



St Lawrence
with St Paul
Longridge



Family Activities: Sunday 5th April 2020

Palm Sunday

Introduction: Children’s Church at St Lawrence with St Paul is not meeting at present due to the advice given by the Church of England to suspend services but the team is putting together a sheet each week for families to do ‘Children’s Church at Home’! We are very grateful to the Blackburn Board of Education and their ‘Weekly@’ resources which we are using in putting together each week’s activities.

Please do e-mail Carolyn Barton at carolyn.barton@hotmail.co.uk to be added to the Children’s Church private Facebook group and share any photos of your family using these activities.

Theme: To understand that Jesus was the Messiah and he is worthy of our praise.

Song: Sing and dance along to ‘Blessed is the King who Comes’ at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o24Pd0Z49E0>



Bible Passage: Matthew 21 v 1-11: Jesus Enters Jerusalem as King

A cartoon of the bible passage can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-39h0xYqdE>



...or you may prefer to read it:

21 Jesus and his followers were coming closer to Jerusalem. But first they stopped at Bethphage at the hill called the Mount of Olives. From there Jesus sent two of his followers into the town. ² He said to them, “Go to the town you can see there. When you enter it, you will find a donkey tied there with its colt. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone asks you why you are taking the donkeys, tell him, “The Master needs them. He will send them back soon.” ⁴ This was to make clear the full meaning of what the prophet said:

⁵ “Tell the people of Jerusalem,
‘Your king is coming to you.



He is gentle and riding on a donkey.

He is on the colt of a donkey.”

⁶The followers went and did what Jesus told them to do. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt to Jesus. They laid their coats on the donkeys, and Jesus sat on them. ⁸Many people spread their coats on the road before Jesus. Others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹Some of the people were walking ahead of Jesus. Others were walking behind him. All the people were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Praise to God in heaven!”

¹⁰Then Jesus went into Jerusalem. The city was filled with excitement. The people asked, “Who is this man?”

¹¹The crowd answered, “This man is Jesus. He is the prophet from the town of Nazareth in Galilee.”

Questions to ask:

- 1) Which part of the story did you like best and why?
- 2) Have you ever met or seen someone famous? What was the experience like?
- 3) Why do you think the crowd shouted ‘Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord’. What do you think they meant? Why were they saying that about Jesus?
- 4) The people were desperate for peace in their land as they were ruled by the Romans and their armies. What from this passage about the Messiah do you think would have excited them?

Explaining the Passage (adapt for younger children):

Today is Palm Sunday when we celebrate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It was a day that marked the beginning of an incredible week. A week that would see Jesus cheered, then arrested, tried, condemned, and crucified.

Jesus had spent many months traveling through the towns and villages of Palestine where he had preached about the kingdom of God and performed many miracles. Now the time had come for him to claim his title as the Messiah - the Saviour that God had promised to the Jewish people. As they came near Jerusalem, Jesus told two of His disciples to go into a



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nearby village and bring a donkey that would be waiting there. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the donkey. It was obviously a deliberate act as there is no mention of Jesus ever riding on a donkey previously. Matthew makes clear that this move alludes to the prophecy in Zechariah 9 v 9-10 of the coming of the messianic king. The disciples and the crowd around them also recognized this and so turned the arrival of Jesus into a triumphant procession. The Messiah had arrived.

Prayer:

“God, we have so much to praise you for. Thank you for all that you have done for us. Help us to keep praising you even when times are difficult. Amen”

Game:

Pin the Coat on the Donkey – you could either print and use the pages at the end of this Family Activity Sheet or alternatively take a toy horse/pony/donkey and some material to use as the coat.

GAME OF THE WEEK

Pin the Coat on the Donkey

Like pin the tail on the donkey! Can you place the coat on the donkey's back for Jesus to sit on. One at a time the children are blindfolded, turned around a few times and given an opportunity to try and place the coat on the donkey. Mark where each child puts the coat before letting another child try. See who got the nearest.

WEEKLY@

The image shows a game page with a background of a donkey in a desert. The text is overlaid on the image. The 'WEEKLY@' logo is in the bottom right corner.



Activity:

1) Holy Week Cross

Have you made your Holy Week Cross yet? If not, take a look at the link below. It would be great to have lots of crosses in windows in Longridge during Holy Week.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gcXvfzJZ09w>



2) Royal Flags



ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK

Royal Flags

- 1 You will need pieces of paper and decorative items such as pens, stickers etc. What ever you have to hand.
- 2 Design a flag that they would wave for Jesus to see, if he was coming to visit your town.

DISCUSS

In our Bible verse today the crowd believed that Jesus was the messianic (the promised saviour) king, that had been foretold in the old scriptures, especially when Jesus arrived on a donkey. Read out Zechariah 9 v 9-10. The people were desperate for peace in their land as they were ruled by the Romans and their armies. What from this passage about the Messiah do you think would have excited them?

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