

## CELEBRATING THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF OUR SCHOOL

## HOLY WEEK 2022

## PALM SUNDAY, 10TH APRIL

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

The Sunday before Easter, where we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

He rode in on a donkey, surprising everyone as it was not the entry of a king they had been expecting. The people waved palms and shouted,

"Hosanna!"

## **MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK**

"You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

It is shortly before Jesus' death, and he is with his friends, and one of the women has an expensive ointment which she has bought to use when Jesus dies. This shows us how important it is to care for our loved ones in their very last moments, treating them with dignity in death.

#### **TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK**

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."

Jesus came as an example of how to love perfectly. He knows his death is near, and needs his disciples to understand no matter what happens, the most important thing is to show love to all, following in his footsteps.

#### WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

"Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him."

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY, 14TH APRIL**

# "THIS IS MY BODY... DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME"

The Thursday before Easter, where we remember the events of the Last Supper. Jesus washed His disciples feet, showing us how we must serve those around us. At the Last Supper, Jesus shared bread and wine with his his friends. The words he spoke are echoed today, by Priests across the world as they celebrate Mass. This is why Holy Communion is so special for Catholics, as Jesus told is us this IS his body, it is how He remains with us still today.

After the Last Supper, Jesus went with some of his disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane. He went here to pray. Jesus knew that Judas was the one who had betrayed him, and that he would have to die. As he prayed, he asked God, his Father, if there was another way. At times of despair, we cry out to God, often wondering where He is, why He is allowing such suffering. Jesus, although fully God, was also fully man, and during these days he felt the full extent of human suffering. Jesus' prayer is a beautiful example to us today. He asks for his pain to be removed, but ultimately trusts in God's unfailing goodness - may God's will be done.

"FATHER, FOR YOU ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE; REMOVE THIS CUP FROM ME; YET, NOT MY WILL, BUT YOURS BE DONE."

## **GOOD FRIDAY, 15TH APRIL**

"So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."

They nailed Him to the Cross at 9 o'clock in the morning. At noon the whole country became dark. This darkness lasted for three hours. At three o'clock Jesus cried in a loud voice: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" and then, he breathed his last.

Good Friday is a day of fasting. The idea of sacrificing something (meat, chocolate, netflix) reminds us of the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made by laying down his life, but it also gives us the space and time to make sure our focus is on God, and on being better, kinder people, following Jesus' example of compassion.

