

Year 3: What do Christians remember on Palm Sunday?

What happened on Palm Sunday?

Palm Sunday is the first day of **Holy Week**. It is the day that Christians remember Jesus entering Jerusalem and being cheered by the crowds as the **Messiah** (the long awaited saviour in Judaism). Jesus entered Jerusalem on a **donkey** (a sign of humility but also of being the Messiah) and the people waved palm branches and cried Hallelujah.



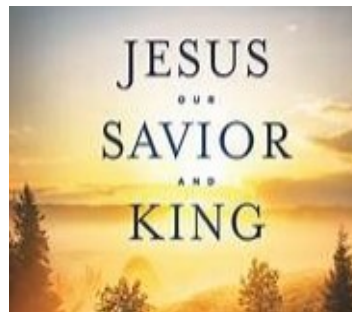
Vocabulary

donkey	An animal rather like a small horse.
Messiah	A leader.
palm leaves	A leaf from a palm tree which is made up of lots of smaller leaves.
Palm Sunday	The day Jesus entered into Jerusalem.
triumphant	To celebrate victory.

What do Christians mean when they call Jesus 'King'?

Different versions of the Gospels call Jesus king, **Messiah** and saviour. Jesus was seen by the ordinary Jewish people as the saviour who would free them from Jewish oppression. They believed a king, or **Messiah**, would be sent by God to free them, and they expected this to be a mighty king.

Jesus was an ordinary man born into an ordinary family. He was a carpenter's son. He was a preacher with quite a following, but did not hold a position of power or authority. His authority came from what he said and did.



palm leaf



donkey

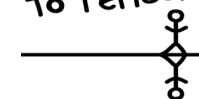
How do Christians celebrate Palm Sunday?

Christians celebrate Palm Sunday by:

- visiting church;
- re-enacting Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem by having their own parade;
- listening to Bible stories about Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem;
- singing hymns;
- sharing palm crosses.



Take time to reflect



Can you think of a time where you have acted differently to events than others have?

CRC Article 14: All children have the right to their own religion.

