

## **PALM SUNDAY and PALMS**

*"They took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and began to shout, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." – John 12:13*

**Palms and olive branches are kept in the home, as a witness to faith in Jesus Christ, the Messianic King and in His Pascal Victory.** Why Palms and olive branches? Because that's what was handy and plentiful. Had Jesus been born in and traveled through New Hampshire, it probably would have been pine fronds or an evergreen branch of one kind or another. But palm and olive branches were handy and plentiful.

"I've lived in NH my entire life. Except for travel destinations or the occasional house plant, I've never seen a palm tree growing naturally outside my window. But pine, spruce, holly, balsam, arborvitae, hemlock? Plentiful." - *Fr Marc*

**This Palm Sunday is like no other in our lifetime.** And while we have received our palms, the risk of contamination in their distribution is too great to allow us to make them available. Instead, we are inviting you to live as if Jesus had walked here in New Hampshire instead of the Holy Land.

On Palm Sunday, clip a branch from your own yard. **Bring it to St Andre Bessette Parish between 3:30 and 4:00PM and I will bless your "Palm Sunday Branch".**

**DIRECTIONS: Use the Union Avenue entrance.** Follow direction of parking lot attendees. Please **remain in your cars** driving up to the back of the Church. Extend your "Palm Sunday Branch" out the window so it can be blessed with Holy Water. **Exit by the Gilford Ave exit.** Then go and place it in a place of honor in your home.

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING PREVIOUS YEARS PALMS.** You may simply dispose of them by either returning them to the earth in your gardens and flower beds, or, burn them in your fire pit or fireplace.