



# RELIGIOUS ED

LIFE WITH CHRIST IS A WONDERFUL  
ADVENTURE!-POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II

## RE CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16TH  
NO CLASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23RD  
CLASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30TH  
NO CLASS

## Ordinary Time

Recently, we began the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. Starting the day after the Baptism of Our Lord, this stretch of Ordinary Time will end the day before Ash Wednesday. While the liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter

focus our attention on specific aspects of Christ's life, Ordinary Time focuses on the Life of Christ in its entirety. Ordinary Time helps us to strengthen and grow our relationship with Our Lord.

The return to school, RE or work during these first few days can be arduous. The winter cold has set in and seems colder and gloomy days seem gloomier as we struggle to resume our normal routines. Writing for the St. Paul Center, Matthew Leonard says, "Of course, the liturgical transition from Christmas to Ordinary time to Lent reflects the cycle of humanity. We're born, we live, we die. But it's also the cycle of divinity. As Catholics, we live and celebrate a pattern modeled on the God Man, who out of passionate love became one of us, "born in the likeness of men" (Phil 2:7)...Yes, the long winter drags on and Lent looms, but we rejoice knowing our course leads to the glory of Easter and the bloom of new life – eternal life. We're not there yet, of course. And we don't want to fast-forward past the hard part that we desperately need. Indeed, it is through penance and suffering we are conformed to our Lord and participate in His life. I just thought that like me, perhaps you might need a little reminder that even in the dead of "ordinary" winter our hope always springs eternal."



HOPE SPRINGS  
*Eternal*