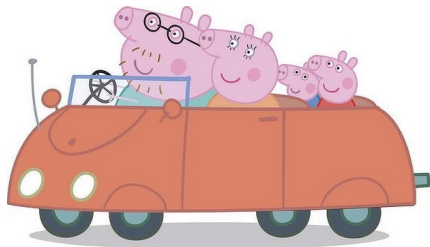


car QS

Sunday, March 25th



<https://vignette2.wikia.nocookie.net/peppapedia/images/1/18/Skide.jpg/revision/latest?cb=201411156051557>

1. What big feast are we celebrating next week?
2. Which city did Jesus enter on Palm Sunday?
3. Why do we bless pussy willows today?

Praying Together:

Lord Jesus,

In a week we celebrate Your Resurrection on Easter. Help us make a final effort to welcome you into our lives and hearts as we enter Holy Week this week. Amen.

Parents' Cheat Sheet - Car Qs

Mar. 25/18, Palm Sunday/Annunciation of the Mother of God (6th Sunday of Lent)

1. What big feast are we celebrating next week?
 1. Easter, or The Resurrection of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
 2. Another name for the feast of Jesus' Resurrection is *Pascha*. Pascha is a Greek word used to translate the Hebrew word for "Passover."
 3. Passover is still celebrated by Jewish people and commemorates the delivery of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt.¹ The tenth plague God sent upon the Egyptians was an Angel of Death that would kill the first-born son of each family. In order for the Angel of Death to "pass over" a home, a lamb's blood was spread around the door frame as a marker. As a result, the Hebrew houses were spared. This final plague is what finally prompted the Egyptian Pharaoh to let the Hebrews go.
 4. Easter is the Christian passover; Christ, the Lamb of God, shed His own blood for us so that death would no longer have a hold on us. He then Resurrected on the third day. It is the whole point of our faith.
2. Which city did Jesus enter on Palm Sunday?
 1. Jerusalem
 2. Jerusalem was the most important city for the Jewish people because it was home to the Temple. The Temple is where the Jewish people believed God resided, the holiest place on earth.
 3. For important feasts, people would travel from far and wide to Jerusalem to be as close as possible to the Holy of Holies.
 4. Incidentally, the feast the Jewish people were celebrating on Palm Sunday was Passover.
3. Why do we bless pussy willows today?
 1. In such a climate as Canada (or Ukraine), we don't generally have access to palm branches. Pussy willows are therefore substituted.
 2. Pussy willows flower early in the season and so are a great reminder of new life that is soon to bloom.² This is one of the reasons why we sometimes call Palm Sunday "Flowery Sunday."
 3. Once pussy willows are blessed, we take them home and use them to decorate the family icon corner.
 4. We also say a fun verse to parishioners, to spread good fortune: Лоза бє, не я бю. Від нині за тиждень Великдень! Loza bje, ne ja bju. Vid nyni za tyzhden' Velykden'! The pussy willow is hitting you, not I. In a week it'll be Easter!³

¹ A great animated film on the events surrounding the establishment of this feast is the Dreamworks film, *The Prince of Egypt*.

² For more info on pussy willows, check this out: <https://www.growerdirect.com/picking-pussy-willows>

³ I know... it isn't really poetic in English...