

APRIL 13-15, 2017
MAUNDY THURSDAY
GOOD FRIDAY
HOLY SATURDAY



Jesus suffered and died for us.

HOLY WEEK BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect upon these Bible passages as part of your Holy Week observances.

Thursday **John 13:1-17, 31b-35** **Jesus washes his disciples' feet**
Friday **John 18:1–19:42** **Jesus suffers and dies**
Saturday **Matthew 27:57-66** **Jesus is buried**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR HOLY WEEK

He was wounded and crushed because of our sins; by taking our punishment, he made us completely well. **Isaiah 53:5 (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Holy Week:

Lord Jesus, thank you for serving us. Lead us to follow your example by serving others today. Amen. (John 13:13-15)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord God, you have given us so much, even your only Son. As we enjoy these gifts of food, make us thankful for all you have done for us. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the sacrifice of Jesus fill your heart with thanks. May his sacrifice for our sins give you peace and hope.



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A HYMN FOR HOLY WEEK
*O Sacred Head,
Now Wounded*



CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- Have you ever been blamed for something you didn't do, or taken the blame for someone else? Share your story.
- Although Jesus was innocent he was condemned to die. Why did he allow this to happen without resisting or complaining?
- How do you feel about the sufferings and death of Jesus? Why?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 26:47–27:61.

Many churches set up “Stations of the Cross” to help people reflect on the events of Holy Week. These often include artwork, craft pieces, symbols, and reflection questions. People take time at each station to think, share, and pray. Create some “Stations of the Cross” in and around your home. Work together to design and set up each station. Draw pictures for or print some off the internet to represent each station. Include the following as stations:

1. Jesus is arrested—Matthew 26:47-56
2. Peter denies Jesus—Matthew 26:69-75
3. Jesus before Pilate—Matthew 27:11-26
4. Jesus is crucified—Matthew 27:32-50
5. Jesus is buried—Matthew 27:57-61

Once complete, invite friends and neighbors to come and observe these stations with you during Holy Week.

SERVICE



At the Last Supper Jesus served his disciples by washing their feet (John 13:1-17). He then asked them to follow his example by serving one another. As a household, wash one another's feet. Talk about how Jesus serves us and what is involved in serving each other as followers of Jesus.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Matthew 27:45 tells us that Jesus died at the “ninth hour”, or 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Observe a time of quiet (or silence if possible) in your home between 3 pm and 4 pm on Good Friday. Finish by saying a prayer of thanks to Jesus for giving his life on the cross for you.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org