

Religious Education

Sharing Faith...Sharing Ideas

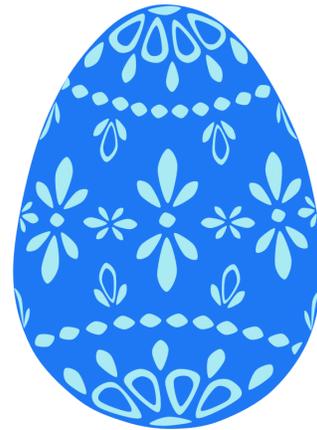
VICTORY EGGS

My mother passed "Victory Eggs" down to me over 30 years ago, when I was a young catechist. Still one of my favorites...—Ms. Lori

Collect the following items around your house . Lay them out on a tray and ask your children to come up with a story using all the things on the tray.

After everyone has shared a story, read the scripture below and see if the children can connect the items on the tray to the Crucifixion . Then read the scripture again, and as you come to the part that refers to the item, put it in the Plastic Easter egg.

Nickel (or three dime)
Wood (twig, toothpick,)
Rubber band (cut rubber band and tie knot at the end
Sponge (cut small square off a sponge to fit in an egg
Purple Cloth (cut small swatch of purple felt, or towel, or sock)
White Cloth
Wire
Rock (stone, pebble)
Nail
Plastic Egg



The soldiers were looking for Jesus to arrest Him. Jesus' friend, Judas, told the soldiers he would tell them where Jesus was if they paid him 30 pieces of silver (**nickel**). The soldiers arrested Jesus and brought Jesus to Pilate. Pilate asked Jesus if he was the King of the Jews. Jesus answered, "As you say." (Pilate knew very well that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him because they were jealous.) Pilate had Jesus whipped (**rubber or leather band**) and handed him over to the people. Afterwards, the soldiers made fun of Jesus and put a purple robe on Jesus (**purple cloth**), and made a crown out of a thorny branch (**wire**, shaped as a crown), and put it on his head. Then they began to salute him: "Long live the King of the Jews!" They beat him over the head with a stick, spat on him, fell on their knees, and bowed down to him. Then they led him out to crucify him. The soldiers crucified Jesus, nailing (**nail**) his hands and feet to the cross (**wood**). While hanging on the cross, Jesus said he was thirsty. Someone soaked a sponge in cheap wine (**sponge**) and lifted it up to his lips. Jesus drank the wine and said, "It is finished." Jesus' mother, Mary, was there and cried. A friend of Jesus, named Joseph, took Jesus' body off the cross and wrapped his body in white linen (**white cloth**) and laid him in the tomb. They rolled a large rock (**rock**) in front of the tomb so no one could get in and take the body. Three days later, on Easter Sunday, Mary Magdalene (Jesus' friend) went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance (**plastic egg** opened, no more darkness). She went running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, and told them what she saw. Simon and the other began running, but the other disciple reached the tomb first. He bent over and saw the linen cloth, but did not go in. Simon Peter went straight into the tomb. He saw the linen cloth lying there and the cloth which had been around Jesus' head. Then they understood that Jesus was alive and believed.

Help for Talking to Kids About COVID-19

NEWS PROVIDED BY
[Child Evangelism Fellowship](#)
April 1, 2020

WARRENTON, Mo., April 1, 2020 /[Christian Newswire](#)/ -
- Child Evangelism Fellowship has provided an effective, online tool for conversing with children about such troubling situations as the Coronavirus outbreak.

In 2001, after the 9/11 tragedy, CEF prepared a booklet entitled "Do You Wonder Why?" to address tragedy. It speaks directly to children about the emotions they experience due to natural disasters, disability, illness or death of loved ones, crime towards someone they know, and so on. It answers hard questions like, "Does God know and care about me?" "Why do so many bad things happen in the world?" and "How could God allow this to happen?" It guides the child in how to get through terrible circumstances, how to become part of God's family, and how to receive God's comfort.

This time-tested downloadable resource is available in PDF and video form (view only) at www.cefonline.com/covid19. Copies may also be purchased in bulk from www.CEFPress.com. Millions of the "Do You Wonder Why?" booklets have been distributed around the US and the world and translated into many languages.

"It is natural to feel afraid, even as an adult when the world faces a crisis like COVID-19. Adults can call shows, hotlines and church leaders with their many concerns, but often children carry around their questions like heavy burdens, often not able to express their feelings. Here's help," said Moises Esteves, CEF Vice President, International Ministries.

CEF operates over 99,000 after-school Good News Clubs (GNC) around the world but many have been shut down with school closures. In answer, CEF launched Good News Across the Web where GNC students can meet with their regular teachers and classmates on Zoom and ezTalks.

As churches move to live streaming, CEF is posting a weekly video on its YouTube channel U-Nite with a program for children which churches can use for children's church. People can learn more at www.cefonline.com/COVID19, families are welcome to use it as well. A new program will be posted every Friday, and there are song videos, missionary stories and encouragements to read the Bible and memorize verses.

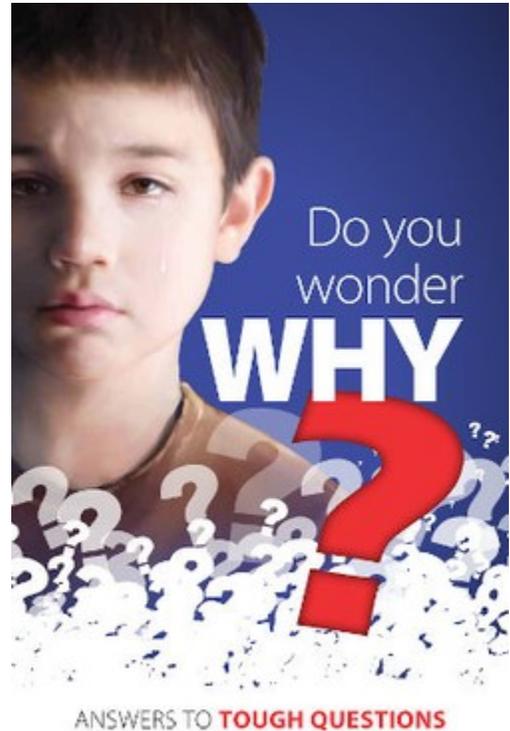
Child Evangelism Fellowship is an international, nonprofit, Christian ministry that has been teaching the Bible to children since 1937. CEF has 400 offices in the USA and is organized in most nations of the world, with over 3,500 paid staff and hundreds of thousands of volunteers. In its last ministry year, CEF ministered to over 25 million children in its face-to-face teaching ministries.

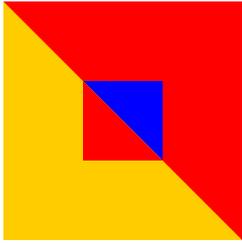
SOURCE Child Evangelism Fellowship

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Related Links

<http://www.cefonline.com/>





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Lori Muniz, Director

Honoring HOLY WEEK in your HOME

Taken from Crosswalk.com

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday For an in-home celebration, read Matthew 2:1-11 together. If you have a large family or a few friends, you can put together costumes and act out Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem

HOLY THURSDAY

Foot Washing: This Maundy Thursday event speaks volumes about Jesus's desire for us to serve. Read John 13. Wrap a towel around your waist, as Jesus did, and wash your children's feet. Your lives might never be the same

GOOD FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross—Have children draw a picture of the stations and post around the house

Three Hours: Observe Jesus' crucifixion by reading the Biblical account together. Sing old hymns of the Crucifixion and the Cross: "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?"

Saturday of Holy Week

The Passion: Watch Mel Gibson's portrayal of Jesus's last hours with older children (warning: graphic but realistic violence). If your children are younger, watch the [Jesus Film Project's](#) beautifully-crafted evangelical movie, scripted only with words from the Gospel of Luke

EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Greeting: Greet each other with "Alleluia, the Lord is risen!" and answer "He is risen indeed!"

New clothes: New converts were traditionally baptized at Easter, wearing new white garments to symbolize their new life. If your family has new Easter outfits, share with your children where this tradition came from

Sunrise Service: Gather your family in your front yard or backyard and watch a sunrise service on your phone. & worship together, and share a picnic breakfast

Will you celebrate EASTER?

"This year will be the first time since the Lord celebrated his Easter, that so many of his people—we can say almost all his churches—will not be able to make it the memorial! And immediately what comes to mind for me is that question that all three Synoptic Gospels report: "Lord, where / how [*pou* in Greek means both things] do you want us to prepare ...?". Alas, it will be the first time, after two thousand years, that this question will be our question, and I have asked Him to show each of us and all of us and all the churches, where and how we should celebrate. Now we must have the patience to wait. We just have to start asking Him, but He will be the one to tell us, to tell everyone. Truly the story will not end without each of his words being fulfilled (cf. Mt 5:18). **This year, for the first time, the Churches are invited to ask the question: "Lord, where do you want us to prepare...?"**

Thank you to Marse Napoli,
Catechist, for sharing this
beautiful prayer...

A Prayer to Combat the Corona- virus Pandemic

Most merciful and Triune God,
We come to you in our weakness.
We come to you in our fear.
We come to you with trust.
For you alone are our hope.

We place before you the disease
present in our world.
We turn to you in our time of need.

Bring wisdom to doctors.
Give understanding to scientists.
Endow caregivers with compassion
and generosity.
Bring healing to those who are ill.
Protect those who are most at risk.
Give comfort to those who have lost
a loved one.
Welcome those who have died into
your eternal home.

Stabilize our communities.
Unite us in our compassion.
Remove all fear from our hearts.
Fill us with confidence in your care.

Jesus, I trust in you.
Jesus, I trust in you.
Jesus, I trust in you.
Amen.

— *The author of this beautiful prayer is unknown, except to the Lord. If you know who the author is, please let us know so we can give proper acknowledgement. If a temporary attribution is needed, you are welcome to say: "Author unknown. Posted on AscensionPress.com".*

Why do Catholics distribute palms on Palm Sunday?

Partners in Faith April 2017 Issue

Although during his ministry, Jesus had refused the crowd's attempts to make him king, he allowed people to publicly acclaim him as the Messiah when he entered Jerusalem the Sunday before his passion and death. The crowds "took palm branches and went out to meet him" (John 12:13). To the ancient Jews, palms were a symbol of triumph and celebration. Today we are given palms as part of the Passion (Palm) Sunday liturgy to commemorate that last trip to Jerusalem.



MASS TRANSIT **Palm/Passion Sunday** **April 5, 2020**

Isaiah 50:4-7 • Philippians 2:6-11 • Matthew 26:14-27:66

"Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest." -Matthew 21:9

The people waved palm branches for Jesus. At that time in Israel, palm branches were used as a symbol of 'future glory' or 'better days ahead.' You would think after Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, the days ahead would be great. However, Jesus' mission was not to make people comfortable, but to speak the truth of God. This made many people very upset; so upset that they would rather silence the truth than face their own sin. This meant that the following days for Jesus turned into days of pain and sadness instead of celebration. Today's Gospel walks us through the Passion of our Lord. We are entering into the holiest week of the year. Let us listen to the story of what happened after Jesus entered Jerusalem and let it move our hearts closer to our Savior.

Dear Lord Jesus, may we walk through this week, allowing the story of the Passion to make us aware of the sinfulness in the world, and bring us deep gratitude for the price you paid when you became human.

What will you do this week to show gratitude to Jesus for his sacrifice?