



# Family Fun at Easter

## Palm Sunday – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Week.  
It is the Sunday which falls exactly one week before Easter Sunday.

Palm Sunday celebrates the day Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, riding on a donkey for the Jewish festival of Passover. Crowds of people came out to cheer for Jesus, wave palm branches and some laid their cloaks down on the ground in front of him. The people shouted Hosanna and welcomed Jesus as a king. You can read more about this day and what happened in the bible in the [Gospel of Mark, Chapter 11 verses 1 to 11](#).

I love leaves, do you? They come in so many different colours, shapes, sizes, patterns and many of them even have different smells too!

### Activity

When you are outside in your garden or having a family walk, have a closer look at the different leaves and collect some if you are allowed. (Make sure you always wash your hands when you get home after you have touched things outside!).

Do some leaf rubbings using wax crayons and some leaves which have interesting shapes and textures. You can use lots of different colours and then cut each one out and make bunting with them to decorate the house or your bedroom.

Try to identify the names of the trees which your leaves came from – there are many, many different types of leaves so this could be quite tricky! What other things grow on these trees? Maybe pretty blossoms, seeds or fruit?

### Thought

People celebrated Jesus arriving in Jerusalem as the King, but they soon turned against him. On Good Friday he died on the cross. But this was all part of God's plan to save the world. The king died for our sin, so we could be forgiven and live with him as our friend and King forever.

### Prayer for today

Dear Lord Jesus.

Thank you that you rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday as King on a humble donkey and not a proud war horse. Help us to remember that you are still our wonderful king and our friend today. Please help us to remember to praise you every day for all the good things which you give us, including leaves and all the beautiful things in our wonderful natural world.

In your name we pray. Amen.