

Family Fun at Easter

Good Friday – 10th April 2020

After sharing the Passover meal with his friends on Thursday, Jesus went to a garden to pray. Jesus knew that what was going to happen to him next was going to be very hard and he wanted to pray to God about it. That night, Jesus was abandoned by his friends, arrested by soldiers and the religious leaders told cruel lies about him. On Good Friday, Jesus was crucified on a wooden cross because people had decided that they didn't like him or the things he was doing and saying. But.....this was all part of Gods plan and although Jesus died, this was not the end. Nowhere near!

You can read more about this in the bible in [Marks gospel chapter 15 verses 1 to 47](#).

Perhaps this doesn't sound to you like a "Good" Friday at all? Although this was an awful day for Jesus, what he did was good news for us. We will find out more about why this is in the Easter Sunday story. However, when Jesus died, it was painful, cruel and sad. Sometimes we can feel sad too.

Activity

Find a smooth, rounded stone and hold it in your hands. Imagine this stone is so heavy you can hardly hold it. Imagine inside the stone are all the things you are worried about or scared of. Now, gently lay the stone down and imagine God taking away all of your worries because he cares about you so much and wants you to know that he loves you. We can always talk to God about our worries and he always listens.

Hot cross buns are often eaten on Good Friday, they have a cross on the top to remind us that Jesus died on a cross. These buns also contain dried fruit which can remind us of the good things which come from Jesus' death. (There'll be more about this on Easter Sunday as promised!). Perhaps enjoy some hot cross buns with your family today and remember together what they remind us of.

Make some small crosses from straws or sticks or cut some out from cardboard and then hide them for someone else to find in the house or the garden.

Glue some of the leaves you collected on Palm Sunday onto a cross shape you have cut out or drawn. Maybe place it in the front window for your neighbours to see and enjoy. The cross reminds us that Jesus died but also that he sets us free and because he died, we can have eternal life with God. How awesome!

Prayer for today

Dear Father God

Thank you for Jesus who died on a cross to save us all, even though he had done nothing wrong. We thank you for such amazing love. Help us to remember how much you love us and help us to share and show this love to other people too. Amen.