

As today is Palm Sunday thought it would be a good idea to hold in your hand the palm cross from last year ,if you have it or other form of cross that you may have at home.

Our reading is from Luke 19:37-42.

“When he came near Jerusalem,at the place where the road went down the Mount of Olives, the large crowd of his disciples began to thank God and praise him in loud voices for all the great things that they had seen. God bless the king who comes in the name of the Lord!Peace in heaven and glory to God!”

Then some of the Pharisees in the crowd spoke to Jesus, “Teacher”, they said,” command your disciples to be quiet !”

Jesus answered ,”I tell you that if they keep quiet , the stones themselves will start shouting.”

He came closer to the city and when he saw it , he wept over it,saying , “If you only knew today what is needed for peace! But now you cannot see it !

There were three different types of people in Jerusalem that day.

The crowd who had witnessed miracles performed by Jesus and they were jubilant . The people who did not know Jesus and they were confused wondering what all the fuss was about and the Pharisees demanding that Jesus tell his disciples to be quiet.

There are people today singing the praises of God while others don't know Him at all and there are those telling believers to be quiet .

Jesus was aware of all these people and as he got closer to Jerusalem he wept over the city. These were not tears of fear or selfishness but rather tears for those who had rejected his message of love and peace.

Today the tear-filled heart of Jesus is still wide open to receive each one of us . It is there that we will find comfort and peace in the difficult days ahead and beyond.

LET US PRAY: ( Light a candle if you wish)

Father God we Thankyou for your love and we come to you with open hearts today. We pray for all those who have died this week and we especially remember Paul Sanders.

We pray for those who mourn that your presence and love will be very real to them at this time . On this Palm Sunday we are invited to follow Jesus, to stay close to his love and also suffer his tears.

Lord may we go forward with renewed faith to face the days ahead .

Amen.

God Bless All

*Judith*