

JOURNEY with us through the miraculous Easter Story, beautifully illustrated with selections from M&G's masterworks.

On this journey for observers of all ages, we'll not only discover exciting details in each painting, but also learn a bit about the biblical story behind each work.

There's so much to see in each masterpiece!
So let's get started and take A CLOSER LOOK.





CLICK on the painting to learn more about the Wise Men's gifts.

The Adoration of the Magi Jan Boeckhorst, called Lange Jan

After Jesus was born, He was visited by wisemen from the East who were told to follow a star to find baby Jesus in Bethlehem.

And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

MATTHEW 2:11

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Can you find the babe, an ox, thirteen playful cherubs, and three gifts fit for a king?



The Flight into Egypt Domenico Fiasella, called Il Sarzana

Jesus' life was in danger from the very beginning. When Herod heard of a baby king born in Bethlehem, he felt threatened.

Now when [the wisemen] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."

MATTHEW 2:13

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Can you find a bundle on a stick, a mule, and two floating halos?



CLICK on the painting to read about what shepherds do.

The Heavenly Shepherd Bartolome Esteban Murillo

Jesus spent His childhood learning to be a carpenter. Sometimes, though, He was referred to as a shepherd because of the work God gave Him when He grew up.

"I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know me."

JOHN 10:14

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Can you find a staff, a broken column, and a small flock of sheep?



The Wedding Feast at Cana Giovanni Domenico Piastrini (attr. To)

After Jesus grew up, He began His adult ministry, helping people and showing them God's love.

This, the first of His signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested His glory. And His disciples believed in Him.

JOHN 2:11

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Can you find a platter full of fruit, a dog, a cat, and Jesus draped in red and blue?



CLICK on the picture to learn fun facts about another famous painting of The Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci.

The Last Supper Stefano Cernotto

Jesus, seated at the center of the table in this painting, knew that His ministry was going to end soon. Many people were upset with His message and wanted to arrest Him.

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples.

MATTHEW 26:26

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Can you find three goblets, a sandal, and four fluffy clouds?



The Betrayal and Arrest of Christ Unknown German

After the Last Supper, Jesus and His disciples went to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus was arrested late in the night. One of His disciples, Judas, turned Him in to the soldiers for 30 pieces of silver.

Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize Him." And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabi!" And he kissed Him.

MATTHEW 26:48-49

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Can you find a feather, two swords, the kiss of betrayal, and a lantern out of place?



Procession to Calvary Otto van Veen

After Jesus was arrested, He was put on trial before Pontius Pilate. Pilate did not think Jesus was guilty, but the Jews demanded Jesus' crucifixion anyway.

So they took Jesus, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called The Place of a Scull, which in Arabic is called Golgotha. There they crucified Him.

JOHN 19:17&18a

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Can you find four stately horses, a straw hat, and two little children hiding in the crowd?



Christ on the Cross
Peter Rubens

Jesus was innocent, but He willingly died on the cross in the place of the guilty.

Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, unto your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this He breathed His last.

LUKE 23:46

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Can you find to find a skull, a moon, an official document, and five painful wounds?

CLICK on the painting to learn more about Peter Paul Rubens.



The Ascension Gustave Doré

Everyone who loved Jesus was very surprised when He rose from the grave. After His resurrection, Jesus visited over 500 followers. Forty days later, He returned to His Father in heaven.

. . . He was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see Him. As they strained to see Him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "Why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday He will return from heaven in the same way you saw Him go!"

ACTS 1:9-11

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Can you find rays of light, a crowd down below, an angel pointing up, and a brilliant green robe?

Painting 1



Painting 4



Painting 2



Painting 3



Answer Rey

Painting 5



Painting 6







Answer Rey

If you'd still like to explore, take a second look!

While you're looking closely, see if you happen to spot any of these details: a purple robe, a waft of smoke, and brilliant flames in the night; the sea of Galilee far far away, shiny platters on a ledge, and a dark and stormy sky; distant palm trees, bright red plumes, and a very crowded doorway.

Painting 8

Painting 9