



**St. Mary's Catholic Church High Green
Children's Liturgy of the Word
Palm Sunday of the Passion of our Lord Year A**

5th April 2020

As a Parish and Children's Liturgy team, we want to continue to provide Catechesis for our children in what is a challenging and worrying time for us all. We recognise that for many families the idea of a liturgy in the home is daunting, so we want to lay out something simple and easy to follow, similar to the Lent or Advent bags that come home from St. Mary's school. The format below is based on our Children's liturgy of the word sessions during Mass, so your children will recognise and help you along! Use it as a script or use your own words, maybe ask an older child to lead, hopefully you will grow in confidence as the weeks pass. Stay well and safe. God Bless. *Clare Russell*

Prepare your space –

- It's ok to follow this through on your phone or tablet rather than printing, but remember to mute and turn off all notifications!
- Remove distractions from the room.
- Create a focal point – involve the children, use a cross, maybe made from stones or flowers, a bible.
- Today we will focus on the Gospel of the Procession of Palms, taken from the very beginning of today's Mass.

Find today's gospel in your bible, missal or online.

- The shortened form is Matt 21:1-11
- Available online at this address.

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/040520.cfm>

- Prepare a candle and something to light it with.

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**We Begin**

- Sign of the Cross
- Is there a hymn or song that the children particularly like?
- We light our candle to remind us that Jesus is present with us now as the light and hope of our world.

**We say sorry Penitential Rite**

Have our thoughts, words or actions hurt God?  
Have our thoughts, words or actions hurt other people?  
Have our thoughts, words or actions hurt ourselves?

*Pause for a minute of reflection*

Lord, by water and the Spirit you give us new life, Lord, have mercy. *Lord have mercy*  
Christ, by the cross you brought pardon and hope, Christ, have mercy. *Christ have mercy*  
Lord, by your death you brought peace to the sinner, Lord, have mercy. *Lord have mercy*

**Gospel Acclamation** (tune: London Bridge is falling down)

Share your word with us oh Lord, us oh Lord, us Oh Lord.  
Share your word with us oh Lord, help us listen.

**Gospel**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John. *Glory to you Oh Lord*

*Read the Gospel as referenced above.*

The Gospel of the Lord! *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

### **Gospel Refection**

Today, we begin our journey through Holy Week, travelling with Jesus on his way to the cross whilst all the time looking forward to the Resurrection. The Gospel we heard is taken from the Procession of Palms, normally read in the Church Hall before we process into church waving our palms and singing Hosanna, hurray for God!

As we read the Gospel we remember that Jerusalem was a very busy place, packed with people who had travelled there to celebrate the Passover. At this festival time, Jews shared a feast together to remember how God had saved them from slavery in Egypt. The Jews had long hoped for a King who could lead them against the Romans and make them free again. It was these crowds who cheered for Jesus, hailing Him as King, whilst waving branches and laying down their cloaks as a royal carpet for him. Today we might wave flags, and clap our hands or even bang pots and pans!

However Jesus was not the King the crowds were hoping for. Instead of choosing to arrive on a grand horse or carriage, Jesus chose to arrive on a meek and gentle donkey to show that he was not a soldier or warrior but a king of peace. In the ancient Middle Eastern world, leaders rode horses if they rode to war, but donkeys if they came in peace. The name Jerusalem means 'city or dwelling of peace'.

Therefore we can say that Jesus travelled on the animal of peace, to the City of Peace, to give his message of peace.

### **Intercessions** (*Feel free to use your own prayers*)

We pray that the Church and all her people will welcome Christ into their daily lives.  
Lord in your Mercy. *Hear our Prayer.*

We pray for world leaders, that they may have the wisdom to guide us through these uncertain times.  
Lord in your Mercy. *Hear our Prayer.*

That our love for one another may make our world a happier place to love.  
Lord in your Mercy. *Hear our Prayer.*

That the sick and the suffering may find comfort and healing through God's love.  
Lord in your Mercy *Hear our Prayer*

That all who have died will be welcomed into the kingdom of heaven.  
Lord in your Mercy. *Hear our Prayer.*

We pray for our family, friends and our school community, who we miss and look forward to seeing again.  
Lord in your Mercy *Hear our Prayer*

We ask our Mother Mary to pray with us and for us as we say Hail Mary.....

### **Closing Prayer**

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace and King of the World,  
We pray that your peace will spread throughout our world today,  
bringing comfort and rest to all those who need it.  
Amen

### **Sign of the Cross**

In lieu of an activity sheet for this week we have produced a Holy Week calendar that can be built on day by day using minimal resources. Even without access to a printer the design can be adapted and replicated simply.

The idea is that there is a short piece of scripture for each day, so that we too can travel through Holy Week with Jesus. Children can draw, colour or create an item that represents the scripture. We will also be sharing Children focussed resources for use at home on Maunday Thursday and Good Friday.

Please pray for us during Holy Week as we will for you too.

**Sunday**

Topic: Palm Sunday  
 Reading: Mark 11:1-11 and Luke 19:28-44  
 Suggested picture: Palm Leaf

**Monday**

Topic: Jesus Clears the Temple  
 Reading: Mark 11:12-17  
 Suggested picture: Table with coins on top (real or foil?)

**Tuesday**

Topic: Teaching at the Temple  
 Reading: Luke 19:47-48  
 Suggested picture: Scrolls made out of paper and two cocktail or match sticks

**Wednesday**

Topic: Praying and Remaining Watchful  
 Reading: Mark 11: 20-26, 13:32-37 and Luke 21:34-36  
 Suggested picture: Praying hands.

**Thursday**

Topic: Communion, Garden of Gethsemane, Judas' Betrayal  
 Reading: Mark 14:17-26, 32-35, 43-50 and Luke 22:14-23, 39-53  
 Suggested picture: Chalice and bread. Bag of coins

**Friday**

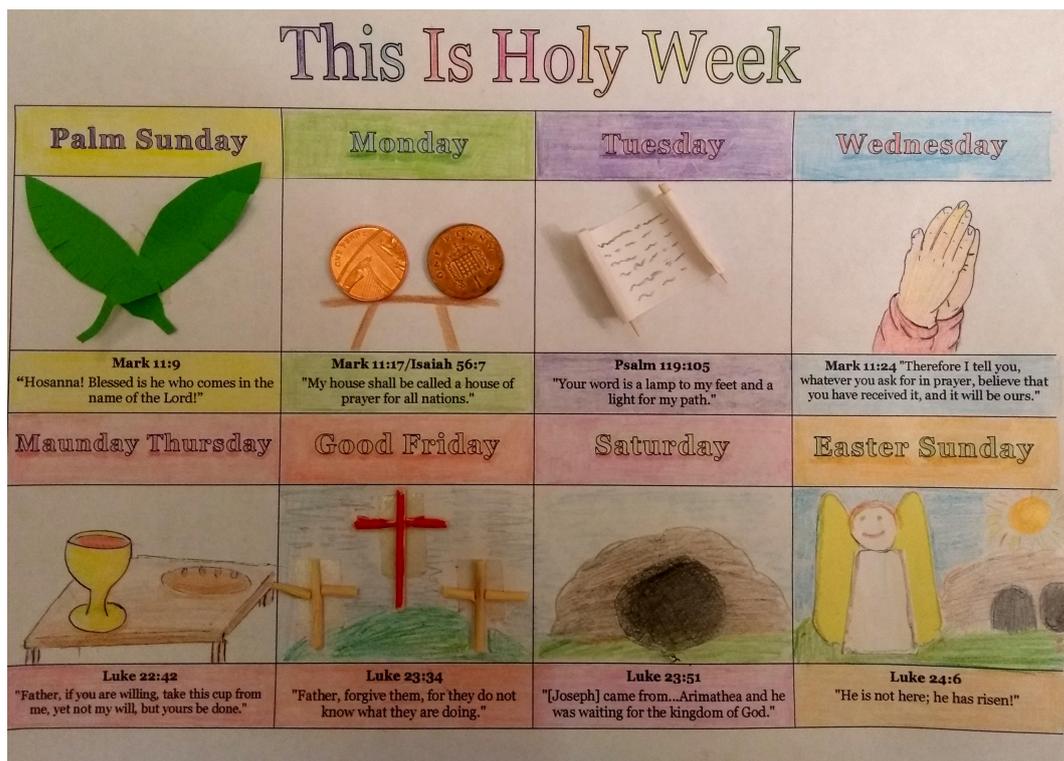
Topic: The Cross  
 Reading: Mark 15:16-39 and Luke 23:26-49  
 Suggested picture: 3 Crosses

**Saturday**

Topic: Laid in the Tomb  
 Reading: Mark 15:42-47 and Luke 23:50-56  
 Suggested picture: A sealed tomb

**Easter Sunday**

Topic: Resurrection  
 Reading: Luke 24:1-12  
 Suggested picture: Picture of an angel, an empty tomb.



# This is Holy Week

| Palm Sunday                                                                                                                                | Monday                                                                                                                      | Tuesday                                                                                                                       | Wednesday                                                                                                                                 |
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|                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                           |
| <p><b>Mark 11:9</b><br/>                     “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”</p>                               | <p><b>Mark 11:17/Isaiah 56:7</b><br/>                     "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations."</p> | <p><b>Psalms 119:105</b><br/>                     "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."</p>               | <p><b>Mark 11:24</b> "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."</p> |
| Maunday Thursday                                                                                                                           | Good Friday                                                                                                                 | Saturday                                                                                                                      | Easter Sunday                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                           |
| <p><b>Luke 22:42</b><br/>                     "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me, yet not my will, but yours be done."</p> | <p><b>Luke 23:34</b><br/>                     "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."</p>         | <p><b>Luke 23:51</b><br/>                     "[Joseph] came from...Arimathea and he was waiting for the kingdom of God."</p> | <p><b>Luke 24:6</b><br/>                     "He is not here; he has risen!"</p>                                                          |