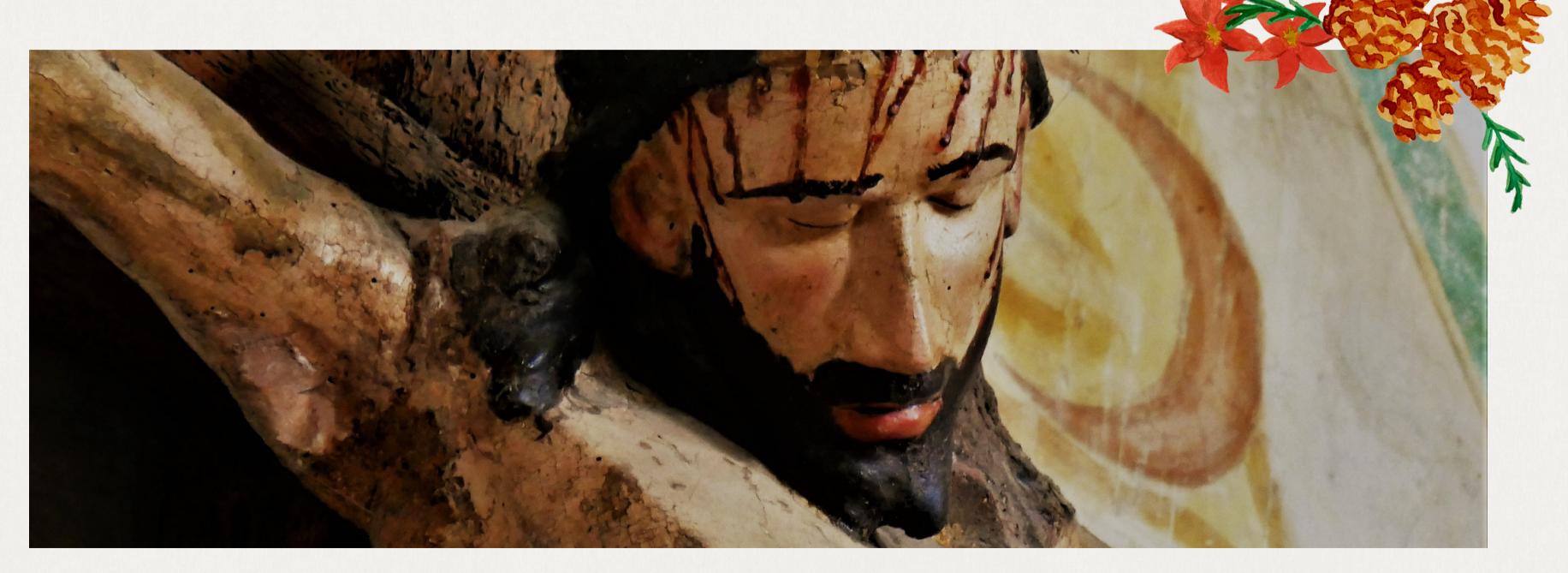




BACKGROUND

Good Friday is one of the most important festivals celebrated by Christians all over the world. The day is also known by other names such as Holy Friday, Easter Friday or Black Friday. In German, it is called as Karfreitag or 'Sorrowful Friday', while in Spanish it is called 'Viernes Santo' or 'Holy or Sacred Friday'. Good Friday is celebrated in honour and remembrance of Crucifixion of Jesus Christ, who Christians believe is the Son of God, and whose life and teachings are the foundation of Christianity.

IMPORTANCE OF THE DAY



Jesus' death is one of the most important segments of the Holy Bible. Christians believe the fact that while dying, Jesus took and suffered on all the sins of the world, and it is only after his sacrifice, that people's sins were redeemed and allowed to enter into the heaven. Good Friday is a day of mourning. Christians meditate on Jesus's suffering and death on the cross. The day is observed as a day of penance, grief and fasting. Good Friday also leads to the end of Lent, the 40-day period of fasting for Christians before Easter.







GOOD FRIDAY 2021



According to the Gregorian calendar, the date varies from one year to another. This year, Good Friday will be observed on April 2, 2021, while Easter Sunday falls on Sunday, April 4, 2021. The essence of Good Friday lies in the victory of good over evil.



WHY IS THE DAY OF "CRUCIFIXION" CALLED "GOOD FRIDAY"?

At first glance, it seems a strange name for a day that marked such a terrible event as a crucifixion, but when we look at the origin of the name it becomes clearer. The earliest known use of 'Guode Friday' is found in The South English Legendary, a text from around 1290. Some say, "Good Friday is good because Christ showed his great love for man, and purchased for him every blessing". The Catholic Encyclopedia of 1907, says the "origins are not clear". Some look at it as "God's Friday" or "Gottes Freitag". Some sources also say that it comes from the use of "Good" as an adjective applied to the day, which is an Old English synonym for "holy." While, most believe that the day as "good" because the message of Easter is of Christ's victory over sin, death, and the devil.



DID YOU KNOW?

In 19th-century France, it was a symbol of free thinking to hold a sausage-eating party on Good Friday.

The very first Good Friday was on April 3rd 33AD. No one actually knows for sure from where the name "Good Friday" came from. There are many theories on the same. Many believe that the "Good" means "Holy", while others think that "Good" is used in replace of "God."



In the United States, 12 of the 50 states recognize Good Friday as a holiday.





HOW IS GOOD FRIDAY CELEBRATED?

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Good Friday is celebrated in around the world in several ways, while what is universal is that they all involve prayers. Some people observe a fast or abstain from eating on this day. Most people gather at church and pray exactly at 3:00 pm as it is said that Jesus died at this time on this day.

The information in this publication is general in nature. Although best effort has been made to determine the accuracy of the information, there can be no guarantee that such information is accurate as of the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future.

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