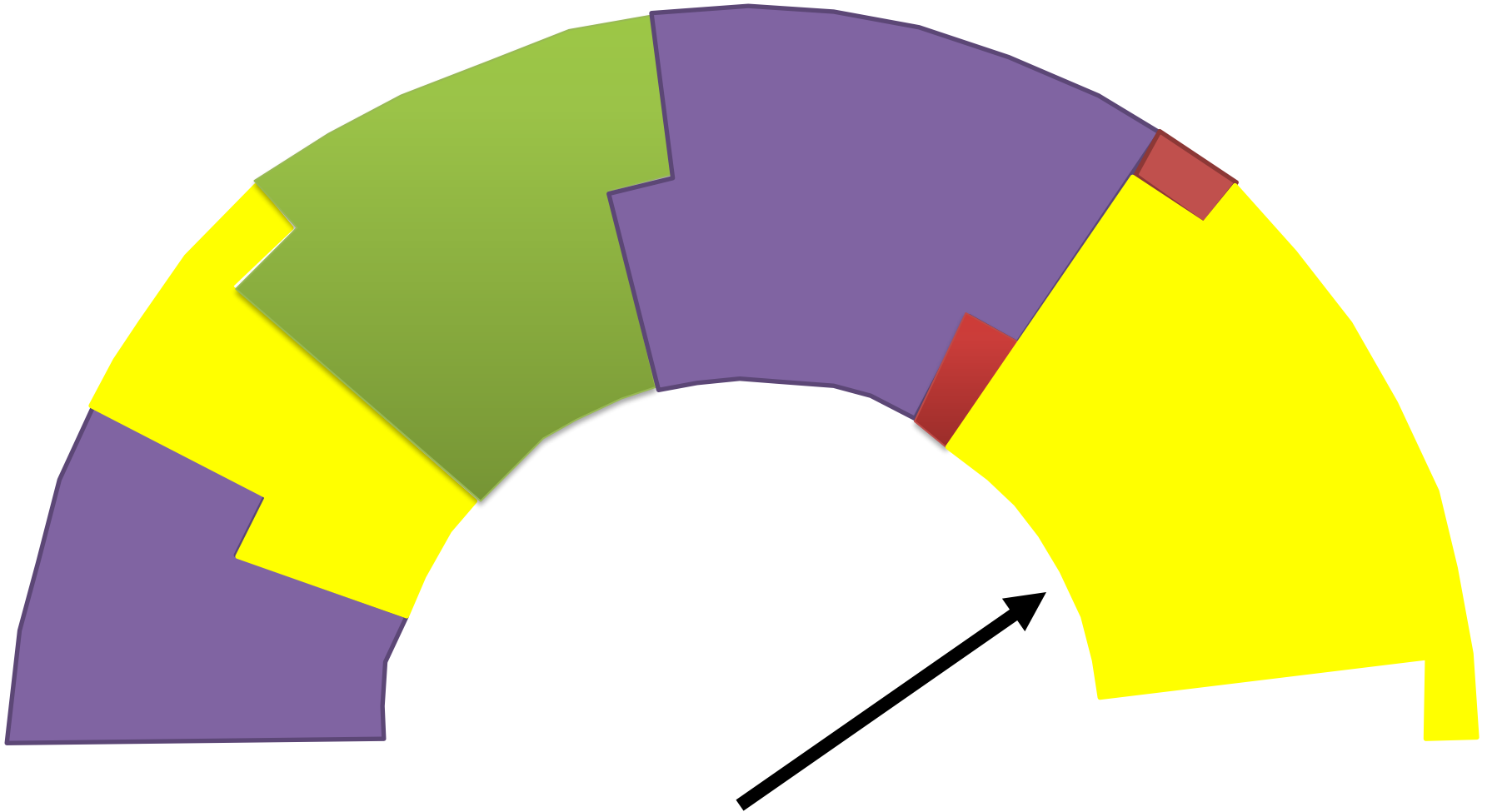


# Triduum



- **Holy Thursday** – commemoration of Jesus' Last Supper & recall institution of the Eucharist
- **Good Friday** – we recall Jesus' Passion & Death on the cross for all mankind. No Mass this day; instead a special service is held & scriptural account of the Passion is read (red vestments)
- **Holy Saturday** – day of quiet & meditation as we wait with Jesus in the tomb
- **Easter** (starting with the Vigil) – celebration of the Resurrection

# Easter

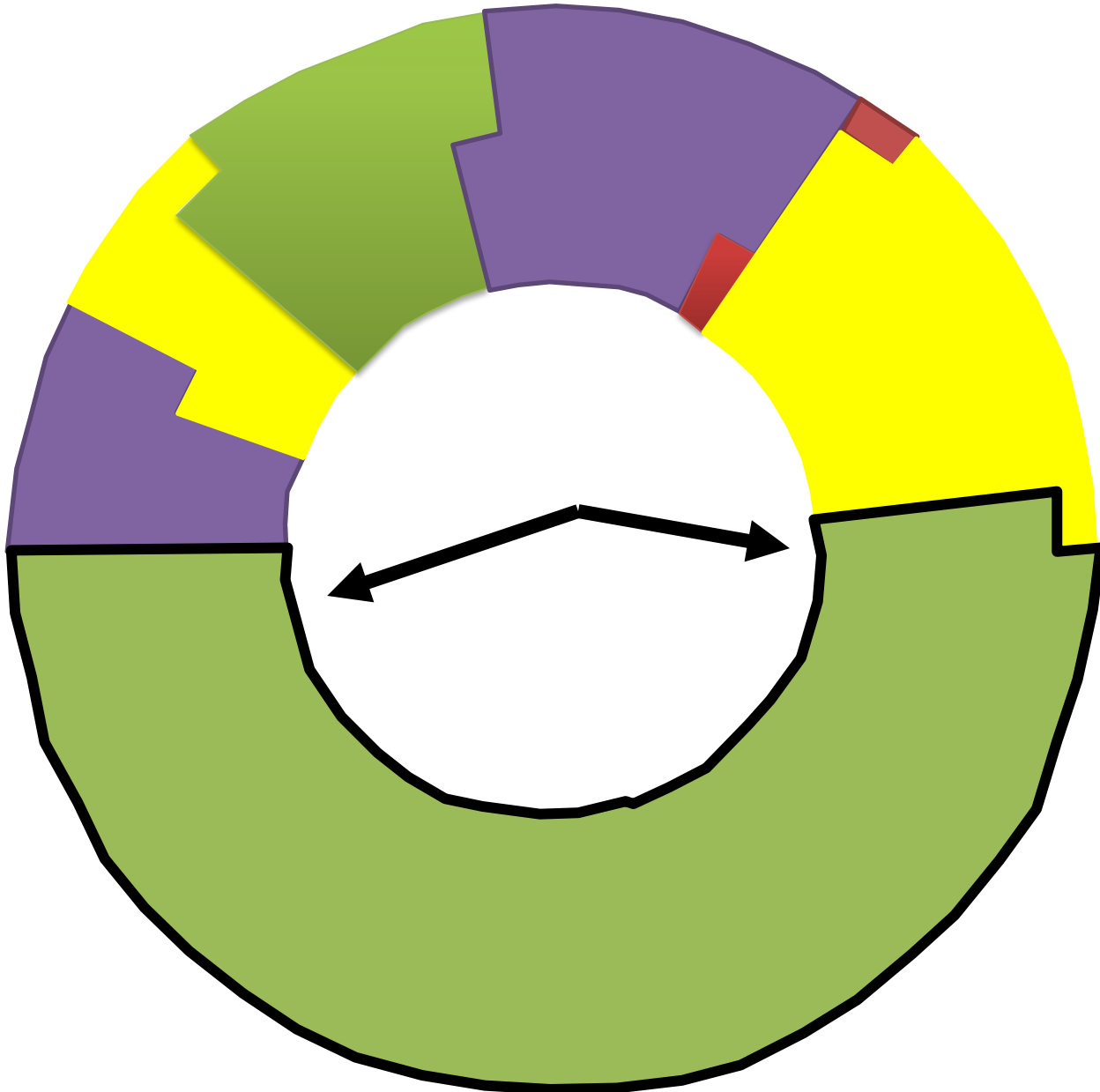


# Easter



- Easter is highest feast day of the liturgical year
- First Sunday after first full moon of spring (earliest = March 22, 1 latest = April 25)
- White vestments worn
- Easter Octave is 8 days (Easter – Divine Mercy Sunday)
- 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday (7+ weeks)
- **Ascension Thursday** (40 days after Easter) – celebrate Jesus' rising into heaven.
- **Pentecost Sunday** (50 days after Easter) – we recall the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles & the whole Church (red vestments)

# Ordinary Time (Part II)





# Ordinary Time (Part II)

- Continue where left off from the first part of Ordinary Time
- May skip one week if coming Advent doesn't allow 34 weeks
- Week following Pentecost "counts" as a week (even though doesn't include the Sunday)
- Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity replaces the "counted Sunday" after Pentecost
- Solemnity of Corpus Christi replaces the next "counted Sunday"
- Solemnity of Christ the King replaces last (34<sup>th</sup>) Sunday
- Important to live our faith throughout the Liturgical Year

