

Celebrating Ordinary Time

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 1, Session 5**.

The word *ordinary* in Ordinary Time means “counted time.” We number the days and weeks to remind us that all time belongs to God. Ordinary Time occurs twice a year and lasts a total of 33 or 34 weeks.

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From the time before Jesus’ birth to his Death, Resurrection, and Ascension, the liturgical calendar helps us celebrate important events in the life of Jesus throughout the year.

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The original doers of Jesus’ Word were the Apostles. After his Death and Resurrection, Jesus appeared to the Apostles and sent them to make disciples of all nations. His command to spread the Good News to all is the Great Commission.

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We are called together in the Church as a convocation to work for the Salvation of all people.

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As disciples, we are called to live out our faith. When our thoughts, words, and actions reflect Jesus’ teaching, we act as disciples.

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The word *Gospel* means “good news.” During Ordinary Time, we hear stories from the Gospel that speak to us about what it means to be one of Jesus’ disciples.

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Learning about the lives of the saints helps us devote our lives to Jesus’ teaching.

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The corporal works of mercy help others with material and physical needs. The spiritual works of mercy help others with emotional or spiritual needs.

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Saint Thérèse of Lisieux showed her devotion to God in quiet and small ways through acts of love and compassion. Saint Vincent de Paul visited prisoners and founded religious congregations to care for those who were poor, sick, and orphaned.

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In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the Church brings Christ’s presence to those who are sick.

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