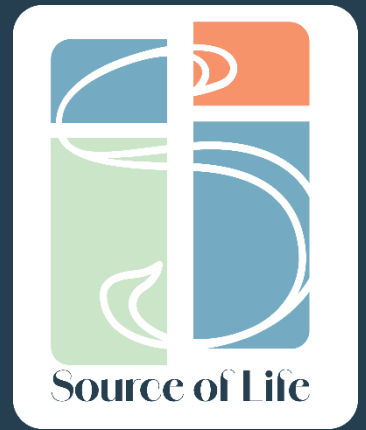


APPENDICES



YEAR LEVEL	3&4
TITLE	The Seasons of the Year / The Church's Year Sacred Story
STRAND	PRAYER
APPENDIX	1

You will need:

- Brown box to house materials.
- Beige felt underlay.
- 2 black felt circles.
- 4 circle quarters (same size as black circle), in yellow, orange, blue and green (*refer to image for sizes*).
- Segments of circle in colours of the Liturgical Year (*refer to image for sizes*) – green, purple, white and red.
- Reflection worksheets.

Have the children seated in a semi-circle ready to listen to the story. When the children are settled, go to the shelf and carry the box of story materials as you would the Bible. Place these beside you.

Spread out the felt underlay on the floor in the middle of the circle in front of you. Place the two black circles to our left and your right. For the first part of the presentation, you are going to be working with the circle on your left.

Teacher: A year has four seasons.

Place the yellow shape in the summer quadrant. This will be the furthest right top section.

Teacher: The season of Summer is hot. It is a time when we play at the beach, or swim at the pool.

Place the orange shape in the quadrant next to the Summer quadrant. The top half of the circle should now be full.

Teacher: The season of Autumn is a time when the leaves on some trees change colour from green to yellow and orange. The weather starts to cool down and the days get longer.

Place the blue shape into the Winter quadrant. Directly under the Autumn quadrant.

Teacher: The season of winter is a time when the weather is cooler and the days are longer. We wear jumpers to keep warm. Some trees lose all their leaves.

Place the green quadrant into the last section in the circle. All sections should now be full.

Teacher: The season of Spring is a time when the leaves grow back on the trees, and flowers are blossoming. The days get longer and the weather gets warmer.

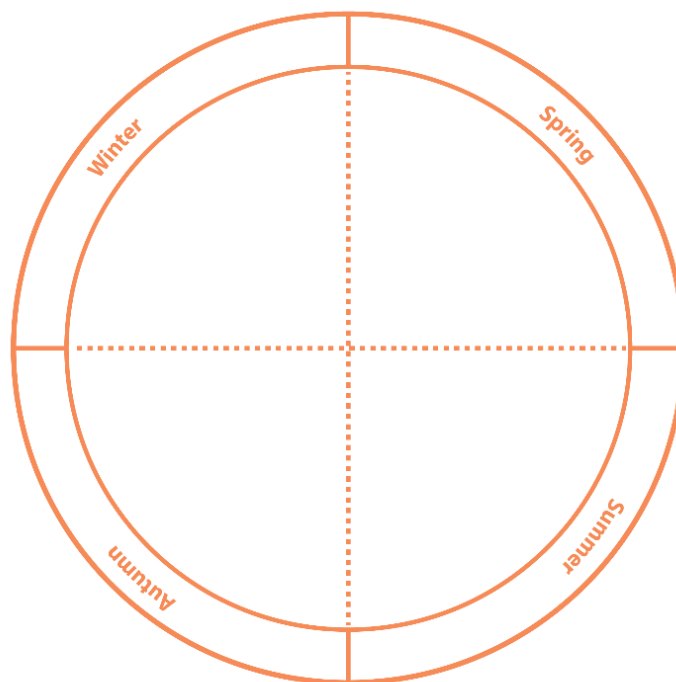
As you say the next part, slowly point to each of the different quadrants.

Teacher: The seasons do not end. They keep going. Month after month, year after year.

Point to Spring

Teacher: After Spring, we have Summer again.

The completed circle should look like this:



Engage in wonderings. Ask students the following questions:

- What season of the year is your favourite?
- Why are these the colours that were chosen for each season?
- I wonder how we know when one season is changing into another?

Teacher: There are the four seasons of the year that we have just covered. Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring. The Church's year also has seasons. Each of the seasons celebrates Jesus' life and has a special colour to match it.

At the end of the session the circle should be as follows (with the addition of Pentecost):



Teacher: The two most important seasons in the Church's year are Christmas, when we celebrate Jesus' birth.

Place a white segment at about 2 o'clock on the black circle.

Teacher: The second is Easter, when we celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection. Because these two seasons are joyous we use white.

Place the second white segment at about 5 o'clock.

Teacher: Because the seasons of Christmas and Easter are so important, we need time to prepare to celebrate them.

Place the purple segments before the Christmas and Easter segments, one at 1 o'clock and one at 4 o'clock.

Teacher: These are the seasons of getting ready. The colour for getting ready is purple.

Point to Advent

Teacher: The seasons for getting ready to celebrate Christmas is called Advent. Advent is the four weeks before Christmas when we prepare our hearts and homes to celebrate the birth of Jesus. We light candles on an Advent wreath and sing special songs to get ready for this joyful time.

Point to Lent

Teacher: The season of getting ready to celebrate Easter is called Lent. If you look closely, you can see that the time for preparing for Easter is longer than the time preparing for Christmas. That is because Easter is the greatest celebration of the Church's year. Lent is the 40 days before Easter, not including Sundays, when we prepare our hearts by praying, giving to others, and sometimes giving up something we enjoy. It's a special time to remember Jesus' love and sacrifice for us.

Place the small red segment to the left of the white Easter segment, about 6 o'clock.

Teacher: Jesus promised the apostles that he would send the Holy Spirit to empower them in spreading the Good News. The Church celebrates this time with the feast of Pentecost. It is often said that when Jesus died, the Holy Spirit breathed forth and the Church was born. It is for this reason that Pentecost is known as the birthday of the Church.

Place the large green segment on the left side and the white segment for Christmas and the purple segment for Lent.

Teacher: These green sections are Ordinary time. Ordinary Time is the part of the Church year outside of special seasons like Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. During this time, we focus on learning about Jesus' teachings and growing in our faith every day.

Point to and name each season

Teacher: Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Ordinary Time, Advent. All of these seasons help us remember Jesus' life and tell us about God's love.

Engage in wonderings by asking the students the following questions:

- *I wonder why seasons are so important?*
- *I wonder what would happen if we had no seasons?*
- *I wonder why the Church has seasons?*
- *I wonder what season you were born in?*

Carefully pack the story materials up into the box and place the box back on the shelf.



