

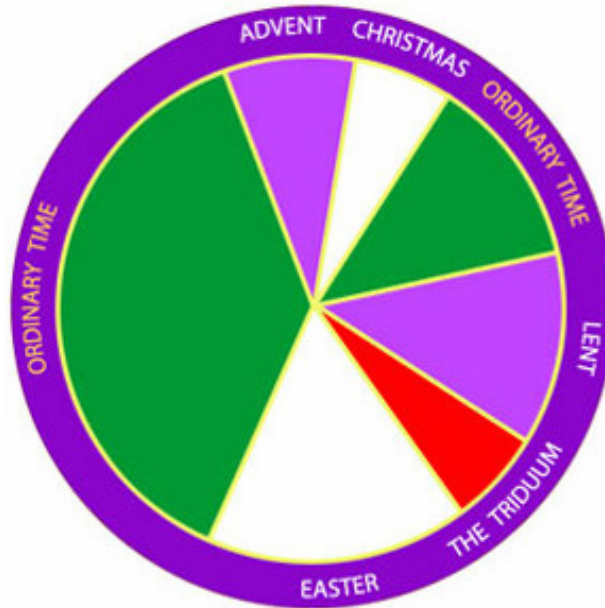
Keysis Outline

10/10/07

CCC 1163-1209

I. The Liturgical Year

- A. The Liturgical Year is the official Church Calendar of feast days
- B. It is often displayed in a circle, with no beginning and no end, like God's time (hold up handout of liturgical calendar)



- C. We are simultaneously celebrating the past, the present, and the future of our Salvation
- D. Easter is celebrated on different days in the orthodox church(4/27) and the western church(3/23). The churches use different calendars.

Liturgical Year is "The celebration throughout the year of the mysteries of the Lord's birth, life, death, and Resurrection in such a way that the entire year becomes a 'year of the Lord's grace'. Thus the cycle of the liturgical year and the great feasts constitute the basic rhythm of the Christian's life of prayer, with its focal point at Easter" (§1168).

II. The Liturgical Cycle

- A. The Lectionary (book of readings used for Liturgies) follows a Sunday and Weekday Cycle
 - a. The Sunday Cycle is 3-yearly and denoted by the letters A, B and C.
 - b. Each year follows through one of the Gospels: A-Matthew, B-Mark, C-Luke.
 - c. The Gospel of John is proclaimed on particular Sundays in each of the years.
- B. Weekdays in Ordinary Time follow a 2 year cycle numbered I and II.
 - a. Year I is read in odd number years: year II in even ones.

- b. The Weekday readings in the other seasons are the same each year.
 - c. Reportedly ~85% of The Bible is covered in all the masses of a three year cycle.
- C. Seasons
- a. **Advent(violet)** is the season of hope, of light and of waiting. The word Advent means, " coming."
 - i. The season of Advent celebrates the coming of salvation in the birth of Christ
 - ii. And calls us to rejoice in the anticipated fulfillment of God's reign of justice, love and peace.
 - b. **Christmas Time (white)**
 - i. begins with Christmas and lasts through the Baptism of the Lord.
 - ii. Christmas is the time to remember that we are all one family, because "God so loved the world that he gave us his only Son"(John 3:16).
 - iii. The custom of celebrating the twelve days of Christmas originated with the Church. These twelve days from December 25 to January 6 Epiphany were formerly referred to as Christmastide.
 - iv. In today's Church calendar, the season of Christmas extends until the Baptism of the Lord, the Sunday after the Epiphany.
 - c. **Ordinary Time(green)**
 - i. takes its name from the Latin word, *ordinal*, which means numbered.
 - ii. The numbered weeks in the liturgical year represent the weeks from the Baptism of the Lord until Ash Wednesday and again from the Pentecost until the first Sunday of Advent.
 - iii. It is a time when we follow the life of Jesus through the stories of Matthew, Mark or Luke.
 - d. **Lent (purple)** is a time of conversion when we think again about who we have become and who God calls us to be.
 - i. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues until Holy Thursday.
 - ii. We are encouraged to follow the traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The cross of Christ stands before us throughout this forty-day season. We are marked with the sign in ashes
 - e. **Easter Triduum (red)** All of the liturgies of the Triduum are tied to the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. In this way the faithful can journey with Jesus to the cross, to resurrection and new life. The message that *Christ has died, Christ is risen, and Christ will come again* are at the center of these holy days.
 - i. **Holy Thursday**
 - 1. memorial of the institution of the Eucharist.
 - 2. memorial of the institution of the priesthood,
 - 3. memorial of that love by which the Lord loved us "even to death". This is dramatically manifested through the foot washing which follows the Liturgy of the Word.
 - ii. **Good Friday**

1. The "Liturgy of the Lord's Passion." This is not a Mass.
2. The service consists of the Liturgy of the Word, the Veneration of the cross, and the Communion Rite. There are no Introductory Rites, no Liturgy of the Eucharist and no Concluding Rites.

iii. **Easter Vigil**

1. The new Paschal candle is carried into the church, as are the holy oils used throughout the year.
2. For the first time since Lent began the alleluias are sung in honor of the Risen Christ.
3. New Catholics are initiated through the reception of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation.

f. **Easter(white)**

- i. it celebrates the central mystery of Christ, his triumph over death and the cross and the resurrection.
- ii. The Easter season lasts fifty days from Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday.
- iii. Resurrection teaches that in death, the faithful will be brought to new life in God. The sharing of the resurrection creates a Christian responsibility to be a people of joy, hope and new life.

III. Where Is Liturgy Celebrated

- A. The worship "in Spirit and in truth" of the New Covenant is not tied exclusively to any one place.
- B. What matters is that we're all "living stones" gathered to build the house of God. Our bodies are temples of the Lord.
- C. Quote: "a house of prayer in which the Eucharist is celebrated and reserved, where the faithful assemble, and where is worshipped the presence of the Son of God our Savior, offered for us on the sacrificial altar for the help and consolation of the faithful - this house ought to be in good taste and a worthy place for prayer and sacred ceremonial." [57] (CCC 1179-1181)

IV. Liturgical diversity and the unity of the mystery

- A. The mysteries of the liturgy are one, but the styles and flavors vary
- B. Remember the Eastern rite Churches
- C. The liturgy should not be celebrated independent of a culture. The mysteries must be proclaimed, celebrated, and lived in all cultures. Therefore, many valid forms exist.
- D. Diversity promotes enrichment, but it can also cause tension, misunderstanding and even schisms. Diversity should never divide.