The Colours of the Church Year:

a guide for schools

2022-23

The Anglican Church Year

Anglican churches follow a liturgical calendar. This is a pattern for their worship (liturgy) through the year. As a church school, this provides an ideal opportunity to mirror what is happening in your parish/local church. By following the liturgical calendar, you will be able to mark and reflect upon Jesus’ key life events and teachings throughout the school year. It also provides a colourful and visual way to mark the festivals.

Most churches will use different coloured vestments (priest’s clothing) and altar cloths as signs of the season of the church year. In school this can mirrored through simply changing the colour of cloth on the worship table, or themed display using the relevant colours. Soon you will find that the children recognise the colours and their meaning, that when they enter the worship space they will notice the colours have changed and begin to make links between the seasons and the festivals throughout the year.

The Meaning of the Colours (dates are coloured on the attached calendar)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Green | Used during ‘Ordinary time’ between the main festivals and seasons. This covers most of the year and can represent growth. |
| **Red** | Used to either mark Saints days where it represents their death as a martyr, or to represent the flames of the Holy Spirit (for Pentecost/Whitsun). |
| **White** | Represents being pure, in celebrations such as baptisms, weddings, and some funerals.  Also used for celebrations either on its own or with gold. It also is used for saints who didn’t die as martyrs. |
| **Gold** | Key celebrations, for example Christmas Day and Easter Sunday, |
| **Purple** | Used for times of preparation and waiting, the reflective seasons.  Key times are Advent and Lent. |

The Liturgical Calendar

The attached calendar is designed for the school year 2021-22. The church year starts at the beginning of Advent, and ends with the following Advent, completing a circle as shown on the front page. The colours used in worship are shown on the relevant days, any uncoloured dates are ‘white’ days. There are **twelve principal feast and holy days** in the church year, these are indicated in bold on the calendar. The main saints’ days are also shown, but you do not need to mark all of them. If you use the main colour for the week, you can then pick out the key festivals for your school, especially those that mark a key part in Jesus’ life or a transition in the year. You could also celebrate the patron saint’s day for your school and/or church. Key festivals such as Christmas and Easter, fall in the holidays, meaning the children don’t get to see the gold cloth for celebrations. A good way to mark these festivals would be to change the colour of the cloths as part of your end of term worship for Christmas and Easter. On Maundy Thursday churches will often be stripped bare of any colour furnishings and decorations, reminding us that Jesus was left alone to face the bare wooden cross.

There is a good summary of the seasons of the church year here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/liturgical-year> You can download daily prayers and reading apps from <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps> to support your worship planning.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **September 2022** | | | **October 2022** | | | **November 2022** | | | **December 2022** | | | **January 2023** | | | **February 2023** | | |
| 1 | Th |  | 1 | Sa |  | 1 | Tu | **All Saints’ Day** | 1 | Th |  | 1 | Su | Naming of Christ | 1 | We |  |
| 2 | Fr |  | 2 | Su |  | 2 | We | All Souls (Purple) | 2 | Fr |  | 2 | Mo |  | 2 | Th | **Candlemas\*\*** |
| 3 | Sa |  | 3 | Mo |  | 3 | Th |  | 3 | Sa |  | 3 | Tu |  | 3 | Fr |  |
| 4 | Su |  | 4 | Tu | St Francis of Assisi | 4 | Fr |  | 4 | Su | 2nd Sunday in Advent | 4 | We |  | 4 | Sa |  |
| 5 | Mo |  | 5 | We |  | 5 | Sa |  | 5 | Mo |  | 5 | Th |  | 5 | Su |  |
| 6 | Tu |  | 6 | Th |  | 6 | Su |  | 6 | Tu |  | 6 | Fr | **The Epiphany** | 6 | Mo |  |
| 7 | We |  | 7 | Fr |  | 7 | Mo |  | 7 | We |  | 7 | Sa |  | 7 | Tu |  |
| 8 | Th |  | 8 | Sa |  | 8 | Tu |  | 8 | Th |  | 8 | Su | Baptism of Jesus | 8 | We |  |
| 9 | Fr |  | 9 | Su |  | 9 | We |  | 9 | Fr |  | 9 | Mo |  | 9 | Th |  |
| 10 | Sa |  | 10 | Mo |  | 10 | Th |  | 10 | Sa |  | 10 | Tu |  | 10 | Fr |  |
| 11 | Su |  | 11 | Tu |  | 11 | Fr | Remembrance Day | 11 | Su | 3rd Sunday in Advent | 11 | We |  | 11 | Sa |  |
| All | Mo |  | 12 | We |  | 12 | Sa |  | 12 | Mo |  | 12 | Th |  | 12 | Su |  |
| 13 | Tu |  | 13 | Th | St Edward | 13 | Su |  | 13 | Tu |  | 13 | Fr |  | 13 | Mo |  |
| 14 | We | Holy Cross Day | 14 | Fr |  | 14 | Mo | Remembrance Sunday | 14 | We |  | 14 | Sa |  | 14 | Tu |  |
| 15 | Th |  | 15 | Sa |  | 15 | Tu |  | 15 | Th |  | 15 | Su |  | 15 | We |  |
| 16 | Fr |  | 16 | Su |  | 16 | We |  | 16 | Fr |  | 16 | Mo |  | 16 | Th |  |
| 17 | Sa |  | 17 | Mo |  | 17 | Th |  | 17 | Sa |  | 17 | Tu |  | 17 | Fr |  |
| 18 | Su |  | 18 | Tu | St Luke the Evangelist | 18 | Fr |  | 18 | Su | 4th Sunday in Advent | 18 | We |  | 18 | Sa |  |
| 19 | Mo |  | 19 | We |  | 19 | Sa |  | 19 | Mo |  | 19 | Th |  | 19 | Su |  |
| 20 | Tu |  | 20 | Th |  | 20 | Su | Christ the King | 20 | Tu |  | 20 | Fr |  | 20 | Mo |  |
| 21 | We | St Matthew | 21 | Fr |  | 21 | Mo |  | 21 | We |  | 21 | Sa |  | 21 | Tu | (Shrove Tuesday) |
| 22 | Th |  | 22 | Sa |  | 22 | Tu |  | 22 | Th |  | 22 | Su |  | 22 | We | **Ash Wednesday** |
| 23 | Fr |  | 23 | Su | Bible Sunday | 23 | We |  | 23 | Fr |  | 23 | Mo |  | 23 | Th |  |
| 24 | Sa |  | 24 | Mo |  | 24 | Th |  | 24 | Sa | Christmas Eve | 24 | Tu |  | 24 | Fr |  |
| 25 | Su |  | 25 | Tu |  | 25 | Fr |  | 25 | Su | **Christmas Day** | 25 | We | Conversion of St Paul | 25 | Sa |  |
| 26 | Mo |  | 26 | We |  | 26 | Sa |  | 26 | Mo | St Stephen | 26 | Th |  | 26 | Su | 1st Sunday in Lent |
| 27 | Tu |  | 27 | Th |  | 27 | Su | 1st Sunday in Advent | 27 | Tu | St John the Evangelist | 27 | Fr |  | 27 | Mo |  |
| 28 | We |  | 28 | Fr | St Simon & St Jude | 28 | Mo |  | 28 | We | Holy Innocents | 28 | Sa |  | 28 | Tu |  |
| 29 | Th | Michael & All Angels | 29 | Sa |  | 29 | Tu |  | 29 | Th |  | 29 | Su |  |  |  |  |
| 30 | Fr |  | 30 | Su | **All Saints Day (see Tues 2nd)** | 30 | We | St Andrew | 30 | Fr |  | 30 | Mo |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 31 | Mo |  |  |  |  | 31 | Sa |  | 31 | Tu |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **March 2023** | | | **April 2023** | | | **May 2023** | | | **June 2023** | | | **July 2023** | | | **August 2023** | | | |
| 1 | We | St David’s Day | 1 | Sa |  | 1 | Mo | St Philip & St James | 1 | Th |  | 1 | Sa |  | 1 | Tu |  |
| 2 | Th |  | 2 | Su | **Palm Sunday** | 2 | Tu |  | 2 | Fr |  | 2 | Su |  | 2 | We |  |
| 3 | Fr |  | 3 | Mo | Holy Week | 3 | We |  | 3 | Sa |  | 3 | Mo | St Thomas the Apostle | 3 | Th |  |
| 4 | Sa |  | 4 | Tu | Holy Week | 4 | Th |  | 4 | Su | **Trinity Sunday** | 4 | Tu |  | 4 | Fr |  |
| 5 | Su | 2nd Sunday in Lent | 5 | We | Holy Week | 5 | Fr |  | 5 | Mo |  | 5 | We |  | 5 | Sa |  |
| 6 | Mo |  | 6 | Th | **Maundy Thursday\***  1traditionally a bare altar | 6 | Sa |  | 6 | Tu |  | 6 | Th |  | 6 | Su | The Transfiguration |
| 7 | Tu |  | 7 | Fr | **Good Friday\*** | 7 | Su |  | 7 | We |  | 7 | Fr |  | 7 | Mo |  |
| 8 | We |  | 8 | Sa | **Holy Saturday\***  **(no colour)** | 8 | Mo |  | 8 | Th | Corpus Christi | 8 | Sa |  | 8 | Tu |  |
| 9 | Th |  | 9 | Su | **Easter Day** | 9 | Tu |  | 9 | Fr |  | 9 | Su |  | 9 | We |  |
| 10 | Fr |  | 10 | Mo |  | 10 | We |  | 10 | Sa |  | 10 | Mo |  | 10 | Th | (St Laurence) |
| 11 | Sa |  | 11 | Tu |  | 11 | Th |  | 11 | Su | St Barnabus | 11 | Tu |  | 11 | Fr |  |
| 12 | Su | 3rd Sunday of Lent | 12 | We |  | 12 | Fr |  | 12 | Mo |  | 12 | We |  | 12 | Sa |  |
| 13 | Mo |  | 13 | Th |  | 13 | Sa |  | 13 | Tu |  | 13 | Th |  | 13 | Su |  |
| 14 | Tu |  | 14 | Fr |  | 14 | Su |  | 14 | We |  | 14 | Th |  | 14 | Mo |  |
| 15 | We |  | 15 | Sa |  | 15 | Mo | St Matthias the Apostle | 15 | Th |  | 15 | Sa |  | 15 | Tu | Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 16 | Th |  | 16 | Su |  | 16 | Tu |  | 16 | Fr |  | 16 | Su |  | 16 | We |  |
| 17 | Fr | St Patrick | 17 | Mo |  | 17 | We |  | 17 | Sa |  | 17 | Mo |  | 17 | Th |  |
| 18 | Sa |  | 18 | Tu |  | 18 | Th | **Ascension Day** | 18 | Su |  | 18 | Tu |  | 18 | Fr |  |
| 19 | Su | 4th Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday | 19 | We |  | 19 | Fr |  | 19 | Mo |  | 19 | We |  | 19 | Sa |  |
| 20 | Mo | Joseph of Nazareth | 20 | Th |  | 20 | Sa |  | 20 | Tu |  | 20 | Th |  | 20 | Su |  |
| 21 | Tu |  | 21 | Fr |  | 21 | Su |  | 21 | We |  | 21 | Fr |  | 21 | Mo |  |
| 22 | We |  | 22 | Sa |  | 22 | Mo |  | 22 | Th |  | 22 | Sa | Mary Magdalene | 22 | Tu |  |
| 23 | Th |  | 23 | Su |  | 23 | Tu |  | 23 | Fr |  | 23 | Su |  | 23 | We |  |
| 24 | Fr |  | 24 | Mo | St George (transferred from 23rd) | 24 | We | John & Charles Wesley | 24 | Sa | Birth of John the Baptist | 24 | Mo |  | 24 | Th | St Bartholomew |
| 25 | Sa | **Annunciation Day** | 25 | Tu | St Mark the Evangelist | 25 | Th |  | 25 | Su |  | 25 | Tu | St James the Apostle | 25 | Fr | Thomas Cantilupe |
| 26 | Su |  | 26 | We |  | 26 | Fr |  | 26 | Mo |  | 26 | We | (St Anne) | 26 | Sa |  |
| 27 | Mo | Mothering Sunday | 27 | Th |  | 27 | Sa |  | 27 | Tu |  | 27 | Th |  | 27 | Su |  |
| 28 | Tu |  | 28 | Fr |  | 28 | Su | **Pentecost/Whitsun** | 28 | We |  | 28 | Fr |  | 28 | Mo |  |
| 29 | We |  | 29 | Sa |  | 29 | Mo |  | 29 | Th | St Peter & St Paul | 29 | Sa |  | 29 | Tu |  |
| 30 | Th |  | 30 | Su |  | 30 | Tu |  | 30 | Fr |  | 30 | Su |  | 30 | We |  |
| 31 | Fr |  |  |  |  | 31 | We | Mary’s visit to Elizabeth |  |  |  | 31 | Mo |  | 31 | Th |  |

| [◄ Aug 2022](#August_2022) | **September 2022** | | | | | [Oct 2022 ►](#October_2022" \o "Jump to Oct 2022) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 Holy Cross | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 St Matthew | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 St Michael & All Angels | 30 |  | |

| [◄ Sep 2022](#September_2022) | **October 2022** | | | | | [Nov 2022 ►](#November_2022" \o "Jump to Nov 2022) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 St Francis of Assisi | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 St Edward | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 St Luke | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Bible Sunday |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 St Simon and St Jude | 29 | 30 **All Saints Day**  (if not on 1st) |
| 31 | Remember if a gold day it can be gold and/or white. | | | | | |

| [◄ Oct 2022](#October_2022) | **November 2022** | | | | | [Dec 2022 ►](#December_2022" \o "Jump to Dec 2022) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  | 1 **All Saints Day** (if not on Sunday) | 2 All Souls' Day | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Remembrance Day | 12 | 13 Remembrance Sunday |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Christ the King |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 1st Sunday in Advent |
| 28 | 29 | 30 St Andrew | NOTE between All Saints and Advent you can use either red or green (check which the local church is using) | | | |

| [◄ Nov 2022](#November_2022) | **December 2022** | | | | | [Jan 2023 ►](https://www.wincalendar.com/Calendar-UK/January-2023" \o "January 2023) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 2nd Sunday in Advent |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 3rd Sunday in Avent |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 4th Sunday in Advent |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Christmas Eve | 25 **Christmas Day** |
| 26 St Stephen | 27 St John the Evangelist | 28 Holy Innocents | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |

| [◄ Dec 2022](https://www.wincalendar.com/Calendar-UK/December-2022" \o "December 2022) | **January 2023** | | | | | [Feb 2023 ►](#February_2023" \o "Jump to Feb 2023) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 Naming of Christ |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 **The Epiphany** | 7 | 8 Baptism of Jesus |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 Conversion of St Paul | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |  | | | | |

| [◄ Jan 2023](#January_2023) | **February 2023** | | | | | [Mar 2023 ►](#March_2023" \o "Jump to Mar 2023) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  |  | 1 | 2 **Candlemas** | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) | 22 **Ash Wednesday** | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 1st Sunday in Lent |
| 27 | 28 |  | | | | |

| [◄ Feb 2023](#February_2023) | **March 2023** | | | | | [Apr 2023 ►](#April_2023" \o "Jump to Apr 2023) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  |  | 1 St David | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 2nd Sunday in Lent |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 3rd Sunday in Lent |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 St. Patrick's Day | 18 | 19 Mothering Sunday  4th Sunday in Lent |
| 20 Joseph of Nazareth | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 **Annuciation Day** | 26 5th Sunday in Lent |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  | |

| [◄ Mar 2023](#March_2023) | **April 2023** | | | | | [May 2023 ►](#May_2023" \o "Jump to May 2023) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 **Palm Sunday** |
| 3 Holy Week | 4 Holy Week | 5 Holy Week | 6 **Maundy Thursday**  (Colours removed leaving bare worship space) | 7 **Good Friday**  (Colours removed leaving bare worship space) | 8 **Holy Saturday**  (Colours removed leaving bare worship space) | 9 **Easter Sunday** |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 St George (transferred to Monday) |
| 24 St George | 25 St Mark the Evangelist | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

| [◄ Apr 2023](#April_2023) | **May 2023** | | | | | [Jun 2023 ►](#June_2023" \o "Jump to Jun 2023) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
| 1 St Philip & St James | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 St Matthas the Apostle | 16 | 17 | 18 **Ascension Day** | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 John & Charles Wesley | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 **Pentecost/**  **Whitsun** |
| 29 | 30 | 31 Mary’s visit to Elizabeth |  | | | |

| [◄ May 2023](#May_2023) | **June 2023** | | | | | [Jul 2023 ►](#July_2023" \o "Jump to Jul 2023) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 **Trinity Saturday** |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Corpus Christi | 9 | 10 | 11 St Barnabus |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Birth of John the Baptist | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 St Peter & St Paul | 30 |  | |

| [◄ Jun 2023](#June_2023) | **July 2023** | | | | | [Aug 2023 ►](#August_2023" \o "Jump to Aug 2023) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 |
| 3 St Thomas the Apostle | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Mary Magdalene | 23 |
| 24 | 25 St James the Apostle | 26 St Anne | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 |  | | | | | |

| [◄ Jul 2023](#July_2023) | **August 2023** | | | | | [Sep 2023 ►](#September_2023" \o "Jump to Sep 2023) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 The Transfiguration |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 St Laurence | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 Blessed Virgin Mary | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 St Bartholomew | 25 Thomas Cantilupe | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  | | |