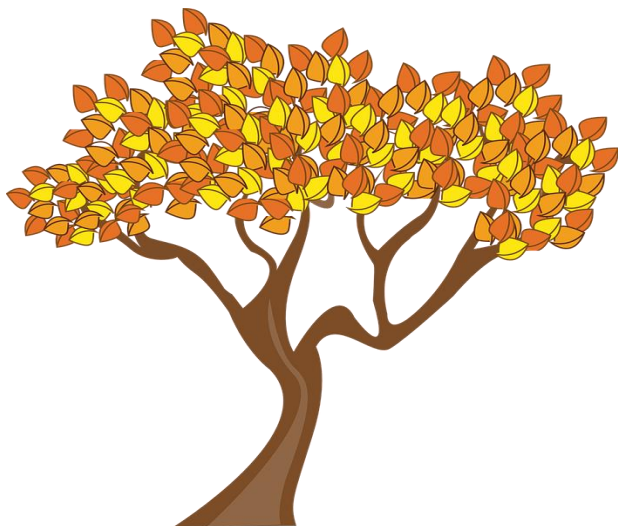


# *Ordinary Time (Fall)*



## *Disciples through Prayer*

**Diocese of Prince Albert  
Liturgy Office**



## **Ordinary Time (Still Going!!)**

There are about 32 weeks outside the five seasons. Each week is given a number to help us divide the scriptures into readings and to place these in an orderly book called the lectionary. We do the same thing with the church's prayers at Mass, ordered day by day in a book the Roman Missal.

Ordinary Time is a name for the weeks that come between the church seasons. The period of Ordinary Time that lasts from Eastertide until Advent spans over half the year. In the Northern Hemisphere, most of summer and autumn fall during these weeks. This is harvest time. In the gospels, Jesus often talked about the harvest as a symbol of what heaven might be like. Slowly but surely, as God's creatures grow ripe and then die, they will be harvested into heaven.

*\*\*taken from 'Companion to the Calendar' by Mary Ellen Hynes*

### ***Prayer for Back to School***

Let us dedicate this year as we dedicate each day  
by signing ourselves with the cross of Jesus +

It is good to begin our season of study in the autumn,  
when farmers and gardeners are bringing in  
their harvest of good things to eat.

With God's unchanging kindness,  
let our work in school bring us nourishment and growth.

Tell every nation on earth,

"The Lord is wonderful and does marvelous things!"

Bless us as we bite into the work of this year  
ready to be nourished with your wisdom,  
united in your love, and strengthened by your presence  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## **Did you know?**

**Mary's Birthday:** (Sept 8) we celebrate the birthday of Mary, the woman chosen by God to become the mother of the Saviour. Because she is the mother of Jesus, she is also the mother of all who believe in him and follow his way. So we call her our Blessed Mother.

**Blessing of the Cross:** (Sept 14) The cross is the symbol for the way Jesus defeated sin, hatred, and death. The sign of the cross shows our willingness to follow Jesus and our joy at being part of his family. We first were signed with holy oil at Baptism, and our bodies will receive the sign for the last time on our day of burial. It is a pledge of our unity with Christ and his Church, and his saving love for us.

**Blessing of Pets:** (Oct 4) Saint Francis gave us his wealth to live among the poor. He wanted to spend all of his time in prayer and in holy conversation. He realized that all of creation is one, and he addressed the sun, the moon, the rivers, and the animals as his brothers and sisters. Those who share his respect for God's creatures choose the feast of Saint Francis to ask for God's blessing upon their pets and upon all animals.

**The Rosary:** (Oct 7) from its earliest beginnings, the Church has held Mary, the mother of Jesus, in great esteem. Catholics can show their devotion to Mary by inviting her to pray with and for them. One way of doing this is by using the rosary and thinking about the events in her life and the life of her Son.

**Litany of the Saints:** (Nov 1) Each saint has something to teach about living as faithful Christians, and we rely on them to pray for us. We know that they will ask God to strengthen and protect us. This is a good time to learn more about our patron saints.

**Praying for All Souls':** (Nov 2) This is the day we set aside to pray for all who have died, especially our family members and friends. All those we are baptized are members of the one Body of Christ, whether they are living or dead. Our love and work on earth can be a blessing to those who have died, just as their love is a blessing for the living. We call the unity of love, concern, and prayer the 'communion of saints.'

\*\*This section is taken from the book "Blessings and Prayers through the Year" by LTP

## **Being Thankful**

Thanksgiving receives the prize for being the most earthy of celebrations in our contemporary culture. It is a day of special foods and smells, of going to a particular home and there, probably with the same people as the previous year, enjoying family ties and bonds of love.

Thanksgiving Day is a harvest festival, thanking God for the bounty received from God's good graces. Thanksgiving has been a basic theme in all religions throughout history. They celebrated the end of the growing season and the fruit of their hard work with feasting.

Thanksgiving is primarily a family celebration, a time for families and friends to feast at table with one another. Special table grace (Latin gratiae, 'thanks') is prayed.

\*\*taken from the book 'Catholic Customs and Traditions' by Greg Dues

### *Special Meal Blessing for Thanksgiving*

Loving God, all that we have  
comes from your goodness  
and the work of those who love us.  
Bless us and the food we share.  
Watch over those who care for us.  
Open our eyes to the needs of the poor  
during this time of harvest and thanksgiving.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Check out some of these other special days that happen in our church during the fall portion of Ordinary Time:

September 8 - **Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine (Duck Lake)**

September 14 – (Feast) The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 21 – (Feast) St. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist

September 26 – (Feast) St. Jean De Brebeuf and St. Isaac

Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs,  
Secondary patrons of Canada

September 27 – (Memorial) St. Vincent De Paul, Priest

World Tourism Day...

September 29 – Needs of the Church in Canada...

– Thanksgiving Day...

October 18 – (Feast) St. Luke, Evangelist

October 28 – (Feast) St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles

November 1 – (Solemnity) All Saints

November 2 – The Commemoration of all the Faithful  
Departed (All Souls' Day)

November 9 – (Feast) The dedication of the Lateran Basilica

November 11 – (Memorial) St. Martin of Tours, Bishop  
Remembrance Day...

November 17 – World Day of the Poor...

November 21 – (Memorial) The Presentation of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary

**/Diocesan Memorial for Babies (Details TBA)**

– (Solemnity) Christ the King

**There are other memorials for saints during these months and can be found in the Ordo (published by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops / CCCB)**

## **Blessing of Musicians**

Saint Cecilia (Nov 22), an early martyr, was greatly loved by her friends in Rome. After her death they turned her home into a church. An early account of her life stated that Cecilia sang in her heart on her wedding day. Saint Cecilia is now the patron of music and musicians. For centuries she has inspired people to write music in praise of God.

Leader: Let us offer God praise and thanksgiving.

*All make the sign of the cross +*

Leader: Let us all say: "Sing praise to our God!  
His deeds are wonderful, too marvelous to describe.

All: Sing praise to our God!  
His deeds are wonderful, too marvelous to describe.

Leader: Loving God, Bless the musician.  
Grant them joy in their music,  
Increase in their skills,  
And strength in their dedication.  
Fill their lives with sweet harmony,  
And be praised in all that they do.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

## **Christ the King**

The feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King, was originally celebrated on the last Sunday of October. More recently it has been moved to the final Sunday of the church year. This is its proper context because the church year ends with Sunday Scripture readings emphasizing the endtimes and the fulfillment of the pilgrimage of the church and of its Lord. This special Sunday becomes a sort of "final Lord's Day."

(‘Catholic Customs and Traditions’ by Greg Dues)

## *Meal Prayer for Fall*

Leader: Let us offer God Praise and thanksgiving.

+ All make the sign of the Cross

Leader: Loving God  
You set a table before us  
And fill it with good things.  
Teach us to share what we have  
So that no one who comes to eat  
Finds an empty table.  
For the food we are about to eat  
And for the life that it nourishes.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

+ All make the sign of the cross



(This is a great opportunity to take turns being the leader of the prayer before each of the meals that your family shares together!)

# We give thanks to God



"Thank you Lord for the bountiful  
blessings each day."

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