

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

ORDERING LIFE BY THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

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The season of **Advent** (“coming”) begins four Sundays before Christmas and is a time of deep reflection on why we needed Christ to come at **Christmas** and why we need him to come again.

All Saints’ Day
November 1



Christmas Day
December 25



The season of **Christmas** is a 12-day celebration that the long-awaited Savior of Israel has come!

Epiphany
January 6



The **Feast of “Epiphany”** (“manifestation”) proclaims the glory of God revealed in Christ, focusing on three key events in his early life: the arrival of the magi, Christ’s baptism, and the miracle at Cana in Galilee. The season after Epiphany (often called Epiphanytide or simply “Epiphany”) continues to focus on Christ’s earthly life, miracles, and teaching.

The season of **Lent** (“springtime”) is a time to prepare our hearts through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for the celebration of the Paschal mystery of Christ crucified and risen. Lent ends on Maundy Thursday (the Thursday of Holy Week), which begins the Paschal Triduum (Great Three Days), the climax of the church year, concluding with **Easter Sunday**.

The long season of “**Ordinary**” Time (“counted” time) after Pentecost focuses on the life and growth of the church of the Triune God.

Trinity Sunday looks back on the church calendar (the Father sending the Son at Christmas and the Spirit at Pentecost) and celebrates how the Triune God is revealed in the gospel.

Trinity Sunday
Sunday After Pentecost



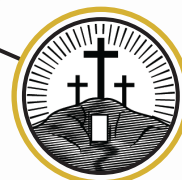
Pentecost
50th Day of Easter



Ascension Day
40th Day of Easter



Easter Sunday



Easter is a 50-day season of celebration that Christ is risen—he is risen indeed! The **ascension** of Christ into heaven is celebrated on the 40th day of Easter. Easter culminates on the 50th day with the risen Christ pouring out the Holy Spirit from the Father at **Pentecost**.

