

# Dear Padre,

**I recently converted to Catholicism. Can you tell me more about the significance of the palm branches on Palm Sunday?**

**W**elcome to our faith! And we are delighted to answer your questions. We can consider the meaning of the palm branches on two levels. On the first level, we commemorate a historical event—Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

In biblical times, people saw the palm as a kingly tree because of its height and majestic appearance. During festivals, the Jews carried palm branches in processions. Roman soldiers carried palm branches in their victory parades. In public games, the winners of contests and sports received palm branches as signs of victory. Thus, when people greeted Jesus with palm branches, they

were greeting him in the spirit of joy and triumph usually reserved for victorious kings, armies, and athletes. It was the biblical equivalent of a ticker-tape parade!

That brings us to the second meaning for the palm branches. They do signify a joyful victory, but not in the worldly and military sense of the word. It is a victory that we can understand and celebrate only in the light of the other events of Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

The ultimate victory of Jesus was his Easter triumph over death and sin. But it was a victory won through suffering and dying. This is the victory we recall on Palm Sunday. Even though we must relive the sad events of Holy Thursday and Good Friday, we know the triumphant outcome of the story. Knowing that outcome enables us to make Palm Sunday the beginning of our victory celebration.

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## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*This celebration seems to combine stories of joy and suffering, mistakes and successes, which are part of our daily lives as disciples. It somehow expresses the contradictory feelings that we too, the men and women of today, experience: the capacity for great love...but also the ability to "wash our hands" at the right moment.*

PALM SUNDAY HOMILY, MARCH 25, 2018



## Calendar

**Monday**  
MARCH 29  
*Monday of Holy Week*  
Is 42:1-7  
Jn 12:1-11

**Tuesday**  
MARCH 30  
*Tuesday of Holy Week*  
Is 49:1-6  
Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

**Wednesday**  
MARCH 31  
*Wednesday of Holy Week*  
Is 50:4-9a  
Mt 26:14-25

**Thursday**  
APRIL 1  
*Holy Thursday*  
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14  
1 Cor 11:23-26  
Jn 13:1-15

**Friday**  
APRIL 2  
*Good Friday*  
Is 52:13-53:12  
Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9  
Jn 18:1-19:42

**Saturday**  
APRIL 3  
*Holy Saturday*  
Gn 1:1-2:2 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  
Mk 16:1-7

**Sunday**  
APRIL 4  
*Easter*  
Acts 10:34a, 37-43  
Col 3:1-4 or  
1 Cor 5:6b-8  
Jn 20:1-9 or  
Mk 16:1-7



*Palm Sunday*  
March 28, 2021



*Holy Spirit Catholic Church & Christ the King Catholic Mission*

*Reverend Peter Kmiecik, Pastor*

*Deacon John E. Jennings † Deacon Norbert Lloyd, Jr.*

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Office Hours: Mon-Thur-8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Fr. Peter is off on Monday



## Holy Spirit Mass Schedule & Intentions

*Week of March 27 – April 2*

Sat 6:00 pm †Mildred Werther  
Sun 11:00 am †All Souls Living & Deceased  
Sun 6:00 pm Parishioners Living & Deceased  
Mon 8:00 am NO MASS  
Tue 7:30 am †Jess Stringfellow  
Wed 8:00 am †Kevin Ray  
Thr 6:00 pm Parishioners Living & Deceased  
Fri 6:00 pm The Passion of the Lord

## Christ the King Mass Schedule & Intentions

*Week of March 27 – April 2*

Sat 4:00 pm †Ann Newman  
Sun 9:15 am †Jared Radich & Elaine Letort  
Tue 6:00 pm Aiden Boegner (Birthday)  
Thr 6:00 pm Parishioners Living & Deceased  
Fri 6:00 pm The Passion of the Lord

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Before and after daily Mass, and by Appointment

1<sup>st</sup> Friday Adoration – 8:30am- 6:00pm

at Holy Spirit in St. Patrick's Chapel

Adoration at Christ the King – Tuesday 5:30pm-6pm