

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 3 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 24

WE CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK: HOSANNA!

Objectives

- Identify Palm Sunday as the Church's celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.
- Describe the Palm Sunday Mass.
- Sequence the events honored during Holy Week.
- Celebrate Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem with a prayer, a procession, and music.

Step 1: We Are Invited (Life Experience), page 146

Invite your child to recall how your family welcomes special guests to your home. Encourage your child to keep those special welcoming celebrations in mind as you pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 146.

Read the title (**Hosanna!**) and the story text with great excitement. Ask: How did the people feel about Jesus' arrival? (happy, joyful, excited) Why do you think they felt this way? (Jesus was a very special person to those who knew him; some thought he was the Messiah and that he could save them.)

Read aloud the bulleted question. (We are recalling Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and we are praising him for saving us.)

Ask your child to name the kind of tree shown in the background picture. (a palm tree) Explain that palm trees were common where Jesus lived. Then read the caption.

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), page 147

Read aloud **We Celebrate Palm Sunday** on page 147. Use the **Language of Faith** section at the back of the textbook to clarify the meanings of the highlighted terms.

Read **Catholics Believe**. Point out that when God's reign comes, those who are "least" in our world, such as children and those who are poor, will be the greatest.

Ask your child to study the pictures on page 147 carefully. Ask: What is the family doing with the palms they have? (displaying them behind a crucifix) Where did the family probably get the palms? (at Mass on Palm Sunday) Where do you put the palms you receive on Palm Sunday? (Answers will vary.)

Read aloud the **Activity**. Try to follow through on the suggestion found there.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 148

Review the material taught in this lesson by discussing **Recall, Think and Share**, and **Continue the Journey**. Complete the activity.

Read **We Live Our Faith: At Home and In the Parish**. Try to follow through on the suggestions found there.

Complete the **Faith Journal** pages 47–48.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 149

Ask your child to think about parades they have marched in or have watched in person or on television. Have him or her describe the experience.

Ask your child if he or she has ever seen large palm branches like those in the larger picture on page 149. Explain that most parishes distribute individual palm blades rather than entire branches.

Point out the halo around Jesus' head in the smaller picture. Ask: Why do you think the artist included the halo around Jesus' head? (to show that Jesus was holy)

Read the paragraph under **Blessed Is He Who Comes!** End the lesson by praying together the closing **Prayer**. Take the part of *Reader* and invite your child to respond with the *All* parts. If possible, sing a version of the "Holy, Holy, Holy" Mass prayer used at your parish.