

Thou didst accept their praises;
Accept the love we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King.

Theodulph of Orleans, ca. 760–821
Music: Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

After the procession has concluded and all are gathered in the home, the leader may read the readings of the Mass for reflection or go immediately to the closing prayer. It is suitable to read at least a short portion of Jesus' passion narrative on this day from the Gospel according to St. Matthew, or at least an adaption if there be small children in the home whose attention cannot stay fixed on the Gospel narrative.

Let us pray. *(Pause)* **Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.**

All: **Amen.**

Leader: **May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.**

All: **Amen.**

[Adapted from "Palm Sunday: The Solemn Entrance," in *The Roman Missal*.]



Private Procession with Palms in the Home

(lead by the head of the home)

Leader: **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

All: **Amen.**

Palms are distributed to all in the home.

Leader: **Since the beginning of Lent until now we have prepared our hearts by penance and charitable works. Today we gather together to herald with the whole Church the beginning of the celebration of our Lord's Paschal Mystery, that is to say, of his Passion and Resurrection. For it was to accomplish this mystery that he entered his own city of Jerusalem. Therefore, with all faith and devotion, let us commemorate the Lord's entry into the city for our salvation, following in his footsteps, so that, being made by his grace**

partakers of the Cross, we may have a share also in his Resurrection and in his life.

Let us pray. *(Pause)* Increase the faith of those who place their hope in you, O God, and graciously hear the prayers of those who call on you, that we, who today hold high these branches to hail Christ in his triumph, may bear fruit for you by good works accomplished in him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Leader (or another family member): **Let us listen to the words of the Gospel according to St. Matthew. When Jesus and the disciples drew near Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tethered, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them here to me. And if anyone should say anything to you, reply, ‘The master has need of them.’ Then he will send them at once.” This happened so that what had been spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled: ‘Say to daughter Zion, “Behold, your king comes to you, meek and riding on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.” The disciples went and did as Jesus had ordered them. They brought the ass and the colt and laid their cloaks over them, and he sat upon them. The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road. The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: “Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.” And when he entered Jerusalem**

the whole city was shaken and asked, “Who is this?” And the crowds replied, “This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Reader: **The word of the Lord.**

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: **My friends, like the crowds who acclaimed Jesus in Jerusalem, let us go forth in peace.**

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The leader, if possible, leads a procession preferably around the outside of the home on the family’s property, inside the home if necessary. In any case, a suitable song may be sung:

1. All glory, laud, and honor
To thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.
Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David’s royal Son,
Who in the Lord’s name comest,
The King and Blessed One.

2. The company of angels
Are praising thee on high,
And mortal men and all things
Created make reply.
The people of the Hebrews
With palms before thee went;
Our praise and love and anthems
Before thee we present.

3. To thee, before thy passion,
They sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise.