



Revised Holy Week Schedule (Due to Corona Virus Isolation) 2020

Palm Sunday 4/5—Zoom, 9 a.m.—Blessing of palms and Palm Sunday Morning Prayer, Rite II, with the reading of the Passion Narrative with parts online, and with hymns. Virtual Coffee hour to follow. Regarding the Mite box collection, please count your generous offerings from the boxes, and mail a check, or use the Diocesan link provided as you are doing with your regular pledge/gifts.

<https://diovermont.org/2020/03/30/online-giving-to-support-congregations-during-covid-19/> Please consider hanging some greens, since palms are not native to New England, natural or created, on your door in solidarity with other Holy Trinitarians and Christians for Palm Sunday. Only do so if it can be found in your yard or storage. No venturing out unnecessarily, please. Since the church buildings are closed, via the Governor and our Bishop, our palms will be virtually blessed at our online Palm Sunday service; but we will save the actual palms for a special treat. We will all gather after this isolation to make palm crosses as a large group activity. And on Palm Sunday 2021 we will remember with thanksgiving using the palm crosses made in 2020.

Holy Monday 4/6—Zoom, 5:30 p.m.--Holy Week Discipline of a Book Study on the 7 last words by Fr. Martin begun in Lent, beginning with chapter 3—no book is needed, everyone can join and catch up.

Holy Tuesday 4/7—Zoom, 5:30 p.m.--Holy Week Discipline Book Study on the 7 last words. See Holy Monday.

Holy Wednesday 4/8—Zoom, 5:30 p.m.--Complete Holy Week Discipline Book Study this evening in time for Maundy Thursday—see Monday.

Maundy Thursday 4/9—Zoom, 5:30 p.m.--Evening prayer with hymns.

Good Friday 4/10—Zoom, 5:30 p.m.—The Good Friday Liturgy and Stations of the Cross, with hymns. P.S. there will be a treat shared on your screen that evening. We are closing with ‘Were you There’ as is our tradition. Have a candle ready to use for your personal devotion during this emotional hymn.

Resurrection/Easter Sunday 4/12--Zoom, 9 a.m.--Morning Prayer Rite II, with virtual, memorial Easter lily dedications and joyful hymns. Virtual Coffee hour to follow.

****all services will be emailed to you.** Services on Zoom will be recorded, minus any virtual Coffee hour, and shared on our Facebook page with the bulletin for others to watch later.

Historical Holy Week Timeline

In re-living/remembering, as the Hebrews understood remembering, we have the chance during Holy Week to walk each day, almost literally, Jesus' trek to the cross and resurrection. Here is what each day of worship (minus Saturday) at Holy Trinity represents. And why walking each day makes our Easter so much more meaningful. While in 2020, due to the Corona virus isolation, we will walk differently, we can still, virtually, walk together.

Fr. Rob+

From the Episcopal Church website:

From early times Christians have observed the week before Easter as a time of special devotion. As the pilgrim Egeria recorded in the late fourth century, Jerusalem contained many sacred places that were sites for devotion and liturgy. Numerous pilgrims to the holy city followed the path of Jesus in his last days. They formed processions, worshipped where Christ suffered and died, and venerated relics. From this beginning evolved the rites we observe today on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. These services provide a liturgical experience of the last days of Jesus' earthly life, as well as the time and events leading up to his resurrection. The BCP provides special liturgies for each of these days. The Eucharistic lectionary also provides proper readings for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Holy Week. Some parishes observe the service of Tenebrae on one of these days in Holy Week. In many dioceses, the diocesan clergy will make a reaffirmation of ordination vows in the context of a Eucharist during Holy Week, usually before Maundy Thursday. The three holy days, or Triduum, of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday are at the heart of the Holy Week observance. In many Episcopal parishes, the liturgical color for Holy Week from Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday is red. Holy Week ends at sundown on the Saturday before Easter, or with the celebration of the Easter Vigil.

DETAILS, DETAILS:

Holy Week - Day 1: Palm Sunday's Triumphal Entry



Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Getty Images

Beginning with Palm Sunday, we'll walk the steps of Jesus Christ this Holy Week, visiting each of the major events that occurred during our Savior's week of passion.

On the Sunday before his death, Jesus began his trip to Jerusalem, knowing that soon he would lay down his life for the sins of the world. Nearing the village of Bethphage, he sent two of his disciples ahead to look for a donkey with its unbroken colt. Jesus instructed the disciples to untie the animals and bring them to him. Then Jesus sat on the young donkey and slowly, humbly, made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, fulfilling the ancient prophecy in Zechariah 9:9. The crowds welcomed him by waving palm branches in the air and shouting "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" On Palm Sunday, Jesus and his disciples spent the night in Bethany, a town about two miles east of Jerusalem. In all likelihood, Jesus stayed in the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.

Read More:

- Jesus' Triumphal Entry is recorded in Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-44, and John 12:12-19.

Holy Week - Day 2: Monday Jesus Clears the Temple



Jesus clears the Temple of money changers. Photo: Getty Images

Today, we continue tracing the footsteps of Jesus, as Monday morning he returned with his disciples to Jerusalem. Along the way, Jesus cursed a fig tree because it had failed to bear fruit.

Some scholars believe this cursing of the fig tree represented God's judgment on the spiritually dead religious leaders of Israel. Others believe the symbolism extended to all believers, demonstrating that genuine, living faith is more than just outward religiosity. True faith must bear spiritual fruit in a person's life. When Jesus arrived at the Temple he found the courts full of corrupt money changers. He began overturning their tables and clearing the Temple, saying, "The Scriptures declare, 'My Temple will be a house of prayer,' but you have turned it into a den of thieves." (Luke 19:46) On Monday evening Jesus stayed in Bethany again, probably in the home of his friends, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.

Read More:

- Monday's events are recorded in Matthew 21:12–22, Mark 11:15–19, Luke 19:45–48, and John 2:13–1

Holy Week - Day 3: Tuesday in Jerusalem, Mount of Olives



Ancient Jerusalem View from the South. Photo: Getty Images

Today our journey with Jesus through Holy Week takes us back to the Temple in Jerusalem and then to the Mount of Olives. On Tuesday morning, Jesus and his disciples returned to Jerusalem. They passed the withered fig tree on their way, and Jesus taught them about faith. At the Temple, the religious leaders aggressively challenged Jesus' authority, attempting to ambush him and create an opportunity for his arrest. But Jesus evaded their traps and pronounced harsh judgment on them: "Blind guides! ... For you are like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people's bones and all sorts of impurity. Outwardly you look like righteous people, but inwardly your hearts are filled with hypocrisy and lawlessness...Snakes! Sons of vipers! How will you escape the judgment of hell?" (Matthew 23:24–33) Tuesday afternoon Jesus left the city and went with his disciples to the Mount of Olives, which overlooks Jerusalem due east of the Temple. Here Jesus gave the Olivet Discourse, an elaborate prophecy about the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the age. He taught in parables using symbolic language about end times events, including his Second Coming and the final judgment. Scripture indicates that Tuesday was the day Judas Iscariot negotiated with the Sanhedrin to betray Jesus (Matthew 26:14–16). After a tiring day of confrontation and warnings about the future, once again, Jesus and the disciples stayed the night in Bethany.

Read More:

- The tumultuous events of Tuesday and the Olivet Discourse are recorded in Matthew 21:23–24:51, Mark 11:20–13:37, Luke 20:1–21:36, and John 12:20–38.

Holy Week - Day 4: Silent or Spy Wednesday



Tomb of Lazarus in Bethany, Holy Land (Circa 1900). Photo: Apic / Getty Images

Traditionally, this day was called “Spy Wednesday,” for it was on this day that Judas conspired to hand Jesus over. The Bible doesn't say what the Lord did on Wednesday of Passion Week. Scholars speculate that after two exhausting days in Jerusalem, Jesus and his disciples spent this day resting in Bethany in anticipation of the Passover. Bethany was about two miles east of Jerusalem. Here Lazarus and his two sisters, Mary and Martha lived. They were close friends of Jesus, and probably hosted him and the disciples during these final days in Jerusalem. Just a short time previously, Jesus had revealed to the disciples, and the world, that he had power over death by raising Lazarus from the grave. After seeing this incredible miracle, many people in Bethany believed that Jesus was the Son of God and put their faith in him. Also in Bethany just a few nights earlier, Lazarus' sister Mary had lovingly anointed the feet of Jesus with expensive perfume.

While we can only speculate, it's fascinating to consider how our Lord Jesus spent this final quiet day with his dearest friends and followers.

Holy Week - Day 5: Thursday's Passover, Last Supper

'The Last Supper' by Leonardo Da Vinci. William Thomas Cain / Getty Images

Our tour through Holy Week takes a somber turn on Thursday.

From Bethany Jesus sent Peter and John ahead to the Upper Room in Jerusalem to make the preparations for the Passover Feast. That evening after sunset, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples as they prepared to share in the Passover. By performing this humble act of service, Jesus demonstrated by example how they were to love one another. Today, many churches practice foot-washing ceremonies as a part of their Maundy Thursday services.

Then Jesus shared the feast of Passover with his disciples saying, "I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. For I tell you now that I won't eat this meal again until its meaning is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God." (Luke 22:15-16, NLT)

As the Lamb of God, Jesus was about to fulfill the meaning of the Passover by giving his body to be broken and his blood to be shed in sacrifice, freeing us from sin and death. During this Last Supper, Jesus established the Lord's Supper, or Communion, instructing his followers to continually remember his sacrifice by sharing in the elements of bread and wine:

"And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.' "

(Luke 22:19-20, ESV) Later Jesus and the disciples left the Upper Room and went to the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed in agony to God the Father. Luke's Gospel says "his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground." (Luke 22:44, ESV)

Late that evening in Gethsemane, Jesus was betrayed with a kiss by Judas Iscariot and arrested by the Sanhedrin. He was taken to the home of Caiaphas, the High Priest, where the whole

council had gathered to begin making their case against Jesus. Meanwhile, in the early morning hours as Jesus' trial was getting underway, Peter denied knowing his Master three times before the rooster crowed.

Read More:

- Thursday's events are recorded in Matthew 26:17–75, Mark 14:12-72, Luke 22:7-62, and John 13:1-38.

Holy Week - Day 6: Good Friday's Trial, Crucifixion, Death, Burial



The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Photo: Getty Images

Today we'll trace Jesus' steps on Good Friday, the most difficult day of Passion Week. Christ's journey turned treacherous and acutely painful in these final hours leading to his death.

According to Scripture, Judas Iscariot, the disciple who had betrayed Jesus, was overcome with remorse and hanged himself early Friday morning.

Meanwhile, before the third hour (9 a.m.), Jesus endured the shame of false accusations, condemnation, mockery, beatings, and abandonment. After multiple unlawful trials, he was sentenced to death by crucifixion, one of the most horrible and disgraceful methods of capital punishment. Before Christ was led away, soldiers spit on him, tormented and mocked him, and pierced him with a crown of thorns. Then Jesus carried his own cross to Calvary where, again, he was mocked and insulted as Roman soldiers nailed him to the wooden cross.

Jesus spoke seven final statements from the cross. His first words were, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34, NIV). His last were, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." (Luke 23:46, NIV)

Then, about the ninth hour (3 p.m.), Jesus breathed his last and died.

By 6 p.m. Friday evening, Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea, took Jesus' body down from the cross and lay it in a tomb.

Read More:

- Friday's events are recorded in Matthew 27:1-62, Mark 15:1-47, Luke 22:63-23:56, and John 18:28-19:37.

Holy Week - Day 7: Saturday in the Tomb



Jesus' body was ceremonially treated for burial. Getty Images

Jesus' body lay in the tomb where it was guarded by Roman soldiers throughout the day on Saturday, which was the Sabbath. When the Sabbath ended at 6 p.m., Christ's body was ceremonially treated for burial with spices purchased by Nicodemus:

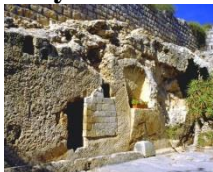
"He brought about seventy-five pounds of perfumed ointment made from myrrh and aloes.

Following Jewish burial custom, they wrapped Jesus' body with the spices in long sheets of linen cloth." (John 19: 39-40, NLT) Nicodemus, like Joseph of Arimathea, was a member of the Sanhedrin, the court which had condemned Jesus Christ to death. For a time, both men had lived as secret followers of Jesus, afraid to make a public profession of faith because of their prominent positions in the Jewish community. Similarly, both were deeply affected by Christ's death. They boldly came out of hiding, risking their reputations and their lives because they now realized Jesus was, indeed, the long-awaited Messiah. Together they cared for Jesus' body and prepared it for burial. While his physical body lay in the tomb, Jesus Christ paid the penalty for sin by offering the perfect, spotless sacrifice. He conquered death, both spiritually and physically, securing our eternal salvation: "For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. He paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God." (1 Peter 1:18-19, NLT)

Read More:

- Saturday's events are recorded in Matthew 27:62-66, Mark 16:1, Luke 23:56, and John 19:40.

Holy Week - Day 8: Resurrection Sunday!



The Garden Tomb in Jerusalem, believed to be the burial place of Jesus. Steve Allen / Getty Images On Resurrection Sunday we reach the culmination of Passion Week. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the most important event, the crux, you might say, of the Christian faith. The very foundation of all Christian doctrine hinges on the truth of this account.

Early Sunday morning several women (Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, Joanna, and Salome are all mentioned in the Gospel accounts) went to the tomb and discovered that the large stone covering the tomb's entrance had been rolled away. An angel announced, "Don't be afraid! I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen." (Matthew 28:5-6, NLT) On the day of his resurrection, Jesus Christ made at least five appearances. Mark's Gospel says the first person to see him was Mary Magdalene. Jesus also appeared to Peter, to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, and later that day to all of the disciples except Thomas, while they were gathered in a house for prayer. The eyewitness accounts in the Gospels provide undeniable evidence that the resurrection of Jesus Christ happened. 2,000 years after his death, followers of Christ still flock to see the empty tomb, one of the strongest proofs that Jesus Christ actually did rise from the dead.

Read More:

- Sunday's events are recorded in Matthew 28:1-13, Mark 16:1-14, Luke 24:1-49, and John 20:1-23.

(Note: The exact order of events during Holy Week is debated by Bible scholars. This timeline represents an approximate outline of major events.)

Article by (taken and adjusted by Father Rob) Mary Fairchild, ThoughtCo.