



# **Celebrating Holy Week 2011**

**Thank you to  
Kai, Lara, Lucia, and Vlademer  
for sharing their memories of  
Holy Week 2011  
- the year in which they prepared for  
their First Holy Communion.**

**Some of their memories are contained  
on the following pages.**

On Palm Sunday we were in Rome to visit my family. In Rome they remember Palm Sunday with olive-tree Branches.



# Palm Sunday

On this day we remember Jesus' entry into on a donkey. When the people saw him coming, they greeted him and shouted "Praise God! Peace in Heaven and Glory in the highest!"

The people laid palm leaves in Jesus' path.

Palm leaves were a symbol of grace and of victory.

This Mass we started outside the church.

Father Allen blessed our palm leaves and read the Gospel. After that we came into the church.



# MT Experience of Good Friday

We went to a different church which I have never been to before. I went there to learn the Stations of the Cross. We stopped at different stops in the street. I met one of my friends, John. The weather was a bit windy on that day. We stopped next to a flower shop that is near Regents Park. That was in the morning. Everybody watched children acting the Easter Story - the Stations of the Cross. In the afternoon we went for a 2 hour mass. In the 2 hour mass we kissed the



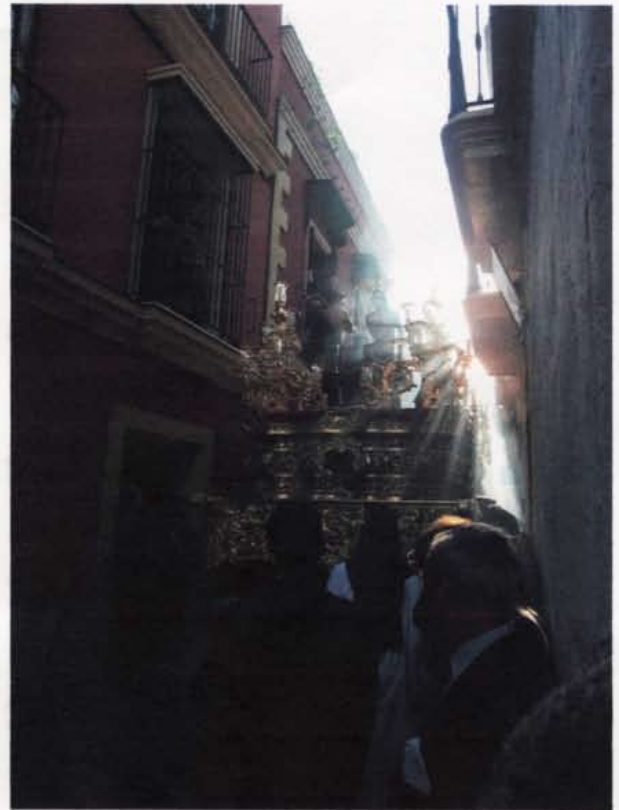
cross. I kissed the wooden cross right  
in the middle. This was called veneration  
of the cross. There was a very good  
choir. We venerated the cross to  
thank Jesus for taking away our  
sins so that we could go to  
Heaven.





These people in the robes are called "Penitentes", this means that they are sorry to God for their sins and are repentant and doing penance in order to be forgiven for their sins. This way, on Easter Sunday, it is a fresh start for the "penitentes" and God forgives them for their sins.

## Holy Week in Spain



These are different images of the processions we saw.



# The Easter Vigil

This service is the most important in whole year. It happens late in the night of Holy Saturday.

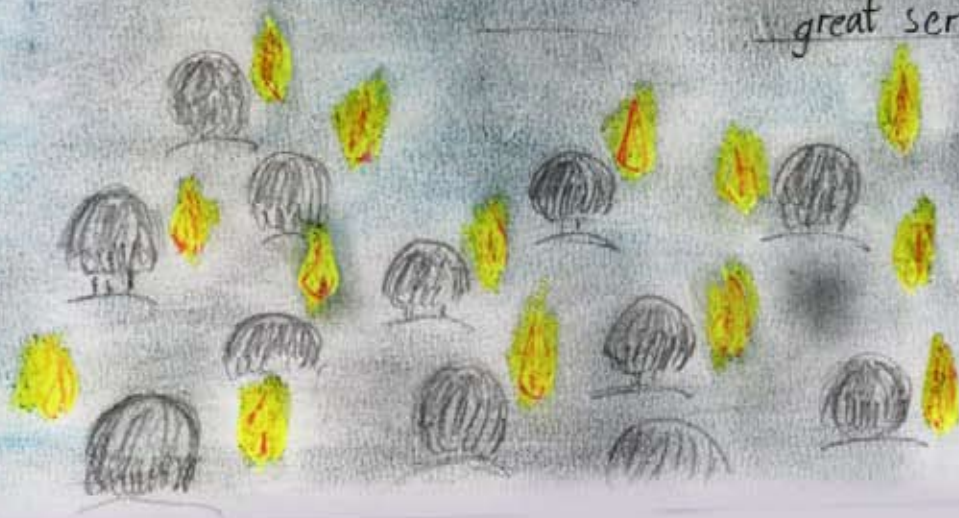
At this Mass we celebrate the Lord's rising from the dead and salvation he won for us.

This Mass was very different. It started at 9 p.m.

Some children, doing their First Holy Communion this year, took a special part in the lighting of the candles and the entrance procession. There were lots of reading from the Bible and some grownups got baptised.



This Mass ended at midnight! It was a great service and I'm glad that I was part of it.



# What is Easter about?

Easter was a time when Jesus was crucified and he died for our sins so we could go to Heaven. The symbols of Easter are Eggs, Bunnies, Spring, baby chickens, daffodills, lillies and ducks. The real meaning of Easter is that Jesus died on the cross for our sins.



SIGNORE,  
PER INTERCESSIONE DELLA  
SACRA FAMIGLIA,  
CONCEDICI  
LA TUA SANTA  
BENEDIZIONE



In Italy during Easter,  
the priests visit the  
homes of the parish-  
ioners and leave  
these cards with bless-  
ings.

