



## *Our Lady of the Assumption*

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**PALM SUNDAY, YEAR A**  
**5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2020**

**Mass Times:**  
**Palm Sunday:**

10:00am  
Live Streaming

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**Holy Week**

**Monday:**  
Mass: 10:30am  
Rosary/Litany:  
8:00pm

**Tuesday:**  
Mass: 10:30am  
Stations of the  
Cross: 8:00pm

**Wednesday:**  
Mass: 10:30am  
Divine Office  
(Vespers)/Lenten  
Reflection:  
8:00pm

**Thursday:**  
Mass: 6:00pm

**Friday: 3:00pm**  
Divine Mercy;  
Stations of the  
Cross & Service

**Saturday: 6:00pm**  
Easter Vigil

**Easter Sunday:**  
10:00am

**Collection:**  
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**Welcome to our Online Mass live Streaming and other Prayer Devotions**

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/rcskye/> (Our lady of the Assumption Parish Portree, Isle of Skye); **YouTube:** St Mary's Portree

**Celebrations this week: This is The Holy Week**

**The Word: The Lord Needs Both the Donkey and the Colt!**

Today is the Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. We have arrived at the doorway to the Holy Week. The ceremony of today begins with our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. This entry is a very special one, and we are invited to reflect deeply on the events that preceded this entry into Jerusalem and how they relate to us and this holy season.

From the Gospel Reading at the opening ceremony (Matt. 21:1-11), we learn that our Lord made a very specific and unusual request for a donkey and a colt from a specific village near Bethphage. Notably, the donkey and the colt were tied to a tree. The instruction is that the two disciples that were sent should untie them and bring them urgently to him.

The donkey could be an older version of the colt and they represent the old and the young at least physically. Spiritually, the donkey and the colt stand for the souls of both the old and the young that are tied to the tree of sin. The tree in the narrative represents the tree at the middle of the garden in the Book of Genesis (3:3). Our Lord's journey into Jerusalem is to tie our sins to the tree of redemption; the Cross. We could also see the donkey and the colt as reminiscent of Adam and Eve who erred at that the Eden tree and whose disobedience would receive attention at the tree of Calvary.

Our Lord's journey into Jerusalem on a donkey shows that he came to carry our burden, exemplified by the action of the beasts of burden (donkey) moving our Lord into the city of Jerusalem which is the location of his passion and death. Of course, we know that donkeys are only used to carry loads not human beings. This confirms our Lord's invitation (Matt. 11:28):

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

**Weekly Notices:**

This challenging moment is bringing out the very best in us. People helping people; phone calls, text messages etc, the love and care you are showing is really giving lives and saving lives. Thank you for keeping faith and hope alive.

We have reached the peak of the Lord's passion, death and resurrection You are in my mind and prayers as I offer Masses this holiest of weeks. Join me online please, if possible on Facebook or YouTube .

**Nugget of Wisdom :**

The crowd that shouted "Hosanna to the Son of David" at the triumphant entry would be the same crowd that would say "crucify him" during the trial and judgment at Gabbatha

**Quote:**

*"Untie them and bring them here to me...The master has need of them."*  
-Matthew 21:2-3