

## PART II

### Discovering God's Gifts with the Disciples

(Mark 11: 1-11)

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethanyat, the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'"

They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

"Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

#### Questions for Reflection:

1. Has not being able to be with family and friends in the same way revealed something to you about the importance of your loving relationships?
2. If you have had to be at home more, has the slowing down of life taught you anything of value?
3. Not being able to attend Mass, has your love of the gift of the Holy Mass and the Eucharist changed? Deepened?
4. In this time of struggle, have you witnessed little moments, or great ones, of God's loving care?
5. Are there any graces, or spiritual gifts, that you have received during this extraordinary time of difficulty for us?

#### Prayer

Loving Father, you bring light in darkness. You bring hope in moments of despair. You bring life amidst death. By your grace, you bring us gift amidst adversity, and help us, by your Holy Spirit, to discover you in all things. Help me to discover your loving care in these difficult times, and to give thanks.