

# Holy Week - 2017

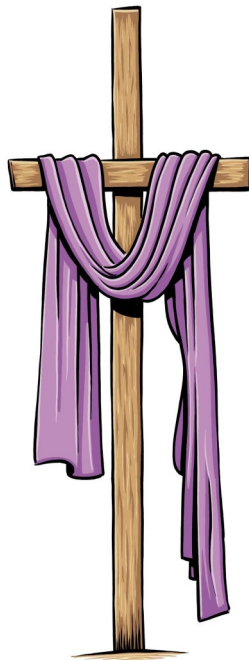
## Preparation!

Holy Week is an intense week of reflection on the last few days of Jesus' life on earth before the crucifixion and His ultimate Resurrection. It begins with Palm Sunday and leads us through the Holy Triduum with the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and Good Friday (the Passion and Death of our Lord) and concludes with the Easter Vigil (when we begin to celebrate our Lord's Resurrection).

## The Cross

(source: EWTN)

The cross is the hope of Christians  
the cross is the resurrection of the dead  
the cross is the way of the lost  
the cross is the savior of the lost  
the cross is the staff of the lame  
the cross is the guide of the blind  
the cross is the strength of the weak  
the cross is the doctor of the sick  
the cross is the aim of the priests  
the cross is the hope of the hopeless  
the cross is the freedom of the slaves  
the cross is the power of the kings  
the cross is the water of the seeds  
the cross is the consolation of the bondsmen  
the cross is the source of those who seek water  
the cross is the cloth of the naked.  
We thank you, Father, for the cross.



## Holy Week Scripture

### Psalm 27: 13-14

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD  
in the land of the living.  
Wait for the LORD with courage;  
be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.

### Philemon 2: 8-9

Christ became obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.  
Because of this, God greatly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name which is above every other name.

### Matthew 27:43

And about three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

## Spring Cleaning

(A Treasure Chest of Traditions For Catholic Families, Monica McConkey)

The custom of "spring cleaning" may be tied to the preparation for Passover. To entice the children to help give the house a thorough cleaning, hide pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters in places that could be overlooked in normal cleaning. Hide coins on tops of window frames and moldings, behind curtains, picture frames, furniture and objects on shelves. Remember to leave some coins in more noticeable places (lower to the floor) to encourage those little ones (as long as they won't try to eat them!).



## Holy Saturday

(source: EWTN)

On Holy Saturday, the Church is, as it were, at the Lord's tomb, meditating on his passion and death, and on his descent into hell, and awaiting his resurrection with prayer and fasting. On this day, the Church abstains strictly from the celebration of the sacrifice of the Mass. The faithful are to be instructed on the special character of Holy Saturday. Festive customs and traditions associated with this day on account of the former practice of anticipating the celebration of Easter on Holy Saturday should be reserved for Easter night and the day that follows.

