

HOLY WEEK WITH

CELEBRATE
HOME



THE CROSS

Welcome to **CELEBRATE at Home!** This resource is compiled to encourage and support you at this difficult time. We think that this is an opportunity to draw close to Jesus, and also build community together online. This edition focuses on The Cross in preparation for Holy Week and the celebration of Easter

WAYS TO CONNECT

Everything in this pack is designed to help you connect with God, your family and others. We have suggested ways to engage with the activities but it's completely up to you to use them however works best for you. **All the accompanying links to online resources are found on our website.**

Sometimes we have suggested resources that may be more or less appropriate for different age groups. Look out for the **depthometer** to get a gauge on how suitable the activity will be for the members of your family.

You will notice that we have ideas that you can do as individuals, or with your whole family. You could also connect with other Celebrators and families online, using zoom, to discuss the theme, or something you have watched or read.



Make SPACE

God is everywhere, but it can help us to have spaces that are dedicated to prayer. In the same way that you might create a 'work area' at home, why not make an area that you connect with prayer time. It can be really simple. You could use a chair in a corner, or try cushions for children. Do you have a crucifix and a candle that you can place nearby as a focal point? As it is Lent, you could use a purple cloth to cover your prayer table, if you have one. Maybe you have a Bible and other spiritual reading that would be handy to keep within reach during prayer time.

CAFOD Romero Cross

Reflecting on why Jesus died on the cross is also an opportunity to consider the sacrifices we make for others, especially for those who are suffering. Learn about the life of Oscar Romero and decorate your own Romero cross using the link on CELEBRATE's **Family resource page**.

Palm Sunday

The **Missionaries of the Holy Spirit** invite you to join in celebrating Palm Sunday by putting a branch on the door of your house or on the window, on Sunday 5th April. It can be any green branch you can find. This would help, despite the social distancing, to be connected as we enter into the Holiest of Weeks and is a sign of our faith to anyone that passes by.



Daily Examen

This Ignatian practice is a great way to reflect and pray, especially at Easter. It is intended to be prayed daily, but if you're new to it why not try once a week. On our website we've shared a youth-friendly version alongside a guide for older teens and adults from Loyola Press.

Stations of the Cross

We commemorate the stations of the Cross in Lent and particularly during Holy Week. Pray as you follow the journey of Jesus to His crucifixion with links to different reflections for young children and adults.



All resource links can be found on the **CELEBRATE website** in the download page for this pack.



REFLECT

Listen

Merciful Saviour by Maximilian for One Hope Project

Meditate on these words and, if you have one, a crucifix to help your visualisation.

Watch

I'm Full 'cos it was Empty performed by Dai Woolridge from Spoken Truth

Write a letter to Jesus, reflecting on what you have just seen. How do you feel about his death on the cross? What questions would you ask him if he was to write back to you?

Take it deeper

Write down three words that describe what the Cross means to you.

Now watch Billy Graham speaking in 'The Cross' and consider the following questions. You may want to discuss these with your family members or with other friends.

- Billy Graham says 'The Cross doesn't suggest, it demands a new lifestyle'. What demands has it made from you?
- What have you discovered about the blood of Christ from this film?
- It's easy to look at others as sinners, does this film help you think differently about your salvation?
- Having now watched the film, what would you change or add to your list about your thoughts on the Cross?

Spend a short time thanking Jesus for the sacrifice He made for you, and the difference it has made to your life.



FAMILY TIME

Easter Garden

A great way to help us understand the Easter story is to represent it with an Easter garden - like placing the Nativity scene in our homes at Christmas. You could create one together as a family and put it in the garden or inside in the prayer areas you've made. At this time, we might need to be creative with what we can find around our home and garden! For more children's craft ideas for Easter check out Catholic Icing (link on download page).

Family Film Club

Have a movie night and watch the Easter story together.

For little ones try **The Miracle Maker** (U) animation

Risen (12A) really brings to life the Easter story from the Gospels and is great for young teens and upwards.

The Passion (18) is a very difficult yet powerful watch but is not recommended for under 18s and is highly graphic - so definitely not one for the faint-hearted.

Gratitude Jar

The liturgical season of Lent is a time when we can re-focus on Jesus, particularly His death and resurrection, and is another opportunity to exercise our gratitude. It can also be fruitful during this time of isolation to remember what we are grateful for. Why not have a jar or a box somewhere centrally in the house where everyone can write down things they are thankful for, and place them into the jar. You could bring them all to Jesus during the offertory, or as part of your bidding prayers while celebrating Mass on Easter Sunday.

WHAT IS CELEBRATE ?



CELEBRATE runs Catholic Charismatic, faith-filled, fun events for all ages, combining good Christian teaching, inspirational speakers and celebration of the liturgy, all in the power of the Holy Spirit. Young and old alike join together in a vibrant atmosphere to celebrate the love of God.

You can find more information and resources like this on our website
www.celebrateconference.org

We'd love to hear from you! Join the CELEBRATE community on our **Facebook**, or get in touch via email: info@celebrateconference.org