



Easter Newsletter 2020

Richard Ondicho's Newsletter 3/2020 – 6.4.2020

Lent greetings from Luther-Church Helsinki. This is truly lent season, a season of observing ourselves before God. Holy week is beginning. This year's Lent and Holy week season in our family is that we have spent time at home. More especially our children are studying from home and this has not been an easy thing but rather a challenge of its own kind. This Covid-19 situation will change the trend of many things both in personal life, work life and Church life. Now many Churches seem to struggle with using the modern internet platforms etc.

During this time, I have been working from home, preparing and recording clips to address my congregants. I have been speaking a lot more than before, but I am trying to learn more and catch up with the technology advancement.

Today I met a member of my congregation at Jumbo because he wished that we meet and talk. He then showed me the permit that he had just received from Migri and so it was a moment of joy. This is one area which has been a thorn in the flesh, but one item is now answered and we move to the next one. In the past few weeks, we have received information of cancelation of meetings at courts and Migri. The impact of corona virus is real but we have a great God in whom our faith is cemented.

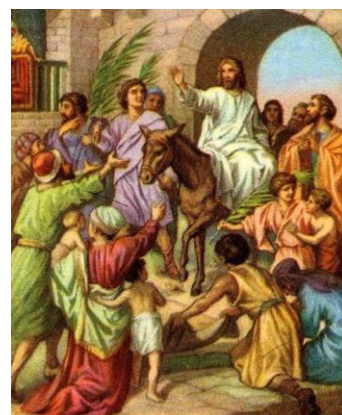
Pray that God will bless our baptism class which is difficult to organize, since some of the students are in fear of catching the virus in the trains or buses. The word of the Lord will prevail.

"And when they had approached Jerusalem and had come to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied there and a colt with her; untie them, and bring them to Me. And if anyone says something to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them.' Now this took place that what was spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying,

"SAY TO THE DAUGHTER OF ZION, 'BEHOLD YOUR KING IS COMING TO YOU, GENTLE, AND MOUNTED ON A DONKEY, EVEN ON A COLT, THE FOAL OF A BEAST OF BURDEN.'"

And the disciples went and did just as Jesus had directed them, and brought the donkey and the colt, and laid on them their garments, on which He sat. And most of the multitude spread their garments in the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees, and spreading them in the road. And the multitudes going before Him, and those who followed after were crying out, saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed Is He Who Comes in the Name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!"

(Matthew 21:1-9)



Source: Wikimedia Commons

May God bless you as you turn to pick up the palm branches, so to speak, and cry aloud the coronation praise of our King. He approaches His throne in this Sunday's gospel lesson. We will celebrate more of the events of that holy week so long ago that worked our salvation. Your sins and mine are paid for and forgiven. All the promises are for us as well – *forgiveness of sins, and resurrection from our graves, and life everlasting in glory with Jesus*. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved! Amen.

Please keep us in your prayers as we are struggling with this quarantine.

Richard Ondicho