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Holy Week Stamps

Cut out each picture below and use glue or tape to stick it to your Holy Week Guide as you complete each day’s activities!

This booklet was created by Vicar Jennifer Roberts with special gratitude for the graphic gifts of:
Palm Sunday

Place your Palm Sunday stamp on the box above when you finish your activities.

Scripture of the Day:
Matthew 21:1-11

Days before the death of Jesus, he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. Many gathered in the streets to celebrate his coming into Jerusalem. They created a parade for him and waved palm leaves as a symbol of goodness and victory.

These people believed that Jesus was coming to take the place of the mean ruler, but that was not God’s plan. Instead, Jesus was coming to show them just how far love would go – including all the way to the cross.

In modern times, palm leaves are given to people at church at the beginning of Holy Week. Any palm leaves that are left over are saved for the following year and will be burned and the ashes used for Ash Wednesday.
Can you draw clothes and branches below Jesus feet?

**Family Activity:**

Using strips of paper, a print out from the computer, or construction paper, create your own palm branches.

Create a parade around your house, waving your palms, shouting “Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Take a picture of your palm branches and parade and send them to your pastor or other special people to show them the ways your family is preparing for Holy Week.

**Color and Chat:**

Decorate the picture above using beautiful colors and even drawing your own shapes and pictures around it.

This message is exciting! How can we share this message with others in our homes and communities? What words might you say? What feelings might you have?

Draw a picture below of you sharing this message with someone you love.
**Family Activity:**

Remember the cross you made with your family on Friday?

- Cover each paper you pinned to the cross with flowers and plants you find from your own yard or garden – creating your own flower cross.

Talk about what God’s promise to Jesus looked like. What did God do for Jesus?

If God has done this for Jesus, what does God promise to do for us? What is that promise?

What does it feel like to have the “sins” that were pinned to the cross covered in the beauty of God’s new creation? What does this tell us about what God does through confession and forgiveness for us?

**Color and Chat:**

If Jesus were to visit our church today? What would people put at his feet to show honor and praise?

What other ways can we show God honor and praise? (Think of the gifts and talents you have.)
Scripture of the Day:
John 20:1-18

Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb to put oil on Jesus’ body because this is what people did in Bible times. But when she gets there she discovers that Jesus isn’t dead, but is alive! She is shocked and runs to tell everyone the good news!

Use the word bubbles below to write what you would have said to Jesus if you were Mary and what Jesus might have said to you!
Martin Luther once said,

“Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.”

Take a nature walk with your family. Look for signs of new life, the places where God is making new things grow. See if you can find the things below:

New Flowers  Birds Singing  Bees
Fresh Grass  Green Leaves  Insects
Gardens Growing  The Smell of Spring  Rain

Take pictures of these things or draw about them on a piece of paper. Hang them up to remind you that God is always at work around us!

Holy Monday

Place your Holy Monday stamp on the box above when you finish your activities for the day.

Scripture of the Day:
John 12:1-11

Mary and Martha make a special meal for Jesus and the disciples. After they finish eating, Mary, with tears in her eyes opens a bottle of expensive perfume. Despite the judgment of those around her she washes Jesus’ feet with the perfume and her hair. Jesus’ death draws closer, but those closest to him are willing to share in his journey.
Family Activity:

Take some time to think about someone special in your family.

Create a special picture or piece of art for them to share with them just how much you love them.
- Draw / Color a Picture
- Put together a bouquet of flowers from your yard.
- Offer to do an activity that will help them around the house.
- Write a song.

Be sure to include the things about them that make them special to you.

Bonus: Think about someone in our church family who means a lot to you. Create a special something for them too and send it in the mail, call them, or even Facetime them with it!

If someone in your family chooses to do this with you, think about how it makes you feel?

Do you think Jesus had similar feelings? Why/why not?

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Color and Chat:

It's time to think about what God is up to …

Talk with your family about what you think God might be doing while Jesus lay in the tomb.

Do you think Jesus knew God was doing something really special while the world waited? Do you think that the disciples knew God was up to something special while they waited?

How does John 3:16-17 help us understand what God might have been up to?

Draw a picture illustrating those verses below:
**Family Activity:**

During times when we are scared or are not sure what is going on it's important to remember our baptisms. Draw a picture of your baptism below.

Talk with your family about who was there, when it happened, and what everyone was feeling.

What promises did God make to you in your baptism? What promises did your family and church make? Why is this comforting to for us when we are scared or worried?

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**Color and Chat:**

Some feelings can be hard to understand. In our story today, Mary is overwhelmed by love and gratitude, but also nervous about what is to come. Talk about some of the hard feelings we have. What are healthy ways to handle them? Who do you trust and talk to when those feelings come up? How does God feel about those hard feelings?
When people walked along the roads in Bible times,
dust would get inside their sandals and make their
feet dirty. It was often a custom to wash their feet
when they entered someone's house.

Mary washed Jesus’ feet for him, but she did not use
water. Mary poured expensive perfume on his feet
and wiped them with her long hair. She did this to
show her love for Jesus.

Solve the puzzle below to see what Isaiah 52:7 says
about feet. Cross out the letters C, J, K, Q, V, X, Y, Z.

```
CHOWKBEAUTIFULXUPONJ
THEZMOUNTAINSCAREYTHE
KFEETVOFXHIMJTHATK
QBRINGSYGOODJTIDINGSV
```

**Create at Home:**

Create your own anointing oil to use at bedtime each
night to bless one another with the sign of the cross
on your forehead with the words, “(Name), you are a
beloved child of God. And God loves you so much!” In
a small container with a lid mix the following
together:

- 1 Tablespoon of Coconut Oil
- 1 Tablespoon of Olive Oil
- A few drops of one (or more) of your favorite
essential oil(s)

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**Holy Saturday**

Place your Holy Saturday stamp on the box above
when you finish your activities for the day.

**Scripture of the Day:**
John 19:38-42

Jesus has been placed in the tomb and is dead. His
friends cannot believe what they have seen. They are
sad and lost without him. Where will they go? What
will they do? Where is God in all of this? On this day,
we wait …

Guards stood at the place where they buried Jesus.
Why do you think they stood there? Do you think this
scared Jesus’ friends and mother? How would you
have felt?
What do you think the friends and mother of Jesus were thinking?

Color **RED** the words that they felt.  
Color **BLUE** the words they didn’t feel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>excited</th>
<th>happy</th>
<th>angry</th>
<th>joyful</th>
<th>peaceful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>calm</td>
<td>mad</td>
<td>sad</td>
<td>heartbroken</td>
<td>delighted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>funny</td>
<td>nervous</td>
<td>scared</td>
<td>sick</td>
<td>carefree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>loving</td>
<td>shy</td>
<td>speechless</td>
<td>beautiful</td>
<td>blessed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Think about a time that has been really difficult for you – a time when you weren’t sure you would be okay.

Write or draw about it below. What role did God play? What happened? Looking back, what do you wish you had known?

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**Holy Tuesday**

Place your Holy Tuesday stamp on the box above when you finish your activities for the day.

**Scripture of the Day:**  
John 12:20-36

Jesus recognizes that his time is drawing to a close. The people around him continue to follow him, but he seems to be aware much more than them of what will happen. As their confusion grows Jesus encourages them to pay close attention to the light that he brings.
Family Activity:

Each of us as different gifts. For each candle think about someone in your family and what their gifts are. Color each candle, write their name, draw their picture, and write or draw about what gifts God has given them.

Color and Chat:

There are many things in the world that are beautiful, but there are also things that happen that hurt God. As a family, think about some of the things that happen in the world that might hurt God.

How does God react? What does this tell us about God? How does God want us to react to these things?
Family Activity:

The Cross that Holds Our Sin

- Take two small pieces of wood (or even small sticks from your back yard).
- Nail them into a cross.
- Spend some time writing or drawing things that you have not done well. This is a great time to talk about the words we hear in confession (things we have done and things we have failed to do).
- Gently (and with adult help and guidance) nail these papers to the cross.
- Talk about the weight of sin that Jesus took on for us.
- Share some time in prayer giving God thanks for the gift of the Son, Jesus and the importance of what Jesus’ death means to us as Christians.

*There will be an activity for Easter Sunday using this cross that will speak about God’s forgiveness.

Color and Chat:

Create a picture of you as a superhero below. You can even make your own comic strip. Imagine you have been sent to help people who are afraid of the dark and your power is the light of Christ within you.

Are you afraid of the dark? If so, how does it make you feel when someone you love turns a light on for you or plugs in a night light?

Sometimes people we love or know experience darkness when they feel sad, upset, or lonely. How can your light shine into their darkness? How does God help you do this?
Sing & Highlight:

Sing this song with your family. As you sing the words, highlight the words light and shine in a bright color! Practice this song anytime you need to remember that God’s light shines in the dark world!

This little light of mine,  
I’m going to let it shine.  
This little light of mine,  
I’m going to let it shine.  
This little light of mine,  
I’m going to let it shine,  
   Let it shine,  
   Let it shine,  
   Let it shine!  
Hide it under a bushel, NO!  
   I’m going to let it shine!  
Hide it under a bushel, NO!  
   I’m going to let it shine!  
Hide it under a bushel, NO!  
   I’m going to let it shine!  
Let it shine,  
Let it shine,  
Let it shine!  
Won’t let Satan blow it out, NO!  
   I’m going to let it shine!  
Won’t let Satan blow it out, NO!  
   I’m going to let it shine!  
Won’t let Satan blow it out, NO!  
   I’m going to let it shine!  
   Let is shine,  
   Let it shine,  
   Let it shine!

Good Friday

Place your Good Friday stamp on the box above when you finish your activities for the day.

Scripture of the Day:  
John 18:1 – 19:37

Jesus faces the people who have been angry at him and who want to kill him. They decide that they will kill (crucify) him. Jesus carries his cross up a large mountain where he will die in the middle of two other guys! The world turns dark and the disciples, Jesus’ mom, and others are heartbroken. How could God do this to God’s son?
Talk to your family about Holy Communion at your church. What words do you hear your preacher say? How does joining other at the altar make you feel? What is your favorite part about Holy Communion? What does it show you about how God cares for you?

Holy Wednesday

Place your Holy Wednesday stamp on the box above when you finish your activities for the day.

Scripture of the Day:
John 13:21-32

Judas, one of Jesus’ disciples and friends, turns his back on Jesus. He decides to go and tell some of the important people that Jesus is saying that he is the Son of God, which makes the important people mad. They are so mad that they plan to arrest Jesus and kill him. In exchange for Judas’ information, they give him some coins.
Family Activity:

As a family talk about value – the things that can be monetarily be counted, but also, and more importantly, the things that cannot be monetarily counted. Talk about how you would sort each of the items in the box below. Draw or write them in the box you would place them into.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monetary Value</th>
<th>Heart Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>stuffed animal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grandma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>church</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>family</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>car</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crayons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ball</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grandpa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>love</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Family Activity:

Each Sunday we take part in the sacrament of Holy Communion. This meal is a special part in the service when we remember the sacrifice of Jesus. Think about and read about that meal that Jesus shared with his friends.

How is it the same and how is it different from the meal we all share together on Sundays around God’s table?

Color and Chat:

Judas teaches us that it is important to think about the choices we make. Look at the pictures below. Color the pictures that show people making good choices and mark an X over the picture of people make not so good choices.

Talk as a family about how God responds to us when we make bad and good choices. Use words from our church service like confession, forgiveness, loving guidance, and renewal.
Think and Predict:

What do you think will happen to Judas – do you think he will feel good about his decision or feel guilty? Draw a picture of what you think may happen.

Use the space here to draw a picture of what God’s reaction would be if Judas were to say he was sorry for what he had done.

Maundy Thursday

Place your Maundy Thursday stamp on the box above when you finish your activities for the day.

Scripture of the Day:
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

On Maundy Thursday, we remember when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. He did this to show them how they were being called to serve others and humble themselves. This was important for him to show the kind of servant he was and was leading them to be.

That same night, Jesus shared a meal of love with his friends. They shared bread and wine and he told them that when they shared this meal to remember him and the way God loves them. He knew he was getting close to the time when he would die on the cross. However, in this meal he showed him that he trusted God and trusted that they would carry on God’s story of love to the whole world.

Can you reenact this story with your family?