

PROCESSION

The King of the Jews rides into Jerusalem upon the colt of an ass to the applause and cheers of the people, all crying out "HOSANNA". Yes, there are those who would vilify him, who want to put him to death. But the people, the ordinary folks, see him with a different lens, a lens of hope and trust, as one sent from God.

This is US here today, the ordinary folks. We are here to CHEER for Jesus, to welcome his arrival to OUR town, OUR family, INTO ourselves. Let OUR hosannas welcome our King and Savior.

MASS

How did we come to this point in our lives? Just moments ago, we were CHEERING for Jesus, WELCOMING him into our midst. Now we are JEERING him upon the cross, crucifying our hope and salvation.

The Passover celebration, which is a **TRIUMPHANT** commemoration of the Jews escape from slavery in Egypt, turns into a somber night of hurt and disappointment to the disciples of Jesus, who too were looking forward to the delivery of the Jews, this time from the hands of the Romans. But that was not to be, that was **NOT** the God's plan.

Instead, God humbled Himself, first becoming one like us in the flesh, Jesus, who now humbles himself to the will of others who seek only to destroy him out of jealousy.

Jesus agonizes over what he knows is coming, and, in his human state, asks his Father, "Take this cup away from me, but not what I will but what you will." These are the words of one who is willing to suffer and die, NOT for a cause, but for **ALL HUMANITY**.

Jesus' death on the cross is not the end of this story, and neither is his burial in the tomb the end. It is a time for us to pause and take a closer look at ourselves, to see how he took OUR sins to the cross, and then buried them. It is a time for **US** to turn back or move closer to the God who loves us so much, SO MUCH that He let His only begotten Son **die** for us.

All may seem quiet now, but a roaring wave of hope and belief is swelling, for the silence can't remain quiet forever. Let us offer OUR lives as Jesus did, for the WILL of our Father in heaven.