

Prayer at Home



**Liturgy
Office**
ENGLAND
& WALES

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Christ's entry into Jerusalem Print made by: Master of the Martyrdom of the Ten Thousand, British Museum

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Palm Sunday

Preparation

*This prayer may either be used by a household group or an individual. Where there is a group, texts said by all are in **bold**. If possible, each person should have a branch from the garden or elsewhere.*

If you know a Hosanna to sing, perhaps from a Holy, Holy sung in the parish, sing it either side of the Gospel reading.

Introduction

Gather together and, with each person holding a branch, pray together.

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

During Lent, we have been preparing our hearts to celebrate Easter. Today we join Christ as he enters Jerusalem. In the coming days, we will take part in the mystery of his death and resurrection. By joining ourselves to Christ, God's grace will lift us up and rescue us.

Gospel

Matthew 21: 1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord has need of them," and he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

'Tell the daughter of Sion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon. Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted,

'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

And when he entered Jerusalem all the city was stirred, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, 'The prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

Pause for a moment of silent reflection. Then talk together about what Jesus will do in Jerusalem in the coming days. What will happen on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday?

Prayer

Lord, increase the faith of your people
and listen to our prayers.

Today we honour Christ our triumphant king
by carrying these branches.

May we honour you every day
by living always in him,

for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

Make your own prayers for those who are sick or in need. Ask God to protect them. Finish each prayer with:

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray in the words Jesus himself gave us:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

May God bless us and keep us safe.

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

Display your branches in your window or on your front door this evening as a sign of prayer and support.