

The Feast of Entry of the Lord into Jerusalem

John 12:1-18

Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him. Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein. Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this. For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always. Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead. But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death; Because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus. On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord. And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt. These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and that they had done these things unto him. The people therefore that was with him when he called Lazarus out of his grave, and raised him from the dead, bare record. For this cause the people also met him, for that they heard that he had done this miracle. (KJV)

God's Holy Church has arrived at the Great Feast of the Lord Jesus Christ's Entry into Jerusalem. Holy Week is upon on us. The miracle of Jesus Christ raising Lazarus from the dead is prominent in the Gospel today.

The people calling Jesus the King is central to the Gospel. Each believer is challenged to look within the heart, mind and soul to consider Jesus' power over death and to examine the understanding of Jesus as King.

Believers profess belief in Jesus as King and as God at Baptism. Belief in Jesus' power over death is confirmed in the recitation of The Creed at Baptism.

Holy Week is the time to carefully dwell on Jesus' voluntary death on the Cross and His Resurrection. The known facts in the Holy Scriptures about Jesus Christ are considered by attentive believers during Holy Week.

The Great Feast of Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem is celebrated in the Church. Joy exists in proclaiming Jesus as King and viewing Jesus' riding on a humble animal through Jerusalem before the crowd.

Holy Week is the time to assess and review the beliefs, goals and values of personal life. Each person benefits during Holy Week by honestly considering his or her relationship with Jesus Christ.

Jesus' arrest, trial and crucifixion followed His triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Jesus went from being proclaimed as King by the crowd to being deemed worthy of execution by authorities in power.

How many people professing Jesus as King and as God at Baptism remain true to honoring Jesus throughout life? Evil exists in the world. Some of the perpetrators of evil once and even now identify as Christians.

The Lord God knows the depths of each heart, mind and soul. Judas was blessed to be with Jesus each day. Judas turned on Jesus and conspired against Him.

Holy Week is the time to ensure we are completely faithful to Jesus Christ. Today and each day, Jesus Christ is to be the King and God in our hearts, minds and souls.

We are not called to be lukewarm Christians. We are not intended to be part-time Christians. The full person is Baptized into Christ. The full person is sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit at Chrismation.

Each day is to be lived fully in Jesus Christ from the moment of Baptism until departure from earthly life. Life in Jesus Christ continues into eternity for those remaining faithful.

Jesus Christ's power over death assures the continuity of life after death. Raising Lazarus from the dead foreshadowed Jesus' own Resurrection. Jesus' Resurrection is the foundation of our faith and hope in eternal life.

We learn about and experience Jesus Christ the best in God's Holy Church. Holy Week is the enriching experience for attentive believers.

Open hearts, minds and souls make a decided difference in life.

Believers with eyes to see and ears to hear cherish the arrival of Holy Week. Love for the Lord God has a place throughout Holy Week. Love for the Lord God is expected everyday of life.

When Lazarus was called forth from the dead, joy filled the air. When Jesus rode through Jerusalem the crowd was filled with joy by Jesus' presence.

Each person dies with Christ and rises with Christ at Baptism. Each person lives with Christ when remaining faithful and true to Christ as King and as God.

The Feast of Jesus Christ' s Entry into Jerusalem. March 23/April 5, 2026.

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