

Holy Week

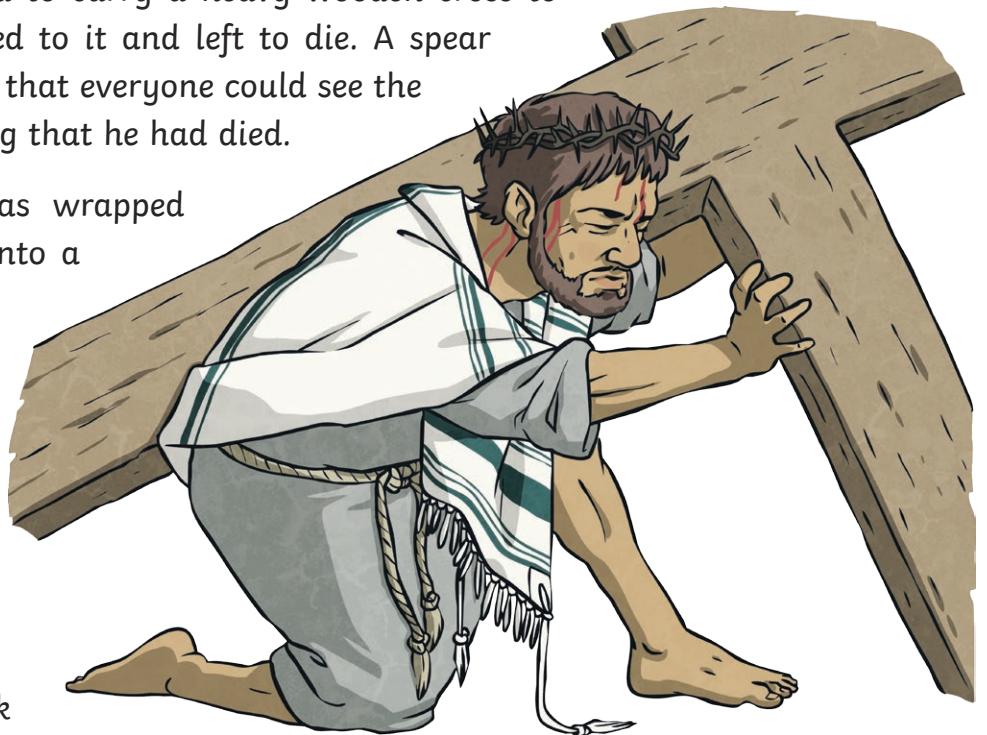
Holy Week is the last week of Lent, and is a very important week in our religious calendar. Each year, Christians remember the events of this special week. It begins on Palm Sunday and concludes on Easter Sunday.

On Palm Sunday, accompanied by his disciples, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. People lined the streets and waved palms, leaves and olive branches at him and shouted “Hosanna, Hosanna!”, which means, “Save us!”

On Holy Thursday, the night before Jesus died, he ate his last meal with his friends. He washed their feet while they ate, and after they had finished, already knowing that Judas would lead him to his death, Jesus said, “One of you will betray me”. He broke some bread, gave thanks and said, “Take this each of you and eat it, for this is my body, which will be given up for you.” Jesus took a cup and again, gave thanks and said, “This is my blood. Take this each of you and drink from it, because this is my blood, which will be given up for you.”

After the meal, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. Here, he was arrested by the temple guard and beaten. A crown of jagged thorns was placed on his head. On Good Friday, Jesus was whipped and forced to carry a heavy wooden cross to Golgotha, where he was nailed to it and left to die. A spear was forced into his left side so that everyone could see the water leaving his body, proving that he had died.

On Holy Saturday, Jesus was wrapped in cloth before being placed into a tomb. This was guarded by temple guards because they were afraid that Jesus’ friends would steal his body from the tomb and pretend that he had risen from the dead. On Easter Sunday, Jesus rose from the dead.



Holy Week is a significant week in the religious calendar, as we remember the enormous sacrifice Jesus made for us. His resurrection reminds us that his love for God and people was so great that he died and rose again. As a result of Jesus’ death and resurrection, the disciples proclaimed the Good News of Jesus.