

December GIFT Homework

For Catholics, the Church year is called the Liturgical Year. In each liturgical year, we celebrate the entire life of Jesus Christ from his birth to his Resurrection, Ascension, and sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Here is a description of the seasons we celebrate during the liturgical year.

- **Advent** begins the liturgical year. During Advent we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth and await Christmas, the celebration of the coming of the Son of God, Jesus Christ. This year, the season of Advent begins on December 1.
- During the **Christmas** season, we celebrate that God is with us always. The Christmas season begins on Christmas Day, December 25.
- **Ordinary Time** is divided into two parts. The first falls between Christmas and Lent. During this season, we celebrate the life and teachings of Jesus and what it means to be his disciple.
- Ash Wednesday begins the season of **Lent** on February 26. During Lent we remember that Jesus suffered, died, and rose to new life. We pray, give alms, and fast in order to grow closer to Jesus and to one another.
- The Easter **Triduum** is the Church's greatest celebration. Triduum lasts three days (from Holy Thursday evening until Easter Sunday evening) and we remember and the suffering, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- The season of **Easter** begins on Easter Sunday evening (April 12) and continues until Pentecost Sunday (May 31). During the Easter season we rejoice in Jesus' Resurrection and in the new life we have in Jesus Christ.
- The second part of **Ordinary Time** occurs between the seasons of Easter and Advent.

Liturgies celebrated during the different seasons of the liturgical year have distinctive music and specific readings, prayers, rituals, and colors. All of these work together to reflect the spirit of the particular season. The colors of the vestments that the priest wears during the liturgy change each season. During Ordinary Time, the liturgical color is green. White is used for special feast days and Holy Days, like Easter. Blue is used during Advent and purple is the liturgical color for Lent. Red is used for Good Friday.

Complete the handout below and hand in for your December homework. For extra credit, do one of the worksheets under the mass resources tab at www.borromeogift.org

Name: _____ -

Liturgical Year

There are _____ seasons in the liturgical year.

The new Church year begins on the first Sunday in _____.

_____ prepares us for the celebration of Jesus' first coming.

_____ is the color of Advent.

Advent lasts for _____ weeks.

_____ follows Advent.

Christmas Time begins with Christmas and lasts through _____.

Christmas Time lasts for _____ weeks.

_____ is the color of Christmas Time.

This feast of _____ is celebrated during Christmas Time.

_____ follows Christmas Time and Easter Time and it is celebrated in two parts.

_____ is the color of Ordinary Time.

During _____, we try to become more like Jesus through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Lent begins on _____.

Lent continues until _____.

_____ is the color of Lent.

The three days of the Easter _____, begins at sunset on Holy Thursday and

ends at sunset on Easter Sunday and during this time we remember the death of Jesus and celebrate His resurrection.

_____ celebrates the central mystery of Christ, his triumph over death and the cross and the resurrection.

_____ begins on Easter Sunday evening and ends on Pentecost Sunday.

_____ is the color of Easter Time.

Word bank:

Some of the words are used more than once.

Holy Thursday

Christmas

Advent

Epiphany

Baptism of the Lord

Green

Lent

Ash Wednesday

Four

Ordinary Time

Two

Blue

White

Easter Time

Triduum

Five