



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Religious processions have been a significant part of mainline religious traditions for many centuries. Within the Islamic faith people process to *Mecca* and for many people of the ancient Jewish faith there is the feast of *Tabernacles* where people would process to the great Temple in Jerusalem. At a *mini* level within a Christian church people would process with a person to be baptized to the church baptismal font.

This weekend the Christian churches throughout the world acknowledge the procession of Jesus of Nazareth entering Jerusalem on a donkey now known as *Palm Sunday*. Here he is publically acknowledged as "*The son of David- the Messiah*". It is significant that Jesus rode on a donkey as this is an animal traditionally associated with humility and service. If he rode on a horse it would have signified that he was a person of superiority and status.

This coming week is known as *Holy Week* and during this week we hear of a *roller coaster* series of events where the son of God was enthusiastically affirmed, giving humble service to others then being betrayed, unjustly condemned to death then tortured to death and then rising it new life. I encourage you when and where you can to participate again in this amazing journey. *Fr Martin R Maunsell*