

TALKING ABOUT LENT >>>

Holy Week is the holiest week of the Church Year. It begins on Palm Sunday and continues until Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday. The Triduum or “three days” mark the most sacred time of Holy Week. It begins at sundown on Holy Thursday and ends at sundown on Easter Sunday. During these three days, the whole Church fasts and prays with anticipation and hope. On Holy Thursday, the assembly gathers for the washing of the feet and the Lord’s Supper. This is a special Mass because it commemorates the institution of the Eucharist. At the end of the Mass, the altar and its surrounding area are stripped of ornamentation, in preparation for the solemn observances on Good Friday.

God’s Word



Read **John 12:12–16**, the story of Jesus’ triumphal entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

HELPING YOUR CHILD UNDERSTAND >>>

Holy Week

- At this age most children will get caught up in the experience of Holy Week as a sacred journey when you take the time to mark the days with moments of prayer or reading from a Children’s Bible.
- Usually young children are curious and will have the most questions about Jesus’ Death on the Cross. Do not emphasize the suffering of Jesus for children at this age. Talk with them about Jesus’ Death as a sign of God’s amazing love.



FEASTS OF THE SEASON >>>

Holy Thursday

Many families share a special meal on Holy Thursday before attending the evening Mass. It is appropriate to share hot cross buns or other special bread on the night when Jesus gave us the Bread of Life. Consider mentioning the meaning of the day in your blessing before the meal.

FAMILY PRAYER >>>



On Good Friday, the Church venerates the cross. Make the Cross the focal point of your prayer this week and say the following together:

Lord by your Cross and Resurrection you have freed us. Have mercy on us. Amen.



For a multimedia glossary of Catholic Faith Words, Sunday readings, seasonal and Saint resources, and chapter activities go to aliveinchrist.osv.com.