

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

The Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Today we gather together to unite with the whole Church
in the celebration of the beginning of Holy Week
and the beginning of the celebration of the Paschal Mystery,
that is to say, of Jesus' Passion and Resurrection.

For it was to accomplish this mystery
that he entered his own city of Jerusalem.

Therefore, with all faith and devotion, let us commemorate
the Lord's entry into the city for our salvation,
following in his footsteps, so that, embracing his Cross,
we may have a share also in his Resurrection and in his life.

Let us pray. (silence)

Almighty ever-living God,
sanctify † this palm branch with your blessing,
that we, who follow Christ the King in exultation,
may reach the eternal Jerusalem through him.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *R: Amen*

(if you wish, you may this read passage from the Gospel of John)

† A reading from the Gospel according the John.

When the great crowd that had come to the feast
heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,
they took palm branches and went out to meet him, and cried out:
"Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the king of Israel."

Jesus found an ass and sat upon it, as is written:

Fear no more, O daughter Zion:

see, your king comes, seated upon an ass' colt.

His disciples did not understand this at first, but when Jesus had been glorified
they remembered that these things were written about
him and that they had done this for him. The Gospel of the Lord.

(you may decorate the palm branch and hang it on a prominent place of the house)