

This week is called **Holy Week** when we remember the last days of Jesus's life on earth before he died on the cross on Good Friday and rose to new life on Easter Sunday.  
**Let's use our hands to remember these special days.**



## Holy Week Handprints: Helper's instructions

This EYS activity, courtesy of [www.catholicicing.com](http://www.catholicicing.com) provides a wonderful way to journey through the events of Holy Week and Easter.

We suggest the accompanying text is read out on the relevant day.

### For this activity you will need:

- Print outs of pages 2-8
- Children's washable paint
- Marker pen

See below for guidance on how to complete each handprint illustration.

**Palm Sunday**



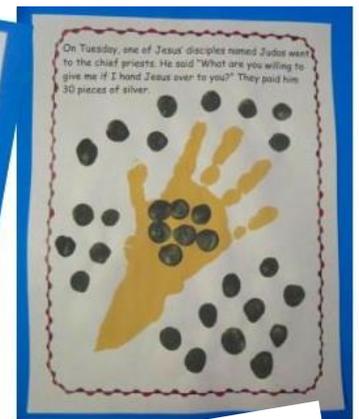
**Holy Monday**



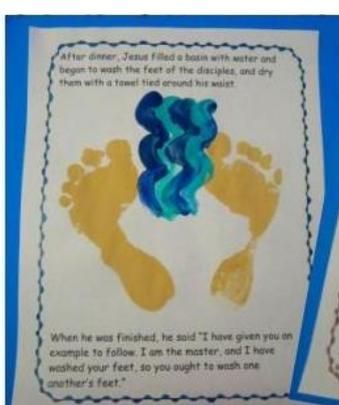
**Holy Tuesday**



**Spy Wednesday**



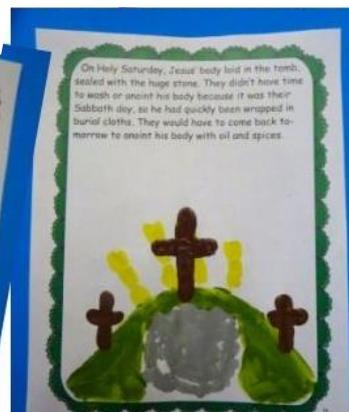
**Holy Thursday**



**Good Friday**



**Holy Saturday**



**Easter Sunday**



# Palm Sunday



Jesus and his friends set off on a journey to Jerusalem. When they were almost there, Jesus asked his friends to find him a donkey.

His friends did what Jesus asked them to do. They brought Jesus a donkey. Jesus sat on its back and rode slowly into Jerusalem. Many people came onto the streets to welcome him. They cut branches from palm trees and laid them in his path.

They were all smiling and shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! God bless the One who comes in the name of the Lord!” Mt 21:1-9

Dear Jesus, may I always be your friend and do what you ask – to love people as you do. Amen.

# Holy Monday



Jesus went into the Temple to pray. But when he looked around, he saw people buying and selling pigeons and doves. These were given to the Temple leaders.

This made Jesus angry. He said to the people, "It is written in the Bible, 'My Temple will be a house where people can pray.' But you're changing God's house into a market-place!"

Some Temple leaders were not happy with Jesus. They wanted to put a stop to him. Mt 21:12-16

Dear Jesus, may I always treat my church as a special place to pray and talk to you. Amen.

# Holy Tuesday



Jesus went back to the Temple. The angry Temple leaders were there. They wanted to punish Jesus, so they asked him a hard question. They said, “Jesus, which commandment is the most important?”

Jesus answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. This is the first and most important commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as you love yourself.” Mt 22:34-36

Dear Jesus, help me to love God the Father, to love my neighbour and to love who I am. Amen.

# Spy Wednesday



One of Jesus's friends went to talk to the Temple leaders. This friend was called Judas.

Judas said, "I will give Jesus to you. What will you pay me for doing this?" The leaders gave Judas thirty silver coins. After that, Judas waited for the best time to hand Jesus over. Mt 26:14-16

Dear Jesus, please look after my friends today. Help me to value friends more than things. Amen.

# Holy Thursday



Jesus and his friends sat down to eat. During the meal Jesus poured some water into a bowl and began to gently wash his friends' dusty and sore feet.

When Jesus had finished, he sat down again. Then he said to his friends, "I did this as an example for you. So you should do for others as I have done for you." Jn 13:2-15

Dear Jesus, help me to serve and care for others however and whenever I can. Amen.

# Good Friday



Very early on Friday morning, the Temple leaders and others took Jesus to a Roman ruler called Pilate. Pilate ordered Jesus to carry a heavy wood cross through the streets. Many people watched. They bullied Jesus as he walked past.

When Jesus reached a hill, Pilate's soldiers nailed him to the cross. They fixed the cross into the ground. Alongside Jesus were two robbers on crosses too. Even they made fun of Jesus.

At midday the skies became dark. This darkness lasted for three hours. Then Jesus died. Mk 15:1-37

Dear Jesus, help me to be kind to those who are hurting and sad. Show me how to care. Amen.

# Holy Saturday



A kind man named Joseph (not Jesus's stepfather) was brave enough to go to Pilate and ask for Jesus's body. Pilate told Joseph he could have the body.

Joseph bought some new cloth, took Jesus down from the cross and wrapped him in the cloth. He put Jesus in a tomb that was cut in a wall of rock. Then he closed the tomb by rolling a very large stone to cover the entrance. Mk 15:42-46

Dear Jesus, I pray for people who are sad because someone they love has died. May they find comfort in knowing that their loved one is safe with you in heaven. Amen.

# Easter Sunday



On Sunday morning, some friends of Jesus went to the tomb. Suddenly an angel of the Lord came down from heaven. The angel rolled the stone away from the entrance. The angel said, "Don't be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus. But he is not here. He has risen from death as he said he would."

The women were afraid, but they were also very happy. They ran to tell the other friends of Jesus what had happened. On the way there Jesus met them and said, "Don't be afraid. Go and tell my brothers they will see me soon." Mt 28:1-9

Dear Jesus, you teach us that God's love is so great that not even death can end it. Help me share this love in every way I can. Amen.