



HOLY WEEK SEMANA SANTA

HOLY WEEK | SEMANA SANTA AT HOME GUIDE

During Holy Week we journey with Jesus through the final days of his life, his death on the cross, and his resurrection from the grave. Each service has incredible moments where we can participate in the story. Join us for these online gatherings and check out the list below for everything you will need to follow along in your household throughout the week.

HOLY WEEK ONLINE GATHERINGS

April 5, Palm Sunday, 10am

April 9, Maundy Thursday with Church of the Resurrection, 6pm

April 10, Good Friday Service, 6pm

April 11, Easter Vigil Service with Diocese of the Upper Midwest, 7pm

April 12, Easter Sunday, 10am

GET READY FOR THE SERVICES BY:

- Printing out the bulletins ([CLICK HERE](#))
- Having your Bibles and journals ready
- Getting the live stream ready on your largest, most central screen
(cityoflightanglican.org/livestream)
- Printing out coloring sheets for children in your household ([CLICK HERE](#))

HOLY WEEK AT HOME CHECKLIST

- ☐ Bulletins for each service
 - ☐ Coloring pages for each service
 - ☐ Writing utensil/ Art supplies
 - ☐ Your Bible and journal
 - ☐ A cross
 - ☐ Your largest screen ready for the live stream
 - ☐ Palm branches
 - ☐ Basin for foot washing
 - ☐ Towels for foot washing
 - ☐ Individual candles for the vigil
 - ☐ Bells, streamers, & noisemakers
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PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday is the day we commemorate Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, when he was greeted by a crowd saying "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" and waving palm branches.

What you need:

- Palm branches! Buy them online here or make them together out of green construction paper with like [this](#) or like [this](#) (only bigger).

What to do:

- Have your palms ready to march through your house during the beginning of the service or around your neighborhood before the service!

MAUNDY THURSDAY

On Maundy Thursday we remember the final night of Jesus' life when he washed his disciples' feet, instituted the Last Supper, and told them, "A new commandment I give to you that you love one another."

What you need:

- A container, bin, or bucket that you can fill with water and is large enough for your feet.
- A towel or two

What to do:

- During the service, take turns following Jesus' example and washing each others' feet.
- Following the service, all are invited to

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

In this ancient devotional service, we walk with Christ through the last hours of his life, reflecting on his sufferings, death, and burial through reading the Bible, music, and prayer. The stations are traditionally prayed between 12pm - 3pm, the hours Jesus hung on the cross.

What you need:

- 1 cross to gather around, 1 cross for each person to hold as you walk, or 14 crosses placed throughout your home, yard, or neighborhood. The crosses could be as simple as a cross drawn on paper or wooden crosses that you make.

What to do:

- Use the Stations bulletin to walk around your house, yard, or neighborhood, stopping in a new place to pray through each station.

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday we tell the story of the Passion of Jesus as we remember the love of God that was demonstrated by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

What you need:

- A cross. See below in additional ideas for some ways to make a cross.

What to do:

- During the service, move the cross from where it has been throughout Holy Week and lay it on the floor in the center of the room where you can kneel next to it to touch it and pray.

EASTER VIGIL

The Easter Vigil is an ancient Christian tradition celebrated on the Saturday before Easter Sunday. The service begins in darkness and then includes the reading of Old Testament stories of God's salvation.

What you need:

- A candle for each person to hold.

What to do:

- At the beginning of the service, light your candle. When the readings from scripture begin, you can extinguish it.

EASTER SUNDAY

On Easter Sunday we continue the celebration that began at the Easter Vigil! Jesus' victory over death has set us free and given us life!

What you need:

- Bells ([one example](#)), streamers, anything that makes noise!

What to do:

- At the Holy Noise, shout, dance, ring the bells, waive the streamers! If you want, run outside and shout "Alleluia, Christ is Risen!" to your neighborhood.
 - At 12pm, join with believers throughout the community to [#RaiseAHallelujah](#) to shout, ring bells, and make a holy noise on our front porches, celebrating the hope of the resurrection in our neighborhood!
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MAKE A CROSS

- If you have a cross in your home that is meaningful to you, use that. Use a cross that is simple (not too ornamental or decorative), large, and helps you connect to the actual cross of Jesus.
- If you don't have one, this is a great time to get one or make one to have in your living room throughout Holy Week. You could make one out of wood with instructions like [this](#), or a simpler one [like this](#) one Pastor Trevor made, cut one out of paper or cardboard and attach to your wall, or gather branches from your yard to tie together into a cross.
- On Maundy Thursday cover it with dark fabric, on Good Friday lay it on the ground, and on Easter Sunday put some flowers on it!

OTHER HOLY WEEK ACTIVITY IDEAS

- Light a large candle at the beginning of each service
- Draw the Passion story in chalk on your sidewalk
- Fast on Good Friday from food or from something else to spend time in prayer and silence (Check out these [fasting resources](#) from Father Aaron Damiani)
- During the day on Holy Saturday, tell your baptism stories as we get ready to remember and renew our baptisms on Easter Sunday. Make a video or write your testimony and baptism story and send it to others or post on social media.
- Wear dark clothes on Good Friday and wear something special on Easter
- Prayer walk throughout your neighborhood, praying for the light of Jesus to shine. Check out [this how-to prayer walk](#) guide from Father Trevor McMaken
- Read through the Vigil stories throughout the week ([see them here](#)) or dress up and act out one of the Vigil stories (Red Sea, Creation, etc.).
- Wake up before sunrise on Easter morning and find somewhere to watch the sunrise, remembering that the light of Christ has dawned upon us (Isaiah 60).
- Get flowers that you can bring out on Easter morning.
- Have a special meal on Easter Sunday
- Take a family photo to post on your social media with an Easter note to friends and neighbors

OTHER RESOURCES

- [Holy Week Explained Videos](#) by Church of the Resurrection
- [Holy Week Devotional Guide](#) from Immanuel Anglican Church
- [Why We Celebrate the Easter Vigil](#) by Canon Stephen Gauthier
- [A Guide to Holy Week](#) by Church of the Resurrection
- [God's Saving Deeds](#) Easter Vigil Devotional & Art Book from Church of the Resurrection
- [Lenten & Good Friday](#) Devotional & Art Book from Church of the Resurrection
- [Holy Week Devotions](#) for each day of the week from City of Light.
- [Easter Vigil Reading Videos](#) from past Vigils at Church of the Resurrection



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