

### **Monday 30 March**

This poem on Palm Sunday has been prepared by a Third Year Pupil. It tells of the triumphant entry into Jerusalem without any reference to how Jesus will be treated at the end of the week.

Spread you palms, raise your voice.  
People of Jerusalem as one rejoice.  
Thank-you God for you mission will be fulfilled  
and in this we should be thrilled.

Spread the joy, shout it aloud,  
Jesus' time has arrived.  
They thank the Lord for his will be done  
By this Messiah, the Holy One.

Today, we should consider the joy that will come to us through the Resurrection of Jesus but we should remember that the crowd turned against him. He knew what was ahead of him but he accepted the 'cup of suffering' to free us from sin. We ask God to help us to take part in the events of Holy Week and to try and understand the great suffering of Jesus for our sakes.

Our Father.....

### **Tuesday 31 March**

We are now into the Third Day of Holy Week. The Church encourages us to participate in an many of the Holy Week Service as we can. In this way we become immersed in the last week of Jesus life. It is like we travel with him through this dramatic week. Perhaps then, we will have increased our understanding about what Jesus did for us. Let us use the last few days of this week to be with Jesus. Check your parishes and remember that we have Morning Mass on tomorrow.

We ask Mary to pray with us and bring us closer to the sufferings of her Son.

Hail Mary.....

### **Wednesday 1 April**

Tomorrow marks the anniversary of the death of St Pope John Paul II. In his later years, the Pope was greatly affected by Parkinson's Disease which is very debilitating. However, John Paul struggled on even when others thought he should have retired. John Paul knew what he was doing. In a world where those who are old and ill are not always given respect he was making a clear statement about the value of life in all its stages.

Today, we pray for our country that life will be safeguarded and respected in all situations.

Hail Mary.....

## Thursday 2 April

This poem, by a Third Year Pupil, looks towards tomorrow, the day we call Good Friday.

I watch them dress him in a purple robe  
and on his head , a crown of thorns.  
As he takes up his cross, does he think  
'I wish I were not born.  
But no he accepts his fate.

They march him through the crowded streets,  
no-one dares meet or greet him.  
He is forced to march to his death at the  
place they call the Skull.  
I hear the pain hang in each breath  
and see the blood run from his head.

He falls once, twice, thrice  
before he reaches the top and they  
allow him to stop.

The wind blow fast as on the cross  
he is hoisted high.  
I watch as he cries out  
and breathes his last sigh.

The sky grows dime,  
the air is cold.  
I stand amazed as I exclaim  
'Surely, this man is the Son of God.'

Let us take a few moments of silence to consider that Jesus willing gave his life so that we be free of sin.

Our Father.....