

HOLY WEEK

This story is written in two parts and can be told as one long story or can be divided into two stories. Palm Sunday (Lk 19:28-38) and Holy Thursday (Lk 22:14-23) & (Jn 13: 1-9, 12-15), Good Friday (Lk 23: 33, 44-46)

YOU WILL NEED

- Purple felt underlay
- Brown felt road
- Small colourful cloths for garments
- Bowl and towel
- Two small crosses for thieves (perhaps made with paddle pop sticks)
- One other cross for Jesus
- 3D figures: Jesus, 2 disciples, 2 soldiers, 2 members of crowd
- Flat bread on a small plate
- Small chalice or goblet
- Basket or box for story materials

PART ONE

Lay down the purple underlay and smooth it out

Place the brown felt road on the purple underlay and say,

Our story today is about a special week in the Church's year called 'Holy Week'. Most of our story today comes from the Gospel of Luke.

Place the figures of Jesus and his disciples at the base of the road, closest to you and say,
Jesus was going up to Jerusalem with his disciples. He sent two of them ahead to bring him a colt. The disciples brought the colt to Jesus and set him on it.

Place the small cloths, representing the garments, on either side of the road (see diagram)
As Jesus rode along people spread their garments on the road.

Place the two crowd figures near colourful cloths.

Crowds of people came to welcome him, praising God joyfully. They called out "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Move the figures of Jesus and his disciples to the middle of the road.

Later that same week Jesus sat at table with his disciples.

Pick up the plate and hold it in your hands.

Indicate with hand actions that you are sharing this with the disciples.

He took the bread, and after giving thanks he broke it and gave it to them saying, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me".

Place plate on left side of the road.

Pick the cup up and hold it in your hands

Then he took the cup, and after giving thanks, he said,

Indicate with hand actions that you are sharing this with the disciples.

"Take this and share it among yourselves."

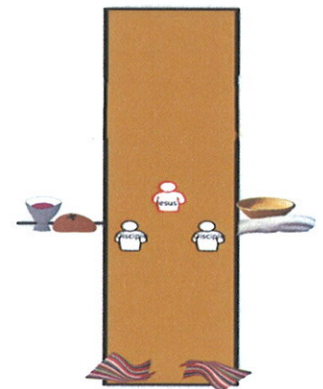
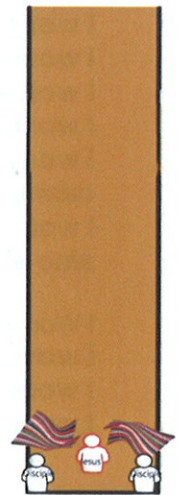
Lay down the cup next to the plate.

Jesus looked at his disciples and told them that one of them would betray him that night.

The next part of our story comes from the Gospel of John and is not in any other gospel:

Jesus got up and wrapped a towel around himself.

Pick up towel and basin and hold in your hands



PART TWO

Lay out the materials as they were at the end of Part One as you say,

At the end of the last story Jesus had just washed his disciples' feet.

Move Jesus and his disciples a little further on and off to the side of the road

Later that night, Jesus went with his disciples to the Mount of Olives to pray.

Move soldiers next to Jesus

The soldiers came to arrest Jesus.

Move Jesus with soldiers further along the road

They led him away to be crucified.

Lay cross towards the end of the road, facing students. Place Jesus on the cross. Lay the two smaller crosses on either side.

Two criminals were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.

Point to Jesus as you say,

From about noon until three o'clock darkness came over the whole land. Then Jesus crying out with a loud voice said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit".

Having said this, Jesus breathed his last.

Pause for a while before wondering with the students

I Wonder - Part Two

I wonder why the soldiers made fun of Jesus.

I wonder why Jesus prayed for the people who put him to death.

I Wonder - Generic

I wonder if there's some part of this story you wonder about.

I wonder what part of this story makes you feel happy.

I wonder if any part is sad for you.