

WEEK 25: EVENTS PRIOR TO JESUS ARREST & HIS ARREST

PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN

GOALS

Why was the anointing of Jesus by Mary significant?
What are the sequence of events in Matthew 26 in relation to Holy Week?

LESSON

Materials Needed: Bible, Plastic sleeve page protectors for timeline activity

Extended Learning Opportunity for Teachers:

The Gospel of Matthew: Torah for the Church by Fr. Lawrence Farley, pgs 339-362

The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Matthew by Blessed Theophylact, pgs 222-238

CLASS ROUTINE

Continue routine - move photo, light candle, venerate icon, prayer

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS IN MATTHEW 26

Instructions:

Ask one child to hold the first icon depicting the first even in this chapter: The woman anointing Jesus. The child stays standing at the front of the class holding the icon. Tell the kids about this icon and what happened.

Next, ask a different child to come stand next to the first child with the next image: Judas plotting against Jesus. Tell the kids about what happened during this event and have the child stay in the line, in sequential order.

Continue this until you teach the kids about all of the events and you have a line of 6 children holding an image or icon.

1. Mary, sister of Lazarus, pours expensive oil on Jesus in preparation for His upcoming burial while He is having dinner with His Disciples.

2. Judas agrees to betray Jesus to the chief priests. Judas made a poor choice and decided to tell the chief priests where to find Jesus. The chief priests agreed to pay Judas 30 pieces of silver so they could find Jesus that night and arrest Him.

3. Jesus celebrates the Passover with His Disciples. During this meal in Jerusalem, Jesus celebrated the very first Holy Communion. The icon depicting this event is called, "The Mystical Supper."

4. Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus knows that He is about to be arrested. He voluntarily allows all of this to happen because He knows that ultimately His death and resurrection is to save all people. It's a super huge deal! His Disciples are tired, however, and fall asleep multiple times while Jesus is praying.

5. Judas Iscariot betrays Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Soldiers were sent with Judas late at night to arrest Jesus. It's really hard to see in the dark and they want to make sure they arrest Jesus, and not someone else, so Judas agrees to give Jesus a kiss on the cheek so the soldiers know that this is the person they need to arrest. Then Jesus is taken to be questioned by the Jewish leaders in the Sanhedrin.

6. Peter says he doesn't know Jesus three times before the rooster crows. Jesus had predicted that Peter would deny Him (say he doesn't know Jesus) three times after Jesus was arrested. Peter didn't believe Jesus. Surely, he would never do that! Unfortunately, Peter did tell three people he didn't know Jesus - and then Peter heard the rooster crow, just like Jesus predicted.











