

Lent Journey 2026

WEEK 7: JESUS PAYS IT ALL

*The Father is faithful in love.
The Son is obedient to the cross.
The Spirit sustains us in hope.*



GCINYC.ORG/LENT2026

Day 35 of Lent, Monday, March 30

Theme: Jesus has the Authority to Cleanse, Challenge, Invite and Command.

Time To Clean House

Isaiah 42: 1-9, Psalm 36: 5-11, Hebrews 9: 11-15, John 12: 1-11

After His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, Jesus exposes the corruption, hypocrisy, and spiritual abuse in God's house the very next day. Those with titles and positions dared to challenge His authority, yet were unable to do so.

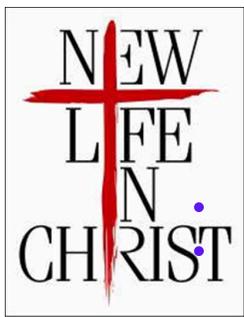
Jesus then offers parables and teachings about the wedding supper, the landowner and the renters, marriage and the resurrection, paying taxes, and the religious leaders' own authority.

The religious leaders wanted to kill Jesus because He refused to let them remain comfortable and uninformed. That same Jesus challenges our comfort zones and our lack of understanding today. The King has arrived to set all things right—everywhere.

Reflection: Is there any area in your life where Jesus is supposedly “off-limits”?

Challenge: Let us embrace the words of this old hymn as our battle cry for the coming season:

“I surrender all, I surrender all. All to Thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.”



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Day 36 of Lent, Tuesday, March 31

Theme: “Can we handle God’s truth?”

“What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is He?”

“The son of David,’ they replied.” – Matthew 22:42

Isaiah 49:1–7; Psalm 71:1–14; 1 Corinthians 1:18–31; John 12:20–36

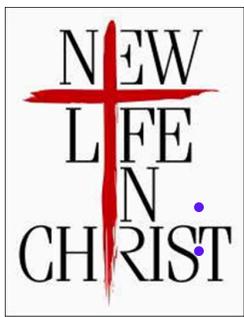
On the Tuesday of Passion Week, Jesus challenges and exposes our hypocrisy and blind spots. He confronts religious forms that are not true worship. Jesus, the Teacher, gives parables about entitled tenants, ungrateful wedding guests, and disrespectful children.

When confronted by those who questioned His authority, King Jesus also gives instructions regarding broken relationships and the kind of respect owed to earthly authorities. He even pronounces judgment on the unfruitful fig tree.

The issues He addressed then remain with us today. The Prince of Peace enters our reality to bring His peace to those who need it now, just as before.

Reflection: Jesus will expose every darkness in every place, for He is the Light of the World.

Challenge: In our prayers today, let us ask our merciful Father to reveal which of the parables and teachings of our Lord Jesus need to speak to our hearts—both individually and as a church family.



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Day 37 of Lent, Wednesday, April 1

Theme: "I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. (John 17:4)"

Isaiah 50:4-9, John 13:21-32, Psalm 70

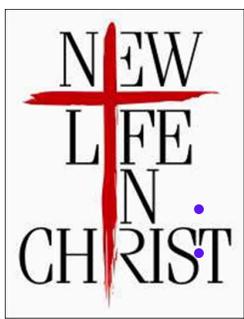
The Wednesday of Passion Week is often called "Spy Wednesday." There is no particular deed or miracle recorded for us. Jesus knew the mission He came to accomplish was about to reach its crescendo. There would be pain, betrayal, a sense of abandonment, followed by a criminal's execution.

The Son of Man, the King of Kings, and God in the flesh had assurance from the Father in heaven, along with the testimony of the prophets and saints who prepared the way before Him. He knew that He not only could endure what lay ahead, but that He would endure—and triumph.

We are on that same road with Jesus. We have the same assurance, and we too will endure and triumph as we journey with Him.

Reflection: Whenever we walk through our dark days, do we rely on God's Word and His presence just as Jesus did during this Passion Week?

Challenge: Jesus' walk required Him to rely on heaven at every step of the journey. As we walk that same road—in excellent company—we are often carried on the Master's shoulders. Do you believe this?



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Day 38 of Lent, Maundy Thursday, April 2

Theme: "Not my will, but your will be done" - Luke 22:42

A new commandment I give unto you.

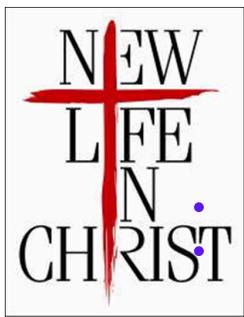
Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10), 11-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31-35

From the Garden of Eden, blood was shed to cover sin and shame. Throughout Scripture, the patriarchs offered sacrifices as acts of thanksgiving and petitions for forgiveness. The priests shed blood daily for the sins of Israel, sparing the people from death and wrath.

The meal Jesus shared with His disciples was a continuation of that first Passover meal. Yet on this night, it was unlike any before it. A new covenant was being declared, and a different kind of meal was being given.

Reflection: Jesus, the Servant-Leader, calls us into communion with Him and with all His saints. We can now freely approach the presence of God—something even the high priest could not do.

Challenge: During these days of Holy Week, let each of us take time in silent prayer to examine ourselves, lest we take this incomparable sacrifice for granted or treat it lightly.



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Day 39 of Lent, Good Friday, April 3

Theme: *"Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."*

— *John 1:29*

"It is finished."

Isaiah 52:13–53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16–25; John 18:1–19:42

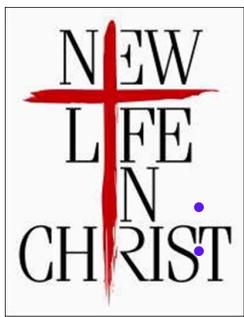
What is so "Good" about this day of darkness, pain, and ultimately death? Jesus' death on the cross of shame brought about our redemption and rescue from eternal death and separation. There, He prayed forgiveness for His enemies, provided for His mother Mary, declared His humanity, and bore the full weight of humanity's sin.

Finally, Jesus commended His Spirit to His Father in heaven. On that Cross, every pain and sorrow, every doubt and fear, was covered forever. And soon, even death itself would be defeated.

Now that was a GOOD Friday indeed.

Reflection: What parts of your life need to be broken and surrendered to the Lord so that He may personally declare over you, "It is finished"?

Challenge: As one of our favorite hymns reminds us, "Count your blessings, name them one by one; count your many blessings, see what God has done." On this truly GOOD Friday, let us take time to celebrate the victories Jesus, our Savior, won at Calvary.



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Day 40 of Lent, Holy Saturday, April 4

Theme: *"Waiting Patiently for God's Deliverance"*

"He said, 'After three days I will rise again.'" – Matthew 27:63

Job 14:1-14; Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8

Does it sometimes seem that the reason to hope and go on is uncertain? The disciples felt that way on this extraordinary Sabbath. Jesus, their Teacher, was dead and buried, and many of His followers were in hiding. The empires of Rome and the temple authorities seemed to have won the day.

Yet this day in Holy Week is often called Vigil Saturday for a reason. Those who have the hope of Christ within them do not give up or give in. The Lord made a promise, and Jesus is always faithful.

We do not always understand the "why," but we do know the "Who." Therefore, we "wait upon the Lord," as King David exhorts us. As His disciples today, we also wait in hope upon the Son of David, Jesus.

Reflection: What deliverance are you still waiting for? What prayer has yet to be fully answered? In which areas are your faith and patience being tested?

Challenge: The women continued preparing the spices and were determined to go into the darkness seeking the Master. Let us ensure that we, as today's disciples, continue moving forward in faithful obedience as they did.