

Liturgical Year: The cycle of feasts and seasons celebrating the events of Jesus' life and His presence in the Church.

Kinds of celebrations on the Church calendar:

1. Memorial - most saints' days

(St. Veronica, St. Theresa, St. Francis, etc.)

2. Feast - more important feast days

(e.g. Apostles, archangels)

3. Solemnity - most important days

(e.g. Christmas, Easter, Pentecost)

nativity = birth

There are 3 nativity celebrations in our Church year:

1. Mary - Sept. 8

2. Jesus - Dec. 25

3. St. John the Baptist (June 24)

Sept. 8 is 9 months after Dec. 8, The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

Immaculate Conception = Mary was conceived without original sin

She was sinless from before she was born - From the time when she was conceived by her mother, St. Anne. (i.e., when St. Anne became pregnant with Mary.)

Mary's parents: St. Anne and St. Joachim

