



ST. COLUMBA'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Walk Through Holy Week

This guide offers a way to mark the days of Holy Week at home. There is a page for each day with directions for your Holy Week in a Box materials, scripture readings, prayers and wondering questions.

Worship with us at St. Columba's throughout Holy Week

- Saturday, March 23 5pm - Play
- Sunday, March 24 8am, 9am, 11:15am
Palm Sunday and the Passion of Jesus
9:15am - Wee Worship in the Great Hall
7:30pm Sung Compline in the Church
- Thursday, March 28 4pm Family Maundy Thursday Service
7pm Maundy Thursday Service
Services are in the church and will have foot washing and the Eucharist.
- Friday, March 29 4pm Family Good Friday
Stations of the Cross in the church
7pm Stations of the Cross
- Saturday, March 30 7pm Easter Vigil Service
with Baptisms in the Church and reception in the Common following the service.

March 23, 2024

Saturday before Holy Week

Do: Get out your Holy Week in a box. Find a place in your house to set it up, perhaps use the QR code below for ideas on how to set up a home altar or create a resurrection garden.

Read: Mark 14:1-9

Pray: God of Comfort, we pray that you be with us as we experience the last days of Jesus' life on earth so that we may feel your love through our sadness and remember the glory of new life to come on Easter. We ask this in your Holy Name, Amen.

Wonder: How can we be sad with Jesus this week even as we know about his resurrection next Sunday?

Household Altar: You may like to create a household altar as the place where you gather to walk through Holy Week together.

Easter Garden: You may like to create an Easter Garden with a tomb, some crosses and some plants. Go to www.columba.org/children to find instructions and ideas for an altar and a garden.

Attend Before Easter: A Play - A Retelling of the Gospel of Mark

5pm Church Nave - Joshua Daniel and Mitchell Felton will retell chapters 1-10 of the Gospel of Mark from memory, covering the life of Jesus before Holy Week. There will be some very small roles for people in the audience.

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday

Do: Put the palm fronds on your altar. It's Palm Sunday. The people cut down palms and cheered as Jesus entered Jerusalem.

Read: Mark 11:1-10.

Pray: Jesus, we are thankful for Palm Sunday, one of the few days on earth when the world glimpsed your true identity as King. Many who celebrated you today, deserted you by Friday. You were not the king they expected you to be. Help us to choose you as our King each day even when we don't understand. In your name we pray, Amen.

Wonder: How can we welcome Jesus into our home?

**Worship with us at St. Columba's as we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry
into Jerusalem!**

8am, 9am, 11:15am: Palm Sunday and the Passion of Jesus

9:15am: Wee Worship in the Great Hall

7:30pm Sung Compline in the Church

Monday, March 25, 2024:

Do: Put one of the coins on your home altar. When Jesus came to Jerusalem, he went into the Temple. There were people cheating others out of their money. Jesus was very angry.

Read: Mark 11:15-19

Pray: Beloved Jesus, on the Monday before You died, we saw Your passion for justice. Your holy anger against those in the temple who were cheating the poor, was so different from the Pharisees' anger. Both of you had something precious you were defending. But only You were defending God's heart. Please help us share your Holy anger when we see wrong doing. In your Holy Name we pray, Amen.

Wonder: How can we use our money wisely?

Tuesday, March 26, 2024:

Do: Put a second coin on your home altar. The religious leaders asked Jesus if it was right to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor.

Read: Jesus' answer in Mark 12:13-17.

Pray: Beloved Jesus, you understood they were trying to trick you, yet you did not back down. Help us to remember we belong to God now and forever. In your Holy Name we pray, Amen.

Wonder: I wonder how we can give to God?

Wednesday, March 27, 2024:

Do: Place the third coin on the box. Jesus watched people in the Temple giving money to God. Some made a big show of giving lots of money. But one person didn't.

Read: Her story in Mark 12:41-44.

Pray: Beloved Jesus, you saw the widow give from her poverty. Help us to give of ourselves, especially when it is not easy, to help others. In your Holy Name we pray, Amen.

Wonder: How can we give to God's kingdom?

March 28, 2024
Maundy Thursday

Do: Today we remember the last Passover meal Jesus had with his friends. Use the top of the box as a table. Draw a cup and plate on it, or make a cup and plate out of modeling clay. Place Jesus by the table.

Read: Mark 14:12-25

Pray: Holy God, today we remember how you taught us to come together as one, sharing a meal in remembrance of you. We pray you will be our guide in welcoming all to your table. In your Holy Name, we pray.

Wonder: In church, how do we remember this meal?

Worship with us at St. Columba's for
Maundy Thursday Services

4pm Family Service

7pm Service

Services are in the church with foot washing and celebration of the Eucharist.

March 29, 2024

Good Friday

Part 1:

Do: The religious leaders wanted to get rid of Jesus. They told lies about him. Jesus was arrested. It was a very sad day, because the authorities put Jesus to death on a cross. Make a cross out of the pipe cleaner or twigs and place it with Jesus in front of the box.

Read: Mark 15:1-39.

Pray: Almighty God, we cry in sadness at the death of your son Jesus. Comfort us and sustain us as we await his resurrection on Easter. In your Holy Name we pray, Amen.

Wonder: How do we see Jesus loving us through the cross?

Part 2:

Do: When Jesus had died, his friends took his body down from the cross and wrapped it in linen cloth. They placed Jesus' body in a tomb cut out of rock. Wrap Jesus in the cloth. Place him in the box and put the lid on.

Read: Mark 15:40-47.

Pray: Almighty God, we give thanks for Joseph of Arimathea who provided a safe place to lay Jesus' body. We pray that we can provide safety for others seeking it. In your Holy Name we pray, Amen.

Wonder: How might Jesus' friends have felt at the end of this day?

**Worship with us at St. Columba's for
Good Friday Services**

12pm and 7pm Services remembering the death of Jesus

4pm Family Stations of the Cross Service

All services are in the church.

March 30, 2024
Holy Saturday and the Easter Vigil

Do: Stillness. On the Saturday, everything was so still you could almost hear the earth breathe. There was nothing that could be done. Holy Saturday is a waiting day. Place a tea-light by your box as a way of showing that you are waiting.

Read: Matthew 27:62-66

Pray: Creator God, just as Jesus was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, we pray that we may await with him the coming of the third day and rise with him to newness of life. In the name of our God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Wonder: Were the soldiers guarding the tomb afraid of what might happen?

**Worship with us at St. Columba's as we celebrate the new light of Christ
and the first service of Easter!**

7pm The Easter Vigil Service in the Church with reception following in the Common.

March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

Do: Early on Sunday morning, the women went to the tomb and had an amazing surprise, it was empty. Open the box. Place Jesus at the side of it and the cloth neatly wrapped in the bottom of it.

Read: Mark 16:1-8.

Pray: Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Wonder: I wonder what difference it makes that God raised Jesus to life?

**Worship with us at St. Columba's
as we celebrate the Risen Christ!**

8am, 9:30am and 11:15am

Festive Eucharist with choir and brass in the Church

9:15am and 11:15am

Wee Worship Eucharist with Baptism in the Great Hall

10:30am - Easter Egg Hunt in the Courtyard