



Ignite the F.I.R.E.

Families Involved in Religious Education



April 2021

We were reminded by Fr. Todd that "Hosannah" means "please Lord, save us" and that as Jesus entered the city, (on what we now celebrate as Palm Sunday), this is what the people yelled as they praised him. But we know that in less than a week later, they were yelling "crucify him!" Crucifixion was considered one of the worst forms of torture resulting in death in those days, and Christ willingly allowed himself to be captured to be put on the cross.

It was out of that love that the mission of the Church and Christianity lives on to this day. To carry out that mission, the Church needs us all to live out God's will. Even in the stories of the Old Testament, the Israelites were instructed to care for the sick, the needy, and the women and children. They were called to worship and set certain days of obligation to remember how they got to where they were and to give thanks and praise.

As we learn more about our faith, we realize how complex it can sometimes be, but that's when we have to remember to break it down into "Love God & your neighbor by doing unto others as you would have done to you." When it comes down to it, if we all loved the world and each other as God loves, then we are free from the worries of "following the rules" because we will be doing that.

Think of it this way, when a student learns to drive a vehicle, they are filled with instruction on the rules of the road, which can vary in certain areas, and they are expected to learn all these rules before they drive out in the world. As they begin driving, they are bombarded with instructions on what to do and what not to do and they can feel overwhelmed with "the rules" and get discouraged, overwhelmed or frustrated. But as they practice more, they begin to learn, know and accept the rules and with more experience, become "free" from the thoughts of the rules, because they are already abiding by them. This is what our faith can be like. As we learn about "the rules", we can have those same feelings and want to give it up for "something easier". But if we keep pushing ourselves and grow in our knowledge and practice of the faith, we will experience the freedom of accepting Jesus as our Savior and living out the mission of His Church in all we do. God bless & Happy Easter!!

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire!" ~ St. Catherine of Siena