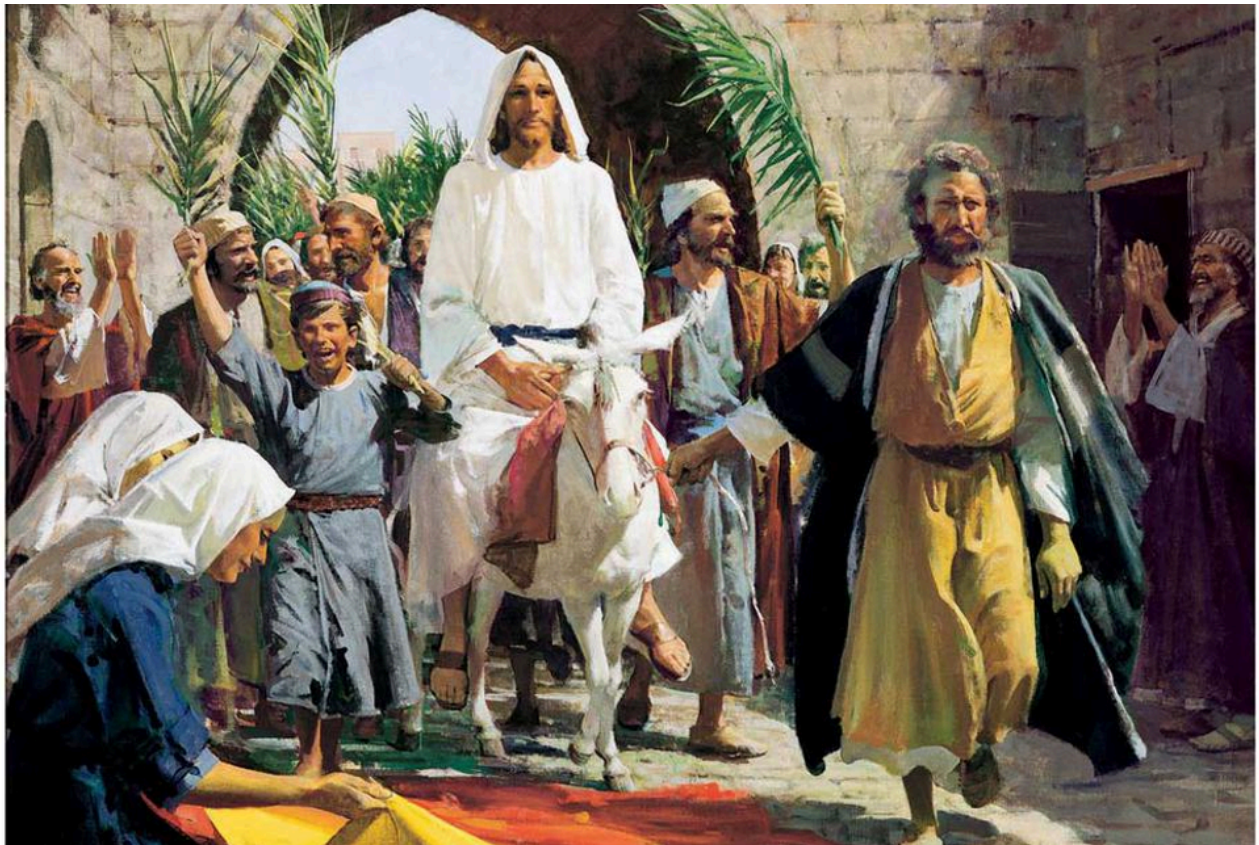


# PALM SUNDAY



Jesus enters into Jerusalem  
before His Passion and Death

Children's Liturgy  
Presentation Guide





### **Core Concepts (Teacher Reference)**

A few days before His Passion, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey. He was welcomed by enthusiastic crowds of people. Jesus' entry into Jerusalem manifested the coming of the kingdom that the King-Messiah was going to accomplish by the Passover of his Death and Resurrection.

(CCC 560)

## **Materials**

- Jesus, several apostles and various crowd figures (taken from the Cenacle & Gospel Characters dioramas).
- Canvas backdrops: City Outskirts & A Country Road.
- If available: A model donkey and several 'cloaks'. One cloak needs to be long enough to secure it to the donkey with velcro.
- velcro dots to secure Jesus to the donkey.
- some imitation palms or other flat shaped greenery.
- Images of the event.
- Model of the City of Jerusalem.

## **Words to Understand**

**Colt:** a young donkey

**Disciple:** A person who was following Jesus, and listening to his messages in order to learn from him.

## Presentation

Today we are going to hear about the time when Jesus came into the city of Jerusalem, just a few days before He suffered and died on the cross.

We remember His entry into Jerusalem, when Jesus rode into the city as a peaceful, humble king. The Kings of Israel rode on a donkey to demonstrate that their true king was God and they were His humble servants.

Here is the story of that day we find written in the Gospel of St Luke. This account doesn't include palm branches, but they are mentioned in John's Gospel.

Show students where the journey took place using the model of Jerusalem.

Light the candle.

Read from Luke 19: 28-40.

Indicate the model of Jerusalem.

Indicate the figures of Jesus and the apostles in front of the diorama background of A Country Road.

Move two of the apostles closer to Jesus.

When Jesus had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, 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.

If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'"

So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them.

Move the chosen two disciples away and towards the young donkey, with some crowd figures set in front of the City Outskirts backdrop.

As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

Move two of the crowd figures close to the apostles.

They said, "The Lord needs it."

Move the apostles to face the other two.

Then move them and the colt back to where Jesus awaits.

Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

Place a 'cloak' on the back of the donkey, secure by joining edges with velcro dots. Attach Jesus to the donkey with velcro.

As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

Place 'cloaks' along the path that Jesus is taking.

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, saying,

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.”

Move at least one pharisee close to Jesus.

Indicate Jesus.

He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

Extinguish the candle.

## **I Wonder...**

- what were the 'deeds of power' that the disciples had witnessed and that inspired them to call out: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"
- why the pharisees were in the crowd as well.
- why the pharisees asked Jesus to stop the people from calling out as they did.
- what Jesus might have meant when he replied: "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

## **Suggestions for pondering for choices**

- Use the diorama figures to tell the story of Palm Sunday
- Draw or colour a picture that tells the story of Palm Sunday
- Use the City of Jerusalem to retell the story of Palm Sunday (using the accompanying pictures)



SKU: 10692