



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

As we continue to BE THE CHURCH outside of our beautiful building and worship individually in the safety of our homes, we hope that the Sunday and Weekday audio services have been a blessing to you. The following Holy Week Opportunities... although not our usual schedule of services... we pray you will find even more of God's peace and faithfulness as you listen and participate at your convenience.

**LIVE Christ Church Services in Red (to listen in Dial 712-770-5505, Enter Access Code 189853#)** followed by available online services at both the Trinity Cathedral in Trenton & Washington National Cathedral

**An Explanation of this Day in Purple**  
**Things to do at Home in Blue**

## **PALM SUNDAY - April 5**

- **The Liturgy of the Palms & Sunday of the Passion -- LIVE at 9:45 AM** (Recording will be available post service) -- *BULLETIN ATTACHED!*
- Trinity Cathedral Palm Sunday Service -- 10:00 AM (broadcast live on [facebook.com/DioceceofNJ](https://www.facebook.com/DioceceofNJ) and [bit.ly/YouTubeDNJ](https://bit.ly/YouTubeDNJ). [Palm Sunday Bulletin](#))
- National Cathedral Holy Eucharist and Liturgy of Palms -- 11:15 AM (Live webcast <https://cathedral.org/event/holy-eucharist-with-liturgy-of-the-palms/>)

[Empowering Courageous Kids Week 3: Jesus' Power is Unexpected](#) -- Dive into a true story from the Bible and hear about people who expected some things from Jesus. But Jesus didn't do what they expected. Jesus doesn't always work the way we expect

On the first day of the week, Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey, thus fulfilling the prophecy (Zechariah 9:9). Throngs welcome him with the words of Psalm 118:25-26, heralding him as the Messiah, the coming king of Israel. *Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-40; John 12:12-19*

But the Palm Sunday Liturgy does not leave us in this triumphal mode with hosannas ringing in our ears. This is the Sunday of the Passion and the cries soon change to

"Crucify him, crucify him" as the Passion Gospel is dramatically proclaimed and the service becomes more somber. The Palm Sunday Liturgy sets the theme for Holy Week.

Just because we do not have "palms" and we are not in church...doesn't mean that we still can't participate in the Liturgy of the Palms..."*A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.*" (Mt. 21:8)

Get a small branch from any tree on your next walk or from your back yard...grab a cherished linen or scarf or your jacket...and lay on the floor just like that first Palm Sunday in Jerusalem. Or, make your own "Hosanna Branch" <https://mommynippets.com/hosanna-branch-wavers/>

## **MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK - April 6**

- **Morning Prayer -- LIVE at 7:45 AM** (Book of Common Prayer (BCP) page 80; <https://www.bcponline.org/>)

Jesus returns to the temple to find it full of traders and moneychangers. Saying they have changed a "house of prayer" into a "den of robbers," he angrily drives them out. *Matthew 21:12-17; Mark 11:15-18; Luke 19:45-48; John 2:13-17*

There are many great movies available on TV and the internet expressing the scriptures of that first HOLY WEEK...here are the titles of a couple suggestions: "King of Kings", "Barabbas", "Jesus of Nazareth". Grab a favorite snack or a cup of hot tea and imagine what it would have been like to be one of Jesus' disciples during the days of the Last Supper, Crucifixion, and Resurrection.

## **TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK - April 7**

- **Morning Prayer -- LIVE at 7:45 AM** (Book of Common Prayer (BCP) page 80; <https://www.bcponline.org/>)
- **Stations of the Cross -- LIVE at 7:00 PM** (Recording will be available post service)... *BULLETIN ATTACHED!*

Jesus teaches in the temple, where the Pharisees hotly dispute his authority. Later he leads the disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane and delivers the Olivet Discourse, the last of five great discourses recorded in Matthew's Gospel. Judas conspires to betray Jesus. *Matthew 21;23-25:46; Mark 11:27-13:37; Luke 20:-21-36; John 2:18-22*

The devotion known as the Way of the Cross is an adaptation to usage of a custom widely observed by pilgrims to Jerusalem: the offering of prayer at a series of places in that city traditionally associated with our Lord's passion and death. There are 14 stations, comprised of pictures and carved crosses, on the walls of our Church. These stations depict incidents in the last journey of Christ from Pilate's house to His entombment. We observe the Stations in order, reciting prayers and meditating on each incident.

The Passion of Christ is the most-portrayed subject of Western artists. Google "the Passion of Christ" to see images or visit Art museums online. Here are a couple links:  
[https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/pass/hd\\_pass.htm](https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/pass/hd_pass.htm)  
<https://www.clevelandart.org/art/1951.453>

Take a walk down your street or sit on your porch and pray for each house/neighbor.

## **WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK - April 8**

- **Morning Prayer -- LIVE at 7:45 AM** (Book of Common Prayer (BCP) page 80; <https://www.bcponline.org/>)
- **Healing Prayer Service -- LIVE at 10 AM** -- *BULLETIN will be in an additional email coming soon!*

Thought to be a day of rest, Jesus' death is premeditated. *Matthew 26:1-8; Mark 14:1-2; Luke 22:1-2; John 11:47-53*

Also thought to be a traditional day in many countries for housecleaning -- from the Jewish custom of cleaning before Passover.

Light a single candle to represent Jesus in the darkness of this world...in the midst of this COVID-19 pandemic, Jesus is still here.

## **THURSDAY IN HOLY WEEK - April 9**

- **Morning Prayer -- LIVE at 7:45 AM** (Book of Common Prayer (BCP) page 80; <https://www.bcponline.org/>)
- **Maundy Thursday Liturgy -- LIVE at 10:00 AM** (Recording available post service) -- *BULLETIN will be in an additional email coming soon!*
- Trinity Cathedral Maundy Thursday Agape -- 6:00 PM (broadcast live on the Diocese [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#). The Bishop requests that as able, families have their dinner table meal at the time of this service.)
- National Cathedral Holy Eucharist with Stripping of the Altar -- 7:00PM (Live webcast <https://cathedral.org/>)

In an upper room, Jesus prepares both himself and his disciples for his death. As Paul describes it, the Messiah takes on "the very nature of a servant" by washing the disciples' feet. He uses the simple last supper to give the Passover meal a new meaning. The loaf of bread and cup of wine represent his body, soon to be sacrificed and his blood soon to be shed. With this he institutes the Eucharist using the words we still use today. Jesus instructs the disciples "A new commandment I give unto you that you love one another as I have loved you." In Latin, this is *mandatum* (root of the word *mandate*), hence Maundy Thursday. Jesus then leads the disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane and asks them to wait as he prays. He prays in agony as he confronts his impending death "for the sins of the world" and we glimpse the Son of God at his most human as he begs his father to "take this cup from me." *Matthew 26:17-30; Mark 14:12-26; Luke 22:7-23; John 13:1,21-30*

If there are two or more of you at home, wash each other's feet as an act of love for each other and selflessness.

If you are alone, make a phone call or send a text or email to someone special in your life and tell them "I love you" or "I respect you" or "you are special in my life".

## **FRIDAY IN HOLY WEEK - April 10**

- **Morning Prayer -- LIVE at 7:45 AM** (Book of Common Prayer (BCP) page 80; <https://www.bcponline.org/> )
- **Good Friday Liturgy -- LIVE at 10:00 AM** (Recording will be available post service) -- *BULLETIN will be in an additional email coming soon!*
- Trinity Cathedral Good Friday Service followed by a reading of the entire Gospel of Mark by [Biblical Storyteller Dr. Tracy Radosevic](#) -- 12:00 PM (broadcast live on the Diocese [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#).)
- National Cathedral Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday -- 12:00 PM (Live webcast <https://cathedral.org/> )

Following betrayal, arrest, desertion, denial, condemnation, beatings and mockery, Jesus bears his cross to Golgotha (The Place of the Skull) for death by crucifixion with two other prisoners. Jesus' body is laid in the tomb before 6pm when the Sabbath begins and all work stops. It lies in the tomb throughout the Sabbath. Why "Good" Friday? Probably to show that Christ's death has liberated us from sin. In the Greek Orthodox Church it is known as "Great Friday," in Israel as "Big Friday," and in Germany, as "Friday of Lamentation." *Matthew 27; Mark 18; Luke 22:66-23:56; John 18:28-19:42*

Time for another walk! This time, find some sticks, any size will do. Take two sticks and make a cross in your hand. Or if you have some twine, tie them together, making a cross. Maybe make three crosses. Place them in a flower bed or indoor plant pot...or lay them on your kitchen table...as you reflect on the day of Jesus' Crucifixion.

Look up some hymns of the Crucifixion and the Cross on the internet and listen/sing. Here are a few: "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?"  
<https://youtu.be/BLJ0IjLAmOA> "The Old Rugged Cross,"  
<https://youtu.be/rOmipqhQBOM> "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."  
[https://youtu.be/iK8kYIBn\\_qi](https://youtu.be/iK8kYIBn_qi)

Hot Cross Buns: Traditional Good Friday fare for the family to make and eat together.

## **SATURDAY IN HOLY WEEK - April 11**

- **Holy Saturday Liturgy -- LIVE at 10:00 AM** -- *BULLETIN will be in an additional email coming soon!*
- Trinity Cathedral Easter Vigil -- 7:30 PM (broadcast live on the Diocese [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#).)

Get paper and pen. Write down something you wish you "could take back" and are truly sorry for...something you want to confess to God. After writing it down, do one of the following ... put the paper in your shredder, safely burn it to ashes, or simply throw it in the trash. However you choose to dispose of it, remember that we have a forgiving God, a God of mercy and grace. (In the Episcopal Church, a priest is not required for Confession. However, if you wish to speak with Mother Petrina, arrangements can be made. You may individually confess your sins directly to God...if you are truly penitent and humble, your sins are forgiven by God.)

Watch another Easter Story Movie!

## **EASTER DAY - April 12**

- **The Sunday of the Resurrection Liturgy -- LIVE at 9:45 AM** (Recording available post service) -- *BULLETIN will be in an additional email coming soon!*
- National Cathedral, The Sunday of the Resurrection -- 11:15 AM (Live webcast <https://cathedral.org/> )

This is the Celebration of the Resurrection of Christ.

Early in the morning the women go to the tomb and find that the stone to the tomb's entrance has been rolled away. An angel tells them that Jesus is alive and gives them a message. Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene in the garden, to Peter, to two disciples on the road to Emmaus and later that day to the disciples (except Thomas). *Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20-21*

Celebrate life. Although that may be difficult to do during this difficult time...celebrate that you are alive...and that God lives in you. Celebrate the blessings in your life, necessities, family, friends, Christ Church!

Seeds offer a clear message of the power of new life. Rest eggshell halves filled with soil in egg carton. Plant a marigold, petunia, or grapefruit seed in each (or even grass seed for fastest results). Place in sunny window.

Easter Greeting: Greet (call, text or email) each other with "Alleluia, the Lord is Risen!" and answer "He is Risen indeed!"