



The Entry into Jerusalem

Resource Overview for Parents and Families

Scripture Readings

Epistle/Apostol:

Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel:

John 12:1-18

Troparion/Apolytikion – Tone 1

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Your passion, You confirmed the universal Resurrection, O Christ God! Like the children with the palms of victory, we cry out to You, O Vanquisher of death: "Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!"

Kontakion – Tone 2

Christ the Joy, the Truth and the Light of all, the Life of the World and the Resurrection has appeared in His goodness, to those on earth. He has become the Image of our Resurrection, granting divine forgiveness to all!

Today We Learned About

Scripture

- Philippians 4:4-9
- John 12:1-18

Liturgical Life

- Blessing of Palms and Branches

Feasts & Saints

- Venerable Anthusa of Constantinople (April 25)

Daily Living

- Holy Week

Questions for Your Kids

- Why does St. Paul encourage us to rejoice?
(Hint: God's peace and love...)
- Why did Jesus enter Jerusalem on a donkey (as a King)?
- How is Jesus our Lord and King?

Learn and Discover Together

- If we have faith in God, and pray to Him, how will this help us not be anxious in life?
- If the poor are always with us (as Jesus says), what can we do as Orthodox Christians?

- Why do we get blessed palms and branches in church today?
- How are our palms and branches like the banners and posters at a sporting event?
- How can we give glory to God today?

- Why does our priest bless the palms and branches with holy water?
- What can we do with the palm and branches at home?
(Hint: place them near or on top of our icons...)

- Why did St. Anthusa's parents give her that name?
- How did St. Anthusa use her status as the daughter of the Emperor to help people?
- How can you help others like St. Anthusa?

- Let's read the life of St. Anthusa: <http://bit.ly/apr12-anthusa>
- How would you use great wealth to help those less fortunate?
- How can service to others be a way to learn humility?

- Why is it important to attend the daily services of Holy Week?
- Does God need us to come to church?
- How does coming to church help us as Orthodox Christians?

- Why does the Church say Holy Week is a period of "Bright Sadness"?
(Hint: Sad at the crucifixion, but Christ's death gives us new life...)
- What can we offer God for His great mercy towards us?
(Hint: Gratitude, awe, our repentance...)

Learn More...

Study guides for different age groups are available to accompany the "The Lord is God" handout for Palm Sunday.

Use as many or as few of the questions and discussion topics to help children learn about the feast while discovering how the Orthodox Faith can be a part of their daily life.

Ask open-ended questions which may lead the conversation to reveal their thoughts about God.

As parents, we may not readily have all the answers, but we have the ability to inspire a desire in children to love God, which can benefit them throughout their lives.

In the Week Ahead...

The Lenten Fast continues until after receiving the Eucharist on Pascha.

Today: Great Feast of the Entry into Jerusalem

Holy Week: Monday through Saturday

Next Sunday: Pascha: The Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ

