

Holy Week

As Lent concludes and we enter Holy Week, the church invites us to set aside time for additional prayer and fasting. Throughout the Triduum there are opportunities to attend Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and Stations of the Cross. Since it's not always practical for families with very young children to attend late services, here are some ways you can celebrate the holy days in your domestic church.

Spy Wednesday

Judas betrays Jesus for 30 pieces of silver

Hide 30 quarters and have the children hunt for them. Observe their behavior and discuss how the money affected them. Encourage them to donate the coins the next time they're at church.



Holy Thursday

The Last Supper

Pick names from a hat and wash a family member's feet. Talk about (and eat!) the food Jesus & the disciples would've eaten at the last supper. Watch *The Prince of Egypt*. After the little ones are in bed, take turns visiting the Blessed Sacrament. Most parishes have exposition late into the night.



Good Friday

Crucifixion and Death of Jesus

Pray Stations of the Cross. Venerate the cross. Eat "Hot Cross Buns". Try to encourage quiet and reflection with young kids. Free coloring pages are available around the internet for a quiet activity. Say a prayer at 3:00pm, the hour of Jesus' death.



Holy Saturday

Jesus is in the tomb

Prepare for Easter, dye eggs, watch *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, take down Lent decor, continue your Lenten disciplines and avoid celebrating Easter too early.



"We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song - Saint JPII"

Easter

Attend Mass and rejoice!
He is risen! He is risen indeed



Tenebrae Service

Latin for "darkness" it is a ceremony representing the final hours of Jesus' life and it can be done...at home!

On any night of the Triduum, collect and light 15 candles. Slowly extinguish one by one representing Jesus followers abandoning him until you have 1 candle left to represent Jesus. Hide the last candle and make a loud noise like stomping or banging on the table to represent Jesus' death. This can be accompanied by scripture and hymns. Visit catholicallyear.com for a more info.

