

# HOLY WEEK

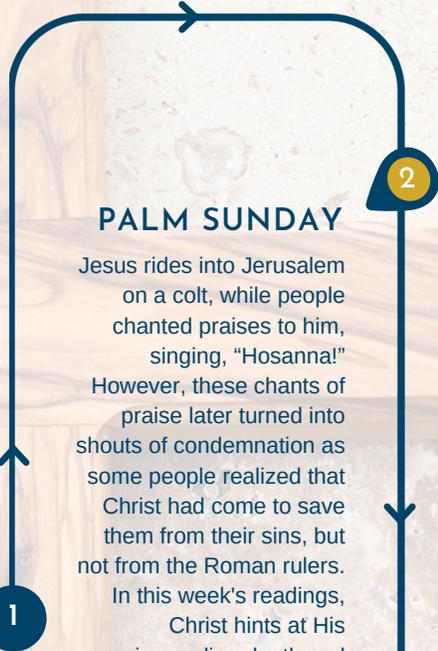
## Daily Guide



STSA MINISTRIES

### LAZARUS SATURDAY

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead after he had been in the tomb for several days. This demonstrates Christ's divinity and also represents repentance. No matter how far into sin we may be, Christ is able to redeem us.

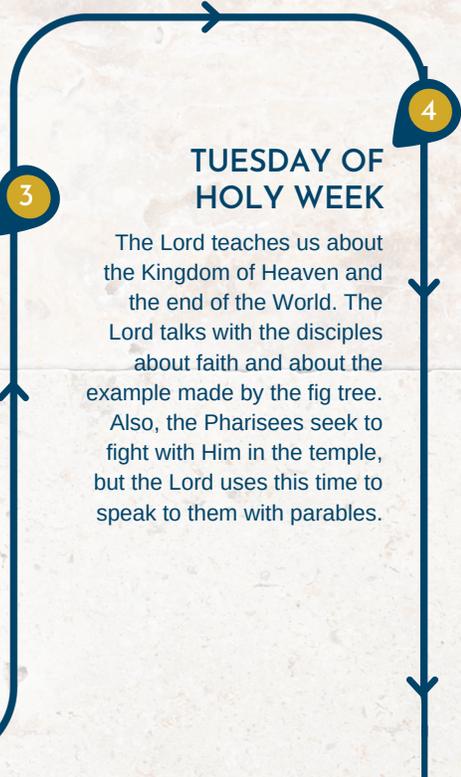


### PALM SUNDAY

Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a colt, while people chanted praises to him, singing, "Hosanna!" However, these chants of praise later turned into shouts of condemnation as some people realized that Christ had come to save them from their sins, but not from the Roman rulers. In this week's readings, Christ hints at His impending death and resurrection.

### MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

On the way to the temple, Jesus curses a fig tree full of leaves that bears no fruit as an example of those who call themselves believers who have a good exterior, but are fruitless. When He entered the temple, He drives out those who were buying and selling in it to keep it undefiled. Each creation is intended for a specific purpose. Man and tree alike are intended to bear fruit, not only to appear to the world as fruitful.

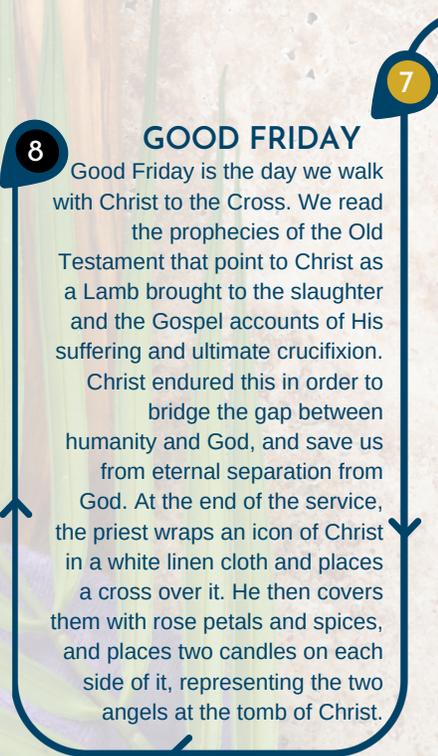


### TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

The Lord teaches us about the Kingdom of Heaven and the end of the World. The Lord talks with the disciples about faith and about the example made by the fig tree. Also, the Pharisees seek to fight with Him in the temple, but the Lord uses this time to speak to them with parables.

### BRIGHT SATURDAY

We commemorate the night that Christ opened the doors of Hades and welcomed the faithful into Paradise. On this night the Church helps us transition from the somber tone of the week to the joyous one of the Feast of the Resurrection by giving us a glimpse of heaven. During the first part of the night, biblical accounts of victory and triumph are read and hymns of praise are sung. The entire book of Revelation is also read as we await the second coming of Christ.



### GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday is the day we walk with Christ to the Cross. We read the prophecies of the Old Testament that point to Christ as a Lamb brought to the slaughter and the Gospel accounts of His suffering and ultimate crucifixion. Christ endured this in order to bridge the gap between humanity and God, and save us from eternal separation from God. At the end of the service, the priest wraps an icon of Christ in a white linen cloth and places a 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.

### COVENANT THURSDAY

Jesus gathers with His disciples for the last time prior to His crucifixion. He humbled Himself and washed each of the disciples' feet, before the Last Supper, where He established Holy Communion. After the Last Supper, Jesus is turned over by Judas to be arrested and tried. During the service, the priest represents Christ as he washes the feet of the congregation. The congregation then participates in the Divine Liturgy.

### WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

The Lord teaches us that there is joy in sadness and sadness in joy. In this one day, we read of the extreme love of Mary of Bethany—how much she sacrificed her livelihood to anoint Jesus for His burial, she washed His feet with love. At the same time, we witness the betrayal of one of Jesus' disciples, Judas, that He chose, raised and taught for over three years.

For more Holy Week resources visit:  
[www.stsamministries.org/holyweek](http://www.stsamministries.org/holyweek)