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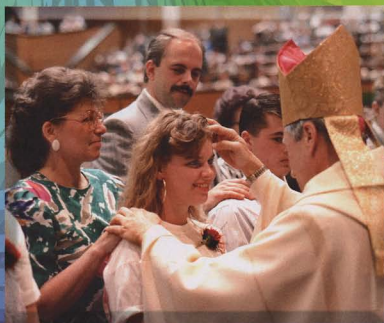
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Unit 2 • We Worship



*What are some times
the Church celebrates
as a community?*

Getting Ready

What I Have Learned

What is something you already know about these faith words?

Paschal Mystery

The liturgical year

The Eucharist

Words to Know

Put an X next to the faith words you know. Put a ? next to the faith words you need to know more about.

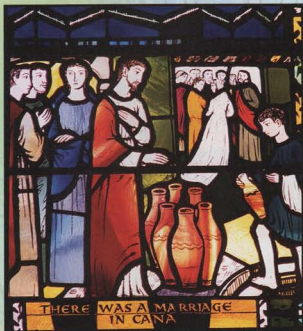
Faith Words

- ☐ liturgy
- ☐ Eucharist
- ☐ Blessed Sacrament
- ☐ parable
- ☐ Reconciliation
- ☐ Holy Orders

Questions I Have

What questions would you like to ask about the Eucharist?

A Scripture Story



Wedding in Cana

What did Jesus do at the wedding in Cana?

The Church's Year



11

We Pray

With all my heart
I praise the LORD,
our God.

Based on Psalm 111:1

**Father,
always and
everywhere
we give you thanks
through Jesus
Christ, your Son.
Amen.**

*What days do you
and your family like
to celebrate?*

Celebrating special
times is fun. The
Church celebrates
too. We gather to
celebrate our faith
in Christ.

*What are your
favorite celebrations
of the Church?*

The Church Celebrates

Faith Focus

What is the liturgical year?

Faith Words

worship

Worship is the adoration and honor we give to God.

liturgy

The liturgy is the Church's work of worshipping God.

Throughout the year you remember and celebrate many important occasions with your family. You celebrate birthdays and anniversaries. You celebrate other days on which something wonderful happened.

The Liturgical Year

The Church gathers all year long to celebrate her faith in Jesus Christ. We gather to **worship** God. Worship is giving adoration and honor to God. We call the Church's work of worshipping God the **liturgy**.



The word *liturgy* means "the work of the people." In the celebration of the liturgy the Church, the new People of God, joins in the work of worshipping God. The faithful, joined to Christ, the Head of the Church, and in unity with the Holy Spirit, give honor and glory to God the Father.

The Church's year of worship is called the liturgical year. The liturgical year is made up of the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time.

Advent and Christmas

Advent begins the liturgical year. We prepare for Christmas. We wait in hope for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. During Christmas we praise and thank God the Father for sending us his only Son, Jesus, to be the Savior of the world.



How does your parish celebrate Advent and Christmas?

The Liturgical Year

Each picture on page 140 reminds us of one of the seasons of the Church's year. Write the name of the season beside the correct number.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Faith Focus

When does the Church celebrate Lent and Easter?

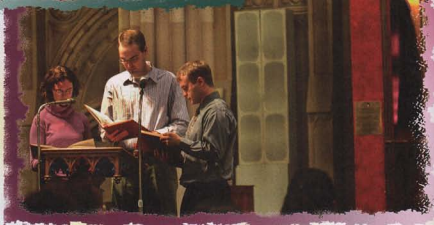
Faith Words

Easter Triduum

The Easter Triduum, or "three days," is the center of the liturgical year. It begins on Holy Thursday evening and ends on Easter Sunday evening.



Holy Thursday



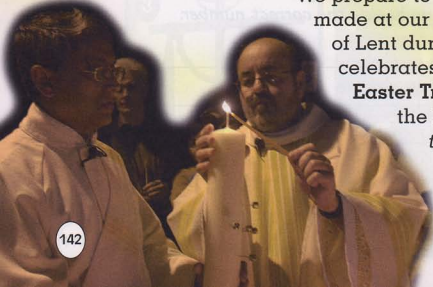
Good Friday

Just as our family and our country celebrate important times of the year, so does the Church.

Lent and Easter

During Lent we prepare for Easter. We join with those preparing for Baptism. We prepare to renew the promises we made at our Baptism. At the conclusion of Lent during Holy Week, the Church celebrates the Easter Triduum. The **Easter Triduum** is the center of the liturgical year. The word *triduum* means "three days."

Easter Vigil



The Easter Triduum begins on Holy Thursday evening and ends on Easter Sunday evening. It includes the celebrations on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday. During these three days we celebrate and share in Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection.

The fifty days of the Easter season are celebrated next. During the Easter season we celebrate and remember Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension.



Why are the seasons of Lent and Easter important?



Faith-Filled People

The Elect

At the Easter Vigil you may see a special group of people. They are called the Elect. They have accepted God's invitation to become members of the Church. At the Easter Vigil they receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

Celebrating Easter

Draw a picture, write a poem, or tell a story about Easter.



Faith Focus

What is the longest part of the liturgical year?

Faith Words

Ordinary Time

Ordinary Time includes the weeks of the liturgical year that are not the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, or Easter.

Ordinary Time

The remaining weeks of the liturgical year are called **Ordinary Time**. Ordinary Time is the longest part of the liturgical year. Ordinary Time includes the weeks that are not part of the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, or Easter.

Ordinary Time has two parts. The first part begins after Christmas and continues to Lent. The second part begins after the fifty days of the Easter season and continues to Advent.

The Raising of Lazarus,
John 11:1–45



The Widow's
Offering,
Mark 12:41–44



The Sower and the Seed,
Mark 4:2–9



During Ordinary Time we listen to stories from the Gospels that tell us about Jesus' life and saving work while he was on earth. We come to know Jesus more and more. We learn how we can live as his followers.



What does the Church celebrate during Ordinary Time?



My Favorite Gospel Stories

Complete the sentences about your favorite Gospel story.

One of my favorite Gospel stories is

_____.

It is about _____

_____.

This Gospel story teaches me

_____.



Our Catholic Faith

Liturgical Colors

The Church uses colors to remind us of the liturgical seasons. Purple or violet is used for Advent and Lent. White or gold is used for Christmas and Easter. Green is used for Ordinary Time. On special days, such as Good Friday and Pentecost, red is used.

Our Church Makes a Difference



Epiphany

Feasts of the Lord

All throughout the liturgical year the Church celebrates her faith in Jesus Christ. In addition to his birth and the saving events of Jesus' Passion, death, Resurrection, and Ascension, the Church celebrates other feasts of the Lord.

These feasts of the Lord remember and proclaim that Jesus is the Son of God and Savior of the world. He is the new and everlasting Covenant of friendship that God has made with all people.



How can celebrating the six feasts named on this page help you grow in your faith in Jesus Christ?



Annunciation



Baptism of the Lord



Transfiguration



Presentation of the Lord



Christ the King



What Difference Does Faith Make in My Life?

The Church's liturgical year helps you keep your faith alive. When you take part in the celebrations of the liturgical year, you share in God's love.

Describe how the liturgical season that the Church is now celebrating helps you live as a follower of Jesus.

Living as a Follower of Jesus

The Church is now celebrating the season of _____.

During this season I will remember that Jesus _____.

I will try to follow Jesus by _____.

My Faith Choice



This week I will celebrate that I am a follower of Jesus. I will

_____.

We Pray

Thank You, God

Learn to sign this prayer of thanksgiving.
Pray it alone and with other people.



Thank you, God, for everything.

All: Sign "Thank you, God, for everything."

Leader: A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Leader: Jesus told his friend Nicodemus: "God loves the world very much. That's why God sent me into the world. If you believe in me, you will never die. You will live forever with God! God did not send me to tell people that they were bad. God sent me to help people be good. Believe in me and you will be good and happy. You will live forever with God."

Based on John 3:16-18

All: The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sign "Thank you, God, for everything."

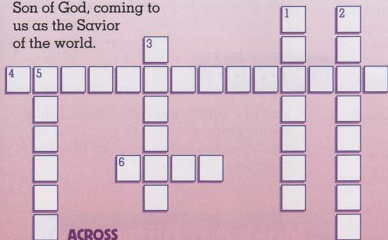
We Remember

What I Have Learned

Use the clues to complete the puzzle.

DOWN

1. The Church's work of worshipping God.
2. We celebrate Jesus, the Son of God, coming to us as the Savior of the world.
3. We celebrate Jesus' being raised from the dead.
5. We prepare for Christmas.



ACROSS

4. The suffering, death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus.
6. We get ready for Easter.

Answer the following.

7. Use the correct liturgical color and color the crosses next to the seasons of the liturgical year.



Advent



Easter



Christmas



Ordinary Time



Lent

8. Describe your favorite liturgical season.

To Help You Remember

1. The Church's year of worship is called the liturgical year. The seasons of the liturgical year are Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time.
2. The Easter Triduum is the center of the liturgical year.
3. Ordinary Time is the longest part of the liturgical year.

Growing in Faith

One important thing I learned this week is

This is important because

What will people see me doing as I live my faith choice this week?

This Week . . .

In chapter 11, "The Church's Year," your child learned about the Church's year of worship, or the liturgical year. Like the calendar year, the liturgical year is made up of a cycle of seasons and important days. The Easter Triduum, or the three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday, is the heart of the liturgical year. The seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter revolve around this solemn three-day celebration of Christ's Passion, death, and Resurrection. The remaining weeks of the liturgical year are called Ordinary Time.

For more on the teachings of the Catholic Church on the liturgy and the liturgical year, see *Catechism of the Catholic Church* paragraph numbers 1135–1186.

Sharing God's Word

Reread the Gospel passage that you heard proclaimed at Mass this weekend. You can find the reading by clicking on "Gospel Reflections" at www.FaithFirst.com. Emphasize how the Gospel reading helps you grow and live your faith in Jesus Christ.

Praying

In this chapter your child signed a short thanksgiving prayer. Ask your child to teach you the prayer on page 148. Pray the prayer together.

Making a Difference

Choose one of the following activities to do as a family or design a similar activity of your own.

- When you take part in Mass this weekend, look at the color of the vestments and identify what liturgical season the Church is celebrating. Look around the church for other clues that tell you about the liturgical season.
- At dinnertime talk about how celebrating the liturgical year helps your family grow in and live your faith in Jesus Christ.
- Create place mats for the current season of the liturgical year. Use the place mats at family meals.

For more ideas on ways your family can live your faith, visit the "Faith First for Families" page at www.FaithFirst.com. This week take time to read an article from "Just for Parents."

