

April 5, 2008
Palm Sunday

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Isaiah 50: 4 -7
Philippians 2: 6 – 11
Mark 14: 1 -15, 47

Holy Week is here! Prepare by praying the Psalms of The Suffering Servant, which are about sacrifice and love. The prophet Isaiah speaks about “The Servant of God” who announces God’s will but will die for the people. There are 4 Suffering Servant Songs (called The Songs of the Servant of Yahweh) that are used frequently during Holy Week. They are: **Monday** – Is 42: 1 – 7: Victory of Justice with God introducing the Servant of God; **Tuesday** – Is 49: 1 -7: The Servant is called from birth and is always faithful even in persecution; **Sunday & Wednesday** – 50: 4 – 9a: Service in suffering and rousing the weary to proclaim the Good News; **Good Friday** – 52: 13 – 53:12: Isaiah is describing a perfect example of the Servant for all time.

The basic theme is that the Servant comes to transform society with love. This is the essence of Catholic Social Teaching, because God and Jesus and his followers are bound together by love. Pray that we can all accept this standard of faithful love, because our world is in very short supply of love.

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