

## WEEK 20: ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

### HIGH SCHOOL

#### GOALS

What is another name for the feast of *Palm Sunday*?  
Why is Jesus' entry into Jerusalem important?

#### LESSON

**Materials Needed:** Bible, Holy Land Map

**Extended Learning Opportunity for Teachers:**

*The Gospel of Matthew: Torah for the Church* by Fr. Lawrence Farley, pgs 273-287

*The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Matthew* by Blessed Theophylact, pgs 175-185

*The Crucifixion of the King of Glory* by Eugenia Scarvelis Constantinou

GOARCH: *Learn - Lazarus Saturday* <https://www.goarch.org/lazarus-learn>

YouTube: *Tour of the Mount of Olives* <https://youtu.be/tfBUPLfYZVU?t=224> (Watch 3:44-9:21 for geographical understanding of the area)

YouTube: *Jerusalem, Mount of Olives at Night* <https://youtu.be/yTKJbkKejFY>

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### ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Read Matthew 21:1-11

LOCATE ON THE MAP & VOCABULARY:

- **Mount of Olives**: a hill to the east of Jerusalem
- **Bethphage**: a place in ancient Israel, at the foot of the Mount of Olives: starting point of Jesus' ride into Jerusalem
- **Jerusalem**: a holy city in Israel and the location of the Jewish Temple
- **Zion**: a hill in Jerusalem, on which the Temple was built (used to symbolize the city itself, especially as a religious or spiritual center)

Jesus had been in Bethany, two miles east of Jerusalem, where He brought Lazarus back to life after being dead for four days. Many people witnessed this immense miracle and news spread quickly! Some of these witnesses went straight to Jerusalem to tell the

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the members of the Sanhedrin about the latest miracle Jesus had done. This was the straw that broke the camel's back, per se, for the Jewish council. They held a meeting and agreed that Jesus had to die in order to keep Rome from coming in and getting rid of them for not keeping the peace.

Meanwhile, Jesus starts traveling towards Jerusalem. They reach the foot of the east side of the Mount of Olives in Bethphage. This is when Jesus sends two disciples to get a young donkey for Him. Jesus rode this donkey into the great city of Jerusalem and a huge crowd began taking off their coats and laying them on the ground or placing palm branches from nearby trees along Jesus' path. It was not uncommon for the people to welcome victorious kings into the city in this manner and **this was the first time the people were publicly proclaiming Jesus to be the Messiah, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"**

The Jews believed that the Messiah would be a political king, so they welcomed Him just like they would any other victorious king entering the city. But...they misunderstood. Jesus came into Jerusalem humbly on a donkey, not a majestic horse. He came into the city, not to conquer an earthly kingdom, but rather to conquer death - for the benefit of all of humanity. The disciples and the crowd laying clothes and branches on the ground did not understand that Jesus was entering the city to die.

#### MAJOR FEAST DAY

We celebrate Palm Sunday every year on the day after Lazarus Saturday and the Sunday before Pascha. Palm Sunday is also called Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem or the Triumphal Entry.









## WEEK 20: ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### GOALS

What is another name for the feast of *Palm Sunday*?  
Why is Jesus' entry into Jerusalem important?

#### LESSON

**Materials Needed:** Bible, Holy Land Map

**Extended Learning Opportunity for Teachers:**

*The Gospel of Matthew: Torah for the Church* by Fr. Lawrence Farley, pgs 273-311

*The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Matthew* by Blessed Theophylact, pgs 175-185

*The Crucifixion of the King of Glory* by Eugenia Scarvelis Constantinou

GOARCH: *Learn - Lazarus Saturday* <https://www.goarch.org/lazarus-learn>

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the members of the Sanhedrin about the latest miracle Jesus had done. This was the straw that broke the camel's back, per se, for the Jewish council. They held a meeting and agreed that Jesus had to die in order to keep Rome from coming in and getting rid of them for not keeping the peace.

Meanwhile, Jesus starts traveling towards Jerusalem. They reach the foot of the east side of the Mount of Olives in Bethphage. This is when Jesus sends two disciples to get a young donkey for Him. Jesus rode this donkey into the great city of Jerusalem and a huge crowd began taking off their coats and laying them on the ground or placing palm branches from nearby trees along Jesus' path. It was not uncommon for the people to welcome victorious kings into the city in this manner and **this was the first time the people were publicly proclaiming Jesus to be the Messiah, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"**

The Jews believed that the Messiah would be a political king, so they welcomed Him just like they would any other victorious king entering the city. But...they misunderstood. Jesus came into Jerusalem humbly on a donkey, not a majestic horse. He came into the city, not to conquer an earthly kingdom, but rather to conquer death - for the benefit of all of humanity. The disciples and the crowd laying clothes and branches on the ground did not understand that Jesus was entering the city to die.

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## WEEK 20: ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

3RD & 4TH GRADE

### GOALS

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Why is Jesus' entry into Jerusalem important?

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Jesus had been in Bethany, two miles east of Jerusalem, where He brought Lazarus back to life after being dead for four days. (*Find Bethany and Jerusalem on the map.*) We still remember this event every year on Lazarus Saturday. There was a crowd of people around

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Lazarus' tomb because they wanted to see why his sisters had run out to his tomb. All the people witnessed the rock being rolled away from in front of the tomb, the stink that came out of the tomb because Lazarus' body had started to decompose, and when they saw Lazarus come out alive - it was shocking! The news of this miracle spread quickly! Some of the crowd went straight to Jerusalem to tell the Jewish council, called the Sanhedrin, about the latest miracle Jesus had done, while everyone else stayed in Bethany to rejoice with Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha.

The Jewish council felt threatened by Jesus. They thought the Roman Empire would be upset with them for not keeping the peace in Jerusalem as many of the people believed that Jesus was the Messiah.

Meanwhile, Jesus starts traveling towards Jerusalem. Jesus and His disciples reach the bottom of the east side of the Mount of Olives in Bethphage. This is when Jesus sends two of His disciples to get a young donkey for Him. Jesus rode this donkey into the great city of Jerusalem and a huge crowd began taking off their coats and laying them on the ground or placing palm branches from nearby trees along Jesus' path. It was not uncommon for the people to welcome victorious kings into the city in this manner and **this was the first time the people were publicly proclaiming Jesus to be the Messiah, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"**

The Jews believed that the Messiah would be a political king, so they welcomed Him just like they would any other victorious king entering the city. But...they misunderstood. Jesus came into Jerusalem humbly on a donkey, not a majestic horse. He came into the city, not to conquer an earthly kingdom, but rather to conquer death - for the benefit of all of humanity. The disciples and the crowd laying clothes and branches on the ground did not understand that Jesus was entering the city to die for the salvation of all.

## MAJOR FEAST DAY

We celebrate Palm Sunday every year on the day after Lazarus Saturday and the Sunday before Pascha. Palm Sunday is also called Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem or the Triumphal Entry.











## WEEK 20: ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

1ST & 2ND GRADE

### GOALS

What is another name for the feast of *Palm Sunday*?  
Why is Jesus' entry into Jerusalem important?

### LESSON

**Materials Needed:** Bible, Construction Paper, Scissors

**Extended Learning Opportunity for Teachers:**

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*The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Matthew* by Blessed Theophylact, pgs 175-185

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YouTube: Palm Cross Tutorial [https://youtu.be/wpiO\\_S99fEA](https://youtu.be/wpiO_S99fEA)

YouTube: *Tour of the Mount of Olives* <https://youtu.be/tfBUPLfYZVU?t=224> (Watch 3:44-9:21 for geographical understanding of the area)

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### CLASS ROUTINE

Continue routine - move photo, light candle, venerate icon, prayer

### ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Read Matthew 21:1-11 or read page 230 of the Orthodox Children's Bible Reader

- When do we celebrate Palm Sunday? (*The Sunday before Pascha*)
- What is another name for Palm Sunday? (*Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem or the Triumphal Entry*)
- Who can tell me about Palm Sunday? (*Retell or summarize the story back to you using the icon of Palm Sunday.*)

### LORD, HAVE MERCY

Continue practice singing, "Lord, have mercy" in multiple languages

**OPTIONAL ACTIVITY:** Learn how to make palm crosses using construction paper





## WEEK 20: ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

### PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN

#### GOALS

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Why is Jesus' entry into Jerusalem important?

#### LESSON

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#### CLASS ROUTINE

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#### ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Read Matthew 21:1-11 or read page 230 of the Orthodox Children's Bible Reader

- What is another name for Palm Sunday? (*Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem or the Triumphal Entry*)
- Who can tell me about Palm Sunday? (*Retell or summarize the story back to you using the icon of Palm Sunday.*)

#### LORD, HAVE MERCY

Continue practice singing, "Lord, have mercy" in multiple languages





