

The Passion was in the month of Nissan by the Jewish calendar.

The book of Exodus ordered that in this month the Passover lamb, a lamb without defect or blemish, was to be chosen, and in a few days, it was to be taken to the place where it was to be sacrificed.

On Palm Sunday the Lamb was chosen by popular acclaim in Jerusalem, on Good Friday, He was sacrificed.

Before entering the city, He sent two of His disciples ahead of Him to borrow an untamed ass.

This is truly a strange paradox, on one hand the sovereignty of the Lord, and on the other his need.

This Combination of Divinity and dependence, of possession and poverty, was the consequence of His incarnation.

As St. Paul says:

"He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, humbling himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."

Our Lord borrowed a boat from a fisherman from which to preach; He borrowed barley and fish from a boy to feed the multitude; he borrowed a beast on which to ride, and soon He would borrow a tomb in which He would be laid, and from which later, He. would rise.

This entry into the city has been called triumphant; but He knew that soon the "Hosannas" would change to "Crucify", and the palms would be turned into wood and nails and spears.

Even in the shouts of the multitude, He could hear the whispers of Judas and the angry voices in front of Pilates palace. The throne to which He is called was a cross and His coronation would be a crucifixion.

There were many garments laid beneath his feet that day, but on Friday, He would be denied even His own.

In the garden, He speaks words to us, the weary, that are meant to rouse us, praying to the Father, "My soul is Sorrowful", and, "not as I will, but as you will".

From the very beginning He knew what was in the heart of mankind, and yet, for love of each One Of Us, He came amongst us...the only one in all of history not born to live, but to die.