

Palm Sunday

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

Palm Sunday is the celebration of Christ's triumph as King of Israel. We encourage you to grab some "palms" from your yard (or use the ones you received at Mass if you've gone already) and have a procession! It's okay if you don't have palms available to you. Any kind of leaves or branches will suffice.

- + Take turns playing Jesus and the members of the crowd.
- + Have a reader read Matthew 21:1-11 aloud.
- + Have your family process around your home, yard, or living room.
- + Remind your family that palms symbolize victory—The crowds that day thought it would be victory over the Romans, but we know Christ's true victory is over death on Easter Sunday.
- + Greet your King with words from Scripture: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

PRAYER FOR PALM SUNDAY

Loving God, I am just beginning to realize how much you love me.

Your son, Jesus was humble and obedient.

He fulfilled your will for him by becoming human and suffering with us.

I ask you for the desire to become more humble so that my own life might also bear witness to you.

I want to use the small sufferings I have in this world to give you glory.

Please, Lord, guide my mind with your truth. Strengthen my life by the example of Jesus.

Help me to be with Jesus in this week as he demonstrates again his total love for me.

He died so that I would no longer be separated from you.

Help me to feel how close you are and to live in union with you.

PRAYER FOR MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

God of love, My prayer is simple:

Your son, Jesus, suffered and died for me.

I know only that I cannot have real strength unless I rely on you.

I cannot feel protected from my many weaknesses until I turn to you for forgiveness and your unalterable love.

Help me to share this strength, protection and love with others.

PRAYER FOR TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

God of such unwavering love, how do I "celebrate" the passion and death of Jesus?

I often want to look the other way and not watch, not stay with Jesus in his suffering.

Give me the strength to see his love with honesty and compassion and to feel deeply your own forgiveness and mercy for me.

Help me to understand how to "celebrate" this week.

I bring my weaknesses and imperfections with me as I journey with Jesus this week, so aware of his love.

PRAYER FOR WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

My savior, do you invite me to share in the glory of the resurrection?

Please stay with me as I struggle to see how accepting the crosses of my life will free me from the power of the one who wants only to destroy my love and trust in you.

Help me to be humble and accepting like your son, Jesus.

I want to turn to you with the same trust he had in your love.

Save me, Lord. Only you can save me.