

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, C – April 14, 2019 – Very Rev. Bryan W. Jerabek, J.C.L.  
Cathedral of Saint Paul, Birmingham, Ala. – Homily within 8:30am Mass – 180 words

After the reading of the Passion, few words are necessary or helpful. I wish only to make a simple observation: At the beginning of our solemn liturgy, with palms and joyful hymns, we acclaimed our great King on his entry into Jerusalem. But shortly after, as the Liturgy of the Word proceeded, the readings only spoke of Christ's suffering and death. Notice the great and sudden shift within this single Mass.<sup>1</sup> It sets the tone in a most eloquent way for the full drama of Holy Week.

May we enter in to this sacred time with fervent devotion. If you have not yet been to Confession during this Lenten season, think about what Jesus suffered for your sins and come to one of the special times to receive his mercy this week: the full schedule is in the bulletin. And join us for as many of the Holy Week liturgies as possible – the most beautiful of our Church year. Let us accompany our Lord Jesus Christ through his Passion to the Resurrection... and rejoice to greet him on Easter morning!

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. Pius Parsch, *The Church's Year of Grace*, vol. 2 (Collegeville, Minn.: The Liturgical Press, 1964), p. 296.