

## PALM SUNDAY

Today the church celebrates both Palm Sunday & Passion Sunday. As we enter Holy Week, we welcome Jesus into our lives, asking Him to allow us a share in His suffering, death and resurrection.

This is the time of the year when we stop to not only remember but relive the events that brought about our redemption and salvation. Today the palms remind us of Jesus triumphant entry into Jerusalem as he is hailed as the messiah. A short lived experience as the reading of the passion present us with the suffering and death of Jesus.

At the same time the Jewish feast of the pass over was being celebrated as they remember how God spared them from death in Egypt.

During this Jewish feast, nearly 25000 lambs would have been sacrificed one especially, however, was prepared to be offered by the high priest. Jesus is our sacrificial lamb offered for our salvation

We are encouraged today to set aside the business of our busy lives for just one week, to take a breath and allow this exceptional time of Holy Week to envelop us into the very real experience of the

last week of Jesus life, as we accompany him on the way to his death on Calvary and his glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday. If we sincerely want to use this time effectively, for our salvation, then we should be involved in every aspect of this week. The mass of the lords supper on Thursday, the Good Friday ceremonies, the beautiful first celebration of Jesus resurrection on Holy Saturday night at the Vigil mass, a time when we will also welcome new converts to the faith, through baptism & confirmation. And then the other Easter resurrection celebrations on Easter Sunday. Then we can look forward to a happy and holy Easter.