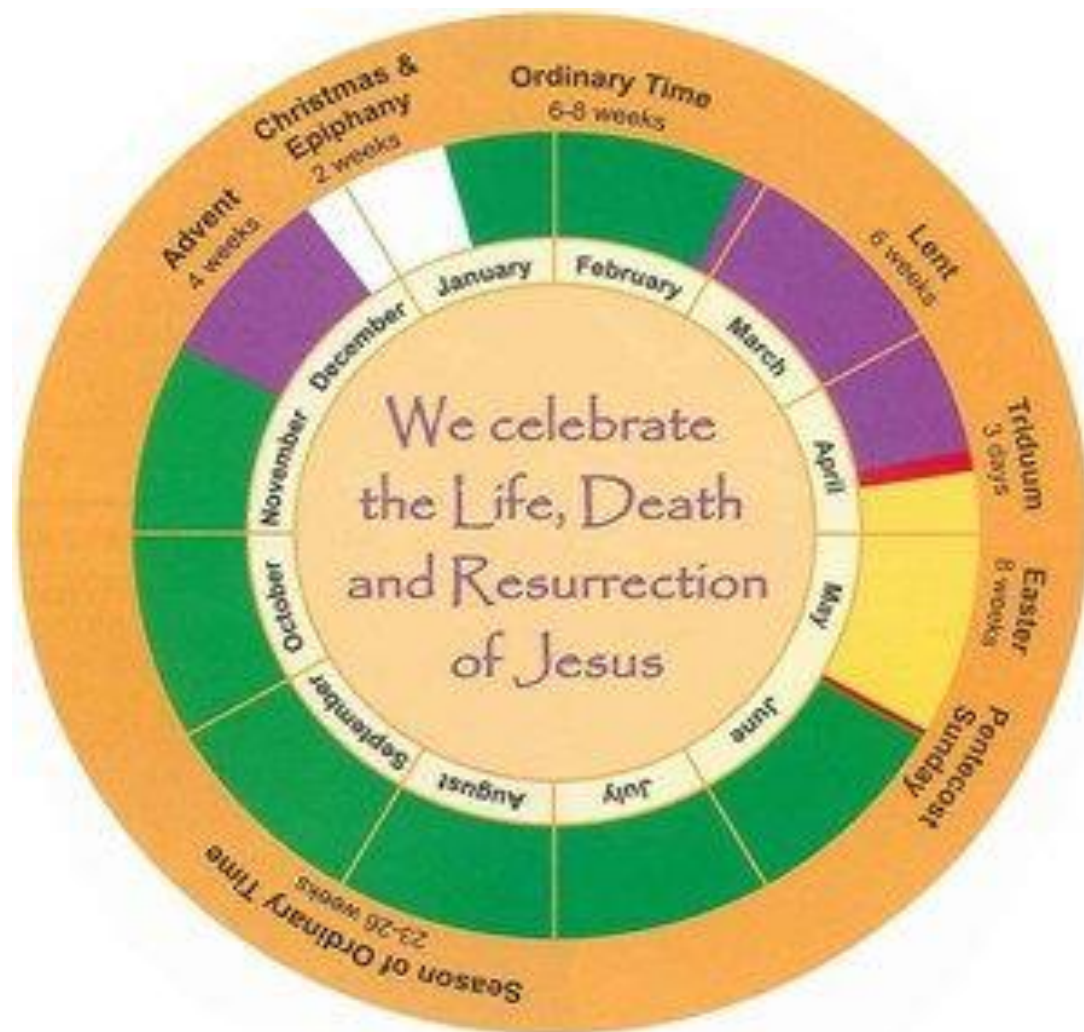


Celebrating the Paschal Mystery of Christ

*Liturgy
Sacraments*



What is the Paschal Mystery?

- The term “Paschal mystery” refers to a new passover -- the liberation of all humanity for all time from the slavery of sin by the Son of God, “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29) doing his Father's will in a plan of salvation actually carried out as part of human history.
- The Paschal Mystery then refers to the **saving events of Christ's Passion, death, Resurrection and Ascension.**
- The relationship between God and humanity had been broken, tenure in the Garden of Eden was terminated, preternatural gifts were surrendered, supernatural life was ended, continued life on earth was burdened with travail, sorrow, difficulties, conflict, temptation, and the withdrawal of the friendship of God, and death with an uncertain after-life became inevitable.
- No matter how we describe sin and its consequences, it is humanly impossible to comprehend its horrendous gravity, and its impact on all humanity and on God.
- Not only was Paradise lost, but Heaven itself was closed. By sin, our first parents had brought about their own condemnation. By sin, they destroyed their own happiness and that of their children. By sin, we had torn ourselves from the arms of God.

What is the Paschal Mystery? *(cont.)*

- What an astonishing wonder is the Paschal mystery! In this mystery we have clear evidence of the tragedy of sin, the infinite goodness of a God of pure love, and the willing obedience of a Son who sought only to do the Father's will.
- The Paschal Mystery is a gift from God that gives us promise of forgiveness for our sins, of resurrection in glory of our souls and body, and an eternity of joy so great that *“no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him”*. (1 Cor 2:9)

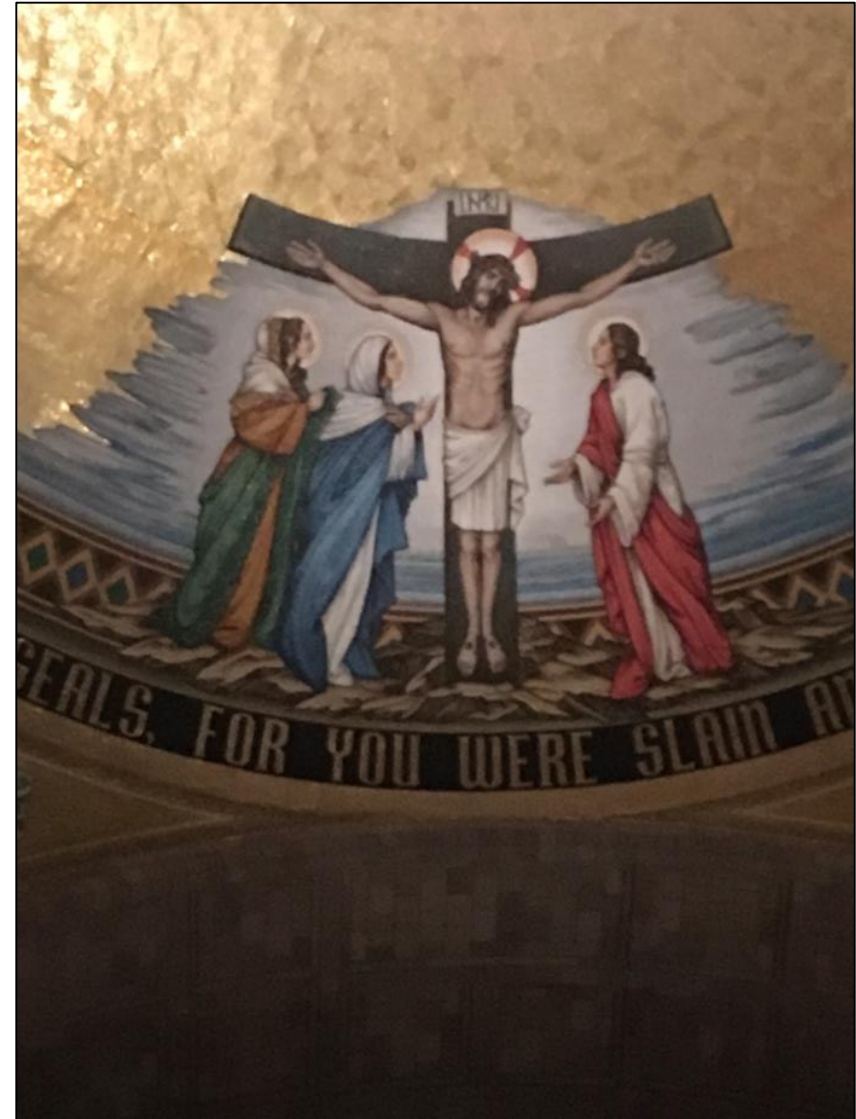
What is the Paschal Mystery?

IT IS A MYSTERY:

“a reality that is both visible and hidden” (USCC, 167)

- Jesus’ saving death and resurrection are hidden to us now,
- but they remain visible in the liturgy of the Church

Read **CCC 1085** next slide



What is the Paschal Mystery?

CCC 1085 In the liturgy of the Church, it is principally his own Paschal mystery that Christ signifies and makes present. During his earthly life Jesus announced his Paschal mystery by his teaching and anticipated it by his actions. When his Hour comes, he lives out the unique event of history which does not pass away: Jesus dies, is buried, rises from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of the Father "once for all." His Paschal mystery is a real event that occurred in our history, but it is unique: all other historical events happen once, and then they pass away, swallowed up in the past. The Paschal mystery of Christ, by contrast, cannot remain only in the past, because by his death he destroyed death, and all that Christ is - all that he did and suffered for all men - participates in the divine eternity, and so transcends all times while being made present in them all. The event of the Cross and Resurrection *abides* and draws everything toward life.

Liturgy and the Paschal Mystery

- His death and Resurrection are hidden now in the eternity of God, but as Risen Lord and Head of the Church, Jesus Christ calls us to share in them through the liturgy of the Church, that is, by the visible gathering of the community for worship and remembrance of what God has done for us. USSC, 166-168

VERY IMPORTANT: LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS ARE ALL ABOUT CHRIST'S DEATH AND RESURRECTION FOR OUR SALVATION. THIS IS THE CENTER OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH!

Liturgy is: “a public act of worship by the faithful gathered together by the power of the Spirit under the authority of the bishop.” (USCC, 170)

It is the whole community, the Body of Christ united with its Head, that celebrates. "Liturgical services are not private functions but are celebrations of the Church which is 'the sacrament of unity,' namely, the holy people united and organized under the authority of the bishops. Therefore, liturgical services pertain to the whole Body of the Church. They manifest it, and have effects upon it. But they touch individual members of the Church in different ways, depending on their orders, their role in the liturgical services, and their actual participation in them." For this reason, "rites which are meant to be celebrated in common, with the faithful present and actively participating, should as far as possible be celebrated in that way rather than by an individual and quasi-privately."

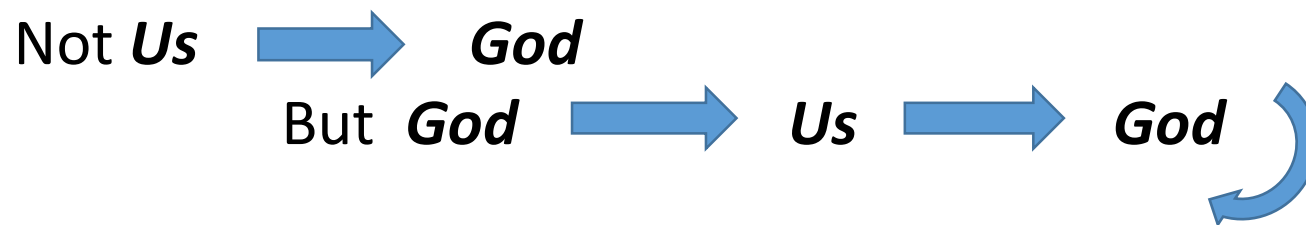
CCC 1140

Liturgy is: “*a public act of worship by the faithful* gathered together by the power of the Spirit under the authority of the bishop.” (USCC, 170)

- Liturgy is how God wants to be praised.
- Not a personal preference. Not for our entertainment.
- “Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that full, conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy, and to which the Christian people, ‘a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people, ‘have a right and an obligation by reason of their Baptism.” CCC 1141

Liturgy is: “a public act of worship by the faithful *gathered together by the power of the Spirit* under the authority of the bishop.” (USCC, 170)

- Christ is always the chief liturgist at every celebration – He is the Eternal High Priest.
- Christ pleads continuously on our behalf in the presence of the Father.
- Be imitators of Christ
- The Church brought together in faith by the Holy Spirit under the headship of Christ to:
 - Give worship to the Father
 - Offer her thanks, praise, and love to God in union with Christ.
 - God in turn blesses, sanctifies, and loves his people through his beloved Son by the working of the Holy Spirit. (*ACM Liturgy*)



Liturgy is: “a public act of worship by the faithful gathered together by the power of the Spirit *under the authority of the bishop.*” (USCC, 170)

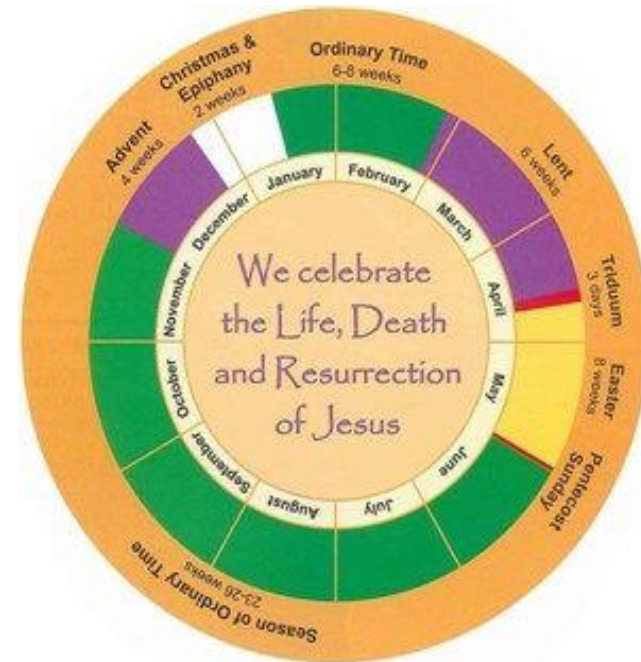
“The liturgical traditions or rites presently in use in the Church are the Latin (principally the Roman rite)... In faithful obedience to tradition, the sacred Council declares that Holy Mother Church holds all lawfully recognized rites to be of equal right and dignity, and that she wishes to preserve them in the future and to foster them in every way.”

CCC 1203

Liturgy Examples

LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS ARE ALL ABOUT CHRIST'S DEATH AND RESURRECTION FOR OUR SALVATION.

- the **Mass**
 - celebration of the other **sacraments**
 - The Liturgy of the Hours,
 - the Liturgical Year (calendar) of the Church
 - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA),
 - Cycle of the Saints, all Rites, and more
- Liturgy does not include: private devotions such as the Rosary, novenas, etc.
- Because the Eucharist is the preeminent act of worship, people often mean the Mass when they say *Liturgy*.



Heavenly Liturgy

- There is another reality happening in Heaven to which the liturgy of the Church is united: *Jesus standing before the Father in Heaven offers himself eternally.*
- In the Heavenly Liturgy, Jesus is not alone: We are united with the great multitude of Heaven worshipping the Lamb of God (Rv 7:9-12) (Read)
- In earthly liturgy, we get a taste of heaven because divine things are happening.



LITURGY SUMMARY

- In all liturgy, the Church, *guided by the power of the Holy Spirit*, **celebrates, lives and makes known to all the paschal mystery.**

IT'S ALL ABOUT CHRIST'S DEATH AND RESURRECTION
FOR OUR SALVATION.

Review: Paschal Mystery & Liturgy

- Paschal Mystery is: _____
- Liturgy
 - is a public act of _____ by the faithful gathered together by the power of the _____ under the authority of the Bishop.
- In all Liturgy, we celebrate the _____ M _____.
- _____ is the Chief Liturgist at every Liturgy.
- The two highest forms of Liturgy are _____ & _____
- Two other examples of Liturgy _____ & _____
- What Liturgical Season are we currently in: _____

Sacraments

Jesus gave us the Sacraments to call us to worship God, to build up the Church, to deepen our faith, to show us how to pray, to connect us with the living Tradition of the Church, and to sanctify us. While God works primarily through the Sacraments, he also touches us through the community of the Church, through the lives of holy people, through prayer, spirituality, and acts of love. But “for believers, the sacraments of the New Covenant are necessary for salvation. . . . The fruit of the sacramental life is that the Spirit of adoption makes the faithful partakers of the divine nature” (CCC, no. 1129).

Sacraments are Liturgy

Sacrament: What is it?

There are seven sacraments.

Sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the church by which divine life is dispensed to us.

(CCC 1131) (USCC 169)

Sacraments are Liturgy

Sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the church by which divine life is dispensed to us.

- They are efficacious because when sacraments are celebrated, they reveal and make present the reality they signify because Jesus Christ is at work in them.
 - Example: In baptism, the washing with water and the words bring about the cleansing of the soul from original and personal sin.
USCC, 197

- Since it is Christ who works through the celebrant of the sacrament
 - the effect does not depend on the holiness of the minister
- Conditions upon the recipient:
 - Faith
 - Disposition to receive the grace

Sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the church by which divine life is dispensed to us.

efficacious signs of grace

- form
 - certain words must be said
- matter
 - sacred action is performed



Sacraments are efficacious signs of **grace**, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the church by which divine life is dispensed to us.

(USCC, 168)

- Grace is God's favor given through the death and resurrection of Jesus (God's life and help for us)
- Grace is given freely through the Sacraments
- By grace we participate in God's life and are saved
- We provide nothing
- We are not forced



Remember . . . Sacraments are the means by which we receive the grace of the Paschal Mystery!!

Sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, **instituted by Christ** and entrusted to the church by which divine life is dispensed to us.

For the Sacraments that the New Testament does not portray Jesus instituting directly, we should infer that He did so because of their extremely early practice by His disciples who knew Him well.

Scripture references

BAPTISM: Matthew 28:19 - Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father, and of the Son, and of the holy spirit.

EUCCHARIST: MARK 14:22-24 - While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; **this is my body.**" Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "**This is my blood of the covenant,** which will be shed for many."

CONFIRMATION: Acts 8: 14-17 - Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who went down and prayed for them, that **they might receive the holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.**

HOLY ORDERS: Acts 13:2-3 - While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the holy Spirit said, "**Set apart** for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, completing their fasting and prayer, **they laid hands on them and sent them off.**

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK: James 5:14 - Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should **pray over him and anoint (him) with oil** in the name of the Lord and the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven.

MATRIMONY: Genesis 1:27-28 - God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them, saying: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it."

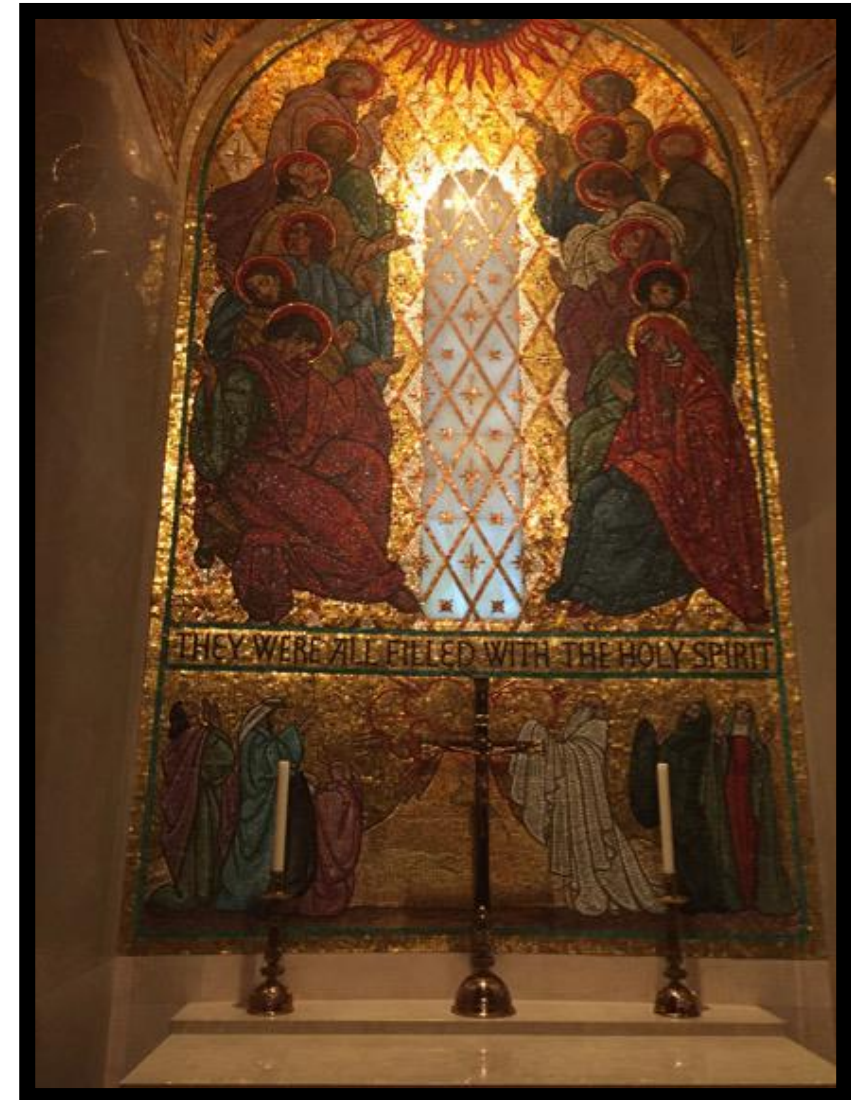
PENANCE: John 20:21-23 - Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. **As the Father has sent me, so I send you.**" And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit. **Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.**

Sacrament	New Testament Evidence of Institution by Jesus (not exhaustive)
Baptism	<u>Matthew 28</u> : Jesus commands His disciples to baptize <u>John 4</u> : Jesus' disciples were baptizing
Eucharist	<u>Mark 14: 22-24, 1 Corinthians 10-11, synoptic gospels</u> : Jesus commands His disciples to "do this..."
Confirmation	<u>Acts 8 and 19</u> : The receiving of the Holy Spirit occurs with the laying on of the apostles' hands at or after baptism
Holy Orders	<u>Acts 6 and 13, 1 Timothy 3-5</u> : Apostles and disciples practice a special laying on of hands to commission for ministry
Anointing of the Sick	<u>Mark 6, James 5</u> : Apostles and presbyters anoint the sick for healing and (in James) the forgiveness of sins
Matrimony	<u>John 2</u> : Jesus blesses the wedding at Cana with a miracle <u>Ephesians 5</u> : Paul treats marriage as holy and special for Christians <u>Genesis 1:27-18</u>
Penance (Confession)	<u>John 20</u> : The risen Jesus gives the Apostles the Holy Spirit so that they can forgive sins <u>Matthew 9</u> : Jesus forgives sins, and this authority is said to have been given "among men"

Sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the church by which divine life is dispensed to us.

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”



Sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the church **by which divine life is dispensed to us.**

by which divine life is dispensed to us

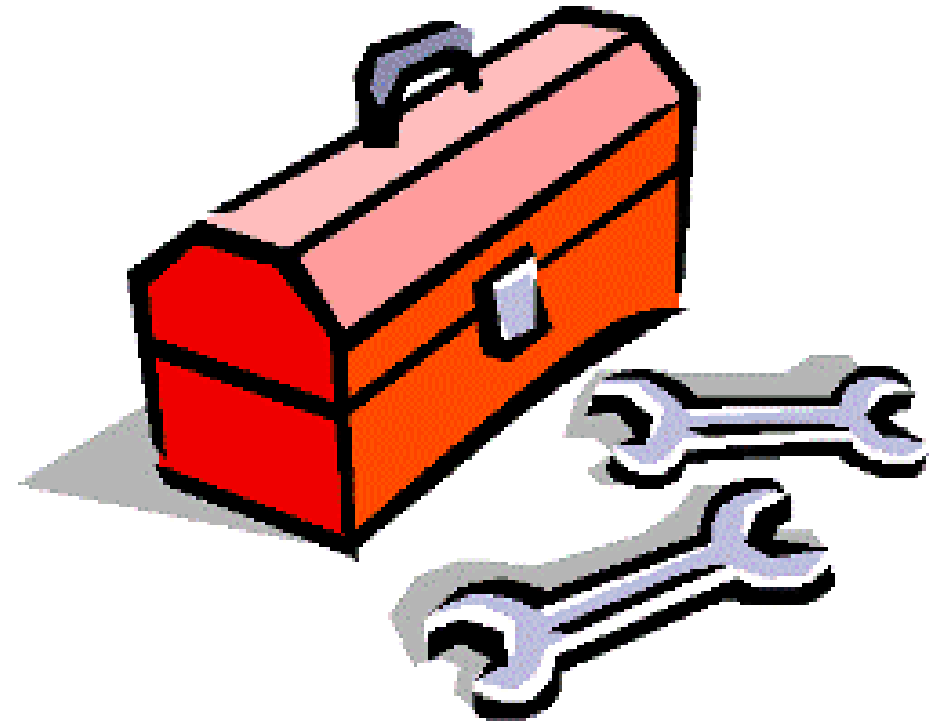
2 Peter 1:3-4

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, that through these you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of passion, and become partakers of the divine nature.



Why Sacraments?

- We need help!!
- Sacraments are the very means Christ gave us.
 - The faithful become the “partakers of the divine nature” (CCC, no. 1129)
- Sacraments are the perfect answer to our needs as humans
 - senses for the visible aspect
 - a yearning in our souls for the invisible aspect



Organizing the Seven Sacraments

There are different ways to categorize the 7 sacraments; one way is by looking at their purpose:

- Sacraments of initiation
Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist
- Sacraments of vocation / service
Holy Orders, Matrimony
- Sacraments of healing
Penance, Anointing of the Sick

By timing:

<u>Birth</u>	Baptism
<u>Age of reason</u>	Eucharist



The Sacraments

How to remember...

- B aptism
- E ucharist
- C onfirmation
- H oly Orders
- A nointing of the Sick
- M atrimony
- P enance

Also called...

(Communion)

(Marriage)

(Reconciliation; Confession)

BE CHAMP!

Review: Sacraments

- How many sacraments are there: _____
- The sacraments are _____ signs of grace instituted by _____ and entrusted to the Church by which _____ life is dispensed to us.
- Are sacraments a form of liturgy? _____
- We receive the graces of the _____ when we receive the sacraments

SUMMARY OF ALL

The Paschal Mystery refers to the saving events of Christ's Passion, death, Resurrection and Ascension

It is a gift from God that gives us promise of forgiveness for our sins, of resurrection in glory of our souls and body, and an eternity of joy.

Liturgy is “a public act of worship by the faithful gathered together by the power of the Spirit under the authority of the bishop.”

In all liturgy, the Church, guided by the power of the Holy Spirit, celebrates, lives and makes known to all the Paschal Mystery.

Sacraments are a form of liturgy and are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the church by which divine life is dispensed to us.

Sacraments are the means by which we receive the grace of the Paschal Mystery.

Eucharist

by Melissa Smith

Golden and majestic,

Lifted high.

We bow, and marvel that You're here.

So close that we can see

and adore.

So real that You enter our mouths-

**Those unworthy receptacles of Your
Kingly presence**

We chew and are amazed,

Swallow God into ourselves,

**And bask in peace otherwise
unknown.**

**The peace which only flows from You
and ends in burning love of You, Our
Savior**

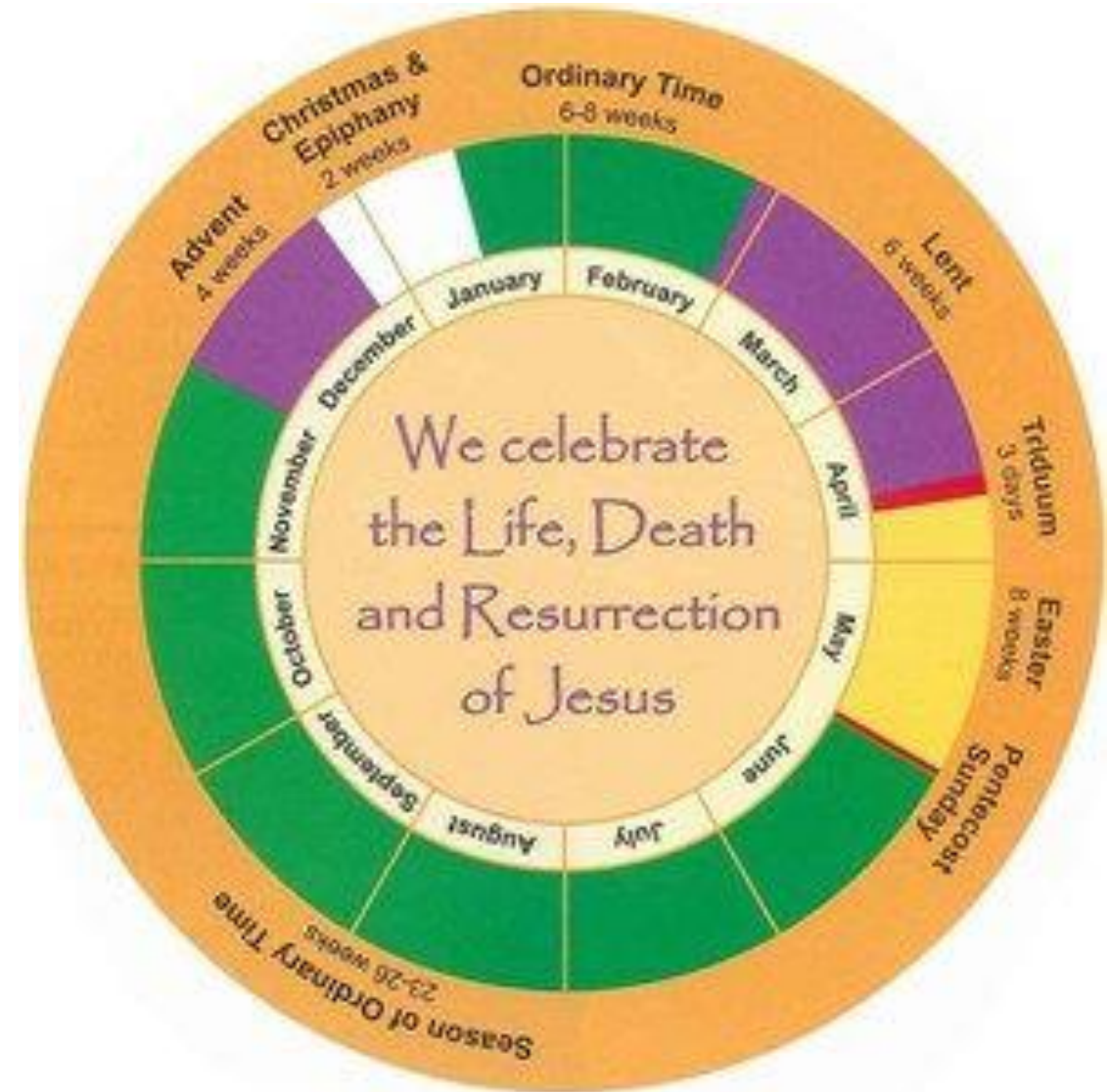
**and continues out in rippling, growing
flames**

to envelop those we meet

in its fire.

Seasons of the Liturgical Year

- **Advent** – preparation for the coming of Christ
- **Christmas** – celebration of Jesus' Incarnation and birth
- **Ordinary Time** – recollection of Jesus' public life
- **Lent** – Christ's life culminating in his betrayal and crucifixion
- **Easter** – celebration of Christ's Resurrection and Ascension, as well as the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost
- **Ordinary Time** – period when we continue to learn about the path to holiness as witnessed by the life of Christ
- *Feast Days* – days throughout the year dedicated to Jesus, Mary, the saints, and angels



Liturgical Colors



	Green	Red	White	Purple	Rose
Meaning	Life, Hope	Fire, Love, Blood	Purity, Joyful Festivity	Sorrow, Penitence	Joy
Use	Masses during Ordinary Time	Feasts of martyrs, Pentecost, and Passion Sunday	Masses during Christmas and Easter, and feasts of Jesus, Mary, and the saints	Masses during Advent and Lent, and masses for the dead	Gaudete Sunday in Advent and Laetare Sunday in Lent

Holy Days of Obligation

- In addition to Sundays there are special feast days the solemnity of which obliges us to celebrate the Liturgy
- The Church celebrates six holy days of obligation in the United States
 - **The Immaculate Conception** – December 8
 - **Christmas** – December 25
 - **Mary, Mother of God** – January 1
 - **The Ascension of Jesus** – Forty days after Easter*
 - **The Assumption of Mary** – August 15
 - **The Solemnity of All Saints** – November 1

**The bishops' conference may transfer this feast to the following Sunday*