

Palm Sunday: Mark 11:1-10

Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Jesus and his disciples reached Bethphage and Bethany near the Mount of Olives. When they were getting close to Jerusalem, Jesus sent two of them on ahead. He told them, "Go into the next village. As soon as you enter it, you will find a young donkey that has never been ridden. Untie the donkey and bring it here. If anyone asks why you are doing that, say, 'The Lord needs it and will soon bring it back.'" The disciples left and found the donkey tied near a door that faced the street. While they were untying it, some of the people standing there asked, "Why are you untying the donkey?" They told them what Jesus had said, and the people let them take it. The disciples led the donkey to Jesus. They put some of their clothes on its back, and Jesus got on. Many people spread clothes on the road, while others went to cut branches from the fields.

In front of Jesus and behind him, people went along shouting,

"Hooray! God bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
God bless the coming kingdom of our ancestor David.
Hooray for God in heaven above!"

Monday: Mark 11:15-19

Jesus in the Temple

After Jesus and his disciples reached Jerusalem, he went into the temple and began chasing out everyone who was selling and buying. He turned over the tables of the moneychangers and the benches of those who were selling doves. Jesus would not let anyone carry things through the temple. Then he taught the people and said, "The Scriptures say, 'My house should be called a place of worship for all nations.' But you have made it a place where robbers hide!"

The chief priests and the teachers of the Law of Moses heard what Jesus said, and they started looking for a way to kill him. They were afraid of him, because the crowds were completely amazed at his teaching.

That evening, Jesus and the disciples went outside the city.

Tuesday: Mark 12:13-17

Paying Taxes

The Pharisees got together with Herod's followers. Then they sent some men to trick Jesus into saying something wrong. They went to him and said, "Teacher, we know that you are honest. You treat everyone with the same respect, no matter who they are. And you teach the truth about what God wants people to do. Tell us, should we pay taxes to the Emperor or not?"

Jesus knew what they were up to, and he said, "Why are you trying to test me? Show me a coin!"

They brought him a silver coin, and he asked, "Whose picture and name are on it?"

"The Emperor's," they answered.

Then Jesus told them, "Give the Emperor what belongs to him and give God what belongs to God." The men were amazed at Jesus.

Wednesday: Mark 12:41-44

A Widow's Offering

Jesus was sitting in the temple near the offering box and watching people put in their gifts. He noticed that many rich people were giving a lot of money. Finally, a poor widow came up and put in two coins that were worth only a few pennies. Jesus told his disciples to gather around him. Then he said: "I tell you that this poor widow has put in more than all the others. Everyone else gave what they didn't need. But she is very poor and gave everything she had. Now she doesn't have a cent to live on."

Thursday: Mark 14:12-25

The Last Supper

It was the first day of the Festival of Thin Bread, and the Passover lambs were being killed. Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to prepare the Passover meal?"

Jesus said to two of the disciples, "Go into the city, where you will meet a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him, and when he goes into a house, say to the owner, 'Our teacher wants to know if you have a room where he can eat the Passover meal with his disciples.' The owner will take you upstairs and show you a large room furnished and ready for you to use. Prepare the meal there." The two disciples went into the city and found everything just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover meal.

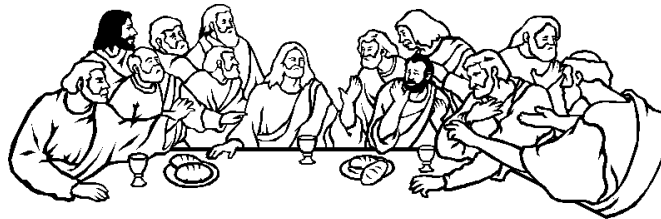
While Jesus and the twelve disciples were eating together that evening, he said, "The one who will betray me is now eating with me."

This made the disciples sad, and one after another they said to Jesus, "You surely don't mean me!"

He answered, "It is one of you twelve men who is eating from this dish with me. The Son of Man will die, just as the Scriptures say. But it is going to be terrible for the one who betrays me. That man would be better off if he had never been born."

During the meal Jesus took some bread in his hands. He blessed the bread and broke it. Then he gave it to his disciples and said, "Take this. It is my body."

Jesus picked up a cup of wine and gave thanks to God. He gave it to his disciples, and they all drank some. Then he said, "This is my blood, which is poured out for many people, and with it God makes his agreement. From now on I will not drink any wine, until I drink new wine in God's kingdom."



Friday: Mark 15:1, 15, 22-25, 37,39

Jesus is Crucified

Early the next morning the chief priests, the nation's leaders, and the teachers of the Law of Moses met together with the whole Jewish council. They tied up Jesus and led him off to Pilate. Pilate wanted to please the crowd. So he set Barabbas free. Then he ordered his soldiers to beat Jesus with a whip and nail him to a cross.

The soldiers took Jesus to Golgotha, which means "Place of a Skull." There they gave him some wine mixed with a drug to ease the pain, but he refused to drink it.

They nailed Jesus to a cross and gambled to see who would get his clothes. It was about nine o'clock in the morning when they nailed him to the cross.

Jesus shouted and then died.

A Roman army officer was standing in front of Jesus. When the officer saw how Jesus died, he said, "This man really was the Son of God!"

Saturday: Mark 15: 46-47

Jesus is Buried

Joseph of Arimathea bought a linen cloth and took the body down from the cross. He had it wrapped in the cloth, and he put it in a tomb that had been cut into solid rock. Then he rolled a big stone against the entrance to the tomb.

Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph were watching and saw where the body was placed.

Sunday: Mark 16:1-8

Jesus Is Alive

After the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary the mother of James bought some spices to put on Jesus' body. Very early on Sunday morning, just as the sun was coming up, they went to the tomb. On their way, they were asking one another, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance for us?" But when they looked, they saw that the stone had already been rolled away. And it was a huge stone!

The women went into the tomb, and on the right side they saw a young man in a white robe sitting there. They were alarmed.

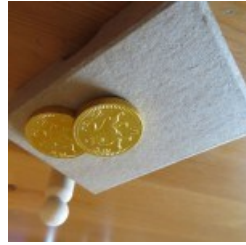
The man said, "Don't be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus from Nazareth, who was nailed to a cross. God has raised him to life, and he isn't here. You can see the place where they put his body. Now go and tell his disciples, and especially Peter, that he will go ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you."

When the women ran from the tomb, they were confused and shaking all over. They were too afraid to tell anyone what had happened.



How can we give to God's kingdom?

Holy Wednesday: Add a Coin
Place the third coin on the box. Jesus watched people in the Temple giving money to God. Some made a big show of giving lots of money. But one person didn't. Read her story.
Read Mark 12:41-44.



Put a second coin on the box.
The religious leaders asked Jesus if it was right to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor. Read Jesus' answer in Mark 12:13-17. *I wonder how we can give to God?*

Holy Monday and Holy Tuesday: Coins
When Jesus came to Jerusalem, he went into the Temple. There were people cheating others out of their money. Jesus was very angry.
Read Mark 11:15-19. *How can we use our money wisely?*



How can we welcome Jesus into our lives and homes?

Palm Sunday: Paper Palm Fronds
It's Palm Sunday. The people cut down palms and cheered as Jesus entered Jerusalem.
Read Mark 11:1-10.



Holy Week commemorates Jesus' last week on earth and the events leading up to his resurrection on Easter Sunday. Easter is important because it is the time when we remember Christ's death and resurrection. It recalls His defeat of sin and death and gives us the promise of hope for the Kingdom of Heaven.

Holy Week in A Box

Maunder Thursday: Table

Today we remember the last Passover meal Jesus had with his friends. Use the top of the box as a table. Draw a cup and plate on it, or make a cup and plate out of modelling clay. Place Jesus by the table.
Read Mark 14:12-25.



In church, how do we remember this meal?

Good Friday: Cross

The religious leaders wanted to get rid of Jesus. They told lies about him. Jesus was arrested. It was a very sad day, because the authorities put Jesus to death on a cross. Make a cross out of the pipe cleaner and place it with Jesus in front of the box.
Read Mark 15:1, 15, 22-25, 37, 39



How do we see Jesus loving us through the cross?

Good Friday Continued: Cloth and Tomb

When Jesus had died, his friends took his body down from the cross and wrapped it in linen cloth. They placed Jesus' body in a tomb cut out of rock. Wrap Jesus in the cloth. Place him in the box and put the lid on.
Read Mark 15:40-43, 46, 47.



I wonder how his friends felt?

Saturday: Stillness

On the Saturday, everything was so still you could almost hear the earth breathe. There was nothing that could be done. Holy Saturday is a waiting day. Place a tea-light by your box as a way of showing that you are waiting.

Easter: Empty Tomb

Early on the Sunday morning, the women went to the tomb and had an amazing surprise. Open the box. Place Jesus at the side of it and the cloth neatly wrapped in the bottom of it.
Read about it in Mark 16:1-8.



I wonder what difference it makes that God raised Jesus to life?

The words of Jesus
"I am the resurrection and the LIFE"
WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER DIE.
John 11:25