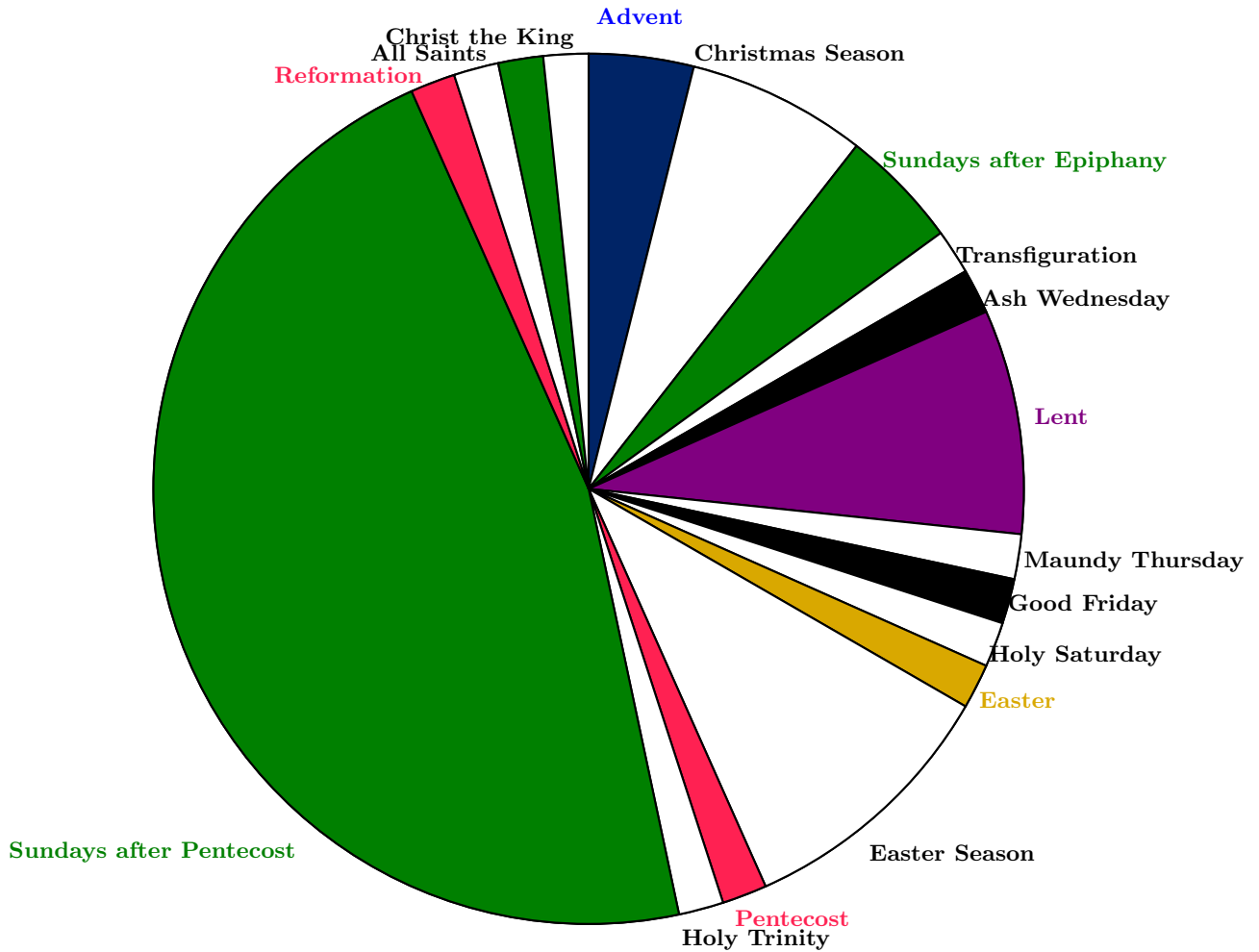


# The Church Year



The Church Year begins with the 4 **Sundays of Advent**. Christmas follows on the 25th of December, with the Christmas season next, ending with Epiphany. There are a variable number of **Sundays after Epiphany**, ending with Transfiguration Sunday, immediately before Ash Wednesday and the six **Sundays in Lent**. Passion/Palm Sunday begins Holy Week, which ends in the Triduum (Maundy [from Latin *mandatum* “Commandment”] Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday). **Easter** occurs on the first Sunday after the first Full Moon following the Vernal Equinox. There are seven weeks in the Easter season, ending with **Pentecost**. Holy Trinity begins a variable number of weeks after **Pentecost** (also called ordinary time), which ends with Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday of the Church Year.