

## Yr 2 Great Fast Parents' Cheat Sheet

### Palm/Flowery Sunday

#### 1. How did Jesus ride into Jerusalem and why did he do it this way?

In those days when a king rode into a town on a donkey, it meant that he was coming in peace not war. A king on a horse showed that he was bringing war. So, Jesus is a King of Peace! A long time before Jesus was born God had told the people through the prophet Zechariah that the Saviour would come riding a donkey and that is just what Jesus did!

#### 2. Why were the people so excited about Jesus?

They were waiting for the Messiah for many many years. They knew that the prophet Zechariah wrote: "Behold, your king comes to you, triumphant and victorious. He is humble and riding on an ass, on a colt the foal of an ass." (Zech 9:9). So, after hearing about Jesus and all the healings, miracles and wonderful things he had done for the people and then seeing him coming on a donkey the crowds knew who He was and hailed Jesus as their king shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

#### 3. Why do we get pussy willows today? Where should we put our pussy willows at home?

To celebrate Palm Sunday, we bless pussy willows to remember how the people welcomed Jesus and to show that we welcome Jesus. Because we don't have palms growing here, we use pussy willows. That is why we also call Palm Sunday "Flowery Sunday." The new little buds of the pussy willows remind us of the new life that Jesus brings us.

Discuss in what special place you will put your pussy willows – perhaps in front of an icon or behind a corner of an icon, in a special vase or behind a cross etc.