

## Palm Sunday

“After saying this, what can we add?”

Those words are from St Paul’s letter to the Romans, but they apply to our situation here just as fittingly. Christ’s Passion is the greatest story ever told. So, what could we possibly follow it up with? What could I say that would add to what we’ve just heard?

Nothing. So, I won’t say much. Yet we do have to respond to what we’ve heard. The Passion of Christ calls for a response involving the whole person. The greatest story ever told was never supposed to remain simply a story, a mere matter of words. It’s supposed to take flesh in our lives. The Passion– or more accurately, the Paschal Mystery of Christ, his passion *and* his resurrection – is a pattern to be lived out. It’s a mystery to be entered into. It’s not supposed to be admired from afar, like a piece of art. It’s supposed to be embodied by us and instantiated in us.

So, “after saying this, what can we add?” We can add our lives. We can add our yes to Christ’s offer of salvation. We can add our faith, our hope and our love. Not that, by doing so, we’re really adding anything of our own. But we’re giving what we can. We’re letting our hands be Christ’s hands, our feet be his feet, our heart be his heart. We’re letting him tell his story again, through us.

That, I would suggest, is the only adequate response we can make to what we have heard. That’s the only thing that we, each one of us, can add to his story.