

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

March 28, 2021

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Isaiah 50:4–7 † Philippians 2:6–11 † Mark 14:1—15:47



Reflection by: Sister Elise Redmerski, OP

In the days of BC (Before Covid) we always celebrated Palm Sunday by processing through the streets singing Hosanna, waving palm and praising the Son of David led by our teens. And then the celebration came to a halt as the Passion was proclaimed. At the conclusion of Mass, those same teens would lay down their palms and one by one turn their backs to Jesus, portrayed by a parishioner. Jesus, the parishioner, would end the dramatization by crying out, “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”

In my everyday living when things are going great, I have no problem welcoming and celebrating Jesus in my life. But when things start going downhill such as COVID-19, war, street violence or a sick child, just like the crowd in Jerusalem I, too, can turn away and start blaming God for allowing bad things to happen to good people. I often say, “God, where were you?” They were expecting a messiah who was royalty. I am expecting my Messiah to make everything perfect.

In these days of Lenten journey, I pray that my faith will grow stronger realizing that God never abandons but journeys with us every step of the way.