

Living the Word

Isaiah 50.4-9a

This servant, who has been obviously been punished, is certainly aware of God's redemptive powers. The Lord God helps even the person who has been so far turned aside from him. For those who would sing the Lord's praises on his entrance, would be the same people who would scream for his blood later in the week. And the Lord loves each of these, just as he loves each of us. And he who vindicates us is near. The Lord's coming is indeed near, and just as we are praising his entrance to Jerusalem today, we must ever keep in mind that he knows what this entrance precedes. The repetition in this particular passage demonstrates the number of times that we turn from God and the number of times he forgives us. How important for us to hold onto that during the coming week.

Prayers to Remember

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from the side of Christ, wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within Thy wounds hide me
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee
From the malicious enemy defend me
In the hour of my death call me
And bid me come unto Thee
That with Thy Saints I may praise Thee
Forever and ever.
Amen.

The Anima Christi

O Sing Unto the Lord

The traditional Palm Sunday procession is associated with the singing of *All glory, laud and honour*. This is a translation by J.M. Neale of the Latin hymn, 'Gloria, laus et honor', attributed to St Theodulf who was bishop of Orleans. Theodulf was imprisoned in Angers in 818 and whilst there sang the hymn from his cell when the king of France, Louis I, was passing. The king forthwith ordered his release. The original version was much longer than that which we know today, but the words remain relevant as a hymn of glory from us to Christ as our redeemer. One of the omitted verses seems particularly quaint to modern ears 'Be thou, O Lord, the rider, And we the little ass; That to God's Holy City, Together we may pass'. The tune St Theodulph, is by a Polish composer, Melchior Teschner (1584-1635). The naming of the tune being an indication of the marriage of tune and words.

28th March
2021

Palm Sunday

Journey to New Life



We enter today into a week made holy forever by the self-surrendering love of Jesus for us all. All week, we remember how he loved us. Whatever we do, no matter how busy or distracted we might be, we must make time for Jesus and allow the power of this week to change us. Jesus entered into our life - with its profound joys and its pains - that we might never experience those struggles alone. No matter what other tasks we must do this week, we can let it become a "holy" week, by opening our hearts to the love of Jesus and allowing ourselves to be touched by his grace. From the humble, yet triumphant, entry into Jerusalem, to our standing together at the foot of his cross on Good Friday, this can be a week which helps us bring all of the elements of our lives, all our experiences of sin and death, into the font of his redeeming, liberating death and resurrection. By entering deeply into this week, our lives will be changed by his love.