

WALKING by FAITH

Grade K / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 24 HOLY WEEK

Objectives

- Understand that during Holy Week we remember the life and death of Jesus.
- Learn how the Church celebrates Holy Week.
- Recognize the significance of Holy Week.

Step 1: We Are Invited (Life Experience), page 113

Recall with your child that Lent is a special time of waiting for Easter. Ask: How are you using Lent to get ready for Easter? (Encourage your child to mention praying and doing good deeds, as well as coloring eggs, buying spring clothes or flowers, and so on.)

Turn to page 113, and pray together the opening **Prayer**.

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), page 113

Tell your child that Holy Week is the week right before Easter. Note the chapter title, and explain that **Holy Week** is a special time to remember Jesus.

Show your child a calendar of Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday and ending with Holy Saturday. You might make a special calendar for this purpose. Use the calendar and the information below to explain the special significance of each day.

- **Palm Sunday:** Call attention the picture on page 113 of Jesus entering the city of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Ask your child to describe how the people are welcoming Jesus. (warmly; waving palm branches) If possible, give your child a fresh or dried palm branch, and allow him or her to wave it just as the people did. Sing the following song with your child to the melody of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.”

Holy, Holy, Holy Week.

Easter’s a week away!

All that happens in Holy Week

Begins on Palm Sunday.

- **Holy Thursday:** Explain that on this day, Jesus and his friends shared the Last Supper. Have your child tell what he or she learned about the meal in *The Last Supper* Scripture Story.
- **Good Friday:** Identify this day as the day when Jesus carried his cross and later died on it and was buried. Show your child a crucifix.
- **Holy Saturday:** Tell your child that on this day, Jesus was still in a tomb that was sealed with a large stone. As a demonstration, cup one hand as the open tomb, and seal it with the other hand as the stone. Have your child do the same.

Read aloud **Catholics Believe** at the bottom of page 113. Remind your child that we can know, love, and serve God, just as Jesus taught us to do.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 114

Read aloud the heading (**We Remember Jesus**) and the unfinished sentence on page 114. Ask your child how he or she would finish it. Then copy your child's words on the lines provided.

Talk about Holy Week. Ask: What do we call the week before Easter? (Holy Week)

Display the Holy Week calendar you have used with your child. Then provide the following materials or pictures of them: palm branch, slice of bread (or matzo), crucifix, stone. As you review Palm Sunday, have the children point out the item associated with that day.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 114

Read aloud the **Scripture** verse. Use the verse to remind your child that Jesus showed he was humble by washing the feet of his friends and by carrying the cross. Explain that Jesus died on the cross and then was raised from the dead.

To close the lesson, pray together the closing **Prayer**. End with the Sign of the Cross.

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 72–74.