



**Blessed Sacrament Parish
Homily by Deacon Terry Ellerman
April 14, 2019 Palm Sunday**

At the Procession With Palms: Luke 19:28-40

Reading I Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm 22:8-24

Reading II Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel Luke 22:14-23, 56

Homily

We are now at Palm Sunday and when we processed in waving our palms, we participated in the ceremony of Jesus entering Jerusalem, and the crowd hailing and recognizing him as the king of the Jews. We need to remember that Jesus is the one who loves us, and who eventually gave up his life for us.

So this week is really a time for us to be quiet, maybe do a little more meditation, more concentration on the love that God has for us. We need to look at what we have already done during Lent, and also what do we still need to do before we celebrate the great feast of Easter on Sunday.

Thursday evening, Friday and Saturday is the Triduum where we see Jesus instituting the Eucharist for us that we receive at every Mass.

On Thursday there is the washing of the disciples feet to show us how to serve other people.

Then we, as parishioners, come on Good Friday to venerate the cross and to contemplate what Jesus did for us during his life. That cross was a Roman symbol, which was horrible. To die on the cross is nothing that you or I would ever want to have happen to us. But that cross became the cross of life. The cross of hope.

We look at our world, and our world is not always a good place. We are not always nice to each other. But we have hope in Jesus because Jesus loves us so much that he always gives us what we need.

So today, as we begin Holy Week, let's look at ourselves and ask, "Are we grateful enough to this God who so loves us? And do we truly have the hope that Jesus has given us with his passion, his death and resurrection?"

Terry Ellerman is a retired educator and serves as a deacon at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Quincy, Illinois. (Third TASCAM Recorder DR40 file 27)

