A Holy Week Pilgrimage for 2020

The walk of Holy Week is different for the people of God this year. This year our pilgrimage will take place in our own homes – our house churches. The table at which we sit each day can become the focus for our Holy Week walk.

We walk with a shadow - the shadow of the Coronavirus that is affecting all our lives. Throughout this week we can carry all who are affected by this virus on the journey with us. The sick, the suffering, those who accompany the sick and the suffering – this is an additional focus for the prayer of Holy Week this year. To carry in prayer to the Cross and beyond all who are affected by this great life disruptor in addition to all we bring from our own lives.

So, let us clear a space on our tables, or our desks, or any little place and invite the God of Holy Week to bless our simple pilgrimage.

Passion /Palm Sunday



On our table
A branch or palm or display of greenery

We pray

(Entrance Antiphon from the Mass of Passion/Palm Sunday)

Six days before the Passover,
When the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem,
The children ran to meet him;
In their hands they carried palm branches
And with a loud voice cried out:
Hosanna in the highest!

We recall

The ancient story of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem, the journey that began in celebration but ended in suffering and humiliation.

Read: Matthew's gospel: 26:14-27; 66

We remember

We reflect on where our footsteps have taken us since we last celebrated Passion/Palm Sunday.

- What have been our blessings?
- What have been our disappointments?
- Where have we found hope?
- Where have we found God?

We carry in our hearts

- The confidence that our God is near as we allow whatever is in our hearts to rise
- We think about Jesus and ask for his grace to allow us to journey with him this Holy Week

We pray

For the members of the parish and the church throughout the world: That this time of Holy Week will draw us closer together in our commitment to be a people of mission.

We pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear us.

For the sick, the suffering and those who care for them: especially those affected by the Coronavirus:

That they are comforted by the presence of God in their lives.

We pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear us.

Leader:

Loving God, to heal the world your Son endured death on a cross. Listen with compassion to our prayers. Give us peaceful and tranquil hearts and help us to remain hopeful in the midst of hard times.

We ask this Christ our Lord.

Amen.