

Holy Week Ideas

Holy Week Resurrection Eggs-we did this with Tykes a couple of years ago, please find attached document called **Resurrection Egg** for the list of things needed

Holy Week Crafts Cross -we did this last year with Tykes (Picture attached to email)

- a. attached you will find a word document named **Journey to Pascha Wall Cross Labels** - you can print them as labels or print them out on regular paper, cut them out and glue them on
- b. If you don't have a wooden craft cross you can always put these on regular paper or foam paper

Holy Week Train

- a. Take a magnetic wooden train and for each day of Holy Week, add a new train car to the train
- b. Print out the **Journey to Pascha Wall Cross Labels 3** doc, cut the icons out and tape them to each new train car

1. Saturday of Lazarus (John 11:1-45 Lazarus)

- a. Transfiguration is going to send out a virtual skit for all to see
- b. Make the Lazarus Cookies

Young Child Skit

- a. If you have a pop-up tent, pull it out to use for St. Lazarus' tomb. If you don't have a pop-up tent then make a fort. Wrap your child up in a sheet and have him go into the tomb. Then say to your child, Lazarus come out and have your child come out of the pop-up tent or from another room. Afterwards, have them unwrap themselves.

-If you don't have a sheet to use and you are able to spare some toilet paper, wrap your child in that to be St. Lazarus

2. Palm Sunday (Mark 11:1-11 The Entry to Jerusalem)

- a. Go out and find a leaf/palm
 - Put holy water on them while Father says the special prayers at the end of the service
 - walk around the house saying, "Hosana in the Highest"
 - Place the palms at Icons

Young Child Skit

- a. If you have stuffed animals, use them for a puppet show
 - you'll need pretend stuffed animal townspeople waving palms, a pretend donkey and Jesus
 - have Jesus ride the donkey while the townspeople are saying, "Hosana in the Highest"

3. Palm Sunday Night (Matthew 21:18-43)

- a. Frame a picture of the Bridegroom Icon and decorate it
 - Process with Father and put the icon in a special place in the home
 - Venerate the Bridegroom icon service while happening online
- b. place a kandyli (lit) candle with olive oil in front of it if you have one

Craft

- a. If you have some small wood pieces your child could paint the wood and then you can glue the Bridegroom Icon onto the wood
- b. DIY oil lamp-keep your jelly jars and/or any type of mason jars

Young Children Craft

- a. use a battery-operated light to put in front of the icon
 - put the battery-operated light into a cut up throw away water bottle and have the children decorate the outside of it

Young Child Skit

- a. if you have any type of animal that the children can sit on, turn it into a donkey
 - hold palms and say, "Hosana in the highest" while your child is on the pretend donkey

4. Holy Monday & Holy Tuesday (Matt. 21:18-20)

- a. read the story about the Wise and foolish Virgins (Matt. 21:18-20)

Skit

- a. act the story out with each other

Young Child Skit

- a. use your stuffed animals again to act the story out with someone being the wise virgin and another person being the foolish virgin

5. Holy Wednesday -Holy Unction and Judas agreed to betray Jesus

(John 13: 3-8)

- a. put flour in a bowl or sand depending on what is available
 - put 7 candles in it and a kandyli in the middle if you have one
 - while watching the service light each of those candles as you hear the reader and Father recite the seven epistle and gospels
 - if you have young children, you can always use 7 battery operated candles
- b. use a cotton ball with holy oil to anoint each other

Skit-Judas agreed to betray Jesus Matthew 26:15

- a. have someone be the chief priest and someone be Judas and read the passage acting it out
 - grab some change and count out 30 coins

6. Holy Thursday -Holy Thursday Morning/Holy Thursday Evening

(Matthew 26:2-20, John 13:3-17, Matthew 26:21-39, Luke 22:43-45, and Matthew 26:40-27:2)

- a. use the flour from the bowl and make Prosphoro and eat it after Liturgy like Andidoro
- b. After eating your supper with the kids, wash your children's feet

Craft

- a. Have the children carry the cross around the house just like Jesus had to carry his cross to Golgotha
- b. Print out an icon of Jesus and frame it
 - Decorate it and venerate it
- c. make a cross out of sticks, two pool noodles (**see attached picture**) or whatever you may have
 - take your Icon of Jesus that you printed out and put on the cross
- d. using playdough or clay make a hill with three crosses on it
 - ask the children, why three crosses?
 - what did someone say to Jesus while on the cross?
- e. take a cup of water and something red (Sauce, red food coloring) to show the children how water and blood poured from Jesus' side when he was pierced with a sword
- f. Dye your Eggs Red

Young Child Craft

- a. make a crown of thorns
 - take a paper plate and cut the middle out of it and paint it. Then pick up sticks in the yard to put around the plate to resemble thorns
 - put this crown over the icon you put of Jesus on the cross

Skit-Peter denies Jesus 3 times

- a. a skit with the kids-one person be a soldier and the other be Peter

- have the solidier ask Peter if he knows Jesus 3 times
- have Peter dene the solidier 3 times
- have someone make a crow sound and Peter realize what he said

7. Holy Friday

(I Corinthians 1:18-2:2, Matthew 27:1-38, Luke 23:39-43, Matthew 27:39-54, John 19:31-37, and Matthew 27:55-61, Ezekiel 37:1-14, I Corinthians 5:6-8, Galatians 3:13-14, Matthew 27:62-66)

- a. have the children take the icon of Jesus on the cross down and wrap it in a white cloth
 - If no icon of Jesus, take the cross and wrap it in a white cloth
- b. find some cloves in the house and have the children smell the cloves-Jesus' body is being prepared for burial
- c. have the children put Jesus' body/cross inside of the tomb
- d. process with Jesus' tomb outside in the evening and carry candles or battery-operated candles
 - go under your tomb like you would in the one at church to re-enter the church
 - or just kneel and then venerate the icon at home

Craft

- a. Make a tomb out of a box (Empty Cereal box/Amazon Box) and decorate it with flowers or paint inside and outside

8. Holy Saturday Morning (Romans 6:3-11 and Matthew 28:1-20)

- a. Watch the live streaming service with Jesus' body still in the tomb
- b. walk around the house with bay leaves or any leaves singing, "Arise O God, and judge Thou the earth..."
- c. After the Divine liturgy and sometime before Holy Saturday Evening, take Jesus' icon out of the tomb to show that he is no longer there
- d. if you have any scented oils, have the children smell them and pull out some spices for them to smell

Young Child Craft

- a. if you have clay or playdough laying around, have the kids make a tomb and a stone
 - when they roll the stone out of the way, the tomb will be empty

Skit- Myrrh Bearing Women

- a. Create a tomb out of your pop-up tent or make a fort to be a tomb
- b. Have the children carry oils and spices to bring to the tomb
- c. Have someone be an angel to tell them, "Jesus is not here, He is Risen"

9. Holy Saturday Evening (Mark 16:1-8)

- a. Darken the house
- b. Have one child have the lit candle or battery-operated candle on and then have them pass it to everyone else.
- c. Have the kids sing "Christ is Risen"
 - give the kids candles to process around the house or battery-operated candles

10. Agape Service (John 20:19-25)

- a. Read the gospel in different languages
- b. teach the kids to say Christ is Risen in many different languages
- c. Have the kids crack their red eggs