



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

THIS SUNDAY March 25 & BEYOND”

“"Who leaves their bike untied?" ”



One of the two stories on Sunday about Jesus was when he went up to Jerusalem with his disciples and asked a few of them to go into town, find a donkey tied up, and bring it to him so he could ride it through the Jerusalem city gate.

It reminded me immediately of the bike share program that San Diego has had in operation. If you've been reading the news, though, about the bike share, and the dock-less bike businesses, you know its starting to be a problem of control. For instance, Coronado didn't want them in the first place, and now they've got them all over the place, impeding sidewalks, left undocked, you know. Its nice to know you can get to Coronado by bike from around the San Diego area - the colors of the bikes tell the story where the bikes were supposed to be and stay!

But here's the thing – as far as we know, there was no foal-of-a-donkey ride share program in Jerusalem, not even a hint of just an adult-donkey ride share (which sounds a little dangerous to me anyway!). No membership fee, no ATM card to offer for a 30 minute ride, no public, free-standing, feed docking system set up. And that means, unlike the bike program with no real control plan so no one feels compelled to stop you when you wanted to take a bike, you didn't just walk up to a donkey and un-tie it and take it!! Unless you are a brazen thief, that is!

But here is, in fact, that similarity that caught my eye to make the comparison between the two. Like a dad telling his two kids to go get bikes somewhere out on the sidewalk to ride, Jesus tells his disciples to go get the donkey that they would find out on the street, tied up. And, behold!, there was a colt tied up, just like he said there would be.

The similarities would end there. First, there didn't seem to be any other colts around tied up, unlike mounds of bikes. Second, when they started untieing the colt, bystanders saw this initially as stealing by strangers, men that they didn't know

from the neighborhood, and said something to the effect of, “HEY! What are you doing with that colt?!” And third, whereas the bikes can be dropped off anywhere, like Red Box movies back into any Red Box machine anywhere, Jesus had told his disciples to tell anybody asking questions that they would return the donkey immediately, right back where they found it.

The story goes on from there to the foal of the donkey used by Jesus to ride triumphantly into Jerusalem in a huge, joyful procession, where people threw their ponchos and branches from nearby trees onto the ground as the donkey and Jesus processed through the gate into Jerusalem. Thus the name of the celebration around the world is known as Palm Sunday. The colt or foal of a donkey is very important in Jewish prophecy for the Messiah riding into Jerusalem as it symbolizes the entrance of a KING.

Besides that VERY important aspect of Jesus as the King and Messiah, there are two smaller things taking place here that also speak to how special is this Jesus. He knew things before they appeared. He foretold the donkey. He knew what the The Bystanders would do after hearing what Jesus had told the disciples to say to them, that is, let them take the donkey!

EVERYbody ended up being amazed by it all, except Jesus, apparently. He knew what needed to be done to fulfill words spoken hundreds of years before, and because he is the Son of God, he knew it would all be accomplished. In fact, he knew who he was and why he was here. All the rest of the special things from this story were signs pointing back to Jesus as special, the anointed one, the savior of the world.

THIS is the Jesus to follow into Jerusalem, no matter what would happen. It is still the case: Jesus can do things that we could not even conceive possible, including the provision of our lives, and following him into heaven – the new Jerusalem – still means setting ourselves aside to follow and receive and partake and be filled by every ounce of His life in us. It is very good, in our case now, though, to know the end of the story already! He has entered Jerusalem to die for us, and to rise from the dead victorious over all those sins of ours for which he died. Come lay down some palm branches for the king.

Father Rob Eaton, Interim Rector

CALENDAR

SUNDAY: Palm Sunday

8:00a Low Mass (Church)

10:30a Solemn High Mass (Church)

—*The entrance to the church is on 6th Avenue*—

Note: Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.

MONDAY: 7:00p (AA) Doctors' Group (Fireside Room)

TUESDAY: Noon Mass (St. Mary's Chapel)

THURSDAY 7:00pm Maundy Thursday- Solemn Mass
8:30pm Repose Vigil until noon on Friday

FRIDAY: Noon- Stations of the Cross (Church)
7:00pm Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday (Church)

SATURDAY: 7:00pm - Holy Saturday – The Great Easter Vigil
Annual Chocolate Party (following the Mass)

8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room)

8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)