



DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH THE BISHOP'S OFFICE



BRIEF HOMILY FOR PALM SUNDAY APRIL 17, 2011

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today, all of us begin an important week, probably the most important week in our lives of Faith. We all know that family is important for us, a great gift of God. Then, we gather as God's family today – on Palm Sunday – to walk with and accompany our Lord into Jerusalem. We walk with him to be with Him in moments of joy, sorrow, agony, and triumph. As we walk with him, we bring to Him, indeed, the joys and sorrows, blessings and challenges of our lives. As we walk with Him, then, let us remember that He always walks with us in all of these same moments in our lives. We are never alone! He is always with us!

We are invited to live and celebrate again the truth, beauty and goodness of God, and to relive the events that gave us our salvation: The life, suffering, passion, death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Today is the joyful entry into Jerusalem; Thursday is the Last Supper and the Institution of the Eucharist and the Priesthood; Friday is the Passion and Death of the Lord; and Saturday we wait in silent prayer and vigil at the tomb, so that on Sunday we can sing and say He is truly Risen, Alleluia! After sorrow, passion and death is the new life of the Risen Christ; so, too, then, for each one of us in our own personal lives and the lives of our families, communities and nations this is true, as we remember that in the Risen Lord, and in His example, we can overcome any trial or tribulation of any sort that threatens our peace of mind. We too, can rise above it all as we hold fast to our beliefs in all that is good and holy, as we hold on to Our Lord Jesus Christ and His example of the greatest love. So now, let us go forth in peace, praising Jesus our Messiah, as did the crowds who welcomed him in Jerusalem.

+ Most Rev. Kevin W. Vann
Bishop of Fort Worth

THE CATHOLIC CENTER

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