**LEARNING FOCUS 1:** The Liturgical Year.

The year of the Church family is marked by special events and seasons. It is called the Liturgical Year. It begins with the first Sunday of Advent and ends with the feast of Christ the King. The word *liturgical* means the Church family’s celebration and remembrance of the journey of Jesus when he lived on earth, his death and Resurrection. It is a calendar of Sundays, feast days and special seasons which are celebrated during one year. A feast day is a day set aside by the Church family to celebrate an event in the life of Jesus, Mary his mother or a saint.

Liturgy is the actions and words of the prayer and worship the Church family offers to God.

The Liturgical Year helps Christians to be close to the work of the Trinity, God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, throughout the seasons of the year. It brings the Church family together as everyone shares in the celebrations. Following the celebrations Christians are sent out to love and serve God in the world.

* Make a Liturgical calendar that accurately represents the Church’s year using signs, symbols and colours to denote the different seasons and feasts.