Wednesday 20th March 2024

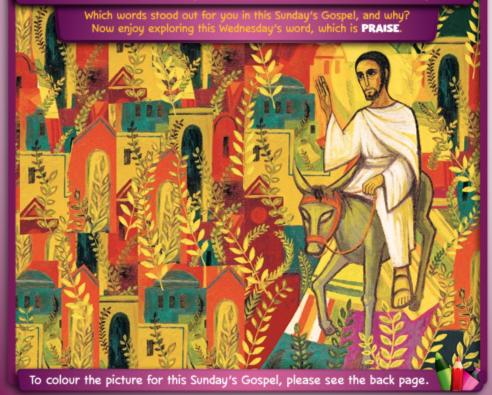


Good News for Families

Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

When Jesus and his disciples were on their way to Jerusalem, they came to the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of his disciples into the nearby village to collect a donkey. He said to them, "If anyone stops you, tell them that it is for the Lord, and that the donkey will be returned." So the disciples set off and found the donkey. When they untied it from its post, some people said to them, "What are you doing?" The disciples answered just as Jesus had told them, and the people let the disciples take the donkey to Jesus. Then Jesus rode into Jerusalem. People were spreading their cloaks and palm branches on the road in front of him. They praised God, shouting: "Hosanna! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heavens!"

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 24th March 2024. Mark 11:1-10 (Passion/Palm Sunday)





"God is full of love: to him be praise forever!" Pope Francis

Why were the people shouting? This coming Sunday is known as Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. It is the start of Holy Week. Palms will be handed out in Church in remembrance of the welcome and great praise that the people gave to Jesus when he entered Jerusalem. As we grow in our knowledge and love of Jesus, it's natural to want to praise God. Ask your child what the word 'praise' means to them. Ask who regularly praises them and lets them know how good they've been. How does your child feel when they receive praise? Does your child praise anyone - and why? How does your child feel when they praise someone? It may help to share an example of someone you feel deserves praise.

"Praise God always, no matter the time of day." St Benedict

In this Sunday's Gospel, the people praised Jesus. There are many things for which we can praise God (e.g. a loving family, good friends, caring teachers and for always having a good friend - Jesus - who loves us and never forgets us). Praising God brings happiness; it's what we were made for. How can we praise God this week? Perhaps we can: think of all the good things that we have received from God (like the beauty of nature and all creation, for our homes and for each other) and say a quiet prayer of thanks and praise; regularly pray the 'Glory Be' - a simple prayer of praise (see bottom of page).

Dear Lord Jesus, as Holy Week approaches, we thank and praise you for giving your life for us, so that one day we too may know the joys of heaven, Amen.



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A Great Prayer to Praise God!

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Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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