

# Extension Activity 2

# Holy Week: From death to new life

## FOCUS

1. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday.
2. During Holy Week we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus.
3. On Easter Sunday we celebrate Jesus rising to new life.

Jesus came into Jerusalem riding on a donkey with his disciples. As they came into Jerusalem a large crowd of people welcomed Jesus waving branches of palm trees and shouting out aloud, "Hosanna! Praise God! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Bless the King of Israel!"

The people placed palm branches on the road before the donkey. Everyone joined in the wonderful procession.

Just before Jesus died he gathered his disciples for a special meal. He asked them to remember him each time they broke and shared the bread and drank from the cup. This special meal was the first Mass.

The next day Jesus died on the Cross, showing his love for his friends. Below the cross stood his mother, his beloved disciple John and Mary Magdalene. Jesus' friends were very sad when he died. They thought they would never see Jesus again.

A few days later a wonderful thing happened. Jesus' friends discovered that he had not left them at all. Jesus had kept his promise. He had risen from the dead!

Early Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to visit the place where Jesus was laid to rest. As they arrived at the place, they saw an angel standing there. The angel looked like lightning. He had robes that were white as snow.

The angel saw that the two Marys were afraid. The angel spoke to them and said, "Why are you afraid? Are you looking for Jesus? He is not here. He is risen! He is alive!"

The angel then took them inside to show them the empty place where Jesus had been laid. He then said to them, "Go and tell all his friends that he is alive."

The two Marys ran with excitement and great joy to tell the others the great news.

## SUGGESTED HOME ACTIVITIES

These are some suggested activities to do at home with your child.

1. Read and discuss the three passages with your child. Ask him or her 'I wonder' questions eg. I wonder ... why the people waved branches. I wonder ... why Jesus rode a donkey.
2. Display a palm branch prominently in the family home.
3. Starting with Palm Sunday make a special effort to observe the key events of Holy Week.
4. Encourage your child to make Easter cards on behalf of your family to give to relatives and friends.
5. Place a symbol of the resurrection prominently in your house eg. a white cloth draped over the arms of a cross. Fill the house with flowers.
6. More activities can be found at [www.ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au) Click on Home Activities.

## To Remember:

**Palm Sunday is the first day  
of Holy Week.  
Holy Week is a special time  
to remember Jesus.  
Alleluia! Jesus is alive.**

