

Discussion and Reflection Questions

13th April 2025 - Palm Sunday

Read: Luke 19:28-40

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples,

³⁰ saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it." ' ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' ³⁴ They said, 'The Lord needs it.' ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ 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, ³⁸ saying,

'Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!'

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' ⁴⁰ He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

Questions

1. How are you approaching Holy Week? What are you anticipating?
2. Why do you think Jesus chooses a "colt" & not to enter on foot or a more impressive horse?
3. The reading for Palm Sunday doesn't have any reference to "palms". In Luke's gospel it's more like "Cloak Sunday"? Does this passage change for you when you take the Palms out. Why do you think it's only John's gospel that references palms?
4. What do you think the symbolism of laying cloaks could mean?
5. Imagine how conflicted Jesus must have been to see the adulation, acceptance & affirmation but to know that the crowd just don't get it. Have you experienced someone jumping to conclusions about issues of faith. Have you?
6. Verse 38 is an interesting statement to use when you don't get it or don't know what's coming but it can be a powerful statement when you do get &

you know what's coming & it may not be good. How can verse 38 be an anchor for us when there are dark or hard times ahead?

7. How does Palm Sunday point us towards hope?

Prayer

God of all,
you gave your only-begotten Son
to take the form of a servant,
and to be obedient even to death on a cross:
give us the same mind that was in Christ Jesus
that, sharing in his humility,
we may come to be with him in his glory,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.