

March 24-25, 2018

Palm/Passion Weekend

Isaiah 50:4-7

Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14:1-15:47

By what stories are YOU known? A war story from Vietnam, Iraq or Afghanistan? A vacation adventure or mishap that gets retold every time you gather with particular friends? How your spouse proposed to you? A funeral or wedding of a friend? The birth of your children? A Halloween costume forever u-tubed? We humans are not only social in nature, we are PEOPLE of STORY. Put two or three folks together and somehow STORIES will start to be told by way of introducing ourselves to each other. Add food, beverage or familiarity and the stories become lengthier, more intimate and the truest signs conveying the depth of our relationships. This weekend we start retelling A STORY that DEFINES us as Catholic-Christians. Presented in it's fullness on this Palm/Passion Weekend, the PASSION Narrative speaks to the final days and hours of Jesus' earthy ministry among us in his incarnate/human presence. The progression of Jesus, as will be shared throughout the coming days of Holy Week, from the 'casual' honors shown him during his Palm Sunday entry into Jerusalem, to the depth of emotion in his Thursday meal and farewells, to the betrayals - abandonment - humiliation - pain and death of Friday, to the empty waiting of Saturday to the confusing dawn of the Sunday sun...this narrative is a reflection of OUR lives as well as that of Jesus. Who among us has not felt the sting of betrayal? Who has not had to face painful decisions alone? Good-byes get no easier no matter how many times we have lived them. Waiting...for us who live in the AGE of the IMMEDIATE, is pointless and useless...as is the confusion of having to WAIT for the Resurrection to fully RISE. These days, and the stories they comprise, have within them clues by which life can be more fully understood. The incomprehensible is illuminated with the colors of faith and as is true of any good story, each time the story is revisited, fresh insight can be intuited. This IS our story...which is why we repeat it century after century...what have you learned of yourself by hearing of HIM of whom the story has been told and told and told and told?

The Season of Lent limping toward its conclusion, thank you for sharing this Palm/Passion Weekend with our Santa Clara community. **The Blessed Palms OUTSIDE are available for you to take, as many as you wish, at the conclusion of Mass. The best way of disposing of your OLD blessed palms from previous years is either by burning or adding them to your garden mulch. The TRIDUUM events of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday Vigil all begin at 7pm on their designated days...please treat yourself to the fullness of OUR STORY...and experiencing a much FULLER Easter Sunday because of it. There are no confessions or 5pm Mass next Saturday and the Easter Sunday Masses are at 8am, 10am and 12Noon.** All will be crowded so plan accordingly. Parking is available on the street as well as on our grass field behind the fence. Your generosity with the **FLOWER ENVELOPES** will allow you and your families to enjoy a beautiful Easter Season...the envelopes can be found at the entrances/exits. **Remember as well...next weekend will have LOTS of extended family and friends joining us...make sure you put on your BRIGHTEST EASTER SMILE and welcome them all with joy....why would anyone want to come back to a community that is grumpy or mean? Lastly....THANK YOU for being the FAMILY of Santa Clara, please know that you are loved.** FKB