

*Palm Sunday*

March 25, 2018

Our Lord goes with His disciples to Jerusalem, despite the threats by the high priests, in order to fulfill the prophesy of Zachariah where he says "Thy King will come to thee, the Just and Savior: He is poor, and riding upon an ass, and upon the colt, the foal of an ass." Zach 9:9. Our Lord must be proclaimed as our King, since He truly is our King, and we too must acknowledge this and witness to it. The liturgy today has us carry branches in procession to profess His Kingship over us. Our hope in this procession, is to enter into the heavenly Jerusalem, where our Lord reigns as King forever. We also relive this triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to prepare ourselves for the upcoming Passion of our Lord.

After our Lord's entrance, it was not long before the Jews, who proclaimed Him King and laying palms and jackets before Him, were yelling "crucify Him, crucify Him". The crowd, one day rejoicing at the Savior's entrance into Jerusalem, is very quickly swayed to ask for His death. We too can do this, though not so openly perhaps, when we humbly confess our sins, which is also a confession of our Lord's Kingship and power to forgive, turn around and go back to our former sins with the slightest temptation.

To break this cycle and be truly converted we need God's help. We cannot be afraid to go back to confession and try harder in our resolves. In meditating on the events of today's liturgy, it is good to see what we can do in our own lives to not be so easily swayed back to our former sins. We need to break the cycle. Prayer, frequent confession and Communion are important, but we must also see about making changes in our life to avoid the occasion of sin. We need to make it more difficult to end up in the same circumstances that have so often led us to sin in the past. Meditating on the Passion can help us in our desire for change, for we see what our sins have done to our dear Saviour and ask for the necessary graces. Let us not make the same mistakes, but rather, turn to Him, asking for the forgiveness of our sins.

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