

April 5, 2020  
**Palm Sunday**

Welcome to Holy Ghost Church! We welcome all guests and visitors present among us!

Today we celebrate **Palm Sunday**.

Out of respect to those around you, please use the Gathering Area for toddlers and the Quieting Room for infants.

There is no second collection today.

## **Invitation to the Blessing of Branches**

We hold palm branches today, recalling Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, the holy city. It is a bittersweet remembrance because we know that no sooner had he celebrated the Passover meal with his disciples than he was arrested, tried, convicted, and put to death. But Jerusalem is more than the site of his crucifixion. It is also the site of his resurrection. Through his sacrifice we all hope to one day reach the eternal Jerusalem.

## **Procession Gospel #37A: *Matthew 21:1–11***

### **Penitential Act C**

Lord Jesus, Savior of the world, in your dying you revealed the immensity of the Father's love: Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, Savior of the world, in your passion and death you emptied yourself for our sake: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, Savior of the world, in your resurrection you have been given the name that is above every other name: Lord, have mercy.

## **Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word #38A**

Isaiah 50:4–7 The Suffering Servant speaks to the weary.

Psalm 22 "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

Philippians 2:6–11 Jesus emptied himself, and accepted death on a cross.

Matthew 26:14—27:66 or 27:11–54 They came to a place called Golgotha and crucified Jesus there.

We've probably heard the narrative dozens of times: Jesus enters Jerusalem to cries of "Hosanna," but just a few days later the shouts he hears from the crowd are "Let him be crucified!" As we listen today to Isaiah's prophecy, Paul's testimony, and Matthew's account of the Passion, let our exclamations echo those who came to believe almost two thousand years ago: "Truly, this was the Son of God!"

### **Dismissal of Catechumens (and Candidates)**

Dear friends, each year the Church celebrates this holiest of weeks with reverence and awe. We stand before the Lord Jesus, who suffered and died to save us from our sins. We are overwhelmed by this great act of love that brings new life to all who call out to God in faith. As we begin this Holy Week, we pledge our prayerful support and love, for the journey that is ahead of you involves embracing the cross of Christ in a deeper way. As you reflect on the powerful words of today's liturgy, we look forward to the day when you will join us at the Eucharistic banquet. Until that day, go in peace.

## Prayers of the Faithful

**Presider:** My brothers and sisters, as Easter draws near let us earnestly pray that all of us may come to share more fully in the life Christ brings us through His suffering, death and resurrection.

**Deacon or Assisting Minister:** Please respond, *“Lord, hear our prayer”*.

That God’s Church may always cry out that salvation comes from the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray to the Lord...

That all the medical community that is dealing with the Corona Virus be safe and protected as they support the sick and dying, we pray to the Lord...

That the research to find a cure and effective treatment for our current health pandemic comes quickly, we pray to the Lord...

For the state of Louisiana and the whole world, that we may do our part to flatten the curve and spread of the Corona Virus, we pray to the Lord...

That those of our parish and diocese preparing for the Sacraments during this difficult time, may be encouraged knowing that Christ is walking with them, we pray to the Lord...

That our parish community of **Holy Ghost**, may journey from passion and death to a new life of glory in the promised resurrection, we pray to the Lord...

That those who have died, especially the **Parishioners of Holy Ghost**, and for the intentions of this mass, may they join the voices in heaven who cry Hosanna and confess that Jesus is Lord, we pray to the Lord...

In silence, we pray through Jesus, whose example of obedience to the Father’s will is our model, for our own intentions and the needs of the world he has saved. *[pause; the presider alone concludes...]*

**PRESIDER:**

God, You sent Your Son  
that we might be saved.  
Strengthen us, lift us up,  
that we may love one another as He loves us.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**