

CGS FAMILY

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Volume II, Guide Number 20, April 10, 2022



How do we become closer to
Jesus Christ during
Holy Week?

www.cgscs.church

Welcome



**HELLO,
CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD FAMILY!**

Welcome to our weekly CGS Guide that helps our parish families to grow in knowledge of the faith and deepen our relationship with Jesus as his disciples. As we encounter Jesus, we come to know him, love him, and serve him so that we can be reasonably happy in this life and happy with him forever in heaven.



This Week

The Holiest of all Weeks

It is impossible to overstate the importance of this week to Christians. Together we tell the great story of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ. Let's do what we can to "hallow" this week: truly *make* it a Holy Week--avoid unnecessary shopping, set aside other pursuits for a few days so that we can be more prayerful and aware of God's presence; make God the center of our lives rather than one we pay attention to now and then. Let's take all we learned and all we did for Lent and renew our commitment to following Jesus Christ as his disciples.

As God's Holy People celebrate Holy Week, this week's CGS Guide gives us a variety of activities so that we may make this week holy by our prayers, words, and actions. We encourage you to choose from among the many options here and find something that will work for you and your household—your domestic church. Do as much or as little as you like all in one sitting or spread throughout the week. In whatever ways you decide to do it, there is something here for you.

Ivana T. Meshell

For questions, comments, and feedback, please contact us at

DISCIPLESHIP@CGSCC.CHURCH



The Holy Mass

The liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed, at the same time, it is the font from which all her power flows. (Cf. SC #10)

Why go to Mass?

Christ the Good Shepherd Mass Schedule

Find Mass Anywhere

This season, we are exploring the Big Idea

How do we get to know and love Jesus Christ?

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion readings and podcasts

from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Mass Begins with Blessed Palms: Luke 19:28-40

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalms: Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Luke 22:14–23:56

Additional options for studying and discussing the Word of God:

Opening the Word by FORMED

Reflecting on the Sunday Readings

Sunday Connection by Loyola Press

Children's Liturgy of the Word by Catholic TV

WE LEARN & BECOME DISCIPLES TOGETHER

Question of the Week

How do we become closer to Jesus Christ during Holy Week?

Opening Prayer

CONNECT with our GOD

- Let's start with the The Sign of Cross.
- In your own words, ask the Holy Spirit to be present as we gather so share our faith (Prayer to the Holy Spirit).
- Listen to the Lord speaking to you as someone reads out loud the Gospel for this Sunday (see previous page for links to Scripture readings for this week).
- Listen to each other as everyone shares what in the Gospel caught their attention.
- Pray the "Glory be..."

More on how to manage a group discussion.

Step One

CONNECT with our daily LIVES

1. Do people think of suffering as good or bad? Is there anything good about suffering? Why or why not?
2. In what ways have other people sacrificed for you?

Getting
Started

How to use
this Guide.

Why are we
doing this?



Using this Guide can be as simple or as "in depth" as you want. If you do only the opening prayer section, that's great! To go deeper, follow the steps as shown. For children, see "Resources," page 8.

Step Two

CONNECT with Scripture and Tradition

As a domestic church (your household) or Small Faith Group, pray and read through some of the following (you can select) Scriptures & Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) references as time permits.

In the HOLY SCRIPTURE we read:

- People expected the messianic King of glory. Psalm 24:7-10, Zechariah 9:9, Zachariah 14:6-9
- Jesus predicted his suffering, death, and resurrection. Mark 8:31-33, Mark 9:30-32, Mark 10:32-34
- The Humble King enters Jerusalem. Matthew 21:1-11, Luke 19:28-40, John 12:12-16
- Servant of the Lord is anointed for the victory of justice Isaiah 42:1-7, Psalm 27:1-3, John 12:1-11
- Servant of the Lord endures betrayal and denial John 13:21-30, John 13:36-38, Matthew 26:14-16
- Servant of the Lord is anointed for servant leadership Isaiah 61:1-4, John 13:3-15

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, we read:

- Paschal mystery is at the center of the Good News 571, 572
- Our participation in Christ's sacrifice 618
- Jesus died crucified, IN BRIEF 619 through 623
- Christ Descended into Hell 632 through 635
- On the Third Day he rose: IN BRIEF 656 through 658



Discussion Questions

1. At the Last Supper, knowing he was in his final hours, Jesus established Eucharist & ordained priesthood. If you were in your last hours of life, what would your priorities be?
2. Jesus was betrayed by a friend & denied by one of his closest friends. Have you experienced this? Where did you turn for support?
3. Jesus suffered for us, though he was without sin. Name a group in our society that lives through unfair suffering? Do you see in their story similarities to the suffering of Jesus?
4. Jesus died and descended into hell to proclaim the Good News of God's love and set the captive souls of the just free. Where have you been sent to proclaim the love of God and comfort the afflicted?
5. From Christ's pierced side flows water of baptismal life and Blood of Holy Communion. What are some ways to "pierce" our hearts open to bring life to our families and strengthen our communities?

Want more? Go Deeper!

Reflection Question

Jesus endured betrayal, abandonment, rejection, false accusations, condemnation by civic authority, ridicule, and a cruel treatment that led Him to death. How can you allow Jesus to heal the wounds of sin your life? How might the scars of your life become your strength through the sacrificial love of Christ working in you?

RESOURCES FOR ALL AGES

For related information, activities, and age-appropriate resources, turn to the *Resources for All Ages* section of this Guide. You may use as many or as few as you want to. Adapt to your situation and your household. You can even spread these activities over the span of the entire week. There is no wrong way to do this!

Step Three

CONNECT with OTHERS... Commit // Action

What is one thing you are ready to do to increase self-giving love in your marriage, family, friendships, workplace, and society?

Practical Activities

For Everyone

Attend the Liturgies of Holy Week.

Most of us will never be able to go to the Holy Land and walk where Jesus walked, but we can make a powerful spiritual pilgrimage right here at home: **at least once in your lifetime, attend all of the services of Holy Week**--Holy Thursday Mass, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Saturday Evening. It is impossible to explain--you must experience it! If you must work or you have small children, this might not be the time to do it, but put it on your bucket list of things to do before you die. Yes, the liturgies are long, but nothing compared to the spiritual benefit if you truly enter into them and allow yourself to be transformed by them. They are truly beautiful!

A great activity for couples or the whole family could be to go to the movies and watch and then talk about it this coming Wednesday, April 13

Ew, gross!

Jesus washed the feet of his friends at the Last Supper. His main purpose was to give them a shocking and memorable reminder that they would never forget about being humble and serving others. In Jesus' time, everyone wore sandals or open footwear and most people walked everywhere.

Because of this, a person's feet would become filthy, and the act of washing someone's gross feet was the job of a slave.

Jesus washed his friends' feet before telling them to love each other and other people as he loved them. In other words, though it will be hard, nasty, and maybe even gross like washing feet, love people anyway. Given Jesus' example, how can you love your family more this week?



Closing Prayer

- We sign ourselves with the Sign of Cross.
- According to what we reflected on, or whatever is in my heart share a petition, at the end we all say: **Lord hear our prayer.**
- Then we can pray the Our Father, Hail Mary and the Glory be...
- As we finish, let us share a sign of peace with each other.

Prayer

Pass a crucifix from person to person, each one holding it for a minute or two.

Invite each person to offer a simple, short prayer from the heart. If you do not wish to speak out loud, hold the cross silently for a moment before passing it to the next person.

What do you think of when you look at the crucifix?
What does it mean to you?

Dear Lord Jesus,

by your passion and resurrection you brought life to the world, but the glory of the resurrection came only after the sufferings of your passion and death.

You laid down Your life willingly and gave up everything for us.

Your body was broken and fastened to a cross, your clothing became the prize of soldiers, As you blood ebbed slowly away, and your mother was entrusted to the "beloved disciple."

Stretched out on the cross, deprived of all earthly possessions and human aid, you cried out to your Father--the end had come. You had accomplished the work given you, and you committed into his hands, as a perfect gift, the life that remained to You.

Help me also to commit my life forever to you. Amen.

AT THE END OF THE LESSON OR END OF THE WEEK

From what you have learned, how would you now answer the Question of the Week?

How do we become closer to Jesus Christ during Holy Week?

RESOURCES FOR ALL AGES

POINTS OF UNDERSTANDING

Clear statements of the Church's teachings AND where they come from and ways to use them.

1. Age-Specific Resources

Early Childhood (Ages 3-5)

"**Seeds**" by Pflaum Publishing.

Teaching Catholic Kids // [Holy Week Ideas for Families](#)

Catholic Icing // [The Ultimate Guide to Celebrating Holy Week with Kids](#)

Childhood (Elementary, Grades 1-5)

Grades K-1: "**Promise**" by Pflaum Publishing and

Grades 2,3 &4: "**Good News**" by Pflaum Publishing.

Teaching Catholic Kids // [Holy Week Ideas for Families](#)

Catholic Icing // [The Ultimate Guide to Celebrating Holy Week with Kids](#)

Early Adolescence (Jr.High, Grades 6-8)

Grades 5 & 6: "**Venture**" by Pflaum Publishing and Grades 7 & 8: "**Visions**" by Pflaum Publishing.

•YOUCAT #94-109 // Pgs. 74-82

•Mass Impact // Story: The Butterfly, the Paschal Mystery and Us - video (5:40)

•LifeTeen // Reach Outside your Comfort Zone (blog)

•Ascension Presents // Take Courage! (video - 8:09)

•Catholic Stuff You Should Know // Courage & Subordination (podcast)

Adolescence (High School, Grades 9-12)


•YOUCAT #94-109 // Pgs. 74-82

•Ascension Presents // How To Pick Up Your Cross - video (10:58)

•Montell Fish // How Skateboarding, Photography & God Relate in my Life (video - 4:08)

•Emily Wilson // Go Bravely (video - 45:34)

•Catholic Stuff You Should Know // #STAYDANGEROUS (podcast)



Age-specific materials for early childhood through 8th grade are now available for your use together with this Guide. They are easy to use and the cost is \$25.00 per set, per year. Reserve and pick up your copies by contacting Jackie Coba in the parish office or by email. 346.236.6459 ex. 342 or jcoba@cgscc.church
Want samples? Need help? Just ask! Learn more at the Gospel Weeklies Website for Parents!

Adulthood

- Busted Halo // Holy Week in Three Minutes -video (2:49)
- Simply Catholic // Your Guide To Holy Week -article
- Redeemed Online // What the Cross is Really About -video (3:52)
- Ascension Presents // The Real Answer to Why God Allows Suffering -video (8:29)
- Matthew Leonard // Transforming Marriage: The Beauty of Sacrificial Love -video (3:15)
- Catholic Exchange // Uniting Your Suffering to Christ's Passion -blog
- Bishop Barron // On Palm Sunday -video (11:35)
- Bishop Robert Barron // Why Did Jesus Have to Die the Way He Did? --video (4:37)
- Bishop Barron // On the Scandalous Cross of Jesus -video (9:00)
- Bishop Robert Barron // On the Power of the Cross -video (9:59)
- Integrated Catholic Life // The Cross in Our Lives -blog
- FORMED // The Paschal Mystery: Jesus's Death & Resurrection -video (34:26)
- U.S. Catechism for Adults // The Saving Death and Resurrection of Christ --(pgs.89-93)
- Dynamic Catholic // What is Love? --video (9:14)

2. General Resources

The Holy Bible

Online Bible via the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

If you don't know much about the Bible or want to learn more: **Scripture Support**

Catholics use the **New American Bible Revised Edition** (NABRE) as the translation for Mass readings. There are many acceptable versions of NABRE (learn more) as well as other approved translations. You may purchase from any vendor and we do have some basic editions on hand at the parish office at no charge—available upon request.



Recommended Print Bibles

These are all by St. Mary's Press: Order directly from the publisher or search online for other vendors.

Catholic Family Connections Bible
(digital version available).

Catholic Youth Bible (Adolescents & College)
"Breakthrough" (Early Adolescents // Jr. High)
Catholic Children's Bible

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)

Online Catechism via the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

NEW! Simplified version of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

If you don't know much about the Catechism or want to learn more: Catechism Support

Formed

Our parish subscribes to a library of online resources called Formed. It is excellent and it is free for you to use. Register at www.formed.org - Need help? Watch this video.

Prayers and Praying

Quite Time Take a few minutes to simply gaze at a crucifix and think of the love Jesus has for you. Respond to that love in your heart in whatever way you are inspired by the Holy Spirit to do so.

- The Catholic Crusade // Litany of the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ -video (3:49)
- The Catholic Crusade // The Seven Last Words Of Christ -video (9:08)
- Jake Mrugalski // A Meditation by Mother Teresa- I Thirst For You --video (9:07)

Common Prayers and Formulas to Learn by Heart

Familiar prayers and a chart showing at what age level they should be learned.

Counseling, Grief Support & Spiritual Direction

- Our parish offers Rejoice Counseling for individuals and families for a variety of issues and needs. You may use this online form to contact them directly.
- We also offer Grief Support ministry for those who have lost loved ones and Spiritual Direction for anyone interested. Follow the links or inquire through the parish office.

Music to Move You

Catholic Link // Catholic Music for Holy Week and Easter Sunday,
(List with links)

Three Mo' Tenors // Were You There, video (4:42)

An Easter Hallelujah // Cassandra Star & her sister Callahan,
video (5:07)

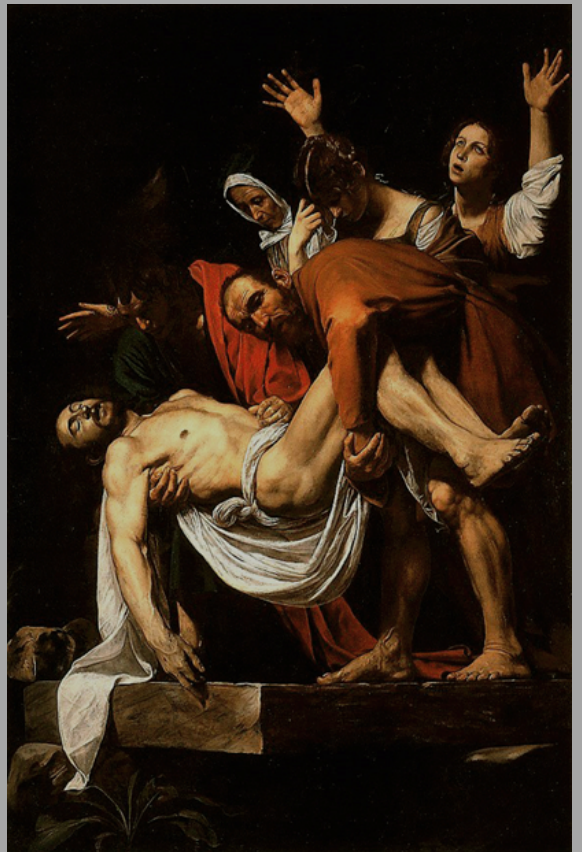
We the Kingdom // God So Loved, (4:09)

Catholic Church Songs for Lent and Holy Week (1:11:18)

Sacred Art to Inspire You!

All Sacred Art Currently on Formed (parish subscription free to our parishioners--register once, get access to all content) All Sacred Art - FORMED

Marvelous artwork for Holy Week blog by Ray Downing



3. Sacramental Resources

The sacraments section of our website is completely updated.

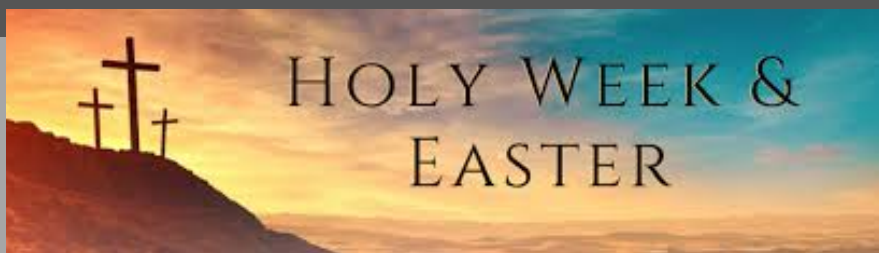
Go to the sacraments page of our website and browse for the most current information. Here you will find everything you need to get started with any sacrament. Additional information is being added and continually updated. Questions may be directed to Selma DeMarco, Associate Director of Sacraments and Discipleship.

WE ARE THE CHURCH

What Makes us Catholic?

During Holy Week Bishop consecrates Oil of Chrism and blesses Oil of the Catechumens and Oil of the Sick. This happens in the diocesan cathedral at a special liturgy known as the Chrism Mass. The Oil of Chrism is used during baptisms, confirmation, ordination, and the consecration of altars. The Oil of Catechumens is used to anoint individuals prior to Baptism. The Oil of the Sick is used to anoint people during the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The Sacred Oils are then distributed to the parishes for sacramental celebrations throughout the year.

Also at this Mass, all the priests who are present renew their commitment to priestly service and ask the lay faithful to pray for them. Let us pray for our priests in a special way this Holy Week.



HOW HAVE YOU SEEN GOD PRESENT AND ACTIVE IN YOUR LIFE THIS WEEK?

Word of the Week - Love

There are many words that could be chosen for Holy Week. We choose "love" because God showed us the ultimate proof of his love. God will not be outdone in generosity, mercy, and love. "For God so loved the world that he gave[g] his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Saints of the Month April

More for your Domestic Church

A Domestic Church is your household of believers in Jesus Christ. View a short video on what is the Domestic Church. See also this reference in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: CCC 1655-1858 and our Glossary of Terms. There is so much at CGS for your Domestic Church! See our website, social media pages, YouTube, and this week "**FLOCKNOTE**" for all things CGS!

"Faith Groups" on our Website

Find resources for your family, including how to use this Guide, family traditions from other parishioners, FAQs, how to use the Points of Understanding, a Glossary of Terms and more. Visit cgscdogh.org/faith-groups OR scan the QR code on the right with your smart phone.

Join a small Faith Group in our parish. Contact discipleship@cgscchurch.org





Our Mission as a Roman Catholic Community is to proclaim the teachings of Jesus Christ as declared in the scriptures and shown in the sacred tradition of the church. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to know, love, and serve God and our neighbors.

WE WANT OUR PARISHIONERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS GUIDE!

How is this Guide working for you and your family?

Show us what your family is doing with these Guides!

Share an idea, a resource or picture/video of what you are doing in your Domestic Church.

DISCIPLESHIP@CGSCC.CHURCH

BECOMING OUR "BEST PARISH EVER!"



Text CGS to 84576 to join us on Flocknote
You will receive emails & texts from CGS



CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



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The contents of this Guide are in accordance with the teachings of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Curriculum Framework for Lifelong Faith Formation of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston under the pastoral care of Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Archbishop.

MAY WE NEVER FORGET



FATHER
INTO YOUR HANDS
I COMMIT MY SPIRIT

L u k e 2 3 : 4 6



ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINEE
MARK WAHLBERG

GOD WANTED A FIGHTER...
AND HE FOUND ONE

FATHER STU

EXCLUSIVELY IN MOVIE THEATERS
APRIL 13

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