

**PRIEST:** Today we remember that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. People cheered him and laid palms on the road ahead of him. We bring ourselves, our hopes, dreams and prayers to Jesus, the king and centre of our hearts.

**READER:** We pray for Pope Francis and all Church leaders as we start our journey through Holy Week. May they help us to accompany Jesus through his passion, death and resurrection so that, together, we will celebrate the joys of Easter.

**(Pause) Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.**

**READER:** We pray for people whose suffering unites them in a special way to Jesus during Holy Week. May they receive the comfort and support that they need at this time and may they find hope on their journey towards Easter

**(Pause) Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.**

**READER:** We pray for all those who, like the donkey, can sometimes feel themselves to be overworked and underpaid as they carry out thankless and unseen work on behalf of others. May they receive the recognition and thanks that they deserve.

**(Pause) Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.**

**READER:** We pray for families as we look towards Easter. May they keep in mind the real meaning of Holy Week and, in seeing love's possibilities, be enriched in their relationships with each other.

**(Pause) Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.**

**READER:** We remember those who have died recently Margaret Mary Possart, Michael McGovern Patrick Joseph Gallagher, Deacon Pat Duffy, Father Michael Crumpton, Pat Ferris, and all our families and friends. We also remember those with anniversaries at this time especially Trixie Stella Maris Cotterill, Carol O'Connor, Constance Cooper, Kathleen Finneran, Jozef Munko, Dr Maurine Elisabeth Scull, Martin Power, Gerald Edward Thomas, Colin Arthur Cowlshaw.

**(Pause) Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.**

**READER:** We remember all who are sick, those in hospital and those who are housebound. We remember especially the sick of our own Parish, Margaret Lennon, Kath Reidy, Hughie Quinn, John White, Pauline Yeates, Maureen Cody, Father Fred Sheldon, Dan Doyle, Damian Poole, Kath Clark, Angela and Tony Duffy, Philomena Gallagher, Ken and Doreen Shirley, Chris Jena, Keith Frettsome, Lena Gallagher, Danny Meadows, Martha Sheridan, John Kavanagh, Patricia Mann and Paul Mann, Malachy Hanly, Kevin McDaid, James Brown, John McCarthy, Deacon Kevin O'Connor, Sandra Evans, Christopher Edmund Poole, and Diane Burgess and our families wherever they may be.

**(Pause) Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.**

**Let us ask Mary the Mother of the Lord to pray with us: Hail Mary...Now let us pray for a few moments in silence for our own needs and intentions and for those intentions placed in the prayer box.**

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**PRIEST:** Lord God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with us as we accompany Jesus into Holy Week and towards his passion, death and resurrection. May Palm Sunday be our doorway to Easter. Amen.