

# *A Coffee with Alessio*



## **Easter Sunday 2018**

I hope your Palm Sunday liturgies went extremely well on the weekend, and that through the music you provided and its presentation, the musicians, other Ministers of the Liturgy and the congregation were able to experience the triumph of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and then the sombreness and poignancy of his passion and death.

During this week, each liturgy will be full of emotion and drama. The music you have chosen will assist in touching on the emotions that each particular liturgy focuses on, and also to highlight the drama being enacted.

I could write a book on Holy Week, but if I do that, it will take too long and I won't have anything left to write in future years. This year, rather than focus on each liturgy of Holy Week, I am going to focus on the end point, namely Easter Sunday.

In the First Reading (Acts 10:42) this Sunday, we hear the following:

"He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead."

Whilst, this reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, the text applies equally to us today. Through our music and the words we sing, we too preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and we also testify that he is God of the living and the dead.

For any ministers of the liturgy, in particular musicians, Holy Week is full-on. However, our ministry is a rewarding one, for through our gift of song,

we praise the Lord and unite our communities. There are always visitors to our parishes during Holy Week, so hopefully through your music you bring someone back to God and the Church, thereby fulfilling the words we will hear in the First Reading about being commissioned to preach to the people.

I am looking forward to taking up eating *Baci* chocolates on Sunday and I hope to eat some pancakes and pastries during the Easter Octave.

Wishing you all a Happy and Holy Easter. I know there are a couple of native Italian speakers who read this column on Facebook, so to them I say "Ti auguro una buona e santa Pasqua!"

Mr Alessio Loiacono  
Music Field Officer

Monday 26 March 2018