

**Palm Sunday**

**Passion Sunday**

**The same day**

**At most Masses we begin by reading of Jesus' triumphant  
entrance into Jerusalem**

**Our Gospel then tells of his passion**

**His suffering and death on Mt Calvary**

**The same day**

**The same crowd**

**Crying out '*Hosanna*' on Sunday**

**Calling out '*Crucify him*' a few days later**

**He wasn't surprised**

**Remember the reading only a couple weeks ago:**

***He did not need anyone to tell him about human nature***

***He knew it well***

**He didn't get all puffed up with the accolades**

**He knew well what was coming**

**As we begin Holy Week**

**It is important to recall this isn't about what others did to Jesus**

**It is not a history lesson**

**It is our story as well**

**We all have our own Jerusalem to face in our lives**

**We all live up to expectations as disciples at times**

**We all fail to live up to them at other times**

**We are called to admit our role in his crucifixion**

**Judas was one of his close companions**

**Selected by Jesus to be an apostle**

**But Judas wanted things his way**

**He wanted glory, not humility**

**He wanted authority**

**Not meekness**

**Judas thought he knew better than Christ**

**How often are we Judas?**

**When we think the Mass should be this way or another**

**When we decide enough is enough**

**I will leave Mass when I want to**

**Remember, Judas left early as well**

**When we want to live a morality to our own liking**

**We think the church has too many rules to live by**

**The Mass becomes a convenience**

**And if it is not convenient, then I will find something that is**

**How often are we Peter?**

**We know Jesus**

**But then gather around our personal campfires**

**In the car, in the break room, at family dinners**

**Do our conversations acknowledge that we know him?**

**Eating the Body of Christ at the Eucharist**

**And treat our neighbor with gossip, neglect or jealousy**

**How often are we Pilate?**

**Trying to please our family and friends**

**At the expense of our faith and values**

**Why are we not willing to lose a human friendship?**

**But willing to let our relationship with God slide**

**If we are going to face our Jerusalem**

**Not a city, but perhaps a serious illness or accident**

**Perhaps something in our marriage or job**

**Any challenge or uncertainty in our life**

**Things we might be aware of right now**

**Things that might come out of the blue**

**Jesus shows us how to be prepared**

**He shows us how to move forward**

**He has been there**

**He will be there**

**We do not enter this Jerusalem alone**

**He shows us the cross is not the end**

**But with his grace, it will lead to new life and salvation**