



Assembly
Monday 29th March
with Bishop Donal Mc Keown

Welcome: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen**

Opening Hymn: My Soul is Sad Lizzie Rea

Opening Prayer: Lord, as we enter Holy Week, we renew our commitment to self- sacrifice and penance. May we journey with Jesus through his Passion until we reach the glory of the Resurrection. As we express our sorrow and desire to repent, we pray that our sacrifices will be pleasing to you. We make this prayer, though your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

Scripture Reading: A Reading from the Gospel of John 12:12-16

A great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.

So, they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the king of Israel!'

And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as is written, 'Fear not, daughter of Sion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt!' His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him.

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Reflection:

Intercessions: Lord, as we enter Holy Week, help us to draw near to you in humility and sorrow. We ask you, to hear and answer the prayers we make today.

Lord, we promise to acknowledge you to the world to our families and friends and colleagues.

Lord, we promise to acknowledge you to the world to the people we meet day and daily.

Lord, we promise to acknowledge you to the world to the poor, rejected and marginalised.

Lord, we promise to acknowledge you to the world to those who do not yet know you.

We take a moment to call to mind anyone or anything we wish to pray for.....

United as the children of God, we bring all our prayers together in the words Jesus, our first teacher, taught us. **Our Father.....**

Closing Prayer:

Lord, we know that the road to Calvary is not an easy one. Life's difficulties sometimes overwhelm us. May we gain strength from suffering and offer our own sufferings for those who need support. Help us to remember that your own Spirit will guide and strengthen us throughout life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: My Soul is Sad Lizzie Rea