

A Short Homily for Passion (Palm) Sunday – Year A

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May I speak in the Name of God, who is +Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Today we stand at the threshold of Holy Week, and as always, we receive Palm Crosses to remind us of the palm branches which the crowds waved when Jesus entered into Jerusalem. They shouted “Hosanna!” welcoming Him as King.

Yet, within days, those same voices would cry, “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”

Passion or Palm Sunday is a day of contrasts — joy and sorrow, triumph and suffering. We celebrate Jesus as the humble King who rode not on a stallion wielding a sword, but on a donkey a symbol of humility and simplicity, fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah:

“Behold, your king comes to you, humble and riding on a donkey.”

His kingship is not about power and domination, but about service, sacrifice, and love.

Today’s Gospel reminds us that following Christ means walking with Him not only in moments of glory, but also in the ‘Way of the Cross’.

The palm crosses which we hold are not just symbols of victory; they are also a call to faithfulness. They challenge us to remain steadfast in our discipleship, even despite betrayals, even when life becomes difficult, and even if the world turns against us.

As we enter Holy Week, let us ask ourselves:
Will we stay close to Jesus in His suffering, or will we distance ourselves when the Evil One makes our faith uncomfortable for us?

Can we welcome Him not just with our lips, but with our lives?

Let our “Hosannas” today be more than just words — let the words turn into a real commitment to follow Jesus through His Betrayal, His Cross, and finally to His glorious Resurrection on Easter Day.

Concluding Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, as we walk with You this Holy Week, give us the courage to remain faithful. May our hearts be open to Your love, our lives reflect Your humility, and our faith lead us to the joy of Easter morning.

Amen.