

THE CHRISTIAN YEAR

SEASON	DATES	COLOUR	THEMES
ADVENT	4 Sundays before Christmas	Purple	Waiting, The Promise of light in darkness Preparation for Christ's coming & 2 nd coming
CHRISTMAS	25 December – 5 January	White	Christ's birth as 'the word made flesh' The incarnation
EPIPHANY	6 January - 2 February	White	The Gospel for all people 'A light to lighten the Gentiles' ends at Candlemas
ORDINARY TIME	3 February - Shrove Tues	Green	[sometimes a very short season] Growth (Creation)
LENT	Ash Weds - 5 Sunday of Lent	Purple	Penitence, seeking God's forgiveness, self-denial Preparation for Easter (originally linked with Baptism)
PASSIONTIDE [+ HOLY WEEK]	5 Sunday of Lent – Easter Eve	Purple / Red	Jesus' death on the Cross – our Salvation
EASTERTIDE	Easter Day – Ascension Day	White	Jesus' resurrection Resurrection hope for us all Living in the light of the Resurrection
ASCENSIONTIDE	Ascension Day – Pentecost	White (Red for Pentecost)	Awaiting the gift of the Holy Spirit
ORDINARY TIME (‘Sundays after Trinity’)	Day after Pentecost – 31.10	Green (White for Trinity Sunday)	Growth in faith Christian living Continuous reading of the scriptures
‘Kingdom Season’	01.11 (All Saints) – Eve of Advent Sunday	Red (or Green)	The Kingdom of God The Departed (All Saints & All Souls) Remembrance Christ the King (Sunday before Advent)