

## Holy Week Emoji Storytelling Prompts

*Read the description for your assigned day in Holy Week and summarize it using only emojis!*

- On **Palm Sunday**, exactly one week before Easter, we remember when Jesus entered Jerusalem. As he rode on a donkey down the hill and into the city, people lined the streets to watch, laying palm branches on the ground and singing. On this day, we remember that Jesus is heading towards the Cross: he enters Jerusalem knowing that he will die. We read the story of Jesus' crucifixion and join our voices to the crowds that shouted, "Crucify him!"
- On **Maundy Thursday**, we remember how Jesus spent his last night with his friends before he died. While they were eating dinner together, he took bread and said, "This is my Body, which is broken for you. Whenever you eat bread like this, remember me." He also took a cup of wine and said, "This is my Blood, which is shed for you. Remember me whenever you drink it together." After dinner, he washed all the disciples' feet, showing them how to love and care for each other. Then he went to a garden to pray and was arrested by the police.
- On **Good Friday**, we remember the events leading up to Jesus' death. He was brought to trial before the religious leaders, stripped of his clothes, beaten, and given a crown of thorns to wear so that people could laugh at him. After Jesus was made to carry his heavy cross, his hands and feet were nailed to it and he was hung upon it for all to see. When he took his last breath, the sun went dark even though it was the middle of the afternoon. Jesus' body was laid in a tomb and he was buried there.

- **The Easter Vigil** is celebrated at sundown on the Saturday before Easter. On this day, we celebrate Jesus' transition from death to new life. We begin with the church in total darkness. We gather outside to light a fire, which we call the light of Christ. We use that fire to light a giant candle, which we carry into the dark church and use to light other candles. Beginning with the story of the Creation of the world, we remember all the ways God has taken care of us throughout history. After that, there is a loud noise, all the lights go on at once and we proclaim, "Alleluia, Christ is Risen!" remembering that Jesus rose from the dead and brought us new life and new hope. This is also the oldest and most traditional day for baptisms in the church.
- On **Easter Sunday**, we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection. The story picks up when several of the women who hung out with Jesus go to the tomb to pray only to discover that the stone blocking the entrance has been rolled away and he is not there. At first they are afraid that someone has stolen the body, but soon they realize that he has risen from the dead! Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. We remember that death does not have the last word for us and that Jesus is always with us when we are hurting.