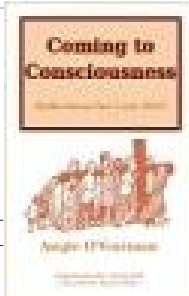


Palm Sunday

Angie O’Gorman | Apr. 17, 2011

Oh, if we could claim for ourselves the words of Isaiah! If we could say that we have listened and heard and acted on what we heard, that would truly be our entry into the New Jerusalem.

Such empowerment would carry us when the truth becomes threatening, when conflicting allegiances blur our clarity, when sound bites and emotion present themselves as fact and the palmwavers exchange their fronds for weaponry. We would know, even in the confusion and pain, where integrity directs us, and the Spirit would move us forward.



Readings for Palm Sunday
Matthew 21:1-11
Isaiah 50:4-7
Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24
Philippians 2:6-11

[Full text of the readings [1]]

This reflection is from *Coming to Consciousness: Reflections for Lent 2011* by Angie O’Gorman

and is based on the lectionary readings for each day of Lent. *Coming to Consciousness* is a publication of Pax Christi USA and is reprinted here by permission of the author and Pax Christi USA.

The full booklet has reflections for every day of Lent. You can order copies here: [Coming to Consciousness: Reflections for Lent 2011](#) [2]. Bulk discounts are available.]

Angie O’Gorman’s essays have been published in *America* magazine, *National Catholic Reporter*, and *Commonweal*. She has been involved in human rights work and nonviolent conflict resolution in the United States, Central America, and the West Bank. Her novel, *The Book of Sins* [3], was published last January.

About Pax Christi USA

In a world that settles differences by armed violence and defines ‘justice’ as ‘revenge,’ [Pax Christi USA](#) [4] dares to break the cycle of violence by fostering reconciliation. Pax Christi USA is the national Catholic peace movement. Our membership includes more than 130 U.S. bishops, 800 parish sponsors, 650 religious communities, 75 high school and college campus groups, 300 local groups, and tens of thousands of individual members. The work of Pax Christi USA begins in personal life and extends to communities of reflection and action to transform structures of society. Pax Christi USA rejects war and every form of violence and domination.

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[1] <http://www.usccb.org/nab/041711.shtml>

[2] http://paxchristiusa.3dcartstores.com/Coming-to-Consciousness-Reflections-for-Lent-2011_p_219.html

[3] <https://www.ncronline.org/thebookofsins.wordpress.com>

[4] <http://www.paxchristiusa.org/>