

2 ACROSS "Now when the \_\_\_\_\_ was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him." **MARK 16:1**

5 DOWN "Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the \_\_\_\_\_ when the sun had risen." **MARK 16:2**

4 ACROSS "But when they looked up, they saw that the \_\_\_\_\_ had been rolled away- for it was very large." **MARK 16:4**

1 DOWN "And entering the tomb, they saw a young \_\_\_\_\_ clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side." **MARK 16:5**

8 DOWN "He is \_\_\_\_\_! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him." **MARK 16:6**

9 ACROSS "Go, tell His \_\_\_\_\_-and Peter - that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you." **MARK 16:7**

3 DOWN "And they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were \_\_\_\_\_." **MARK 16:8**

7 ACROSS "Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to \_\_\_\_\_, out of whom He had cast seven demons." **MARK 16:9**

6 DOWN "She went and told those who had been with Him, as they wept and mourned. And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her they did not \_\_\_\_\_." **MARK 16:10-11**

- Introduction ..... 2
- Holy Week has the following days..... 3
- The Hours and Gospel Readings..... 4
- Songs..... 6
- O Beloved..... 6
- Thine is the Power..... 6
- Day 0 - Saturday - Lazarus..... 7
- Memorization ..... 7
- Activity ..... 8
- Day 1 - Sunday - Palm Sunday ..... 9
- General Funeral Service..... 9
- Memorization ..... 10
- Activity ..... 11
- Day 2 - Monday - The Fig Tree ..... 12
- Memorization ..... 13
- Activity ..... 14
- Day 3 - Tuesday—The Day of Parables (and Prophecies) ..... 15
- Activity ..... 16
- Day 4 - Wednesday – Day of Love and Betrayal ..... 17
- Activity ..... 18
- Day 5 - Thursday - Holy Thursday ..... 19
- 1st Hour: The betrayal of Judas..... 19
- Liturgy of the blessing of the water of Great Thursday..... 19
- Liturgy of the Eucharist (Communion) ..... 19
- 11th Hour: The Beginning of Suffering..... 19
- Summary of the Evening Hours ..... 20
- Activity ..... 20
- Day 6 - Friday - Good Friday ..... 21
- 1st Hour..... 21
- 3rd Hour: Via Dolorosa ..... 21
- 6th Hour: The Crucifixion ..... 21
- 9th Hour: Death..... 22
- 11th Hour: Taking down from the Cross ..... 22
- 12th Hour: Burial ..... 23
- Activity ..... 26
- Day 7 - Saturday - Bright Saturday ..... 27
- Memorization ..... 28
- Activity ..... 29
- Day 8 - Sunday – Resurrection ..... 30
- Memorization ..... 31
- Activity ..... 31

## Introduction

Let's take a journey through the Holy Week (the Pascha Week or the Passion Week) of our Lord Jesus Christ. In order to understand our journey better we need to keep in mind the following points:

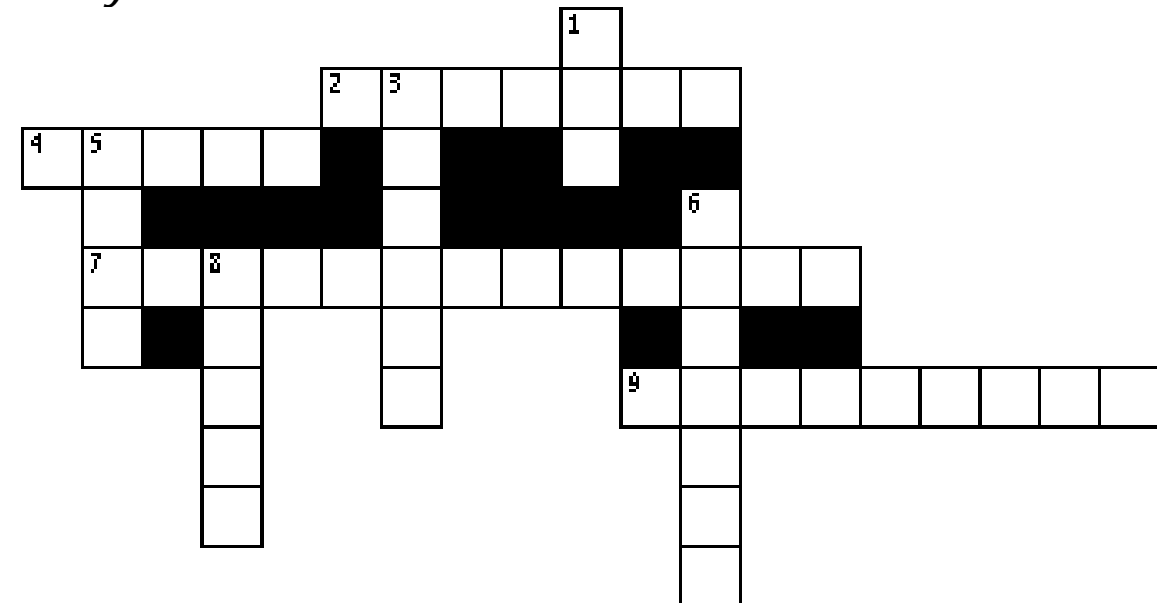
- 1) A day is calculated from sunset to sunset. For example, the Pascha day for Monday would begin Sunday evening and end Monday at sunset. Tuesday would begin Monday evening and end Tuesday, and so on.
- 2) We do not pray over the dead from Sunday evening until Resurrection Sunday because the Church focuses only on the Lord Jesus Christ and His sufferings for us. In other words if a person dies during the holy Pascha week, we do not pray over him. Instead there is a 'General Funeral' prayed after Palm Sunday for everyone, in case any of us should pass away during that week.
- 3) We pray the Eucharist Liturgy only once during this week, on Covenant Thursday, because it was on that day that our Lord Jesus Christ instituted this great Mystery. The Liturgy for this day is very different than all other days and it is the shortest Liturgy of the year. The Church takes into account that on that day our Lord Jesus Christ had not yet died on the Cross nor given us redemption so we don't say a lot of the Liturgy prayers we normally say.
- 4) For the morning Pascha prayers, we fast by not eating or drinking anything. When the priest prays the morning litanies we are to worship with our heads touching the ground and say "Lord have mercy" after each litany. Worshiping to the ground is called a 'matania' or kneeling in front of God. During the nighttime litanies we do not do a 'matania' when we say "Lord have mercy" because we have already eaten for the day.
- 5) All the prayers starting on Palm Sunday after the Divine Liturgy are prayed outside of the altar, in the second section of the church. This represents the passions of our Lord Jesus Christ, which took place "outside of the camp" (Heb 13:13). The only exceptions are:
  - a. The First Hour of Covenant Thursday
  - b. The Liturgy of the Blessing of the Water & the Divine Liturgy of The Eucharist on Covenant Thursday
  - c. The Twelfth Hour of Good Friday.
- 6) Each day in the Pascha week, starting on Tuesday, we read one of the four Gospels and two other books. They are as follows:
  - Tuesday we read: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew
  - Wednesday we read: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark
  - Thursday we read: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

## Memorization

"And entering into the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he says unto them, be not affrighted: All of you seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: He has risen; He is not here: behold the place where they laid him." **MARK 16:5-6**

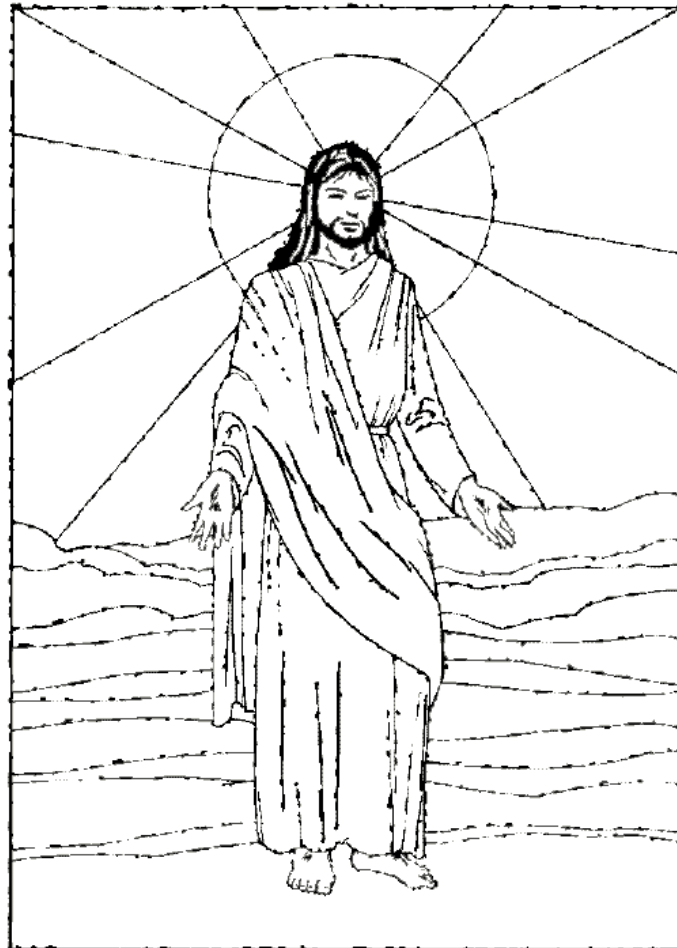


## Activity



## Day 8 - Sunday – Resurrection

Then very early Sunday morning, while it was still dark out, Mary Magdalene and the other women who followed the Lord Jesus Christ went to the tomb and saw the stone had been removed from the entrance. There had been a violent earthquake for an Angel of the Lord came down from Heaven and rolled back the stone from the tomb and sat on it. His appearance was like lightening and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so scared of him that they trembled and ran away.




- Friday we read: The Holy Book of Psalms
  - Saturday we read: Revelation (during Bright Saturday)
  - Eve of Resurrection Sunday: The Holy Gospel according to St. John  
*The reader must be fasting when reading the Holy Bible.*
- 7) From the Eve of Wednesday (Tuesday evening) until the feast of the Resurrection Liturgy the clergy and the congregation do not greet one another with a holy kiss, or kiss the Holy Gospel or the icons as a reminder of Judas' betrayal of our Lord Jesus Christ with a kiss.


### ***Holy Week has the following days***

- Day 0: Saturday – Lazarus
- Day 1: Sunday – Palm Sunday
- Day 2: Monday – The Fig Tree
- Day 3: Tuesday – Jesus reveals the day of his crucifixion
- Day 4: Wednesday – Anointing Jesus head and Judas betrayal
- Day 5: Thursday – Covenant Thursday
- Day 6: Friday –Great Friday
- Day 7: Saturday – Bright Saturday
- Day 8: Sunday – Resurrection


## Important Notes



NO Liturgies  
On Monday,  
Tuesday,  
Wednesday  
and Friday



NO Agpeya  
(Special  
prayer  
every hour  
instead)



Prayers  
Outside  
the Alter  
(Black  
Curtains)

“Let us go forth therefore unto Him outside the camp bearing His reproach.” (Hebrews 13:13)

ΘΩΚ ΤΕ †ΧΩΝ ΝΕΥ ΠΙΩΟΥ ΝΕΥ ΠΙΣΜΟΥ  
ΝΕΥ ΠΙΑΜΑΖΙ ΨΑ ΕΝΕΣ ΔΩΗΝ.

## The Hours and Gospel Readings

This is the only time during the year that we do not read from the Agpeya. This is because its prayers are around the entire life of Christ (prophecies, nativity, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, etc.); but during Holy Week, we simply focus on the Passion of our Lord. So, there are separate prayers for each hour.

Each day during Pascha has a morning and evening service. The Morning and Evening service contain five separate hours:

	<i>Service Morning Service</i>	<i>Evening Service</i>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> hour</b>	6 am	6 pm
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> hour</b>	9 am	9 pm
<b>6<sup>th</sup> hour</b>	12 (noon)	12 (midnight)
<b>9<sup>th</sup> hour</b>	3 pm	3 am
<b>11<sup>th</sup> hour</b>	5 pm	5 am

Each of the above hours are divided into six separate sections:

### 1) **Prophecies and Poetry**

- Number of readings vary from 2-5 (except on Good Friday 18 are read)
- Most of the readings are from the book of Isaiah. By Easter, the Church would have finished the entire book. Isaiah contains the most prophecies.
- Each hour generally has one prophecy explaining how Jerusalem would treat the Messiah, and one chapter (usually Proverbs or Sirach) discussing the importance of wisdom, fear of God, righteousness, etc.
- As in the great Lent, the first prophecy is the same theme as the Pauline (during Lent), the Gospel, and the sermon. The other prophecies fulfill the first prophecy. They are arranged to fit the life of Christ during His days on earth.

### 2) **Homilies: are sermons of the church fathers** (only are read in the first, ninth and eleventh hours of Monday-Thursday)

### 3) **Doxology of the Pascha** (Thine is the power, the glory...)

- The community joins together in singing, "Thine is the Power..." twelve times (six towards the North and six towards the South), followed by the Lord's Prayer. This beautiful praise is repeated continuously.
- Humans did not create this praise, as many may believe. Rather, the praise is of divine inspiration, as the psalms. It is taken from the Book of Revelation. Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever (Revelation 4:9), they say with

## Activity

### Seven times the Lord spoke on the Cross

Our Lord Jesus Christ spoke only seven times while He was hung on the Cross. They are called 'The Seven Words'. Below are those seven words out of order. Place the seven words of our Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross in order. If you need help, refer to the story you just read.

\_\_\_\_\_ "Woman, behold your son...Behold your mother."

\_\_\_\_\_ "Today you will be with Me in Paradise."

\_\_\_\_\_ "I thirst"

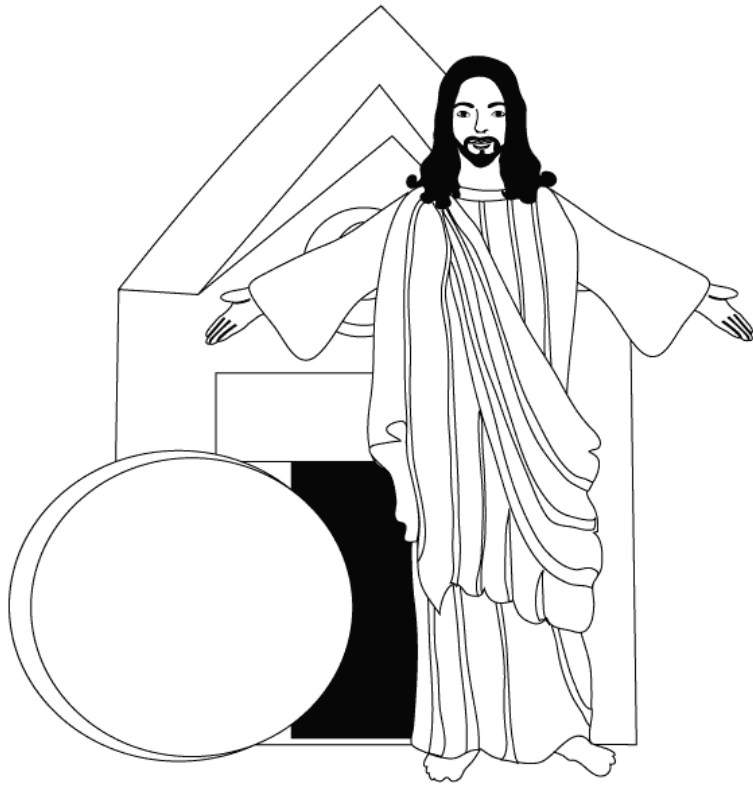
\_\_\_\_\_ "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing."

\_\_\_\_\_ "It is finished."

\_\_\_\_\_ "Eli, Eli, lama sabachtani."

\_\_\_\_\_ "Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit."

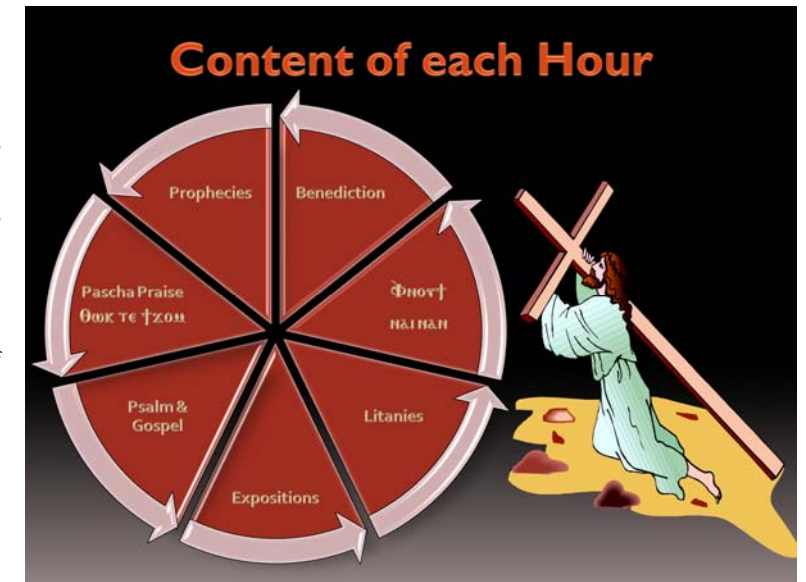
### Memorization



“To him that comes victorious, I’ll have him seated with Me on My throne as I have been victorious Myself and am seated with My Father on His throne. Let him who has ears listen to what the Spirit says to the churches” (Rev. 3:21,22).

loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!" (Revelation 5:12). The Church joins the angels who are before the throne of God praising the Living One forever.

- Beginning at the Eleventh Hour of Tuesday, we add “my Good Savior” to the praise, confessing that Christ’s sufferings for our salvation began when the high priests and the elders were consulting the arrest of Jesus and plotting His death.
  - Beginning at the vigil of Friday, and continuing throughout the day, we add “my salvation” to the praise, emphasizing that the Church recognizes that salvation is fulfilled on the Cross.
- 4) **Psalm and Gospel.**
    - The Church selects verses and Psalms that relate to the sufferings of Christ to be read in a sad tune.
    - Following the Psalm, the introduction of the Gospel is either read or chanted. “We beseech our Lord and God that we may be made worthy to hear to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom, let us attend to the Holy Gospel”.
    - The psalms contain many prophecies on the life of Jesus from His birth to His ascension. Considering that at this time we are commemorating the agony of Christ, the Church chooses texts that are connected with the events.
  - 5) **Expositions (el Tarh)**
  - 6) **Litanies** for the church (clergy, servants, catechumens), the sick, the poor, the leaders and rulers, the whole world... (Prostrations during the daytime litanies except Sunday)
  - 7) **12 Lord Have Mercy’s**
  - 8) **Final Hymn** (O King of Peace)
  - 9) **Benediction or the End of Prayer**



## Songs

### O Beloved

R: O Beloved, O Beloved, Nailed unto the Cross for me.

Oh, what sin hast Thou committed? Thou Who calleth all to be.

O Beloved, wish that I could, Spend the rest of life with Thee—  
Worshipping Thine holy Passion; Crucifying the flesh for Thee.

1. "Daughter of Zion, behold Me, Stricken and smitten for thee.  
Friend and kin Me have forsaken: There is none to comfort Me.  
All alone I'll tread the winepress; All alone I'll drink the cup—  
Shedding My Blood for thee to ransom, And My Flesh for thee to sup.
2. "I was bound, and I was smitten, And they did spit in My face.  
I was stripped, and I was scourged— I was condemned in your place.  
Your sins became My crown of thorns—Oh that you would understand:  
Everytime you sin anew, It's one more nail in My hand."
3. Like a lamb brought to the slaughter, Like a dumb sheep to be sheered—  
King, Creator, Lord and Master, By His creatures mocked and jeered.  
Despised, rejected, with grief acquainted, And of men was not esteemed;  
Bruised and wounded, sore afflicted— Yet, with His stripes we were healed.
4. Lord, create in us a fountain, That with tears will ever flow;  
And a heart contrite and broken— And the Spirit within renew.  
Oh that we could shed the tears, Over Thy feet, pierced and bruised.  
Oh that we'd always remember: For our sins Thou wert abused.

### Thine is the Power

Thine is the Power, the Glory, the Blessing, the Majesty, Forever. Amen.

Emmanuel, our God and King.

Thine is the Power, the Glory, the Blessing, the Majesty, Forever. Amen.

My Lord Jesus Christ.\*

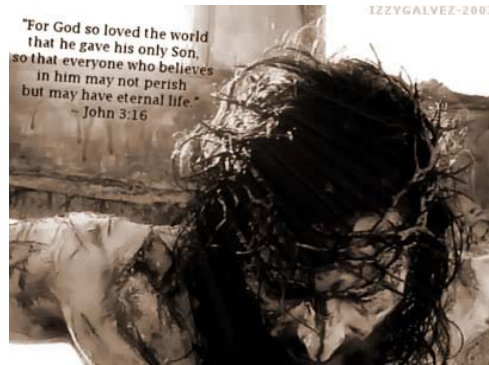
Thine is the Power, the Glory, the Blessing, the Majesty, Forever. Amen.

• From the 11th hour of Tuesday, we add:

My Lord Jesus Christ, my Good Savior.

• From the 1st hour of eve of Friday, we add:

My Lord Jesus Christ, my Good Savior. The Lord is my strength and my praise and has become my salvation.



## Day 7 - Saturday - Bright Saturday

Passover is a joyful celebration, from which we pass over from death to life, from sin to holiness, from Hades to Paradise. The glorious Church provides us with the same path from Good Friday to Easter through Apocalypse Saturday. This is also called "Bright Saturday" where the church is dressed in white, and filled with joyful hymns. We can hardly imagine what Eternity and the eternal life can be like. The answer is given to us this night when the Church takes us to heaven! Only those of us who have experienced this night in the church and attended the prayers can tell about their indescribable happy experience. This is the night of the passage from death to life. Joyful tunes replace the sad ones. Each tune starts sadly, then in the middle of it, becomes joyful, as we pass from death to life.



**Activity**

**JESUS IS CRUCIFIED (LUKE 23:26-49)**

F E K J T R O Z O P U U P P M  
 I S K T A I F S J J W F Y N S  
 N G Q E N L V H J H D I B E Z  
 I D J J R S E V I G R O F S F  
 S E D E S N A E L C W B D I P  
 H P B Z P T B M E S Y G R D G  
 E Z B Z I F S B A G I Y C A K  
 D C R K Q A V D E I D N G R B  
 F T S I R H C S U S E J S A U  
 H C B C D D O O L B P D R P B  
 A Q T I R I P S W E Z E G B C  
 W I B T J Y M S L E W K N O R  
 C R U C I F I E D V B C G F O  
 B W E I Q Y A V Z A M O Z L S  
 P Z F O B M A L B S W M J L S

**BLOOD FINISHED PARADISE  
 CLEANSED FORGIVE SAVE  
 CROSS JESUS CHRIST SINS  
 CRUCIFIED LAMB SPIRIT DIED MOCKED**

**Day 0 - Saturday - Lazarus**



On this day, Christ went to Bethany, where He resurrected Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha (John 11). Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany where Lazarus was, whom Christ had raised from the dead. There they made a supper for Him. Martha served, Lazarus attended near Christ at the table, and Mary sat at His feet.

***Memorization***

*"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.' "John 11:25*

Activity



"Jesus raises Lazarus."  
John 11:1 - 44

6 ACROSS "Then Jesus said, 'Father, \_\_\_\_\_ them, for they do not know what they do' ..." **LUKE 23:34**

7 DOWN "...And they divided His \_\_\_\_\_ and cast lots." **LUKE 23:34**

1 ACROSS "And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, 'He saved others; let Him \_\_\_\_\_ Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God.'" **LUKE 23:35**

10 ACROSS "And the soldiers also \_\_\_\_\_ Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, and saying, 'If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself.'" **LUKE 23:36-**

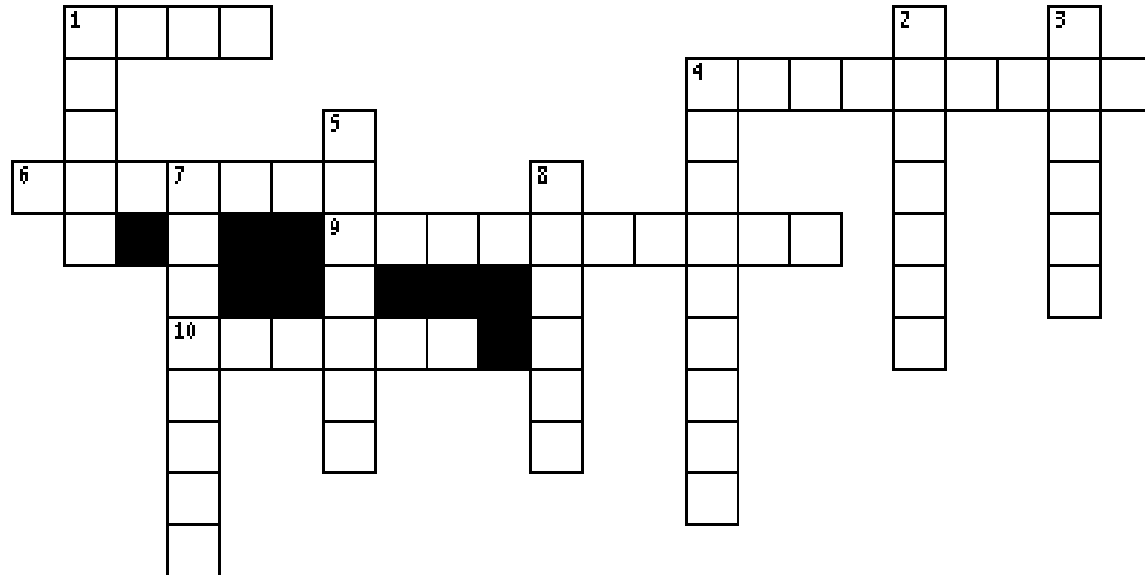
9 ACROSS "Then one of the criminals who were hanged \_\_\_\_\_ Him, saying, 'If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.'" **LUKE 23:39**

5 DOWN "But the other, answering, \_\_\_\_\_ him, saying, 'Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?'" **LUKE 23:40**

2 DOWN "Then he said to Jesus, 'Lord, remember me when You come into Your \_\_\_\_\_.' And Jesus said to him, 'Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.'" **LUKE 23:42-43**

8 DOWN "And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, 'Father, "into Your hands I commit My \_\_\_\_\_.'" ' And having said this, He breathed His last.'" **LUKE 23:46**

**Questions**



3 DOWN "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are \_\_\_\_." **ISAIAH 53:5**

1 DOWN "Now as they led Him away, they laid hold of a certain man, \_\_\_\_ a Cyrenian, who was coming from the country, and on him they laid the cross that he might bear it after Jesus." **LUKE 23:26**

4 DOWN "There were also two others, \_\_\_\_, led with Him to be put to death." **LUKE 23:32**

4 ACROSS "And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they \_\_\_\_ Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left." **LUKE 23:33**

**Day 1 - Sunday - Palm Sunday**

During the matins prayer of Palm Sunday, the church makes a procession of twelve stations around the Church, similar to the one made during the Feast of the Cross. At each station, a gospel reading is read in front of the icon commemorating a saint, group of saints, or an event. After the gospel is read, a special response is said for that saint or event with the Palm Sunday Tune (Hosanna tune).

St. John's gospel tells us that Jesus headed for Jerusalem the day after the supper, where He made a public entry (John 12:13). Thus, the following day was a Sunday.



***General Funeral Service***

As discussed earlier, a general funeral service is held on Palm Sunday following the Liturgy. This general service is conducted at the end of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Because no incense is raised for the departed during Holy Week and none of the departed is prayed upon in the church, the Church provides for this general funeral service for the souls that depart during these holy days. This service is held by saying special prayers on water before the altar in the choir of deacons. Following the funeral prayers, the priest blesses the people with water for this purpose.

The Church warns us to start Holy Week with no evil in our hearts, so that we may benefit from these holy days. Brothers, this is the way towards the Cross: "Do not despise the riches of His goodness and forbearance..." (Rom. 2:4). "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all unrighteousness of men" (Rom. 1:18).

## Memorization



“And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.” **MATTHEW 21:9**

when the soldiers came to Him “they did not break His legs” (John 19:23) as was their habit. From His pierced side, came out “blood and water” (John 19: 33, 34). The water is the symbol of humility, peace and love, the fruits of the Holy Spirit through the waters of the baptism. The blood of Jesus will dye our hearts as a recognizable sign of our salvation when we share the Cross with Him.

## 12<sup>TH</sup> Hour: Burial

Although the Lord Christ was taken off of the Cross during the Eleventh Hour and although the rest of the Pascha days all include an eleventh hour, Good Friday ends with the Twelfth Hour. We again remember the events of this hour each day throughout the year during the Agpeya prayers of the twelfth hour.

The Romans’ conduct was to leave the crucified bodies on the crosses for the birds to prey. The Jewish people used to throw the bodies in a pit where garbage and sewerage were to be burnt. Joseph of Arimathea requested Pilate to let him take Jesus’ holy body. Nicodemus, who disagreed with the Assembly on their condemnation of Jesus (John 7: 50-52), helped Joseph for the inhumation with perfumes and pure linen, as predicted by Isaiah.

The Prophecy for the twelfth hour comes from the Lamentations of Jeremiah on the sufferings of the Cross and of the grave are depicted. The Gospels show us the similarity between Jesus and Jonah. Like the prophet Jonah remained inside the whale three days and three nights, “the Son of Man shall be inside the earth for three days and three nights” (Matthew 12:40). A psalm of praise follows the Gospel. “Your throne O God is for ever and ever”.

The priest covers the icon with a white linen cloth and places the cross over it. He then covers them with rose petals and spices, and places two candles on each side of it—representing the two angels at the tomb of Christ. The priests, according to their ranks, start reading the Psalms 1, 2, and 3 until they reach “***I lay down and slept***” (Psalm 3:5). Then the curtain of the altar is closed and the 150 psalms are read in their entirety.

The sufferings of our Lord are the price of our salvation for which we are rejoicing. No words can be spoken! We contemplate Your sufferings and Your pierced side while we stand at the Cross, the source of our rejoicing.

Following this, the hymn of Omonogenis (O Only Begotten) is chanted. The initial part of the hymn discuss the incarnation and crucifixion, and is accompanied by a somber paschal tune. Yet, near the end, there is a glimpse of hope when discussing the promise of the resurrection.

**9<sup>th</sup> Hour: Death**

“O Thou Who surrendered Your soul into the hands of the Father when Thou were crucified on the Cross on the Ninth hour and lead the thief into Paradise, do not forsake me.” After He tasted the vinegar, Jesus said, “All is accomplished”, then He inclined His head and commended His soul to the Father (John 19:30). Then Jesus cried out loudly “O Father, in Thine hands I surrender my soul” (Luke 23:46) and (Matt. 27:46).

At the Cross, the Church contemplates the great love manifest on the Cross while our Savior went through the unknown, the terror of humankind -- death. How blessed is this unique moment of death! It is the moment the devil was terrified and tied, the moment those who had slept in hope rejoiced. The dead were considered dead in their bodies, but their souls considered alive in God. (II Peter 4:6). This is also the moment the thief entered Paradise, opening the door to the humankind. Once our Savior had gone through the terror of death, this terror vanished. No longer would those who die in Christ, be enslaved by death.

During the 9<sup>th</sup> hour, candles are lit before the Icon of the Crucifixion. The presbyters, with their heads uncovered and wearing their liturgical robes, cense the icon. In the presence of the bishop, they cense and bow before him without kissing his hand nor the cross.

**11<sup>th</sup> Hour: Taking down from the Cross**

At this hour, the Scriptures have been fulfilled as our Savior had said (John 19:30). Moses struck the rock in the desert, and water poured out that saved the life of the people of Israel. When the soldier pierced the side of our Savior on the Cross, blood and water came out. It is now up to us to satisfy our thirst from the waters of life.

The prophecy from Exodus 12:1-14 gives the details of God’s order to the sons of Israel. They were to immolate the lamb and put marks of his blood on their threshold and doors... no bones were to be broken. The blood was a sign to be recognized by the angel of death to spare them from death. We find the same words in John,

**Activity**

FIND THE WORDS IN THE SCRIPTURE BELOW IN THE PUZZLE BELOW  
 "You shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them."  
 MATTHEW 21:3

E	W	Q	V	K	B	T	C	C	B	V	E	R	Z	N
H	H	I	F	W	J	N	F	V	K	K	R	O	S	N
U	I	W	Y	B	R	V	E	S	I	E	J	E	K	T
B	B	T	I	D	K	H	N	J	M	W	N	M	H	F
T	V	L	Q	B	P	N	Q	P	M	D	J	E	M	J
B	S	J	Y	R	L	Y	Q	C	E	B	G	H	G	N
G	B	D	B	H	M	D	R	E	D	K	O	R	L	K
H	N	U	S	Z	D	N	V	B	I	K	H	O	Z	E
E	W	J	U	B	R	A	Q	R	A	Y	R	N	L	T
C	H	U	R	V	F	C	M	N	T	D	O	N	K	H
S	R	H	K	W	P	M	L	Q	E	W	G	U	T	E
R	H	T	I	I	Z	R	I	S	L	Y	B	H	J	M
M	T	A	Z	L	H	C	S	P	Y	S	E	Z	O	W
S	C	N	L	L	S	A	N	Z	E	M	A	Y	F	U
Z	H	T	A	L	H	B	I	D	E	E	N	Y	P	B

## Day 2 - Monday - The Fig Tree



Monday we focus first on the story of Adam and Eve: their creation (1<sup>st</sup> hour prophecy), their sin, and their removal from the Garden of Eden (9<sup>th</sup> hour prophecy). We see once they sinned they could not remain any longer in Eden because good and evil cannot coexist. (11<sup>th</sup> hour Homily).

On the evening of Palm Sunday our Lord went with his disciples outside the city. Along the way to Bethany, Christ was hungry; and He cursed a fig tree with many leaves but no fruit (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> hour). This was a symbol of the Jewish nation, which had the outward appearance of fruits, because they had followed the letter of the law. But they lacked fruit in that they did not abide by the Spirit of the law and "neglected the weightier things of the law." They continued to question His authority even to the last moment (9<sup>th</sup> hour gospel). Christ had rejected the Jews, as they were plotting to slaughter Him. The church is reminding us that we should not think of this week as simply an outer appearance of worship without sowing the fruits of repentance, love, and meekness.

## Day 6 - Friday - Good Friday

By far, the one day of the entire church year in which the church prays together is Good Friday. More prayers are prayed, more readings read, more hymns chanted than any other time. All because of the perfect sacrifice; all focused on God and on the Cross.

### ***1<sup>st</sup> Hour***

On Friday, Jesus began to be judged in front of a series of councils. The chief priests convened together and condemned the Savior so that they might deliver Him to Pilate to kill him. (Exposition) False witnesses came forth to falsely accuse Him. The "fierce witnesses" mentioned in Psalm 35:11 specifically refers to these false witnesses at the trial of Christ.

### ***3<sup>rd</sup> Hour: Via Dolorosa***

The third hour begins the painful torment of Lamb. After Pilate washes his hands, the soldiers took Him into the common hall, paraded around Him, stripped Him and divided his garments. All of this was prophesied about in Psalm 22:17, "***They look and stare at Me. They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.***" They dressed Him in a scarlet robe, platted a crown of thorns, and placed a reed in His hand.

***"He was wounded for our transgressions., He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all"*** (Isaiah 5:6).

### ***6<sup>th</sup> Hour: The Crucifixion***

There is only one theme for this entire hour: the Cross. The first prophecy introduces the Moses' the brazen serpent. The second prophecy is a powerful sign of Christ as the Lamb, brought to the slaughter. Following these great prophecies, the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians is read. Its simple and essential theme: *Glory in the Cross*. Afterwards, six litanies are said by the priest, along with responses from the congregation. These prayers are patterned after those that follow the gospel readings in the Agpeya prayers.

**Summary of the Evening Hours**

As we approach the crucifixion, the number and intensity of the events steadily increase. This evening's events include the Last Supper, the Eucharist, the Final Message to the Apostles, prayer at Gethsemane, Judas' Betrayal, and the round of trials. In the first hour, we read three gospels from the same evangelist. For the remainder of the Evening of Friday and Great Friday, every hour contains four gospel readings, one from each evangelist.

**Activity**

FIND THE WORDS OF THIS SCRIPTURE IN THE PUZZLE ABOVE

*"This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."* LUKE 22:20

E	T	V	H	B	F	Y	Q	M	L	D	B	Y	B	C
H	J	L	Y	Y	J	Q	U	I	S	C	E	J	U	I
E	H	I	I	D	U	Q	S	O	R	V	W	P	W	I
I	B	S	O	G	S	I	H	T	S	O	G	T	C	D
S	C	J	F	T	B	M	B	B	B	S	F	H	P	Z
J	G	D	I	N	N	Y	B	K	B	K	Z	E	R	P
F	H	E	G	C	K	A	M	E	Y	O	U	N	F	Z
P	G	H	Q	B	B	H	N	Y	Z	L	A	D	M	V
K	Q	S	B	E	D	F	N	E	F	D	N	Y	E	U
A	P	B	F	B	R	O	V	T	V	B	L	O	O	D
R	C	J	B	Y	C	O	S	E	W	O	S	I	T	D
W	P	H	J	B	Z	I	F	Z	B	B	C	B	L	W
K	E	L	K	H	C	I	H	W	Y	A	H	L	M	E
H	Q	N	V	Z	R	H	L	Q	L	B	U	O	E	E
I	B	Q	O	U	D	H	B	V	N	R	S	U	Z	B

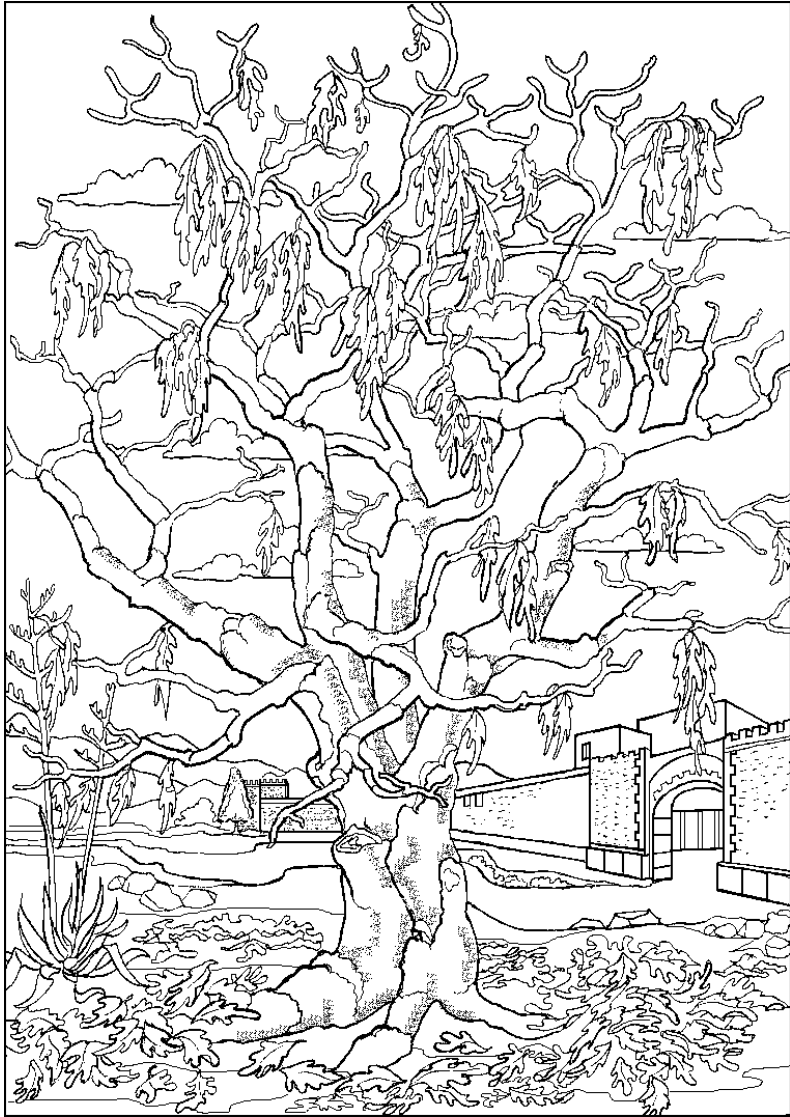
**Memorization**



And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. Mark (11:13)

### Activity

How many leaves can you count on this fig tree?



The number of leaves on this fig tree is \_\_\_\_\_

### Day 5 - Thursday - Holy Thursday

*Pascha* is the word for "Passover" in all languages. But its meaning lies much deeper than this direct translation. St. Paul describes the life of Christianity as one that passes "*from glory to glory.*"

#### ***1st Hour: The betrayal of Judas***

The prayers of the first hour are celebrated in the first section of the church, in the Chorus of Deacons. There, the altar curtain is opened as the church prepares for the Liturgy. After the prophecy from Exodus is read, the readings and prayers follow the basic structure of the Divine Liturgy, with some exceptions.

#### ***Liturgy of the blessing of the water of Great Thursday***

The prayers of the Liturgy of the Blessing of the Water is very similar to the funeral service that is prayed after the Liturgy of the Eucharist on Palm Sunday. However, the meaning and purpose of this liturgy differs. The Laka'an service on Holy Thursday is a specific tradition that follows the example of Christ, who washed the feet of His disciples before Passover. These prayers and readings of this liturgy are also very similar to those of Baptism.

#### ***Liturgy of the Eucharist (Communion)***

Following the Liturgy of the Water, we celebrate the Divine Liturgy of the Eucharist. Again, this is the first and only sacrament (outside of Confession) that is celebrated during the Holy Passion Week. The reason we celebrate the liturgy on Thursday is because in the evening, our Lord established the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist after the Last Supper, when He gave His pure Body and precious Blood to His disciples in the form of bread and wine.

#### ***11th Hour: The Beginning of Suffering***

The reading from Isaiah (52:13-53:12) is the fourth and final servant song mentioned in the second part of Isaiah that tells a personal message from the prophet. This reading becomes an introduction to Christ's suffering that He would endure for us. It prophesies about the Messiah as the Paschal lamb.

**Activity**

**JUDAS BETRAYS JESUS (LUKE 22:47-53)**

V D E W P A B C Y B F S A V K L O R D U  
 I Q N P P F G C B D Y V D S G I K F J M  
 O C Q N Y B R H W C A P T A I N S Y B J  
 N U S K H T C A L L B U Y P P I W T J Q  
 H J B S F I Z R E U D U S T N A V R E S  
 I K N B E O G E E T F A M T S B I W H L  
 U I A C O N H H W L H D U W O R U U T J  
 A S Y D J M K M P F D G B B T G M G J T  
 F S Q W T J K R W R B E I H W N F H Y W  
 F B B K S W K Q A L I D R R I I O B R B  
 T S Q I W T E N Z D E E S S H Y E V F M  
 Q S O E S M R L O Y H W S J J A S S O L  
 H M T N S K U I V H T T E T D R A U N U  
 A J H P O G R L K E L L J Y U T D B O G  
 S W O R D F E Y T E U A J K O E U H S C  
 U T T I I H M M A I W H M E L B J B D V  
 U A T Y A G N A K B T O O P S W P Q C U  
 T A R B G D C A N O Q U G U O U K T G B  
 T H E A L E D S U I N A D G R G S P S N  
 D U R B W V V V N R I P O E U T J L Q H

BETRAYING HIGH PRIEST LORD SON OF MAN CAPTAINS HOUR  
 MULTITUDE STRIKE DARKNESS JESUS RIGHT EAR SWORD ELDERS  
 JUDAS SERVANT TWELVE

**Day 3 - Tuesday—The Day of Parables (and Prophecies)**

After Christ comments on the fig tree that has died, Christ began to teach in many parables such as the Parable of the Talents (11<sup>th</sup> hour gospel). Christ also prophesied about the destruction of the Temple, the signs of Jerusalem's desolation and of His Second Coming (9<sup>th</sup> hour gospel). In the evening the Jews plotted with Judas to betray our Lord.



Throughout this day, the Lord explains ideas and secrets that the disciples had wondered about. According to the events narrated in the four gospels, the Lord starts the day by passing the fig tree that had been cursed the previous day. The tree was now dry to the roots. Peter says, "O Master, the fig tree You cursed has dried". Jesus immediately answers "Have faith in God" (Mark 11:21).

Jesus spends the remainder of the day answering questions from His disciples, as well as from the Pharisees and Sadducees, who had come to trap Him through malicious questions. They ask if it is lawful to pay tribute to Caesar (Matt. 22:15-22). The Sadducees, who deny the resurrection, ask about the resurrection (Matt. 22:34-40). The Lord speaks about His Second Coming and Doomsday, warning us to keep watch and be ready, throughout the majority of the day. He tells the parable of the wicked vineyard keepers (Matt. 21:33-46), of the marriage of the king's son (Matt. 22:1-14), of the temple falling into ruins (Matt. 24:1-14), and of the ten virgins (Matt. 25:1-13). After the day's teaching, Jesus goes to Bethany to rest. Meanwhile, the high priests and the elders of the people plan His death (Matt. 26:1-16).

On Tuesday, the Church stresses the Second Coming, the end of the world and the urge to get ready. This is the day our Savior lovingly invites us to keep watching with our lamps lit.

**Activity**

**Did you read the Parable of the Sower in Mark Chapter 4??**

Now color the page and label each type of ground



**Day 4 - Wednesday – Day of Love and Betrayal**



This is another day of extremes. In this one day, we read of the extreme love of Mary of Bethany—how much she sacrificed her livelihood to anoint Him for His burial. At the same time, we witness the betrayal of one of Christ's disciples that He chose, raised and taught for over three years.

The Lord spends the day in Bethany. He left the temple on Tuesday evening with no intent of coming back. On Tuesday, Jesus said to the Jews "your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say 'Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord'" (Matt. 23:38,39). Both Matthew 26:6-13 and Mark 14:3-9 tell us about the jar of spikenard that was spread on Jesus head. The betrayal of Judas the Iscariot, including his agreement with the chief priests on the price he would get, is narrated in the four gospels, (Matt. 16:14), (Mark 14:10,11), (Luke 12:3-6) and (John 13:1-3).