

## Palm Sunday

Dear Friends,

We are into the Holy Week. This Sunday is called Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday. We are celebrating the triumph entry of Jesus into Jerusalem City. The situation and the background of Jesus' entry tells us of the love of God for his son. God loved his son and wanted him hailed as Messiah, bringing forgiveness, reconciliation, and a return of God's love.

Holy Week, especially today's liturgy, tells us the lowliness of Jesus Christ as God's son. Riding on a donkey is special, but at the same time it indicates the lowliness. Donkeys are looked at as domestic, rather horses are associated with military and warrior kings. The crowd, spreading their cloaks and cutting the branches from the trees, symbolizes again the lowliness of Jesus Christ. But it is a royal welcome. As Jesus explained earlier to his Disciples, things are happening around him.

The holy week helps us to enter solemnly with Jesus into the city of Jerusalem to die with him, and resurrect with him, in glory. The liturgies we celebrate these days are more than a simple recollection of the happenings of when Jesus died and rose from his death. They give us an even deeper appreciation of what God has done for his creation, despite their hurtful obstinacy. Rather, we are inserted into these memorable days and made sharers of the same saving deeds of Jesus Christ. The son of God accomplished these deeds for our salvation and sanctification, simply because God our loving father wished it.

As we read in the book of Deuteronomy 21:22- 23, "If a man guilty of a capital offense is put to death and his corpse hung on a tree, it shall not remain on the tree overnight. You shall bury it the same day; otherwise, since God's curse rests on him who hangs on a tree. You will defile the land which the Lord, your God is giving you as an inheritance", but Jesus carrying the cross made a symbol of life, actual victory.

On the whole, this week is holy because we are all saved by Jesus' death and resurrection.

What shall we do about it?

As we read in the book of Micah 6:8, "You have been told, O man, what is good and what the Lord requires of you. Only to do right, and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with you, God". Let us walk with Jesus in the Journey.