

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Mark 11:1-11	Jesus enters Jerusalem
Monday	John 12:1-11	Jesus anointed at Bethany
Tuesday	Psalms 71:1-14	Deliver me, O God
Wednesday	John 13:21-32	Jesus predicts his betrayal
Thursday	John 13:1-17,31b-35	The service of Christ
Friday	John 18:1-19:42	The passion and death of Jesus
Saturday	Lamentations 3:1-9,19-24	In God I hope
Sunday	Mark 16:1-8	Christ is risen!

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Scripture Verses for the Week:

Think the same way that Christ Jesus thought: Christ was truly God. But he did not try to remain equal with God.

Instead he gave up everything and became a slave, when he became like one of us. Christ was humble. He obeyed God and even died on a cross. – Philippians 2:5-8 (CEV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayer for this Week:

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! (Mark 11:9-10)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord Jesus, please change my attitude to be like yours, so that I put others before myself. Amen. (Philippians 2:5-8)

A Blessing to Share:

May God give you a humble attitude like that of his Son, and bless you as his servant. Amen.

Mealtime Refrain:

Christ was humble:

He obeyed God and even died on a cross. (Philippians 2:8)

Mealtime Prayer:

Hosanna! Praise to God our provider. Hosanna!

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Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time you felt excited to see someone.
- When Jesus entered Jerusalem for the Passover festival, a crowd of people welcomed him with joy. Imagine Jesus was entering your town or suburb today in the same way. How would you respond?
- Many people put their cloaks on the road to show honor to Jesus. How do you show honor to Jesus?

Devotional Practices:

During this week, construct a Holy Week display in your home. Read the bible verses listed for each day and collect and arrange the associated items.

- Sunday:* Palm or fern fronds (Matthew 21:8-9).
- Monday:* Small bottle of perfume (Mark 14:3-9).
- Tuesday:* Bag of silver coins (Matthew 26:14-15).
- Wednesday:* Bowl of water & towel (John 13:3-17).
- Thursday:* Bread (Mark 14:22); Grapes or cup of wine (Mark 14:23-25).
- Friday:* Thorns (Matthew 27:27-29); Nails (Luke 23:32-33); Dice (Mark 15:24); Wooden cross (Mark 15:21-22,25).
- Saturday:* Large stone (Mark 15:46).

Add flowers to your display on Easter Sunday in celebration of Jesus' resurrection! Read from Mark 16:1-8.

Service:

Do you know someone who will spend this Easter alone? Share your resurrection joy by inviting them to share lunch or dinner with you on Easter Sunday.

Rituals and Traditions:

Good Friday is a day for contemplation upon Christ's sacrifice on our behalf. Introduce some Good Friday traditions into your life to give you a more meaningful experience of Easter. Here are some ideas:

- Simplify your day. Attend church in the morning. Then spend quiet time at home, without use of the TV, radio, video games, CDs or computer. Make the hours of noon to 3 pm (the hours when Jesus was crucified) a particular "low time" (you may wish to darken your home during these hours by drawing your curtains).
- Simplify your meals. Minimize snack foods.
- Perform an act of service together as a household e.g. clean up a community area; visit a lonely person; prepare something to give away.
- Look together at a bible storybook of Jesus' passion, or watch a video/DVD of Jesus' life.

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