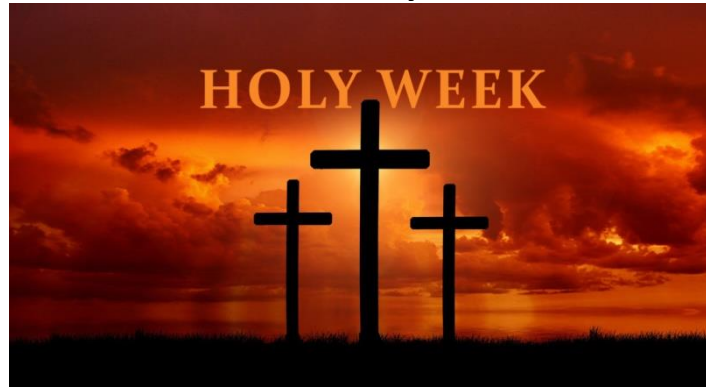


EDGE Lesson Plan – Holy Week / Triduum



Holy Week/Triduum: The Great Three Days

Part 1: Key Terms

- **Palm Sunday** – Commemorates Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem, where the people laid down their cloaks and palm branches to honor Jesus as one sent by God. Celebrated the week prior to Easter.
- **Triduum** (pronounced TRIH-doo-uhm) – Latin for “three days”, it refers to the commemoration of Jesus’ passion, death, and resurrection. Triduum consists of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.
- **Holy Thursday** – Commemorates the Last Supper that Jesus ate with his Apostles to celebrate the Passover. It is also when Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood. We continue to celebrate this in the Mass, as Jesus commanded (Luke 22:19).
- **Passover** – The Jewish celebration that commemorates the freedom of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. As practicing Jews, Jesus and his Apostles celebrated the Passover.
- **Good Friday** – Commemorates the Passion and death of Jesus.
- **Veneration** – To greatly honor and show respect to someone or something.
- **Holy Saturday** – The day where we patiently wait for and hope in the resurrection of Jesus, which we celebrate on Easter Sunday.

Part 2: Holy Week - Main Points



Holy Thursday

- The Triduum commemorates Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection.
- Holy Thursday celebrates the Passover and the institution of both the Eucharist and the priesthood.
- Christ gave the apostles a new commandment—to love one another.



Good Friday

- On Good Friday we commemorate Jesus' Passion (suffering) and Death.
- Jesus' death is a free, undeserved gift from the Father. (It is a gift because through Jesus' death we were saved from our sins.)
- We venerate (greatly honor) the cross because it was the instrument of our salvation.



Holy Saturday:

- Holy Saturday is the final day of the Triduum and is a day during which we patiently wait for the Resurrection of Christ.
- Holy Saturday is also a time of hope for we know that Christ rose from the dead.
- This is a time to rid ourselves of distractions and focus on Christ.

Part 3: What is the Triduum?

In the Church we have a liturgical season that commemorates Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection. We call this the Triduum. It starts with Mass on the Thursday before Easter (Holy Thursday), continues throughout Friday (Good Friday) and Saturday (Holy Saturday), and culminates with the Easter Vigil celebration Saturday evening. The Triduum is the shortest liturgical season, lasting only three days.



The Triduum helps us prepare for Easter, which is the greatest and most important celebration during the whole liturgical year—even greater than Christmas! Because the Triduum helps us prepare for Easter, it is the holiest and most sacred time of year. It reminds us that God loves us so much that He sent His Son to die for our sins so that we could have new life in Christ and be with God in heaven. It's easy for us to forget over the course of the year why Christ came and died. The Triduum helps us remember and give thanks to God for Christ's sacrifice.

At this point, watch the PowerPoint slideshow on Holy Week. If the embedded video in the last slide doesn't play, you can click the link below to view it on YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/qdrPhxqRP9I>