

# Journey OF Faith

March 28, 2010

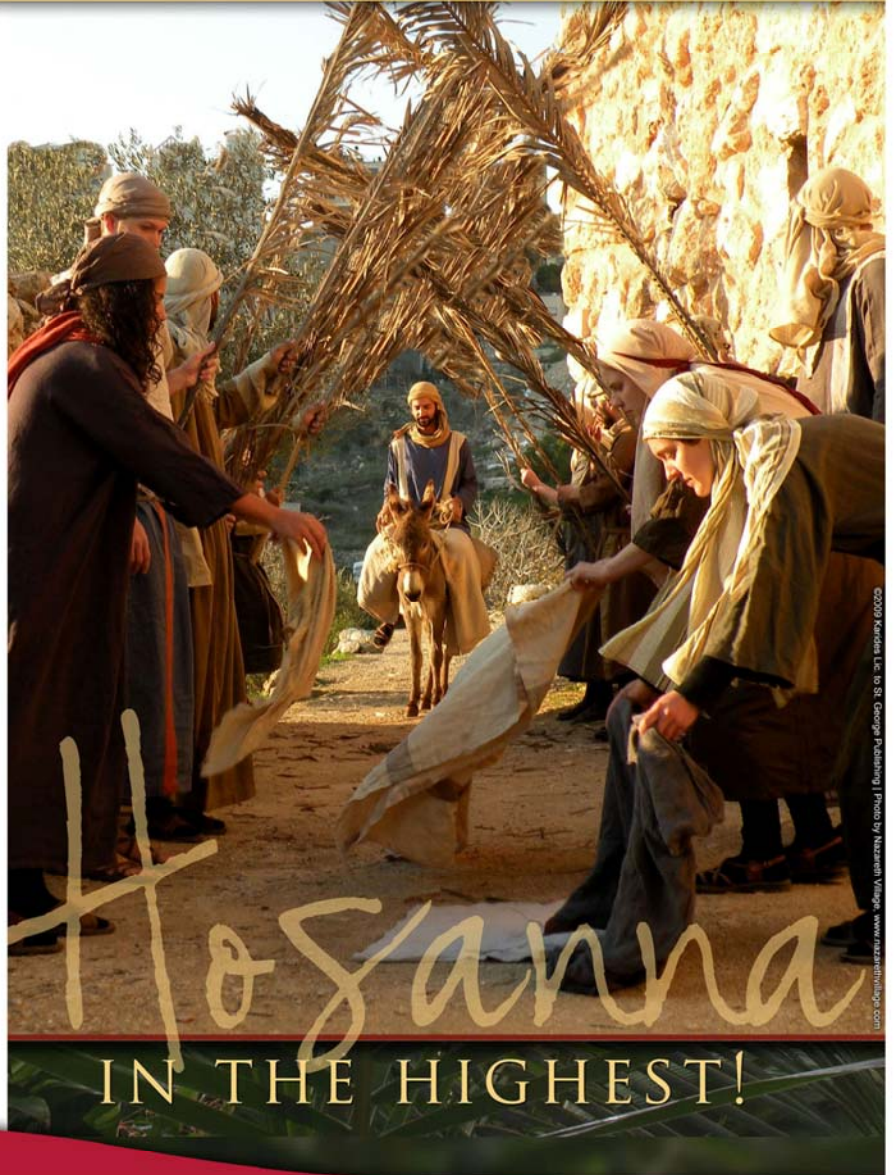
PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

## In Word & Deed

Prayer services, reflections and art often focus on the seven last words of Christ. These efforts try to capture the suffering and the agony of body and soul that Jesus experienced. In seven words we hear the intensity and the weight of the battle between evil and good, sin and grace, death and life. It is a solemn reflection on the difficulty of the spiritual life we lead as followers of Jesus.

If some focus on His seven last words, we might also focus on His seven most difficult words: Take up your cross and follow me. In that short sentence, all the faithful find their mission and purpose in life, given at Baptism and sealed in Confirmation. We follow Jesus. Trusting in His promises, accepting the Holy Spirit, and with a willing mind and heart, we take up our cross. It is the battle of faith, the power of hope and the glory of love. Through struggle, suffering and even

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Hosanna  
IN THE HIGHEST!

Like splendid palm branches, we are strewn in the Lord's path.

~LATIN ANTIPHON

## Scripture Readings

**Sunday** **March 28**

Lk 19:28-40 (37)/ Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14—23:56 or 23:1-49

**Monday** **March 29**

Is 42:1-7/Jn 12:1-11

**Tuesday** **March 30**

Is 49:1-6/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

**Wednesday** **March 31**

Is 50:4-9a/Mt 26:14-25

**Thursday** **April 1**

Chrim Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21; Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

**Friday** **April 2**

Is 52:13—53:12/ Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

**Saturday** **April 3**

Vigil: Gn 1:1—22 or 1:1, 26-31a/Gn 22:1-18 or 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/Lk 24:1-12

**Sunday** **April 4**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12 or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Lk 24:13-35

## FAMILY LIFE:

# TO WALK AS ONE

A documentary about local veterans featured interviews with soldiers from World War II through the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. They were patriotic, wanted to serve their country and were proud of their service. They answered all kinds of questions about their experiences, and their memories of serving. When asked why they served, there was one answer they all seemed to have in common. Each veteran indicated that he had served for the sake of freedom and so someone else would not have to go to war.

Jesus is an example of selfless service. He is the suffering servant who bears our sins and dies for our sake. When we cannot help ourselves, Jesus steps in, giving His life for ours. Service for the sake of others is a selfless act of

generosity.

People are often in need and have nowhere to turn.

Those who are blessed with abundance have the opportunity to make a difference, to serve the needs of people who are not so fortunate. It is not always about money or physical needs. Sometimes we are overwhelmed by confusion, fear, loneliness, anger, and loss. A helping hand can come in the form of a few words of encouragement, a listening ear, a hug, some time spent together or sharing a meal. The power to make a difference is in your hands. Use it for the sake of others.

~James Gaffney, © 2010 Karides Lic. to St. George Publishing  
jim@stgeorgepublishing.com



## Our Lord

COMES FROM THE MOUNT OF OLIVES TO PLANT YOUNG OLIVE TREES BY HIS POWER FROM ON HIGH. THEIR MOTHER IS THAT JERUSALEM WHICH IS ABOVE. AND ON THIS MOUNTAIN IS THE HEAVENLY FARMER.

*Amfrose of Milan  
Fourth century*



As Jesus rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen.

Luke 19:36-37

## In Word & Deed

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death, we choose to follow Christ as our life and our light.

Our final week of preparation for Easter is here and Palm Sunday is the time once again to take up the cross.

In our own lives, we will live the Passion of Jesus. We struggle with the

meaning of our life, the decisions we make, and the sins we commit. Never lose hope! The Lord knows the way.

Just pick up your cross and follow Him.

~James Gaffney



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