

# Week 6

*March 30-April 5*

## Monday of Holy Week, March 30

*Daily Reading: Psalm 69:1-23 | Lamentations 1:1-2, 6-12 | 2 Corinthians 1:1-7  
Mark 11:12-25*

On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he was hungry. Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see whether perhaps he would find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. He said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard it. — Mark 11:12-14

*Reflect: As we move into Holy Week, what are some issues that your faith calls you to engage? How can you bear the fruits of compassion in those situations?*

### Going Deeper

- When has your faith stirred in you righteous anger about injustice? How did you respond?
- Jesus' cleansing of the temple reveals his deep care for the poor and for the integrity of worship. What practices in your life help you stay focused on God rather than the "moneychangers" of distraction or self-interest?
- Psalm 69 and Lamentations 1 both cry out from places of suffering and injustice. How do these passages speak to the pain you see in the world today?



## Tuesday of Holy Week, March 31

*Daily Reading: Psalm 94 | Lamentations 1:17-22 | 2 Corinthians 1:8-22 | Mark 11:27-33*

Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin? Answer me." They argued with one another, "What should we say? If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But shall we say, 'Of human origin?'"—they were afraid of the crowd, for all regarded John as truly a prophet.

— Mark 11:29-32

*Reflect: What were you taught about death when you were growing up? How have your beliefs around death changed?*

### Going Deeper

- Jesus stands before the religious leaders without fear, knowing that obedience to God will lead him toward death and resurrection. When have you chosen courage over self-preservation?
- In Lamentations, Jerusalem grieves her desolation. How can honest lament and mourning open the door to deeper hope in God's promise of new life?
- Paul writes that God raises the dead and delivers us from despair. How might remembering God's power over death bring you peace?



## Wednesday of Holy Week, April 1

*Daily Reading: Psalm 74 | Lamentations 2:1-9 | 2 Corinthians 1:23–2:11 | Mark 12:1-11*

What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. Have you not read this scripture: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?” – Mark 12:9-11

*Reflect: Can you think of other difficult questions that this parable raises?*

### Going Deeper

- The tenants refuse to acknowledge the owner’s authority and seek to seize the vineyard for themselves. When have you been like the tenant, struggling with control and pride and wanting to own what belongs to God?
- What does it mean for you to have Christ as the “cornerstone” of your life?
- Paul urges forgiveness and reconciliation. How does that message impact your reading of this parable?



## Maundy Thursday, April 2

*Daily Reading: Psalm 142, 143 | Lamentations 2:10-18 | 1 Corinthians 10:14-17; 11:27-32  
Mark 14:12-25*

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." — Mark 14:22-25

*Reflect: What parts of Holy Week are the most moving for you? What emotions do you experience?*

### Going Deeper

- Imagine being present with Jesus and the disciples at the Last Supper. What do you see, hear and feel?
- Maundy Thursday begins with a feast and ends with betrayal. How do you handle situations that have both joy and sorrow?
- The sisters' tradition of joyful Eucharist followed by silence and desolation mirrors the rhythm of human life. What rituals or patterns in your spiritual life help you hold those opposites in balance?



## Good Friday, April 3

*Daily Reading: Psalm 40:1-14(15-19), 54 | Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-33 | 1 Peter 1:10-20  
John 19:38-42*

They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

— John 19:40-42

*Reflect: Which parts of the Holy Week observances deepen your experience? Are there any you would rather avoid?*

### Going Deeper

- How could entering into silence help you draw nearer to the mystery of the cross? What do you discover about God, and about yourself, when words fall away?
- The sisters' practice of fasting and praying together reminds us that grief can be communal. When have you experienced solidarity or healing through shared sorrow with others?
- John's Gospel ends this day in stillness. How do you live in that "in-between" space between loss and resurrection, despair and hope?



## Holy Saturday, April 4

*Daily Reading: Psalm 27 | Lamentations 3:37-58 | Romans 8:1-11*

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. — Romans 8:1-4

*Reflect: What is your usual observance of Holy Saturday? Is silence a part of it?*

### Going Deeper

- What does “keeping vigil at the tomb” look like for you?
- What does it mean to you that Christ’s descent into death broke the power of “condemnation?”
- Jesus’ body lay still, but his Spirit was at work. How can rest, quiet or sabbath observance become a form of faith for you, a way of trusting God’s unseen work?



## Easter Day, April 5

*Daily Reading: Psalm 113, 114, or 118 | Isaiah 51:9-11 | Luke 24:13-35 or John 20:19-23*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."  
— John 20:19

*Reflect: Where do you encounter the risen Lord in your life? What moments give you hope?*

### Going Deeper

- The disciples were still afraid when Jesus appeared among them. What fears keep your spiritual "doors" locked?
- What practices and holy habits help you rediscover moments of resurrection?
- The disciples go from hiding to proclaiming the good news. How will you share the hope of resurrection with others?

