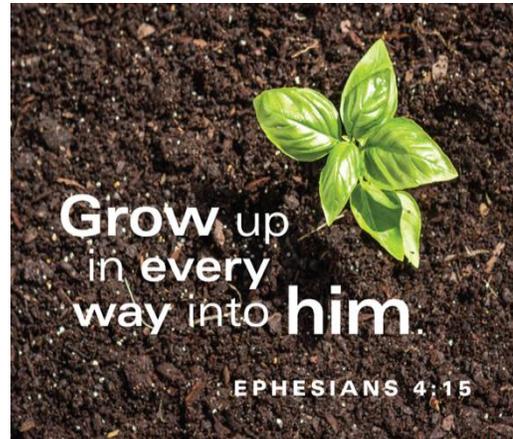


Note from the Liturgist...

What is your SYMBOL (for) Ordinary Time?

Symbols are very important to us because they allow us to enter more deeply into our own lives and lead us to conversion.

For example, during the Advent season, we use the Advent Wreath to symbolize God's infinite love and our four weeks of longing and waiting for the hope of eternal life brought by Jesus Christ. At Christmas, we put up a tree, that symbolizes, according to St. John Paul II as Christ, because the evergreen is a sign of life, a reminder to a Christian of the tree of life in Genesis 2:9: the image of Christ, the supreme gift of God to humanity.



We are in the Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time is NOT at all "ordinary" because this season celebrates the life, ministry and the Resurrection. The season is called ordinary time because this period belongs outside the Christmas or Easter season. The weeks of the Ordinary Time are chronologically ordered thus, the number of weeks of Ordinary Time represent life of the Church. Green is the Liturgical color of the Ordinary Time; the color of vegetation/nature.

Allow me to consider the small growing plant as a symbol of the Ordinary Time. Green means growth. We constantly aim to grow in God's love. Like a small plant, we are nurtured to become a fully-grown plant. Our hope is to grow as God wants us to be.

The love of God is like the life flowing into a plant. He always showers His love so that we can become saints. He watches and allows our growth and make us bear fruit.

As we walk through this Ordinary Time, we need to see ourselves in the small growing plant. We need to strengthen our faith by celebrating the sacraments, reading the Word of God and by constantly communicating with Him through prayer.

-Ace Tupasi