

Dear Padre,

How can I use Jesus' entry into Jerusalem to find spiritual meaning for myself during Holy Week?

The Gospel tells us that Jesus goes to Jerusalem knowing he will suffer and die there. Jerusalem is the place where prophets have been killed in the past (Matthew 23:37). Jesus predicts his passion in the Gospel of Matthew three times (Matthew 16:21, 17:22, and 20:17). Jesus, the one sent by God, will meet the same fate as the prophets who had been sent by God to call Jerusalem to conversion. He goes to Jerusalem as a prophet, to preach God's saving word to the very people who will turn on the messenger.

Jesus isn't fooled by the enthusiastic crowd of people who throw him a welcome party and refer to him as the prophet coming in God's name. He tells them that he comes in humility, as the prophet foretold: "Your king comes to you, meek and riding on an ass" (Matthew 21:5).

He challenges their expectations by referencing the prophet Zechariah's humble

king. In the second reading we hear a hymn to Jesus' humility, which praises his willingness to give of himself, even unto death.

Jesus' hopes aren't based on the crowd's emotions. He has chosen to obey his Father's will, and if that obedience leads him to the place where prophets have gone before him, so be it. He is ready to suffer and die. We need Jesus' example and grace to remain faithful in the face of flattery, scorn, and threat. Live this week seeking to have the mind of Christ, to live his humility.

—Fr. Timothy McCanna
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Jesus enters Jerusalem. The liturgy... somehow expresses the contradictory feelings that we too, the men and women of today, experience: the capacity for great love, but also for great hatred; the capacity for courageous self-sacrifice, but also the ability to "wash our hands" at the right moment.

—PALM SUNDAY HOMILY, MARCH 25, 2018



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Calendar

Monday
APRIL 6
Monday of Holy Week
Is 42:1-7
Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday
APRIL 7
Tuesday of Holy Week
Is 49:1-6
Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday
APRIL 8
Wednesday of Holy Week
Is 50:4-9a
Mt 26:14-25

Thursday
APRIL 9
Holy Thursday
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14
1 Cor 11:23-26
Jn 13:1-15

Friday
APRIL 10
Good Friday
Is 52:13-53:12
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9
Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday
APRIL 11
Holy Saturday
Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a
Gn 22:1-18 or Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Ex 14:15-15:1
Is 54:5-14 / Is 55:1-11
Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4
Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28
Rom 6:3-11
Mt 28:1-10

Sunday
APRIL 12
Easter
Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8
Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 5, 2020
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (A)
Mt 21:1-11
Is 50:4-7 / Phil 2:6-11
Mt 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54

Who Is this Man?

He is a convicted criminal. He is a threat to the sovereignty of Rome, because he might be a rival king; a challenge to Jewish religious tradition, for he interprets the law by his own authority. Still, he is just a common carpenter; a sometimes preacher and healer like many others; a man whose friends and followers have deserted him and are in hiding. At least this is how some might describe Jesus. But we know better.

He fits well the Isaian image—a man with "a well-trained tongue" who knows "how to answer the weary" (Isaiah 50:4). He also resembles the Psalm 22 sketch of one to scoff at and mock, one whose hands and feet are pierced, an image also found in the Gospel account of his suffering and death. This is a man rejected, beaten, and nailed to wood like a piece of flimsy material. Who is this man and why was he so hated?

The hymn in Philippians 2 probably offers the best likeness of him. He was in the form of God, but out of love for others he took on the form of a slave so that he might serve them. What about this was so objectionable? Does he represent an idea of God that is too different from the one with which we have grown comfortable? As a man for others, does he put our own selfishness to shame? Does his desire to serve challenge our propensity to control? Is this why he has been rejected?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- What does Jesus' self-emptying tell us about God?
- How would your world change if you chose to serve others rather than control them?



He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave [and]... humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

PHILIPPIANS 2:7-8

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SUNDAY, April 5, 2020

Even though all public celebrations of the Holy Mass are cancelled until further notice, daily Masses are still offered by Fr. Peter. When you watch the livestreamed Mass, please remember to pray for the following Intentions. Please join me in spirit as we celebrate the Triduum and Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5	Anna Berkamp, Paul TEMAAT
Monday, April 6	Helen Rice
Tuesday, April 7	For our Country
Wednesday, April 8	Bernie Hugo
Thursday, April 9	Mary Perez, Pedro Asebedo: Holy Thursday— Mass at 6 pm
Friday, April 10	Good Friday: No Mass —The Passion of Jesus Christ at 3 pm
Saturday, April 11	For our Country: Holy Saturday— Easter Vigil at 8:30 pm
Sunday, April 12	The People, P. TEMAAT, Clarence Knoll & Steve B. at 8 am

CONFESSIONS: Confessions will be heard on this Holy Week Monday—Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. or call for an appointment.

If you know someone who is sick or before having a surgery and needs the sacrament of the anointing or wanted Fr. Peter to visit, please do not hesitate to call the above phone numbers

HOLY WEEK AND RCIA: All Holy Week liturgies are cancelled. We pray that this health crisis subsides, so that the Candidates and Catechumens may receive their sacraments by the Vigil of Pentecost.

SCHOLARSHIP: St. Anthony's Parish is offering of \$500 Scholarship again this year. Candidate must be a Lakin High School 2020 graduate. Applications can be found in the back of church.

RUMMAGE SALE: We will be having it again this summer (not date has been set), but if you have items you would like to donate we will gladly accept them anytime. You may call any of the following people to bring items to the hall. Tressa Powers 355-6206; Jana Jenkinson 290-5201; Carolyn Robertson 290-5569; Jane Sullivan 355-7341, or Gwen Waechter 355-7203.

COLLECTION for March 29, 2020: Envelopes: \$1110; Online Giving: \$188.17; Maintenance: \$259 Total \$1,298.17. Average Weekly Expense: \$1,989.55; Income over/under (691..38)

PALM SUNDAY: This weekend, April 5 is Palm Sunday. Even though no public Mass is offered; however, palms will be blessed and available that day. Please arrange to pick up your blessed palm on

April 5 or during Holy Week. For last year used palms still in your possession, they should be burned or buried in your fields or garden.

SIX WAYS TO STAY SPIRITUALLY ENGAGED: 1. Watch or listen to livestreamed daily Mass; 2. Read the Mass reading daily; 3. Pray the Rosary or Chaplet of Divine Mercy; 4. Make a spiritual communion in our own words; 5. Go to adoration and make a Holy Hour at church (church is open daily 7am-7pm); Pray to St. Anthony our Patron for all those who have contracted the coronavirus.

LIVESTREAMED MASS WITH OUR BISHOP: Bishop John celebrates mass (Monday-Friday at 8 am and Sunday at 9am). Go to www.dcdioocese.org click on the Facebook icon on the Facebook icon (you don't have to be on Facebook) in the upper right hand corner.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION: My Jesus I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually in to my heart. As though You were already there, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; permit not that I should ever be separated from You. Amen.

SUNDAY MEDITATION *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. (Matthew 21:9)*

Today we join the crowd on the road to Jerusalem. We watch as they spread their coats and palm branches before Jesus, the humble king of Israel. We hold our own palms high and cry "Hosanna!" to welcome our coming king. And today Jesus comes, not clothed in regal robes or seated on a magnificent stallion, but riding on a lowly donkey. He enters Jerusalem and enters our hearts, not as a warrior, but as a servant king.

He comes bringing peace, as a Messiah who will lay down his life for his people. We know the answer to the question posed by the people of Jerusalem: "Who is this?" (Matthew 21:10). We know that Jesus is more than a prophet, more than a brilliant teacher, more than a miracle worker. We know that he is the Son of God and our Lord. In the words of St. Andrew of Crete, monk, bishop, and hymn writer from the seventh and eighth centuries,

Let us go together to meet Christ on the Mount of Olives. . . . Let us run to accompany him as he hastens toward his passion, and imitate those who met him then, not by covering his path with garments, olive branches or palms, but by doing all we can to prostrate ourselves before him by being humble and by trying to live as he would wish. . . . Let us spread before his feet, not garments or soulless olive branches, which delight the eye for a few hours and then wither, but ourselves. (Sermon for Palm Sunday, *Oratio 9*) During this holiest of weeks, let's thank Jesus for his passion and death. Let's lay down our lives like palms at his feet, in humble obedience. Let's adore him with songs of praise for his mercy.