

Day 40– Palm Sunday

Scripture for Prayer

Stilling: Take a few minutes to become still.

God is Present: God is with you. Ask God to inspire your imagination.

Ask for what you desire. What gift, what grace do you want right now?

Read the passage through.

Identify with a character: Choose one of the people in the story and imagine the scene from their point of view.

Set the Scene: Fill in the details to make the story real for you. Imagine the scenery, the weather, the people. Be aware of how you feel.

Mark 11:1-10 (NRSVA)

When Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.”’

They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!’

Conversation: When you come towards the end of your time of prayer, talk to Jesus, or Martha about what has come up for you. Imagine how they might reply.

Prayer: End with a formal prayer, such as the Lord's Prayer/Our Father

Review of Prayer

Notice how you reacted and felt.

Is this saying anything about you, about the way you see others or God?

Did anything surprise you?

Is there anything you need to pray about in future?

Today's Meditation

The Messiah

To fulfil the words of the prophet, Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey as the Messiah.

The crowds of poor people acclaim him as the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Great jubilation! Jesus knows that this provocation will bring him to condemnation but he has to fulfil his destiny.

He has to be who he is called to be. Jesus cannot deny himself. If Jesus is afraid, then he overcomes his fear. "Better safe than sorry", does not figure in Jesus' list of favourite proverbs!

Look back on your own life: where there times you dared to take a chance; times when you moved out of your comfort zone to do something you needed to do? Were there times when you risked the ridicule, anger, incomprehension or rejection of others in order to do what you felt was right?

Did these times bring you life?

To live is to change.

What changes have there been in your life over the past year? What changes have there been this Lent?

What changes would really allow you to be yourself, to be who God calls you to be, to really love and live life with intensity?

What change would help you know, love and serve God and his beloved people better?

Ask God for the grace to overcome fear and become the person God is calling you to be.

Talk with Jesus Christ, friend and brother, express your fears, feelings and desires.