

Church Year

The Church Year provides Christian character to worship.

- A. First Half - Christ's Life (Festival Half)
- B. Second half - Life of the Christian (Non-Festival Half)

Color:

Black - Associated with sin, death, solemnity and sorrow. Used on Good Friday.

White - A periodic color symbolizing divinity, purity, and joy. Used for Christmas, the Baptism of Jesus, Transfiguration, Maundy Thursday, Easter, Ascension, Trinity, Thanksgiving, and some Minor Festivals.

Red - Associated with fire such as Pentecost Sunday, and blood such as the stoning of St. Stephen. Ordinations and Installation also use Red.

Green - Associated with life and growth. Fittingly it is displayed during Pentecost and Epiphany.

Violet/Purple - A Color bringing to mind penitence and royal mourning. Used primarily during Lent and Advent if blue is not available.

Blue - "The color of spiritual love, fidelity, anticipation, and hope. Blue is often used on festivals of St. Mary, the Mother of Our Lord. It is also used as an alternate color for Advent." (Maxwell 27)

Gold - The color of riches and glory. Gold can be used on Easter Day the queen of all festivals.

Scarlet - May be used during Holy Week. It is a color that calls to mind suffering a passion.