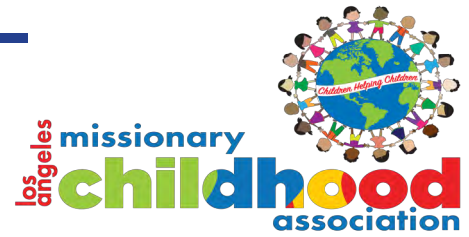


Holy Week

Reflection on the events of Holy Week

Grades: K- 2nd



Goal: To reflect on the events that lead to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and make the celebrations of Holy Week more meaningful to students when they attend services with their families.

Material: Copies of the student activity worksheets for each student. Scissors, markers or crayons, glue or stapler, and paper plates, one per student.

Instructions: Read the scripture and explain to your students what the scripture is talking about. After reading a scripture, ask the students what picture would go with the scripture. Allow some time for them to color the picture. When you have read all the scripture and colored all the pictures, have the students cut them out. They will glue or staple their pictures around the paper plate. They can color and draw their name on the plate before gluing the pictures and bible verses on.

Holy Week is very important for us as Catholics, starting with Palm Sunday and ending on Easter Sunday. These are the events that lead to the death, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As missionary disciples we share with others the good news of the Gospel, which is that we are saved because Jesus' death and resurrection gave us eternal life.

We are going to make an Easter wreath to remember all of the different events that take place during this time.

Palm Sunday— “The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road. The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: ‘Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest!’” (*Matthew 21: 8-9*)

When we celebrate Palm Sunday we process into the church with palms that are blessed during mass. We are remembering how Jesus Christ was welcomed into Jerusalem with joy by the crowds. He is riding a donkey and everyone is shouting Hosanna. This is the last week he would spend with his disciples.

The Last Supper— “While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, ‘Take and eat it; this is my body.’” (*Matthew 26:26*)

This is the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples. On this night Jesus establishes the sacrament of the Eucharist. Every time we go to mass and participate in the breaking of the bread we are commemorating this moment. When we participate in the sacrament of the Eucharist we sit together at the table with Jesus Christ. All are welcome at his table!

Jesus Prays in the Gethsemane— “He fell on his face and prayed, ‘My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; but not as I will, but as you will.’” (*Matthew 26:39*)

Jesus knew that he had to die in order to save us. He knew that it would be a very difficult thing to go through. At this moment Jesus teaches us that when we are going through something very difficult in our lives there is nothing better than turning to prayer. We speak to God when we pray and he listens to us, he also gives us the strength to overcome any problems we may have.

Jesus is Crucified— “For God so loved the world he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have eternal life.” (*John 3:16*)

The love that God has for us, his children, is so great that his only Son gave his life for us. When we sacrifice and care for one another we show the love that God calls for us to have as brother and sisters in Christ.

Resurrection of Jesus— “He is not here for He has risen!” (*Matthew 28:6*)

Easter Sunday is when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He conquered death and gave us eternal life. This is the good news of the Gospel that we share with everyone. On Easter Sunday the church is decorated with beautiful flowers and we sing Alleluia for the very first time since Lent started.

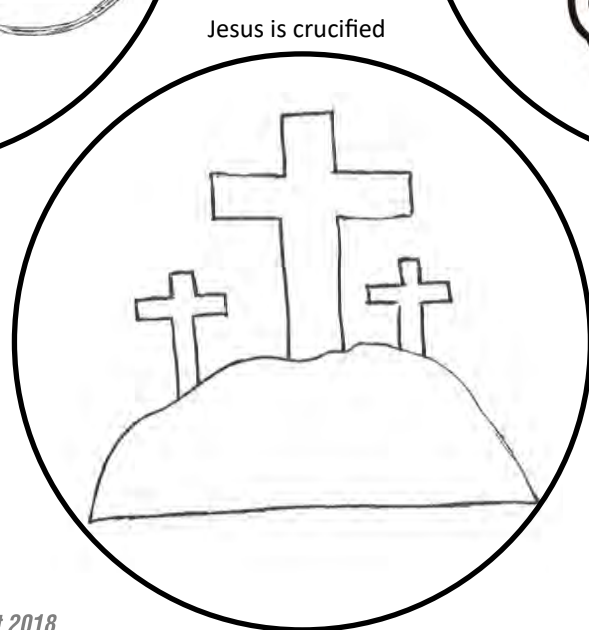
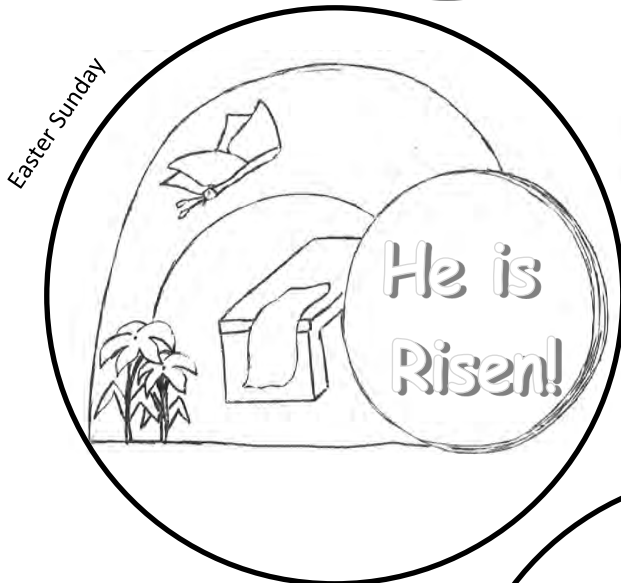
Ask your students to take their Easter wreath home and share what they learn about Holy Week.



Student Activity

Holy Week Wreath

Grades: K- 2nd



Palm Sunday

"The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road. The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: 'Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest!'"
Matthew 21: 8-9

The Last Supper

"While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, 'Take and eat it; this is my body.'"
Matthew 26:26

Easter Sunday Resurrection of Jesus

"He is not here for He has risen!"
Matthew 28:6

Jesus Prays in Gethsemane

"He fell on his face and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; but not as I will, but as you will.'"
Matthew 26:39

Jesus is Crucified

"For God so loved the world he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but may have eternal life."
John 3:16