



↑ José Antonio López is an experienced, touching and convincing Jesus

Easter on Gran Canaria

In Las Palmas, the capital of Gran Canaria, Easter Week has been celebrated since shortly after the founding of the city. The ceremonial act can be traced back to 1478. The Ermita de Begueta de La Veracruz was built before 1579 and there the bloody brotherhood of the cult of Santísimo Cristo de la Veracruz was based. During the procession in the old town of Vegueta, the members contin-

figures are carried through the streets, are celebrated on Wednesday in Holy Week. The Green Day in Las Palmas is known for visiting the seven monuments erected by the various parishes and monasteries in the La Vegueta and La Triana neighbourhoods. At ten minutes before midnight on the night of Good Friday, they sing a song in honour of the Santísimo Cristo del Buen Fin in the chapel, Ermita del Espíritu Santo. After midnight, the first Holy Friday procession begins.

taken through the old town. It's given the name 'The procession of the shawls', because the women who follow the procession are wrapped in white cloths. In the end each year, another pastor gives the sermon of the 'Siete Palabras' (seven words). More than 50,000 people come together every year for the procession for the burial of Christ. In the Magna procession, 15 stages of the Passion are recreated.

In addition to Las Palmas, Holy Week is also particularly celebrated in the Church of the Pro-



↑ Mary (and the audience) mourns her son

worth seeing from a simply artistic point of view. If you can't be there, you can follow it live on TV Canaria. Also if you abhor crowds, you can watch the full dress rehearsal the day before – contact the local Tourist Information Office for the time.

Candelaria's history of suffering

The religious acts and celebrations start on Palm Sunday (April 9) in Candelaria. The story of the Passion of Christ is portrayed in five

scenes in the Plaza de La Patrona: The Last Supper, Prayer at Mount Gethsemane, Jesus at Caiaphas' Temple, Pontius Pilate, and the Crucifixion. Candelaria's actors too create an ever-changing world every year. The staging is expected to begin at 8.30 pm.

ued to be publicly scourged until it was also banned there.

The first processions for Easter are held at the beginning of Holy Week, in the morning and evening of Palm Sunday. Two other processions, in which the portraits of the religious



↑ One of the most important sculptures of José Luján Pérez

At around 11 o'clock, the Procesoión del Arte or de Las Mantillas (art or lace shawls) leaves the Basilica de Canarias. This procession is very popular. It's described as an artistic process, because the two most important works of the sculptor José Luján Pérez are

tectorate of the Island, Virgen del Pino, in Teror and in the lovely Cathedral of Arucas. Precise details of the preparations and celebrations in individual towns and communities will be published on Wednesday April 12 on our website and Facebook page. ■