



Home Rituals — Ideas for your family

January 1, 2021

St. Ignatius Loyola Parish

Volume 1, Issue 5

Introducing Rituals into your Home.

- Liturgical Year
- Cycle of Readings
- Saints and Feasts
- Liturgical Colors

Inside this issue:

Liturgical Calendar 1

Liturgical Year 2

Home Rituals: Liturgical Calendar

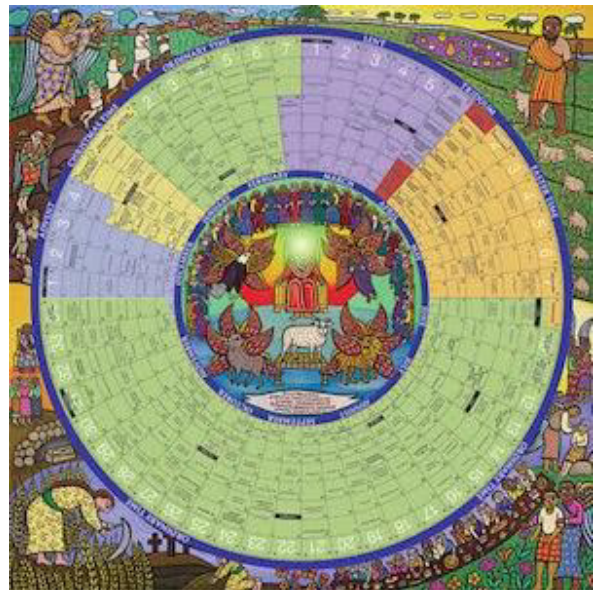
What color is today?

If you have ever wondered, the liturgical calendar covers everything from which Saint we celebrate today to which readings we use and, yes, what color vestments are worn.

A complete listing of the liturgical calendar can be found on the US Bishops website <https://www.usccb.org/resources/2021-liturgical-calendar>. Of course this may be a lot more detail than you wish. There are some versions that are much more visual and engaging that come as

downloads or as posters that you can purchase. The **Year of Grace** poster below is typical. Google Liturgical

Calendar 2021 for many different options.



Of course, this is a year-long version of the Advent Calendars I had as a child, opening a different door each day. (Loyola Press even has one for adults who need to slow down and remember the reason for the season.)

While calendars like the Advent ones help to build anticipation for children, there is the catechetical value of understanding the year from the perspective of faith. It is great to make the connection between the

color on the calendar and the color used in church. angels, anniversaries of weddings, baptisms, first communion and confirmation. Besides being a teaching tool, a version of the church calendar can be a great reminder our faith throughout the year.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/>

color on the calendar and the color used in church.

I like to encourage families to add special days to the calendar. Birthdays are big. So could be the feasts of patron saints, guardian



St. Ignatius Loyola Parish

St. Ignatius Loyola Church
2309 Gaylord St
Denver, CO 80205

Phone: 303-322-8042
Fax: 303-322-2927
Email: parish@loyoladenver.org

Finding God in All Things

Do you know the birthday of the Church? Many say that Pentecost is the birthday of the Church, when the Church took on an active role in proclaiming the Good News.

Do you know how the date for Easter is determined? Easter is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox (March 21st.) This year Easter will be April 4th, 2021.

The date for Christmas is partly due to the Winter Solstice so that the amount of daylight is noticeably increasing.

The date of the feast of the Annunciation, March 25, is exactly nine months before Christmas.

Liturgical Year:

Did you know that the Sunday readings for a particular year follow a 3-year cycle. Year A features the gospel of Matthew, Year B features the gospel of Mark and Year C feature the gospel of Luke. The gospel of John is read during the Easter season. Daily readings follow a 2-year cycle designated as simply year I or II. The liturgical year begins with the first Sunday of Advent, which this year was November 29, 2020. It is now Year B, weekday cycle I.

You probably know many of the liturgical colors: purple for Advent and Lent, green for Ordinary time; white for Christmas and Easter, other Solemnities or feasts of Saints that are not martyrs; red for Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Pentecost, feast of apostles or martyrs. We do occasionally throw in rose for the Sundays of celebration during Advent (Gaudete) and Lent (Laetare). You would expect blue for feasts of Mary but the actual color is white.

Funerals, baptisms and weddings are usually white as well.

You may not have noticed but it's four weeks for Advent, forty days for Lent and fifty days between Easter and Pentecost.

Days in the liturgical year are ranked, that is, an order of precedence when two liturgical days coincide. You may see the terms Solemnity, Feast, Memorial or Seasonal. These indicate not only precedence of readings and prayers but whether the Gloria and Creed are included in the liturgy. These ranks also determine whether ritual masses such as funerals or weddings are permitted on these days. Some of these liturgical days vary according to country or according to diocese. The feast of the Ascension (May 13/16, 2021) is one that varies according to the dioceses.

An example of precedence this year includes the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12th, falls on the same day as the Third Sunday of Advent. In this case, the latter (Advent) takes precedence, but the USCCB

Calendar offers options for Our Lady's feast day.

Many religious orders have their own liturgical calendar which includes, among other days, the feasts of founders and saints of that order. An electronic version of the Jesuit Liturgical Calendar (Ordo) may be found at <http://math.scu.edu/~dsmolars/ordo/>.

A great resource for families is the Franciscan website "Saint of the Day". <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day>. Saint days can be sorted by date or by alphabet. A full monthly calendar is available as well. (Check out the many different resources available at the the root website <https://info.franciscanmedia.org/>.) Note that programs like Microsoft's Word do have Calendar templates to allow you to build your own family/liturgical calendar.