



The Season after Pentecost:

The rest of the church year – until the first Sunday in Advent on November 30th will be the **Season after Pentecost**. With twenty nine Sundays, it is the longest season of the Christian year. Half of the year is the Season after Pentecost.

This is a time when the lectionary readings take a break from the great events in Jesus' life and concentrate on his teachings. Themes are the parables of Jesus, the Sermon on the Mount and his day to day ministry among the people.

This gives us an opportunity to go deeply into the Gospels and hear what our Lord was saying to the people and what he is still saying to us today.

Notable days in the Season after Pentecost are:

May 26	Augustine First Bishop of Canterbury
May 31	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
June 11	St. Barnabas the Apostle
June 24	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
June 30	St Peter and St. Paul, Apostles
July 22	St. Mary Magdalene
July 25	St. James the Apostle
August 6,	The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ
August 15	St. Mary Virgin, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ
August 25	St. Bartholomew the Apostle
September 22	St. Matthew Apostles and Evangelist
September 29	St. Michael and All Angels
October 4	St. Francis of Assisi
October 18	St. Luke the Evangelist
October 23	St James of Jerusalem Brother of our Lord Jesus Christ and Martyr
October 28	St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles
November 1	All Saints' Day
November 3	All Souls' Day
November 23	Christ the King
November 27	Thanksgiving Day

Suggestions for Christian Formation:

Summer is a time that is more relaxed and there is sporadic attendance with vacations, camp, and all kinds of activities.

This is a great opportunity to pursue a theme or project that doesn't require sequential attendance.

Some themes that are fun and lend themselves to stories and projects are:



Children of the Bible

Joseph and his brothers
Moses and Miriam
The widow and her son who were saved by Elijah
Samuel and Eli
David and Samuel – The call of David
David and Goliath
The birth of Jesus
The presentation in the temple
Jesus when he was twelve in the temple
Jesus and the Children
Jesus saves Jarius' daughter

The Parables of Jesus

The parable of the mustard seed
The parable of the Good Shepherd
The parable of the yeast
The parable of the Good Samaritan
The parable of the precious pearl
The parable of the sower
The parable of the ten bridesmaids
The parable of the found coin
The parable of the prodigal son
The parable of the workers in the field

Heroes of the Old Testament

Noah
Abraham and Sarah

Joseph
Moses
Aaron
Samuel
Saul
David
Elijah
Gideon
Sampson
Daniel

Women of the Bible

Eve
Noah's Wife
Lot's wife
Sarah
Hagar
Rebecca
Rachel and Leah
Moses' mother and his sister Miriam
Pharaoh's daughter
Zaphorah
Delilah
Mary the mother of Jesus
Mary Magdalene
Martha

Life on the journey – the travels of Jesus or Paul

Call to Mission – Exploring how your congregation can serve its community

It could be really fun to set up a tent in the yard or the parish hall and invite everyone hear a story, sing a song and participate in an art project. Visits from some of the characters or someone who knew them would add to the sense of drama and immediacy. Food is always good. Snacks representing the times of the Bible would enhance the experience. Grapes, olives, raisins, pita bread, honey, lamb are some examples.

These are just a few suggestions for a fun and relaxing summer.

Use your imagination to think of the many ways to take advantage of the slower pace and use opportunities for fun and learning together.



