

Liturgicraft

"Unless the people understand the symbol, it has no value." -Paul Kretzmann

Liturgicraft: The Time of the Church **Kaleidocycle**

Decorate your space for every season with simple, high value crafts. Liturgicrafting is a fun and engaging way to teach children and their adults about the rich history gifted to us through the symbols and customs used in liturgical worship.

There are three times in the liturgical calendar year: the Time of Christmas, the Time of Easter and the Time of the Church. The Time of the Church begins with Trinity and ends before Advent. It is the longest time of the church year and contains a number of feasts and festivals. The liturgical color during the Time of the Church is green. Green signifies life and growth.



For an instructional video of this craft and links to all other crafts included in The Season After Trinity, see LemonCreekPress.com.

The Kaleidocycle, a term derived from three Greek words meaning beautiful (*kalos*), form (*eidos*) and ring (*kyklos*), is a flexible polyhedron. The Time of the Church Kaleidocycle bears symbols seen throughout the Time of the Church: three symbols for the Trinity: three interwoven circles, the triquetra and three fish. It also bears symbols referring to different festivals occurring during the Time of the Church including St. James the Apostle, St. Mary Mother of Our Lord, The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist and All Saints' Day.

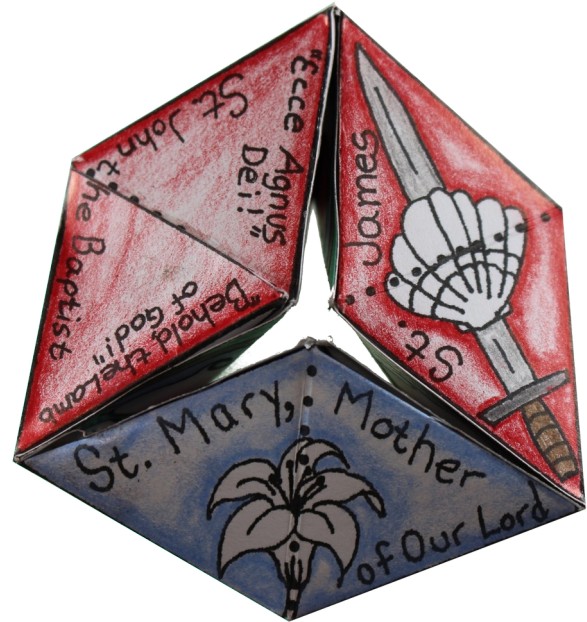
What does this mean?

Cycle 1

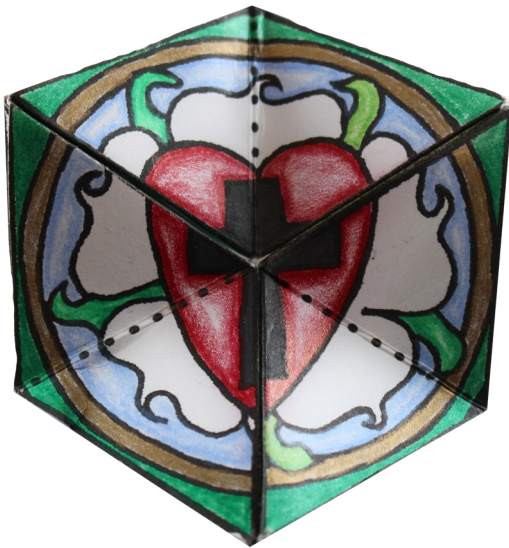
St. James the Apostle – There are a number of symbols for St. James. The scallop shell symbolizes pilgrimage and the cross-hilted sword signifies his martyrdom. The color for a martyr is red.

St. John the Baptist – While not a symbol, the Latin phrase *Ecce Agnus Dei* is worth learning as it translates to Behold, the Lamb of God. The color for a martyr is red.

St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord – One of the most common symbols for Mary is the lily. So common is it, that it is referred to as the Madonna Lily. Mary's color is blue, signifying peace and hope.



Cycle 2



Luther's Seal – Luther's seal contains a number of symbols. The black cross on the red heart signifies the cross that kills and causes pain yet keeps us alive (Romans 10:10, Romans 1:17). The cross and heart lie on a white rose which signifies that faith gives us joy, comfort and peace (John 14:27). The rose sits on a field of blue which symbolizes our hope of Heaven. The ring of gold represents that blessedness in Heaven lasts for eternity.

Cycle 3

Symbols of the Trinity

Three Interwoven Circles – Three circles, which have no beginning and no end, are equal in size (and majesty!) are shown interwoven (united).

The Triquetra – Three equal arcs of a circle denote the equality of the three Persons, their union shows the unity of the Persons and their form being interwoven represents the indivisibility of the Persons of the Trinity. The arcs form an equilateral triangle in the center, one of the oldest symbols for the Trinity.



The Three Fish – The fish is a symbol that goes clear back to the early Christian church. The Greek word for fish is ΙΧΘΥΣ , or *ichthys*, and in that word, early Christians saw that each letter could stand for the words which translate to *Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior*. In Christian symbolism, a single fish refers to Jesus, but when three are together, it refers to the Trinity. Scripture teaches us that each Person of the Trinity has played a part in man's salvation: the Father's great love for us, the Son's sacrifice and the Holy Spirit's application to man of the salvation won by Jesus on the cross.

Cycle 4



All Saints' Day

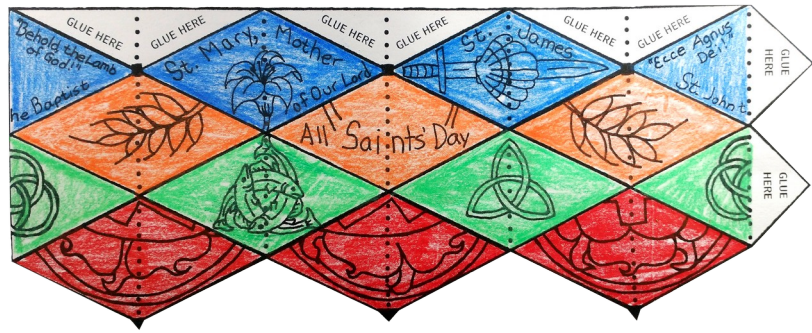
All Saints' Day is November 1, commonly observed on the first Sunday in November, and commemorates all believers, dead and alive, who make up the Body of Christ. The liturgical color for All Saints' Day is white. The symbol of wheat, when accompanied with a chalice or grapes, refers to the Eucharist, but when it is by itself, it represents those who are in Christ (Matthew 13:24-30).

Materials

- Colored pencils
- Glue stick/Tacky Glue/double sided tape
- Scissors
- FREE Time of the Church: Kaleidocycle printable

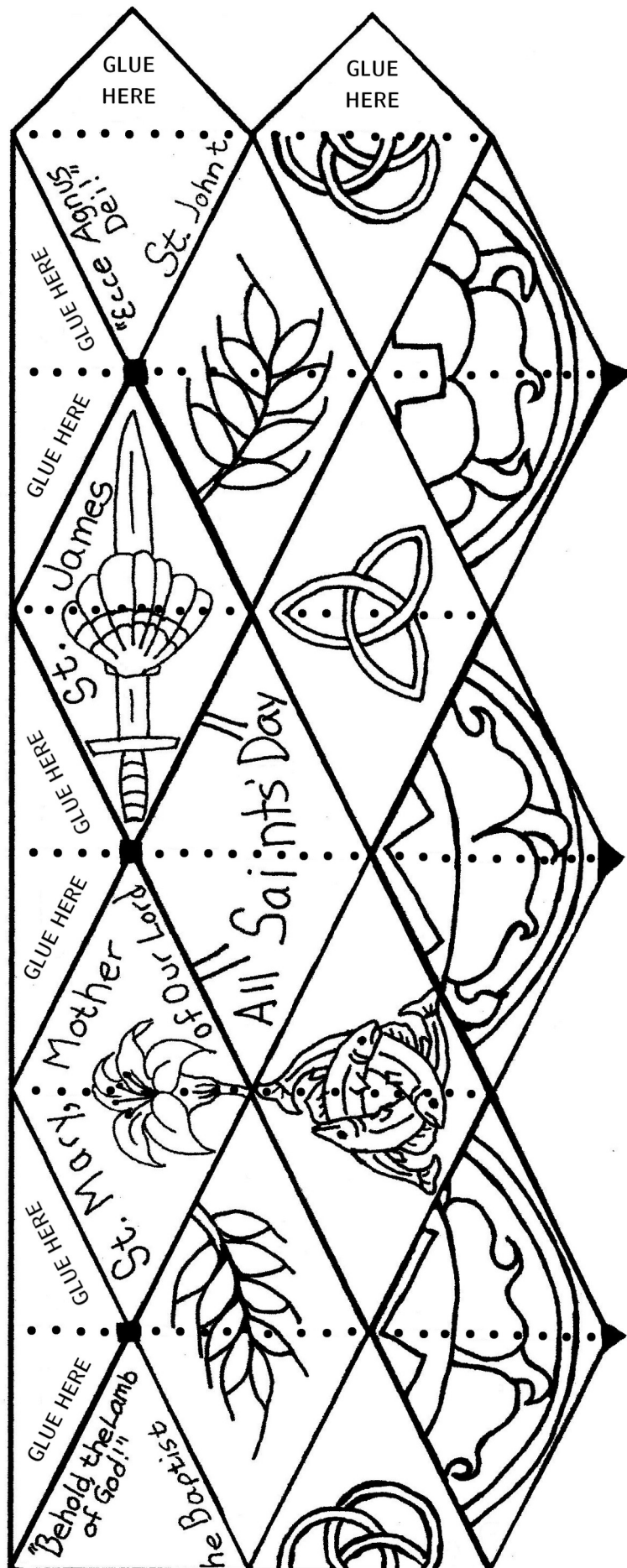
The Kaleidocycle

At first, the Kaleidocycle may look confusing and overwhelming, but fear not! There is order in what looks like chaos. Look for the rows as colored above. You can see there are four rows (cycles) of



three sets of two equilateral triangles. Each of those sets will be 1/3 of the picture you see and each of those rows will make up the entire picture. When you are coloring, color by row. Here, as a demonstration to make recognizing the rows easier, not as a coloring recommendation, the saints are colored blue, All Saints' Day orange, Trinity symbols green and Reformation red.

For a demonstration video, see LemonCreekPress.com!



The Time of the Church:

Kaleidocycle

Instructions

1. Watch the video.
2. Seriously, just watch the video. It will all make more sense that way.
3. Print and cut out the Time of the Church Kaleidocycle. Printed on card stock, it will stand up to use but need more bending to break it in. Printed on plain paper, it will be easier to fold, but also easier to destroy.
4. Color! Liturgical coloring recommendations (red for martyrs, blue for St. Mary, green for Trinity, etc) are shown in the example at the top of the first page.
5. Fold dotted lines picture side to picture side.
6. Fold solid lines blank side to blank side.
7. Apply good quality glue stick or Tacky Glue to the "GLUE HERE" areas and wrap the Kaleidocycle lengthwise so the black triangles meet up with the black squares and secure.
8. Apply good quality glue stick or Tacky Glue to the GLUE HERE tabs at the top of the page. Insert the glued tabs into the end and carefully press. Hold or rubber band to secure until dry.
11. Cycle.