## olive

Faith embodied despite


"If you love me, give me wings Don't be afraid if I fly"

Kye Fleming
















Fr Shinto Edassery CST

(Cover Page designed and explained by Fr. Shinto Edassery CST)

## Fr. Xavier Olickal CST









## MILESTONES

- Date of Birth : 02 August 1926
- Parish : St. George's Forane Church, Vazhakulam, Diocese of Kothamangalam
- Joined Little Flower Congregation : May 1947
- First Profession : 17 May 1950
- Priestly Ordination : 11 March 1957
- Novice Master at Mookkannur : 1957-1965,

Chathamunda : 1982-1985,
Mookkannur : 1997-2003.
. Superior \& Parish Priest, St. Thomas Ashram, Kottoor : 1965-1966

- Higher Studies from Boston University, USA : 1970-1976
- Assistant Superior General, Little Flower Congregation : 1976-1979
- Minor Seminary Rector at Thrikkakara : 1978-1979
- Little Flower Major Seminary, Aluva :

Rector \& Professor : : 1966-1970, 1979-1983, Professor \& Spiritual Director : 1988-1991, 2003-2009.

- Superior General, Litle Flower Congregation : 1985-1988
- Formation Assistant, Little Flower Congregation : 1988-1991
- Missionary In Punjab-Rajasthan Mission : 1991-1997


## Fr. Kattackal Thomas

First Religious Profession : 17 May 1970
of Religious Profession
Fr. Kongampuzha Abraham
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1970

of Religious Profession Fr. Pareman George
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1970
of Religious Profession
Fr. Powenkulathil Joseph First Religious Profession : 17 May 1970



> of Religious Profession

Fr. Puthenpura Mathew
First Religious Profession: 17 May 1970

of Religious Profession

## Fr. Thottumarickal Jose Paul

First Religious Profession : 17 May 1970

of Religious Profession
Fr. Edamuriyil Joby
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1995

Fr. Kochuputhenpurackal Saji
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1995


of Religious Profession
Fr. Kurisunkal Parsad
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1995
of Religious Profession
Fr. Mamalassery Joby
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1995

of Religious Profession
Fr Munduplackal Paul
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1995
of Religious Profession
Fr. Muttathettu Johnson
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1995



## of Religious Profession

Fr. Thekkumkattil Benny
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1995
of Religious Profession
Fr. Vayalil Joy
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1995

of Religious Profession
Vettikkattu Paul
First Religious Profession : 17 May 1995
of Religious Profession

## Fr. Vizhikkipparayil Jaison

First Religious Profession : 17 May 1995






## Fr. GEORGE EDAKUNNATH

Fr. George Edakunnath, a Classmate, Companion and Uncle (Mother's First Cousin) of Mar Dominic Kokkatt, was born on 30 July 1932. He hails from St. Joseph's Forane Parish, Vaikom, Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamaly. He joined the Apostolic School at Mookkannur in 1948 and did Fifth Form (Std. IX). He joined the First Year Minor Seminary of Little Flower Congregation in May 1951, completed Minor Seminary and Novitiate and made his First Profession on 18 May 1953 with the name Bro. Ignatius. He was sent to Papal Seminary, Kandy (Sri Lanka) for Philosophy Course. When Papal Seminary was shifted to Pune, he continued and completed his Philosophy as well as Theology studies in Pune. He was ordained Priest on 04 October 1960 together with Mar Dominic Kokkatt. When the Little Flower Institute of Philosophy and Religion, the Major Seminary of Little Flower Congregation, was inaugurated on 04 June 1962, Fr. Ignatius was appointed as the Dean of Studies. He continued to serve in the Seminary and left Little Flower Congregation in May 1964 and joined the Diocese of Chikmagalur in Karnataka. He served mainly in the Education Ministry of the Diocese. When the Diocese of Chikmagalur was bifurcated in 1989 he became a Member in the Diocese of Shimoga.

Fr. George was called for eternal reward on 08 July 2020 at 11.30 pm and was buried at Sacred Heart Cathedral Church, Shimoga at 04.30 pm on 09 July 2020.

We are deeply indebted to Fr. George. We thank the Lord for the abundant blessings our Congregation, the Dioceses and the People of God received through Fr. George.
May his soul rest in peace.

## Mar Dominic Kokkatt CST

First Bishop of the Diocese of Gorakhpur
Your abiding devotion and faithful sexvice to the Loxd has touched countless hearts and inspired so many souls.... What a blessing you ave to all of us. Elearty Congratulations deax Pithaji, as you celebrate 60 Deans of $\mathscr{P}_{\text {priesthood. }}$

## MILESTONES

| Date of Birth | $:$ 23 Feb 1932 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Parish | $:$ St. Joseph's Forane Parish, Vaikom, |
|  | Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamaly |
| First Profession | $:$ 18 May 1953 |
| Priestly Ordination | $: 04$ Oct 1960 |
| Episcopal Ordination | $: 04$ Oct 1984 |

Professor, Little Flower Seminary, Aluva
: 1961-62
Vocation Promoter : 1963-1967
Principal \& Superior, SWTS, Aluva : 1967-1970
Rector, Vijnan Bhavan, Thrikkakara : 1971
Mission Superior, Punjab Mission : 1973-1978
Assistant Secretary, CBCI, New Delhi : 1978-1982
Assistant Superior General and First Councillor : 1982-1984
First Bishop, Diocese of Gorakhpur
: 1984-2006 Founder, Little Sisters of St. Therese (LST) : 30 June 1988

## ＂I have called you Friends＂



1．ஷ毋யาஜักกาఱゥ
2．Superior General＇s Message
3．Generalate News
4．News from Mission in Africa
5．Aluva Tidings
6．St．Joseph＇s Province
7．St．Thomas Province
8．Khrist Jyothi Province
9．Little Flower Province
10．News from Ghana

12．ఐஸ்வ土（ேைைைைை mlய
13．Report of Covid Activities
14．Circular Letter of Superior General
15．List of Decons for your prayers
16．List of Candidates in Minor Seminaris \＆Novitiates

17．Corona Special Corner
18．Days to Remember


News Bulletin<br>Little Flower Congregation

Vol．L2 No． 2 July 2020

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 (St. John Paul II, Faith and Reason).









 Where is the God in a Corona Virus World?').





















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 உஸன்カைక̧.
 who pray lead peaceful lives!" (Pope Francis , Happiness in this Life). mod





## SUPERIOR GENERAL'S MESSAGE

## AMBASSADORS OF A MISSIONARY CHURCH

Pope Francis decided to include a year of mission in the training curriculum of the diplomatic staff of the Holy See. Pope Francis' decision to include a year spent in mission territory in the training curriculum of diplomatic Nunciature personnel comes just a few months after the announcement made by the Pope himself in the concluding speech of the Synod for the Amazon. This announcement now becomes reality for new students of the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy in the academic year 20202021.

First, it is interesting to note the context in which this project was first announced: the need for, and difficulty in finding, priests for the missions. The Pope had quoted the negative response one sometimes receives: "No, I am not suitable for this". "Well," commented the Pope, "this must be reformed... Young religious have a great vocation and it is necessary to train them in apostolic zeal to go to the peripheries". Immediately afterwards, Pope Francis spoke of future diplomats, hinting at a "suggestion" he had received: "In the curriculum of the diplomatic service of the Holy See, young priests should spend at least a year in missionary territory. Not doing an internship in the Nunciature as they do now; this is very useful, but simply in the service of a bishop in a place of mission".

Now this proposal becomes concrete. In his letter to the President of the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy, the Pope writes: "I am convinced that such an experience will be useful for all the young men preparing for or beginning priestly service ..." The commitment of future Apostolic Nuncios will serve as an example, so that other priests will accept the invitation to spend time in mission.

A fundamental piece of the curriculum now becomes the year dedicated to missionary service in the field, far from home, getting one's hands dirty in pastoral work, in the frontier Churches. A year of change, of fatigue, of new experiences, which will allow a better and deeper understanding of the reality of the Church, of her problems and difficulties, but also of her hopes and the comforting beauty of her daily life.

Once again, Pope Francis reminds us that the whole Church diplomatic service included - is either missionary or she is not. She either evangelizes or she is not Church. "If the Church is not on the move, she decays, she becomes something else". Pope Francis says: "Mission is not a tried and tested company plan. Neither is it a public spectacle organized to flaunt how many people are associated with it, thanks to our marketing. The Holy Spirit works as He wills, when He wills and where He wills". "Mission's mysterious fruitfulness does not consist in our intentions, in our methods, in our impulses and in our initiatives, but rests precisely in this 'vertigo': the 'vertigo' we perceive when we hear Jesus' words: "Without me you can do nothing" (John15:5).

The strategic change which our Pope implemented is an eyeopener for all the Priests and Seminarians of our Congregation. Very Rev. Fr. Basilius, our Founder, visualized and nurtured the Congregation fundamentally as a Missionary Congregation. He undertook visits to the Mission areas in his very advanced age and urged our Priests to go to the Mission. He started first with services to the Migrants in and around Sreekantapuram, since 1958 when there were only six Priests ordained in the Congregation. Later he took initiatives to send our Priests to the Archdiocese of Bhopal in 1969, to the Diocese of Varanasi in 1970 and to the Diocese of Jallandhar in 1973. Our Pioneer Priests went to the Mission and peripheries with great zeal,
commitment and hard work as their capital to invest in the People of God.

Over a period of time our Congregation made commendable progress in serving the marginalized at the peripheries and Missions. At the same time, I would like to draw your kind attention, particularly of the young Priests and Seminarians under formation of our Congregation that our missionary zeal is to be doubled and reinforced. More and more youngsters should venture to move from the comfort zones to more challenging fields in the peripheries and frontiers. All our Provinces and Provincial Administration Teams are taking keen interest to promote our Missions. I feel that our youngsters should back up these efforts and get involved in a deeper way.

We started the new Academic Year, though in a different mode of learning due to the Covid 19 pandemic which necessitates the use of distant learning, on-line learning, e-learning etc which are more combative with the fourth and fifth generation of Education methodologies. Our Formation is oriented to prepare committed, balanced and capable Priests who can go to the peripheries and frontiers as great Missionaries and be Ambassadors of a Missionary Church. More and more youngsters should volunteer to be at the frontiers, to be with the most vulnerable sections, and the neediest ones. They should be ready to serve the Missions in the peripheries and frontiers, even risking their lives. We have to live with Corona and adjust ourselves with the new situations which the pandemic has brought to the world by force without our consent. Corona and the pandemic teach us that life is very shorter, more fragile and mostly unpredictable. Before we depart from this world, let us do something better, useful and meaningful to create a new world where everyone is loved and cared. We shall firmly believe that another world is possible. Let the Formation days equip
each Seminarian with a focus on the frontier Missions and let the young Priests step forward with an unrelenting courage and persevering spirit to be Ambassadors of the Missionary Church.

We very cordially welcome all the First Year Minor Seminarians, who very courageously chose to be with us, to become great Missionaries. We wish all the Best for the Seminarians who are in different stages of Formation. We recommend the thirteen Deacons of this year for your special prayers. May this Academic Year be very fruitful with abundant blessings of the Lord to meet the purposes of the Formation. May the Corona experiences re-focus on our Mission priorities and re-dedicate ourselves to the services of the people of God.

With warm regards,


## Fr. Francis Kilivallickal CST

Superior General.

## N.B: All the out-station programmes and Canonical Visitations scheduled to be held in June to September 2020 stand cancelled due to the Covid 19 and Lockdown restrictions.



## GENERALATE NEWS

## Prayers to overcome Covid 19 Crisis:

On 27 March the whole world prayed for an hour from 10.30 pm to 11.30 pm, spiritually joining in the Special Urbi et Orbi Blessing by Pope Francis at St. Peter's Square, Rome for the whole world under the threat of Covid 19. The Fathers in the Generalate participated in the holy hour in the chapel.
Cardinal Oswald Gracias, the President of CBCI had made an appeal to conduct a Prayer Service all over India at 12 noon on Easter Sunday, 12 April 2020 specially dedicated to the Departments of Governments, Health Service Providers, Volunteers and the People affected by Covid 19, all over the world. We conducted the Prayer Service in the Generalate Chapel from 12.00 noon to 01.00 pm and prayed for all affected by Covid -19 and for God's intervention to contain the pandemic.
On 19 April Divine Mercy Sunday we conducted Divine Mercy Rosary at the Generalate Chapel at 03.00 pm , praying for all the countries and the people suffering from Covid 19 and Lockdown.

The Generalate Community conducted Adoration and Special Prayer Service on 31 May 2020 from 12.00 Noon to 01.00 pm in solidarity with the Universal Church and prayed for protection from God against Covid - 19 and its rapid spread.
On 19 June evening, on the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we had Monthly Recollection and Special Adoration. Fr. Joseph Erambil guided us with his thought provoking Reflection and administration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Fathers from Little Flower Seminary, Aluva; Khrist Jyoti Mission House, Mudickal and POC, Palarivattam joined us for the Recollection. We have everyday Adoration and special prayers in the morning to overcome the Covid 19 Crisis. We have added special intention and prayers during Holy Mass and Remsa.

## Special Guests and Regent took further Steps:

Fr. Jossy Puthuparambil, Priest from the Diocese of Idukki, who was doing his MSW Studies at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamasery was with us for one year at Generalate. After completing his course and Examinations he went back to the Diocese as the Vicar of the church at Pandippara.

Fr. Sebastian Kallarackal was staying with us at the Generalate since March 2020 for studying German language at Goethe Institute; Ernakulam went to St. Joseph's Provincial House, Aluva as the Secretary to the Provincial Superior. He could attend only a few regular classes from the Generalate due to the Covid 19 and Lockdown.

On 11 May Bro. Sachin Cheppukalayil, Regent at Little Flower Generalate, Thrikkakara, renewed Religious Vows together with other Seminarians and received Cassock during the Holy Mass. Completing his Regency he has gone to Little Flower Ashram, Labbakkada to pursue B. Ed Studies at JPM College. We welcomed Bro. Robin Cheradiputhenpurayil as the new Regent. Fr. Jose Thamarakattu, who was doing his MA Malayalam Studies at U. C. College, Aluva and helping at Basilius Boys Home for the past two years, has completed his Course. After the University Examinations he will go to Lisieux Ashram, Velur, Thrissur as the Econome.

Covid 19 and Lockdown prevented us very badly from Event Management!

## CORONA QUOTES

Ultimately, the greatest lesson that COVID-19 can teach humanity is that we are all in this together.

- Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Biocon


## NEWS FROM MISSION IN AFRICA

## SAHIHI YA MUNGU (SIGNATURE OF GOD)

Dear Fathers and Brothers in Jesus Christ,
Greetings from Little Flower Mission, Africa!
By the grace of God Almighty we are all doing great and keeping fine especially in this difficult situation of Corona. Really it was a delicate and potentially devastating situation. But by God's protection and care, we can say that Africa is doing much better especially Tanzania. In Kenya only Nairobi is affected badly. Our mission areas and our Fathers are all safe and sound. We would like to thank all the Superiors and Fathers for your frequent enquiry about our situation over here and for your prayer and care.

We were not having any special programs during this period because of Corona. There is complete lockdown in Kenya and Churches are all closed. So no public services are possible there. In Tanzania there is no lockdown as such. Even though there is no lockdown unnecessary public gatherings were banned. Schools were not functioning. So we were not having any major events during this period. But with some restrictions and enough precautions we were having liturgical and sacramental celebrations as usual.

During this period God allowed us to do two major project works.

1. A New Mission in the Diocese of Iringa, Tanzania

Iringa is a hill station situated in between Dar Es Salaam and Songea. The distance between Dar Es Salaam and Songea is 1100 KM. So we were searching for a place in between. After fruitful discussion and enough consultation with the Superiors and Bishop of the Diocese of Iringa we have signed the contract
with the Diocese to take up a Parish in the Diocese of Iringa. So we are taking up the All Saints Parish, Mtandika along with its 9 sub stations in the month of September. Two of our Fathers - Philip Kallamplackal and Babychan Tholanical - will reach the Parish in the first week of August for one month induction.

## 2. Water Project at Songea

Through Fr. John Kadaliyil we have got some money from Mr. George P. Padavil, a benefactor from Kerala who is working in America, for a water project at Songea. As per the project we are able to supply drinking water to the nearby Village, the Village Government School, and the Convent which is near to our Ashram and Parish. We will also make use of this water for cultivation and animal husbandry in our Ashram land. The construction is almost finishing. Thanks a lot Fr. John Kadaliyil and Mr. George Padavil.

## CORONA QUOTES

In the fight to end this crisis, we truly can't afford to lose anyone behind. - Priyanka Chopra Jonas

Social distancing is an important response to the pandemic, but we need to ensure that it does not become social isolation or alienation, particularly for the vulnerable groups of our society. - Bharti Gitay, Mpower

There is nothing short term about this crisis. Even in Beijing and Shanghai, it has taken three months for people to come back on the streets.

- Gautam Chhugani, Bernstein


## ALUVA TIDINGS

## A Unique Easter Celebration...

Easter heralds a message of "hope". Since whole world is gripping with the worst hit pandemic COVID-19, 2020 Easter became a novel celebration without the presence of the faithful. The celebrations were confined into a community Mass in a 'closed church'. Let this Easter empower us to resurrect over the pandemic with the hope imparted by Christ.

## Two new Badminton courts

Adding more vigor and thrill to the games two badminton courts are newly constructed in front of the academic block. This will definitely enhance extracurricular activities of the Seminarians. We acknowledge dear Fathers for providing such constructive opportunities.

## Graduation Ceremony - Academic Harvest 2020

'As you sow, so you reap! Three years of cultivation was finally ready for the harvest. May 12 witnessed the convocation of dear Third Year Philosophy Students. The function was a very short one taking into account the pandemic situation. Dr Jojo Varakukalayil CST, President of the Little Flower Institute welcomed the gathering and the function was chaired by Dr Francis Kilivallickal CST, Superior General of Little Flower Congregation. Fr. Tomy Alumkalkarot CST, Provincial Superior of SJ Province, and Dr Saji Nellikunnel CST, Rector Little Flower Seminary, felicitated the graduating Seminarians. The certificates were given away to graduating students by Superior General. Fr Francis Chittinappilly CST, the Dean of Studies, congratulated the passing out students for their unfailing commitment. The presence of Fr. Abin Orathel CST, the Batchmate of late Bro. Justin Poonely spoke on the sense and purpose of the JJ Foundation Award. Congrats to dear Bro.

## ว่ยก

Ashin Gopuran for the JJ Foundation Award; he secured First Rank for Philosophy. Bro Sam shared his memories for the year lived at LFS and LIPAR and Bro Bony Venatt CST proposed vote of thanks!

## May at odds..

Usually every year the month of May leaves us with joyful memories of the celebration of Vestition, Renewal of Vows and Minor Orders. But this year everything was put aside by the covid-19. Thus, made May at odds. But few of our brothers from LF Province renewed their Vows and Bro. Sachin Cheppukalayil received Cassock on May 12 from Fr Rector, Saji Nellikunnel CST.

## Laudable services!!

The absence of anything affects the entire dynamism. The flourishing happens in the fullness. To make the smooth running of the Seminary, third year brothers from LF, KJ, SJ extended their generous service to the Seminary for few weeks. Later on, three brothers from SJ Province rendered their selfless service to the Seminary. Kudos to all brothers for your valuable services!

## CORONA THOUGHTS

The corona virus outbreak has posed serious challenges to India's healthcare community, but responses from affordable ventilators to interactive apps are emerging. Companies are reinventing themselves to survive and even thrive, as new opportunities open up in online education, entertainment and collaboration.

## ST. JOSEPH'S PROVINCE























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## ST. THOMAS PROVINCE

1. Death anniversary of Fr. Mathew Chakkalayil was commemorated in each ashram. Due to Covid-19, we could not assemble at Kottoor on 15 April, 2020.
2. Our dear Fr. Augustine Alackal was called for his eternal reward on 17 May, 2020, on the 54th anniversary day of his first religious profession. He was admitted at Nirmala Hospital Marykunnu. More than six weeks he was there. His body was brought to the Provincial House. The first three stages of funeral was conducted at Provincial House, Chelavoor by Fr. Provincial Superior. His body was taken to St. Thomas Ashram Kotoor. The final rite was conducted by Mar George Njaralakkatt, Archbishop of Thalassery.
3. Perpetual Profession of Bros. Joyal Panachipuram (Chelavoor), Robin Chennattu (Kaithapoyil) and Shebin Panthackal (Pettikkal) took place on 12 May, 2020. On the same day Bros. Ananthu Villidumpara, Jestin Peedikayil, Shibin Mundackal, Jins Mathalikunnel, Abin Madassery, Ajith Kochuvelikakath, Sachin Cheppukalayil, Santo Akkara and Nikhil Ikkarottuparambil received religious habit. All the brothers renewed their Vows in our Ashrams or in their home Parishes. The Provincial Superior authorized the concerned Superiors or Parish Priests to receive their Vows. Congratulations dear Brothers.
4. First Profession of Bros. George Aerimattom, Sherin Kammattithara, Jestin Kodimarathummottil, Amal Koiparambil, Anto Muthukattil and Jills Puthuparambilkunnel took place at Mookkannur on 17 May, 2020. Fr. Joby Edamuriyil, the Provincial Superior received their Vows. Their parents could not participate in the function due to lockdown restrictions. The newly professed Brothers came to Provincial House on the following day and left for holidays.
5. Our dear loving Frs. Joseph Powamkulathil and Thomas Kattackal completed 50 years of their religious profession.

Frs. Joby Edamuriyil, Johnson Muttathettu and Prasad Kurisunkal celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their first profession. Due to Covid-19 all the jubiliarians could not assemble in our Provincial House. Fr. Joby Edamuriyil and Fr. Joseph Powamkulathil celebrated the jubilee at Provincial House in a simple way. There was Holy Mass and agape on May 12.
6. This year the following Brothers begin their Theology

1) Libin Kalapurackal - St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Vadavathoor
2) Jestin Peedikayil - St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Vadavathoor
3) Ajith Kochuvelikkakath-St. Joseph's Pontifical Seminary, Mangalapuzha
4) Jins Mathalikunnel - St. Joseph's Pontifical Seminary, Mangalapuzha
5) Abin Madassery - Ruhalaya Seminary, Ujjain
6) Shibin Mundackal - Ruhalaya Seminary, Ujjain
7) Ananthu Villidumpara - Good Shepherd Major Seminary Kunnoth

The following Brothers are sent for Higher studies:

1) Santo Akkara - M.Ph.
2) Sachin Cheppukalayil-B.Ed.
3) Nikhil Ikkarottuparambil - Fine Arts

The Major Seminaries (Mangalapuzha, Vadavathoor, Kunnoth, Khristhu Jyothi, Bangalore) will be reopened only in July or later. Our Theologians stay at our Provincial House and attend on-line classes.
7. The newly professed and second year students of Philosophy are at Kaithapoyil for an intensive training programme and Fr. Jaison Enchathanath is their Animator. The present third year philosophers stay at St. Thomas Ashram Kottoor. Fr. Tom Pazheparambil is their Animator.

## ญอிவ

Little Flower Seminary, Aluva reopens only in the month of July.
8. Fr. Thomas Ottalankal was admitted on 01 May, 2020 at Meitra Hospital, Kozhikode due to a fatal fall, and later he was admitted at Nirmala Hospital. For few days he was in I C U and now is shifted to Provincial House. His health condition is not satisfactory. Kindly continue to pray for him.
9. Frs. Provincial Superior, Johnson Varakaparambil, Binu Paimpillil and George Nelluvelil visited our Ashrams at Kannikalam, Kottoor and Samiritan Home and evaluated the works in progress
10. This year also we decided to send our Novices to Little Flower Novitiate House Mookkannur. The present situation of Little Flower Novitiate at Chathamunda is not favorable. Due to Covid 19 lockdown restrictions, the Novices could not be admitted to Novitiate on 16 May. According to the direction and exemption given by the Superior General, the Novices were admitted on18 May, 2020 at Little Flower Seminary, Irikkur. After completing their +2 exam, the Novices were shifted to Little Flower Novitiate House, Mookkannur on 30 May, 2020. The present Novices are;
11. As part of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of our Province we have helped 34 families to build their houses partially or fully. The blessing of the 25 houses was officiated by Mar Joseph Pamplany, Auxiliary Bishop of Thalassery at Manikkadavu on 01 June, 2020 in the presence of Fr. Joby Edamuriyil, the Provincial Superior. On the same day an Umbrella Making Centre, (a Self Help Project) was inaugurated by Fr. Provincial Superior for the physically challenged people at Anappanthy under the initiative of Samaritan Pain and Palliative Care Centre, Nellikkunnu.

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## CORONA THOUGHTS

Despite some finger-pointing and blame games between countries, cooperation across the board is picking up as countries battle the global corona virus crisis.

## KHRIST JYOTHI PROVINCE

## Perpetual Profession and Renewal of Vows

Three of our Major Seminarians, Bros. Rince Kalapurackal, Nikhil Valeputhenpurayil and Juslin Padinjaremattom having completed five years after their First Profession dedicated their whole life permanently to the Lord with their Final Profession on 12 May 2020 at Jyoti Niwas, Hanumangarh (Nikhil) and Khrist Jyoti Mission Bhavan, Mudickal (Rince and Juslin). Other Major Seminarians renewed their vows on the same day. The respective Superiors under whom they had been spending their holidays, received the Vows as Delegates of the Provincial Superior.

## An unforgettable First Profession

Owing to the outbreak of the pandemic Covid - 19, this year we minimized into a modest one what has otherwise to be a grand First Profession celebrations. Eleven Novices from Khrist Jyoti Province and three Novices from Little Flower Province took their First Profession on 17 May 2020 at Little Flower Novitiate House, Abohar without their parents, friends and relatives. The occasion also shared the conjoined celebration of Fr.Varghese Chittinappilly beginning 50 years of Religious Profession and Fr. Saju Thottamattom 25 years of the same.

## In the Fullness of Jubilee

Fr. Joy Munduplackal CST has completed his silver jubilee of first Religious Profession. And at the same time Fr. Varghese Chittinappilly CST, Fr. Joseph Padinjarekutt CST, and Fr. Kurian Moonjely CST have begun the golden jubilee of their first Religious Profession and Fr. Saju Thottamattom CST, Fr. John Joseph Myladumparayil CST have begun the silver jubilee of their first Religious Profession. On 13 June Fr. Antony Anmura
started his Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee. Let us thank God for the gift of these Fathers and pray for them very specially in this Jubilee Year.

## Renewal of the Contract with Jalandhar

We have signed the Contract with Jalandhar Diocese on 31 May 2020, on the solemn Feast of the Pentecost. The new Contract will come into effect on 03 July, 2020, on the Solemn Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle. As per the Contract three stations Makhu, Ferozepur Cantt. and Canal Colony will be handed over to the Diocese immediately. Ferozepur City, Mamdot and Bhagsar stations will be handed over to the Diocese, but our fathers will continue to render our service as Parish Priests for a period of five to ten years. Abohar Parish is handed over to the Diocese, but, for one year one of our Priests will be the Parish Priest.

## Death Anniversary of Fr. Varghese Koikkara

We commemorated the12th death anniversary of Rev Fr. Varghese Koikkara, on 03 June 2020. Memorial Mass was offered by Fr. George Alikka Provincial Superior and concelebrated by our Fathers from Punjab and Rajasthan. Many Sisters from both the States also joined us on the occasion. There was Office for the Dead after the Mass at the tomb.

## Raised to the Status of Deacon

Bro. Ajay Narippara CST received the order of Diaconate through the anointing hands of Mar. Joseph Kallarangattu the Bishop of Pala on 20 June 2020 at St. Thomas Cathedral Pala. Prayerful wishes and congratulations to Dn. Ajay Narippara CST.

## New Appointments

$\varnothing$ Fr. Bibin Naripara CST - Priest In Charge at Sadiq Station.
$\varnothing$ Fr. Rijo Menacherry CST - the Manager of the Holy Cross Sr. Sec. School, Director of Basil Dairy Farm, land in charge, Member and Procurator of the Holy Cross Ashram at Danewala.
$\varnothing$ Fr. Jidhin Kurisinkal CST - Asst. Priest in-Charge of St Joseph Catholic Church, Abohar.

## SPECIAL ATTENTION !

"The church needs men and women of conviction who protect communication from all that would distort it or bend it to other purposes. We need media that can help people, especially the young, to distinguish good from evil, to develop sound judgments based on a clear and unbiased presentation of the facts and to understand the importance of working for justice, social concord and respect for our common home."

## Pope Francis to US Catholic Media Outlets

Dear Fathers and Brothers,
I would like to draw your kind attention on the outburst of social media these days. Our Fathers and Brothers are very good and creative in media skills expressed through WhatsApp, Facebook, Youtube etc. At the same time there are some who engage in spreading rumours and calumny. They are sending trolls, sarcastic comments and unnecessary items which are aimed at ridiculing and diminishing the dignity of persons. Please abstain from such engagements in social media, phone calls and other means of communication.

## LITTLE FLOWER PROVINCE

## GORAKHPUR SAMACHAR

## Ordination

## Into Your Hands O lord

Due to Covid-19 and the consequent Lockdown, Brothers of our Province could not come together in Kerala to make their Perpetual Profession/Renewal of Vows/ First Religious Profession in the Congregation. Therefore, as directed by the Superior General after making the immediate preparation, 7 Brothers made their Perpetual Profession, 21 Brothers renewed their Vows and 3 Brothers made their First Religious Profession in the Congregation in different Ashrams/ Seminaries/Novitiate House.

## Jubilarians

Frs Mathew Puthenpura and Jose Paul Thottumarickal celebrated the Golden Jubilee of their Religious Profession and Frs. Saji Paul Kochuputhenpurackal, Benny Paul Thekkumkattil and Joby Mamalassery celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their Religious Profession this year in the month of May 2020. Congratulations dear Fathers.

## Brothers to Kerala

The Brothers from our Philosophate in Aluva who came to Gorakhpur for mission experience during summer vacation and our Regents went back to Kerala on 02 June by a special train arranged by the U.P. Government. They reached at Shornoor on 05 June and remained in quarantine for 14 days. Now they are back in their respective centers.

## Welcome to the Regents

Nine of our Brothers who have completed their Philosophy in Aluva, have now reached the Provincial house on 27 June. They have travelled from Shornoor and reached Delhi by Mangala Express on 26 June and from there to Gorakhpur by a private tempo traveller. They are in Quarantine in the Provincial House.

## Here I come Lord

This year three of our brothers made their First Profession at Little Flower Novitiate, Abohar, Punjab and four of our brothers entered the novitiate. Congratulations to you all.

## New comers at Shornoor

We are happy that 9 new candidates joined our seminary at Vettikattiri. We congratulate them and wish them all the best.

## Covid-19 and our Schools

Covid-19 has shaken up the entire world and very specially India. In this unprecedented time, our Schools had to ensure that learning of the students do not hit a road block. So, our Schools are adopting new technology to replace classroom learning to virtual teaching. We appreciate the efforts taken by our Fathers to ensure the uninterrupted learning of Students.

## CORONA THOUGHTS

From government think tanks to global multilateral organizations, expert opinions and impact forecasts are being shared. Safe practices and best practices are being proposed across the board. Resilience, hope and compassion are the need of the hour.

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Fr. George Aranchery CST



 ๑ఎதுmை. SSTLF (Society of St. Therese of Little Flower). ஷைவே












## Ghana - General Profile

## 1. Ghana - A West African Country

March 6, 1957 - Became the first Independant Country of Africa Boundaries - East: Togo; West: Ivery Cost; North: Burkina Faso; South: Atlantic Ocean

South North Difference : 900 km
East west difference : 400 km
Area wise it looks like Maharashtra
There are 16 Regions (States)
There are about 100 Tribes
Languages - Official : English
Local in use : 50

Languages taught in the schools: 11
Currency - Ghana Cedi. 1 Cedi $=14$ Rs. or $1 \$=5$ Cedi
Population : 40 million
Religious: Christians are majority about 70\%, others 30\%
Economy : Rich because of gold mines \& export of cocoa
Whether : Tropical, like Kerala. Rainy season May - September.
Agriculture : All tropical plants, fruits \& vegetables are available.
Yam, tapioca, rice, millet are produced. There are rubber plantations.

National Parks are there
Forest: Deforestation is taking place because of the mines and charcoal business.

Fisheries: Because of the Lake Volta of southern coast, fishes are available.
Animal Husbandry \& Poultry Farms: They are also abundantly available.

Education: A lot of Educational facilities are there. Many Universities are available with most modern subjects. But village literacy is poor.
Houses: We could see huts \& palaces.
Villages are undeveloped
Fashion: We could see tribal dress as well as most modern fashion dress here - traditional as well as western style.
Job: Job opportunities are less. Since most of the things are imported very few factories and industries.
People: Generally healthy, clean, friendly and literate. They have got self esteem and are proud of their culture.

## 2. Church in Ghana

Evangelical and Pentecostal Churches are prevalent
More than 30 TV Channels belong to them
Catholics are only 15\%

Archdioceses -3
Dioceses - 17
There are enough vocations to Priesthood. Religious Vocations are less. There are about 1200 Religious Sisters but half of them are missionaries from outside. Indian Congregations CMI, MC Sisters and Fathers, MSJ, Holy Family, JMJ, OFM Cap, Quilon are serving here.
Many of the Ghana Priests are working in Europe and America. I have noted here in Ghana, that there are Theresian Group of Women who are active in the Parish. They follow the Little Way Statutes and make the Parish life active. They have got uniform, action plan, regular gatherings, recollections, seminar, evaluation, Novena etc. Theresian spirituality is propagated in their country more than other countries which I have seen.
There is a Theresian Basilica here in the Diocese of Wa at Nandom. It is built about 100 km by White Fathers under the Patronage of Little Flower. It is the Largest Church in the Western Africa. This Church is constructed with red stone (Laterite) alone and really it is awesome. It is a pilgrim centre. Theresian Basilica is constructed before the foundation of our Congregation.
There is a Cathedral in the Town, called St. Andrews Cathedral. St. Andrews feast is celebrated on 30 November. In this day Bishop honours the Jubilarians of the year in the Diocese. All the spouses who have their wedding Jubilees of Silver, Golden and Diamond as well as the Jubilee of the Religious and Priests working in the Diocese are honoured. My Golden Jubilee of Profession with the Ruby of my Ordination was honoured by the Diocese of Wa. I am very proud of it. God has lead me from India to this part of Africa to get the "Mangalapathram" from the Bishop Richard Waawober. It is difficult to understand the Plan of God.

## อย่บ

## 3. SSTLF - Society of St. Therese of Little Flower















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## Founder's Visit to India






















## 4. Ave Maria Formation House








 language "Dagari" ๔ฺணந.





























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## ANNNUAL RETREATS FOR CST FATHERS

At Darsana Retreat Centre, Illithode - mainly for the Fathers of SJ Province 13 to 18 September 2020. At Provincial House, Hanumangarh - mainly for the Fathers of KJ Province on 11 to 16 October 2020.

- At Gorakhpur - mainly for the Fathers of LF Province on 25 to 30 October 2020 at Retreat Centre, Campierganj.
- At Little Flower Generalate on 01 Nov. 2020 evening to 06 Nov. 2020
- At Potta Vincentian Retreat House - mainly for the Fathers of St. Thomas Province on 15 Nov. 2020 evening to 20 Nov. 2020.


## COVID 19 CRISIS <br> INTERVENTIONS AFTER APRIL 2020

|  |  | ST <br> PROVINCE |  | DISA, BASTI |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| No. | Item | Amount | Number | Amount |  |
| 1 | Food \& Food <br> Materials | $3,12,000$ | 210 | $1,66,000$ |  |
| 2 | Direct Cash <br> Support | $1,16,250$ | 00 | 00 |  |
| 3 | Drinking Water | 00 | 00 | 00 |  |
| 4 | Masks | 11,250 | 1000 | 10000 |  |
| 5 |  <br> Hand Wash Kits | 10,000 | 100 | 10000 |  |
| 6 | Awareness <br> Campaign | 00 | 10000 |  |  |
| 7 | Medical Equip- <br> ments to <br> Kozhikode <br> Medical College | $3,21,300$ | 00 | 00 |  |
|  | Total Amount <br> (In Rupees) | $7,70,800$ | $1,96,000$ |  |  |

## CIRCULAR NO: GEN / 12 / 2015-21 DATED: 10 JULY 2020

"Time has come to eliminate inequalities. This is not some ideology; it is Christianity. The time has come to heal the injustice that is undermining the health of the entire human family!" Pope Francis, who has constantly demanded greater solidarity among rich and poor, dreams of post-corona virus world where poor are not left behind. He shared his thoughts at Santo Spirito in Sassia Church, Rome where he celebrated Holy Mass on 19 April 2020 to mark a special day - Divine Mercy Sunday.

Pope Francis is urging the faithful to use the corona virus pandemic's "time of trial" to prepare for a future where inequalities are abolished and the poorest are no longer left behind. In his homily, Pope Francis said: "the grave, global toll of the pandemic has reminded the world that there are no borders between those who suffer; no differences in nationalities among those who are struck or spared. We are all frail, all equal, and all precious". In recent days, the Pope has proposed the creation of a universal basic wage to help those, who have lost their jobs as a result of the virus and economic shutdown, to survive. On Sunday, he said there is a grave risk that while COVID-19 might eventually be tamed, the virus of "selfishness and indifference" could take its place. To combat that risk, Pope said: "Let us welcome this time of trial as an opportunity to prepare for our collective future. Because, there will be no future for anyone without an allembracing vision."

Dear Fathers and Brothers,
Cordial Greetings from Little Flower Generalate.
As we are in the midst of Covid 19 and facing the consequences, this is the time for us to make an introspection, dream for the future and plan for more focused steps. We thank the Lord for

His protection and providence. As the conditions are still very unfavourable, let us resort to more prayers and spiritual sacrifices. Again we can listen to the words of our Pope Francis. He said on the Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul: "Don't blame, don't complain, but pray. ....Herod was raging, the persecution was violent and the Apostle James had been killed. Now Peter also is arrested. The community seems beheaded, everyone fears for their own life. Yet in this tragic moment no one escapes, no one thinks to save their skin, no one abandons the others, but all pray together. From prayer they drew courage, from prayer comes a unity stronger than any threat."

I would like to share with you the following information:

1. On 13 June 2020, the Feast of St. Anthony of Padua, I could submit our Formal Application to Mar George Cardinal Alencherry, Major Archbishop, at Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad for initiating the Beatification and Canonization Processes of Very Rev. Father Basilius Panat, our Founder. As the Head of the Major Archdiocese of ErnakulamAngamaly, he received the Application and forwarded it to Mar Antony Kariyil, the Major Archepiscopal Vicar for necessary procedures. We foresee so many obstacles and hurdles. Hence, I request your more intense prayer for divine interventions to take up correct steps. Please recite the Prayer for Initiating the Canonization Processes of Very Rev. Basilius at all our Ashrams and Communities without fail, either after Holy Communion during Holy Mass or after the Evening Prayer (Ramsa). Please promote popular devotion to Very Rev. Fr. Basilius and report the favours received.
2. We whole-heartedly welcome all the new Candidates who stepped into the First Year Minor Seminary - 11 at Poovathode, 19 at Kallpetta, 11 at Mudickal and 09 at Vettikkattiri. We congratulate and appreciate the efforts of the Vocation Promoters, the Minor Seminary Rectors and all the Fathers and Brothers who are involved in it. We extend
our Best Wishes to all the Seminarians who do Plus Two Studies, Novitiate, Philosophy, Regency, Specialization and Theology Studies. They all will experience many elements of the Education 4.0. Hearty Congratulations to all the Achievers of the Academic Year 2019-20. Special thanks to the Formators and Mentors who accompanied the Seminarians. We congratulate all those in our Schools and Colleges for their high achievements and very good results.
3. There are 13 Deacons this year who complete their Theology Studies and are preparing for their Priestly Ordinations. We recommend them for your valuable prayers. May they become mature Priests to be sent out to preach the Good News.
4. Our Mission in Africa got an impetus to expand our presence and ministry in the Diocese of Iringa, which is the midway between Dar Es Salaam and Songea in Tanzania. We are getting the All Saints Parish at Mtandika and our Fathers Philip Kallamplackal and Babychan Tholanickal are appointed to be the First CST Missionaries there. They will reach the Parish on 05 August 2020 for one month induction and initiation processes and formally take over the Parish, preferably on 08 September 2020, on the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We appreciate and congratulate our Missionaries in Africa. Fr. Prabhat Nirappil of St. Thomas Province (for Pastoral Ministry) and Brothers Jibin Korattiparambil and Sebin Cherianmackal of Little Flower Province (for Regency and Theology Studies) are preparing to go to the Mission in Africa, once the Covid 19 and Lockdown restrictions are over. We welcome more Volunteers for our Mission in Africa.
5. The Project: History of Little Flower Congregation is in steady progress. After collecting the first draft from the Fathers entrusted to write on different Chapters, the consolidation and editing works are in full swing under the

Ieadership of Fathers Augustine Pamplany, Joseph Chathanatt and Sebastian Puthenchirayil. We appreciate the hard works of the Fathers who contributed in compiling the Chapters, the Fathers who helped in translation works, all who helped to collect the relevant data, all who gave critical comments and corrections and the Editorial Team for the consolidation and editing. We hope we can see the final Print Version on 04 October 2020. We solicit your constant prayers and cooperation.
6. There are so many struggles, challenges and difficulties in this Academic Year. Some Examinations and Results of the previous year are still pending. Schools and Colleges are not reopened and classes cannot be conducted. Admission processes could not be done. In Rome, all the Universities have cancelled admissions in this Academic Year. Our Fathers who are pursuing studies abroad are in crisis. The Major Seminaries are no exceptions to this situation. The effectiveness and accessibility of On-line classes and Webinars are in question. We are compelled to cope up with the situations. Please pray for a better way out.
7. The financial and economic crises we face now are deeper than tragic. The conditions in the Post Covid 19 days do not indicate any better. Perhaps we have to expect for the worst. Humble request to you is to reduce the expenses as far as possible, practice more austerity and thrift, avoid unnecessary constructions and purchase of very costly items, stop unnecessary travels, parties, picnics etc even when the situation improves and try to generate more local resources from our land.
8. During this Lockdown period you can think and prepare a Decennial Plan for the period 2021-2031. Please put forward your ideas and suggestions under the title Visioning and Positioning 2021-2031. In 2031 our Congregation will
complete 100 years of its existence and services. So this Decennial Plan is very much needed.
9. As a point for correction, I would like to draw your attention that some of us got engaged in overuse of social media, spreading of calumny, false data, misguided / distorted information etc and tarnished the good name and dignity of persons. This trend is increasing in our Communities causing great tensions and pains. I earnestly advise you, please abstain from such bad behaviour or face the dire consequences.

With warm regards, best wishes, thanks and prayers,


## Fr. Francis Kilivallickal CST

Superior General
Dated: 10 July 2020.

## HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS, DEAR FATHER JOSEPH PUTHOOR

Fr. Joseph Puthoor has successfully defended his doctoral dissertation with a summa cum laude and completed the whole doctoral program with a magna cum laude under the guidance of Prof. Furio Pesci. The doctoral dissertation is entitled: THE CALL AND MISSION OF A CHILD IN THE ‘LITTLE CHURCH': A Study based on the Life and Spirituality of St Therese of the Child Jesus.

He obtained this doctoral degree from the John Paul II Pontifical Theological Institute for Marriage and Family Sciences at the Pontifical Lateran University, Città del Vaticano, Rome.

## DEACONS REQUEST YOUR PRAYERS

## Dear Friends,

We have 13 Deacons in this year getting ready to be ordained in December 2020-January 2021. The dates of their Priestly Ordinations and other arrangements will depend on the special situations of Covid 19. We recommend them for your special prayers and spiritual sacrifices. The names of the Deacons are:

| No | NAMES | PROVINCE | SEMINARY <br> WHERE THEY STUDY <br> THEOLOGY |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 01 | Adampakallel Joju | SJ | Sacred Heart Seminary, <br> Poonamallee |
| 02 | Kollamparambil Ani | KJ | Khrist Jyoti College, <br> Bengaluru |
| 03 | Kurumuttath Sijo | SJ | Jnana Deepa Vidya <br> Peeth, Pune |
| 04 | Narippara Ajay | KJ | Vidya Jyoti College, <br> Delhi |
| 05 | Poomarathil Lijo | ST | Jnana Deepa Vidya <br> Peeth, Pune |
| 06 | Theeyathettu Aneesh | LF | Jnana Deepa Vidya <br> Peeth, Pune |
| 07 | Thundiyil Jacob | SJ | Dharamaram Vidya <br> Kshetram, Bengaluru |
| 08 | Thuravackal Arun | ST | Khrist Jyoti College, <br> Bengaluru |
| 25 |  |  |  |


| 09 | Urumbil Brijeesh | KJ | Jnana Deepa Vidya <br> Peeth, Pune |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 10 | Vayalil Davis | SJ | Dharamaram Vidya <br> Kshetram, Bengaluru |
| 11 | Vellappattu Jithin | ST | Khrist Jyoti College, <br> Bengaluru |
| 12 | Vengooran Bijo | LF | St. Joseph's Pontifical <br> Seminary, Aluva |
| 13 | Vettikkeeruprambil Justin | KJ | Vidya Jyoti <br> College, Delhi |

## Fr. Francis Kilivallickal CST

Superior General

## CORONA THOUGHTS

When worry, fear, and misinformation are spreading, we need resources that help to set the record straight through expert advice, business tips, workflow suggestions and updates on how Indian organizations are dealing with the crisis.

Humanity is being tested as never before, but is also rising to the challenge. Frontline health workers need the most technical and emotional support in these times, and a number of innovations and systems are falling into place in India.

## LITTLE FLOWER MINOR SEMINARY, POOVATHODU

| Sl. <br> No |  <br> House Name | Parish | Diocese |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. | Abraham Thakidiyel | Plassanal | Pala |
| 2. | Alan Kaitharath | Kurumassery | Ernakulam |
| 3. | Georgin <br> Edasserikunnel | Vagamon | Pala |
| 4. | Jibith <br> Kaniyammattel | Nambiyakulam | Pala |
| 5. | Joice <br> Kochupurackal | Aruvithura | Pala |
| 6. | Joyal <br> Ambattuthachil | Kuththiyathodu | Ernakulam |
| 7. | Kevin Animootil | Vazhakkulam | Ernakulam |

## CORONA THOUGHTS

The vast socio-economic divides in the country call for special measures to reduce loss of livelihood and promote economic recovery. Dealing with uncertainty and flat growth is the new business normal.

Interestingly, digital transformation is receiving a boost as never before, and sectors like gaming, online education and IT security are witnessing significant growth.

TABOR LITTLE FLOWER SEMINARY, KALPETTA

| SI. <br> nq |  <br> Name | Parish | Diocese |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Kakkattil Akhil | Peringala | Thalassery |
| 2 | Kanikunnel Jelbin | Thirumeni | Thalassery |
| 3 | Karimbil Jibin | Madampam | Kottayam |
| 4 | Kochucherunilathu <br> Jerin | Poopparambu | Thalassery |
| 5 | Kollakombil Thomas | Poozhithode | Thamarassery |
| 6 | Kuttiyanimattathil Ebin | Velladu | Thalassery |
| 7 | Kuttiyanimattathil | Vayattuparambu | Thalassery |
| 8 | Koseph | Kuzhiveliparambil Ben | Pulikkurumba |
| 9 | Malayathazhathu Abin | Chempanthotty | Thalassery |
| 10 | Mecherikunnel Jomal | Rayrome | Thalassery |
| 11 | Mekkamthuruthil | Angadikadavu | Thalassery |
| 12 | Neelamkavil Anwyn | Puthuruthy | Thrissur |
| 13 | Padinjareveettil Milan | Nellikkutty | Thalassery |
| 14 | Parappallil Job | Cheriya <br> Areekkamala | Thalassery |
| 15 | Pinakkattu Roshan | Vembuva | Thalassery |
| 16 | Pullattukudiyil Albin | Muthireri | Mananthavadi |
| 17 | Thakidipurath Martin | Pathanpara | Thalassery |
| 18 | Vadakkayil Albin | Chunkakkunnu | Mananthavadi |
| 19 | Vellaramkunnel Albin | Nellikkutty | Thalassery |

KHRISTU JYOTI MINOR SEMINARY, MUDICKAL
FIRST YEAR MINOR SEMINARIANS

| SI. <br> No | Name | Parish | Diocese |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Alby James <br> Muriyamvelil | Chattamala | Thalaserry |
| 2 | Antony Thomas <br> Mralalayil | Nellikutti | Thalassery |
| 3 | Nyjin John Jiji <br> Changanamthundathil | Kurumbala | Manthavady |
| 4 | Noyal George <br> Madombagathputtenpura | Valamagalam | Ernakulam - <br> Angamali |
| 5 | Dalbin Sunil <br> Varickamackal | Chandanackampara | Thalassery |
| 6 | Aphin Thanckachan <br> Kakkuzhiyil | Chanadanackampara | Thalassery |
| 7 | Godwin Lawrance <br> Vettukallil | Perumgalam | Pala |
| 8 | Thomaskutty Antony <br> Parinthirickal | Kumily | Kanjirappally |
| 9 | Abhishek Joseph <br> Edakkunnel | Erattayar | Idukki |
| 10 | Joseph Thomas <br> Kallathiparambil | Chandanackampara | Thalasserry |
| 11 | Ritto Roji <br> Thuruthipedikayil | Bikaner | Jaipur |

## LITTLE FLOWER MISSION SEMINARY, VETTIKKATTIRI

FIRST YEAR MINOR SEMINARIANS 2020-21

|  <br> HOUSE NAME | PARISH | DIOCESE |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. Albin Adichumkallel | Athirampuzha | Changanaserry |  |
| 2. Albin Binu <br> Kochupurackal | Kanjikuzhi | Idukki |  |
| 3. | Edwin George Joseph <br> Kollamparambil | Punnackel | Thamarassery |
| 4.Edwin Somichan <br> Kuzhippallil | Pulikurumba | Thalasseri |  |
| 5.Ouseppachan Roy <br> Cheruvallikizhakkel | Plassanal | Pala |  |
| 6.Manu Mathew <br> Vettuvelil | Bethel | Idukki |  |
| 7.Sibin Sabu <br> Ozhukayil | Mathipara | Pala |  |
| 8. | Royal Sibi <br> Chirakandathil | Rajakumari | Idukki |
| 9. | Toby Tom <br> Chemmarappallil | Manimala | Changanaserry |

## LITTLE FLOWER STUDY HOUSE KOTHAMANGALAM

IInd ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ YEAR MINOR SEMINARIANS 2020-21

| SI. <br> No. |  <br> House Name | Parish | Diocese |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 01 | Akash K.R. Kavumkal | Velliyamattom | Pala |
| 02 | Alan Joseph <br> Thottupurathu | Cheruvalikolam | Kanjirapally |
| 03 | Ashbin Rajan <br> Choodammanayil | Rajakumari | Idukki |
| 04 | Boney Mathew <br> Perumparathakoiyill | Anickad | Kanjirapally |
| 05 | Jerin Thomas <br> Anichuvattil | Paingalam | Pala |
| 06 | Jerin Tomy Vadakkel | Vallakadvu | Kanjirapally |
| 07 | Joyal K. Joseph <br> Muttelchira | Chennamkary | Changanaserry |
| 08 | Jodu Jose Pattathy | Pothiyakkara | Ernakulam |
| 09 | Littin Joseph <br> Ambattukunnel | Mundakayam | Kanjirapally |
| 10 | Rinold Peter <br> Valanchery | Pothiyakkara | Ernakulam |

## LITTLE FLOWER STUDY HOUSE KOTHAMANGALAM

III ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ YEAR MINOR SEMINARIANS 2020-21

| SI. <br> No. |  <br> House Name | Parish | Diocese |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 01 | Ajin Sebastian Elipulikattu | Poovathodu | Pala |
| 02 | Akhil Cyriac Chittappanattu | Labbakada | Idukki |
| 03 | Alan Joshy Mukalel | Pothupara | Idukki |
| 04 | Alan Mathew <br> Vattothokunnel | Palakkad | Pala |
| 05 | Alen George <br> Kizhakkenputhupillil | Meenkunnam | Kothamangalam |
| 06 | Cibin Mathew Nadackal | Chandigarh | Faridabad |
| 07 | Evan Sony Edimannickal | Ranny | Kanjirapally |
| 08 | Kuriakose saju <br> Kizhakkenputhupillii | Meenkunnam | Kothamangalam |
| 09 | Lijo Binu Paranjakattill | Nettithozhu | Kanjirapally |
| 10 | Nirmal Jo Mathew <br> Vakkattilputhenpurayil | Monipalli | Pala |
| 11 | Neol Bobby Panat | Kizhakumuri | Ernakulam |
| 12 | Noel Tom Jose <br> Uthirakulam | Erattayar | Idukki |

LITTLE FLOWER MINOR SEMINARY, IRIKKUR IInd ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ YEAR MINOR SEMINARIANS 2020-2021

| SI. <br> No. | House Name \& Name | Parish | Diocese |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 01 | Ayithamattathil Subin | Pulpally | Mananthavady |
| 02 | Chamakkalayil Jithin | Malakayattapally | Palai |
| 03 | Ettonnil Savio | Deepagiri | Thalassery |
| 04 | Kalathilparambil Albert | Kottoor | Thalassery |
| 05 | Mattathikudiyil Amal | Padamala | Mananthavady |
| 06 | Moorikunnel Albin | Thiroor | Kottayam |
| 07 | Poovamnikunnathil Edwin | Padimaruthu | Thalassery |
| 08 | Pulikkakunnel Jomi | Thermala | Thalassery |
| 09 | Valayathil Stony | Kottiyoor | Mananthavady |

## LITTLE FLOWER MINOR SEMINARY, IRIKKUR IIIrd YEAR MINOR SEMINARIANS 2020-2021

| SI. <br> No. | House Name \& Name | Parish | Diocese |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 01 | Chembakasseril Denny | Nellippara | Thalassery |
| 02 | Chittettuthadathil Sijo | Edoor | Thalassery |
| 03 | lykkaraparambil Godwin | Payyavoor | Thalassery |
| 04 | Karimpanackal Binu | KaikKottakkary | Thalassery |
| 05 | Kunnine Athul | Anara | Thalassery |
| 06 | Kurisinkal Arun | Kattippara | Thamarassery |
| 07 | Kurumbanal Jerin | Mlamala | Kanjirappally |
| 08 | Palloorathil Edison | Puravayal | Thalassery |
| 09 | Parekkattil Ajin | Chennalode | Mananthavady |
| 10 | Pinakkatt Milin | Kuttippuram | Thamarassery |
| 11 | Puthussery Precious | Lisigiri | Thalassery |


| 12 | Siyon Aakash | Paropady | Thamarassery |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 13 | Tharakkunnel Alphin | Puravayal | Thalassery |
| 14 | Varikkaplamthadathil Salbin | Thirumeni | Thalassery |
| 15 | Vazhuthanappalliyil Bobin | Velanilam | Pala |
| 16 | Vellaringattu George | Pathrippadam | Mananthavady |

## LITTLE FLOWER MINOR SEMINARY, MALOUT II ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ YEAR MINOR SEMINARIANS 2020-21

| SI <br> No. | Name | Parish | Diocese |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Abhishek <br> Poovathanikkunnel | Cheruvallikkulam | Kanjirappally |
| 2 | Alan <br> Nellinilkkumthadathil | Keezpally | Thallassery |
| 3 | Arun Karipra | Perumbavoor | Ernakulam |
| 4 | Aswin Elinjely | Anappara | Ernakulam |
| 5 | Jifin Kolasseril | Kacherikkadavu | Thalassery |
| 6 | Kevin Moolan | Devagiri | Ernakulam |
| 7 | Rohit <br> Pallivashathumuruppel | Elamkulam | Kanjirapplly |

## LITTLE FLOWER SEMINARY, MALOUT III ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ YEAR MINOR SEMINARIANS 2020-21

| Name | Parish | Diocese |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. | Anix Biju Kaniyamparambil | Vellayamkudy | Idukki |
| 2. | Bestin Joseph Thumbathuruthel | Karuvachal | Tellichery |
| 3. | Bibin Joy Veranal | Josegiri | Idukki |
| 4. | Royal Roy Kurangalil | Ayarkunnam | Changanassery |
| 5. | Shinto Thomas Myladoor | Magalagiri | Palai |
| 6. | Sunil Basant Bage | Kakkon | Jalandhar |
| 7. | Rakesh Kumar | Kakkon | Jalandhar |

## JYOTI GURUKUL, WALTERGANJ

 IInd ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ YEAR MINOR SEMINARIANS 2020-21| No. |  <br> HOUSE NAME | PARISH | DIOCESE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Abin Kanjirapparayil | Bharanaganam | Palai |
| 2 | Albin Sabu Plackal | Puthampaara | Thamarassery |
| 3 | Augusthy C S <br> Chembottickal | Ratnagiri | Thalassery |
| 4 | Bibin Kizhakkekara | Kanakakkunnu | Idukki |

## JYOTI GURUKUL, WALTERGANJ IIIrd YEAR MINOR SEMINARIANS 2020-21

| No. |  <br> HOUSE NAME | PARISH | DIOCESE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. | Albin Vallamkunnel | Rajakumari | Idukki |
| 2. | Albin Pulimoottil | Bharananganam | Pala |
| 3. | Augusthy <br> Chirakandathil | Rajakumari | Idukki |
| 4. | Benedict C <br> Cheruparampil | Adimaly | Idukki |
| 5. | Don Maliekkal | Chelachuvad | Idukki |
| 6. | Jerrin Paradiyil | Valakode | Kanjirappally |
| 7. | Jomon Pulimoottil | Bharananganam | Pala |
| 8. | Joyal Vattukunnel | Chempukadavu | Thamarassery |
| 9. | Mebin Pallathukuzhiyil | Padiyottuchal | Thalassery |
| 10. | Rohith Peedikamalayil | Kadanadu | Pala |
| 11. | Sibin Mannamparambil | Kanjikkuzhy | Idukki |

## CORONA THOUGHTS

Despite a number of unfortunate incidents of hate speech and community bias Organizations, stories of heroic efforts by Institutions and Individuals continue to be highlighted. Many brands are transforming their messages in this time of crisis, and competitors are becoming collaborators.

## LITTLE FLOWER NOVITIATE HOUSE, MOOKKANNUR

| No. |  <br> HOUSE NAME | PARISH | DIOCESE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. | Abbel Manimala (ST) | Cherupuzha | Thalassery |
| 2. | Abhiyam <br> Moozhayil (SJ) | Pala Cathedral | Pala |
| 3. | Abin <br> Thaipparambil (ST) | Ulickal | Thalassery |
| 4. | Adison <br> Arackal (SJ) | Neyyassery | Kothamangalam |
| 5. | Ajin <br> Parakuzhi (SJ) | Mayam | Changanacherry |
| 6. | Akash <br> Choondal (ST) | Puthuruthy | Thrissur |
| 7. | Albin <br> Mundiyankal (ST) | Kozhichal | Thalassery |
| 8. | Bimin Joseph <br> Kalarickal (SJ) | Urulikunnam | Pala |
| 9. | Dalson <br> Kalarpara (ST) | Bhoodhanam | Mananthavady |
| 10 | Emil <br> Munduplackal (SJ) | Mattakkara | Pala |
| 11 | Godson <br> Maruthaniyil (ST) | Vandipperiyar | Kanjirappally |
| 12 | Jibin <br> Thanniyil (SJ) | Meenachil | Pala |

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| 13. | Jithin <br> Kallungal (SJ) | Ranni | Kanjirappilly |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 14. | Joseph <br> Nellickal (SJ) | Asokapuram | Ernakulam - <br> Angamaly |
| 15. | Joyal <br> Pullomthara (SJ) | Udayanapuram | Ernakulam - <br> Angamaly |
| 16. | Manuel <br> Vadakkeparayil (SJ) | Thopramkudy | Idukki |
| 17 | Mathew <br> Kanathukadu (SJ) | Kumaramkary | Changanacherry |

## LITTLE FLOWER NOVITIATE HOUSE, ABOHAR

| NO. | NAME | PARISH | DIOCESE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. | Aron Binoy <br> Kolamkuzhiyil (LF) | Rajakkad | Idukki |
| 2. | Ashbin Mathew <br> Nellickal(KJ) | Ezhukumvayal | Idukki |
| 3. | Dawn Biju <br> Arackal (KJ) | Ayiramekar | Idukki |
| 4. | Jerin <br> Johnson (LF) | Kothappara | Kanjirapally |
| 5. | Jerin Mathew <br> Kuzhipathalil (KJ) | Manimala | Changanassery |
| 6. | Joyal Joseph <br> Vattukunnel (LF) | Chembukadavu | Thamarassery |
| 7. | Nirannay <br> Biby Pulickal (LF) | Mankuzhy | Kothamangalam |

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## "CORONA IS FINISHED".

Fr. John Kadaliyil CST, Little Flower Mission, Songea, Tanzania

The missionary vision of the Little Flower Congregation has come to its climax as we stepped into the Missions of Africa. We are indebted to the missionary zeal of Fr. Felix Nellikkunnath CST, former Superior General, who took the initial steps in this regard. St Therese of Lisieux, our heavenly Patroness, wrote about her desire to be a missionary in all five continents, especially where the name of Jesus has not been proclaimed. Perhaps, had our venerable Founder Very Rev. Fr. Basilius lived some more years, I believe, he would have launched our Mission in Africa and other places where missionaries are in dire need. The dream of our Patroness and the missionary zeal of our Founder have come true when Little Flower Congregation took the bold step to send its zealous missionaries to Africa. Besides, it is opportune to reflect on it as we remember St Thomas the Apostle in the month of July, who braved to travel to the far off India to preach the Good News to our ancestors. The missionary heritage bequeathed to us by our beloved Heavenly Patroness and St Thomas, the Father of our faith, and our beloved Founder Fr. Basilius challenge us to come out of the safer zones and securities of life and to brave new worlds in our missionary life.

Half of the population in Tanzania is Christian, of which Catholics are majority. But almost every Diocese has shortage of Priests. Every Parish has got several Substations, which are looked after by one or two Priests. There are Substations where the Priest is not able to reach even once a month. There people are deprived of the Holy Mass, children their catechism, and ultimately faith formation fails and people lose interest in faith or go to other faiths. In the Parishes and Substations under
our care we try to give Holy Mass every Sunday and conduct catechism classes for the children. Here they have their own indigenous customs and do not have a long Christian tradition; as a result their faith is vulnerable. So we can do a lot to strengthen their faith.

During these months of Covid 19 when almost every nation declared Lockdown, perhaps Tanzania is the only country that remained without Lockdown. In early May during an address to a Church congregation, President John Pombe Magufuli stressed: "There is not going to be any such thing as Lockdown in Tanzania, God will help us." A few cases of Corona were reported, and schools were closed; some measures like wearing mask, washing hands and keeping distance in public places were advised. However, the Honorable President refused to declare total Lockdown. The reason he said was that if Lockdown is declared many people will die of starvation. Instead he asked people to open the Churches and Mosques and pray.
"I want to thank Tanzanians of all faiths. We have been praying and fasting for God to save us from the pandemic that has afflicted our country and the world. But God has answered us. "I believe, and I'm certain that many Tanzanians believe, that the corona disease has been eliminated by God," said Mr John Magufuli, President of Tanzania.

Though many criticized him, we must appreciate his faith; indeed, God has heard our prayers and spared Tanzania. Due to Corona we did not have to close the Churches; instead people used to attend the Church services as usual. Had there been Corona here more casualties would have been there than anywhere. Last week, speaking at a Teachers' conference, the President said, "corona is finished". We thank God for saving us from this deadly disease.

Our mission in Tanzania is completing twenty one years. Now we planned to extend our presence and interventions in one more Diocese, the Diocese of Iringa, where we are offered one established Parish - All Saints Parish at Mtandika- with nine Substations, which may be as vast as a Diocese in Kerala; it was looked after by one Priest. There are Parishes which have got twenty and more Substations in some Dioceses where our services are requested. We can do a lot more here for the Good News of Jesus Christ provided we have personnel. Africa is indeed the haven for the zealous missionaries of Little Flower Congregation. Young people, at least before 50 years of age, should brave to fulfill the dream of our Heavenly Patroness and our beloved Founder; early age will make it easier to master the language and to contribute considerable years in the service of the Lord in this continent.

## CORONA QUOTES

We can't lower our guard. We are still far from half-time. - Erna Solberg, Norway’s Prime Minister

COVID-19 has affected the world at large, but this has also given us a glimpse of the good that exists.

\author{

- Amit Gupta, Yulu
}

The fact is, uncertainty is the reality of the moment. - Samir Parikh, Fortis Healthcare

To beat this worldwide pandemic, the world has to, must come together. - Shah Rukh Khan

For this generation, the world is going to be irrevocably altered. How and in what way will be spoken about in the next decade.

- Vani Kola, Kalaari Capital


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## CORONA QUOTES

Not only have the deck of cards we were playing with shuffled， but we have dealt with a completely new deck．
－Sanil Sachar，Trusox
Things that once took months，are now being carried out in a matter of days．
－TN Hari，Big Basket
It is very challenging．But also an amazing opportunity to unlearn，relearn，and test our capabilities and value systems． －Sudeep Ralhan，Walmart Labs

These are unprecedented times that require unprecedented efforts．
－Niraj Ranjan，Hiver

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## CORONA QUOTES

The pandemic has pushed us into maintaining social distancing, but the challenge is also to remain hyperconnected via the internet and isolate COVID-19.

- Osama Manzar, DEF

Nobody has ever been prepared for a disruption of this scale.

- Sujeet Kumar, Udaan

If you have never failed, you have never been tested, and then you haven't seen your best yet. A setback is only an opportunity for you to come back stronger.

- Deep Malhotra, Beck Friends


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## Days to Remember

July 12
July 14
July 16
July 17
July 25
July 28
August 4
August 15

August 26
August 28
August 29
September 08
September 09
September 16

September 21
September 30
October 01
October 04

- Saints Louis Martin and Zelie Guerin
- D.A of Fr. Pius Edasseriparambil
- D.A of Fr. Thomas Puthukulangara
- D.A of Fr. Joseph Thoomkuzhy
- St. James, The Apostle
- St. Alphonsa Muttathupadam
- St. John Maria Vianny
- The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Independence Day
- D.A of Fr. Bosco Vetticka
- St. Augustine
- St. Euprasia CMC
- Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- D.A of Bro. Jestin Poonely
- D.A of Fr. Seraphin Parambi
- D.A of Fr. Abraham Kunnakkatt
- St. Mathew, The Apostle
- D.A of St. Therese of Lisieux
- St. Therese of Lisieux
- D.A of Very Rev. Fr. Basilius Panatt, Founder of Little Flower Congregation
October 04 - D.A of Bro. Ajimon Joy Kuzhiyalil


# Stripped of self-sufficiency: Corona Days in Rome 

Fr. Rogi Thomas Narithookkil CST<br>The Pontifical Scots College, Rome

The most uplifting and momentous experience of Lockdown days in Rome was not being able to leave the seminary chapel without being in tears after watching Pope Francis praying before the miraculous crucifix kept in the church of San Marcello on Rome's Via del Corso and receiving his special Urbi et Orbi blessing. On Friday 27 March 2020, Pope Francis delivered an extraordinary blessing "To the City and to the World" to pray for an end to the Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic. "COVID-19 is not God's judgment, but a call to live differently," the Pope said. ${ }^{1}$

Italy was the epicentre of the corona virus in Europe. The initial reports of an outbreak, in a few towns in the north of the country, were alarming enough, but they remained as news coming from far away for most of us in Rome. With shocking haste, the situation deteriorated: in rapid succession, whole communities and towns were quarantined; schools and churches were shut; museums, galleries, and palaces were closed; concerts and sporting events were cancelled. As the constant reports in the newspapers and on television accumulated, the mood altered. The alarming news from the north of Italy, resembled the bang of artillery shells exploding in a battle somewhere across the mountains, out of sight but no longer so far distant as to be quiet. Unexpectedly, the enemy moved across Lombardy and Veneto and south into Tuscany and Umbria. Venice was gravely threatened, then Bergamo, then Florence. Rome would tumble shortly.

[^0]With that threat in mind, all our seminarians and many staff members returned to their homes and only myself and Father Rector remained. Covid 19 did hit Rome and all areas of Italy with a vengeance. Peeping out of the window, wandering in the seminary compound empty and gloomy, provided me with no leisure and comfort but only the frequent and anguishing sound of the siren of ambulances carrying patients to nearby hospitals. Intellectual pride, scientific domination, and an instinctive sensitivity that "I have control over nature" have blinded mortal man. Ambulance sirens, a rising death toll, and the untimely demise of almost 150 Catholic priests in Italy reminded me of my mortality, and that feeling can become torturing and lead to total vulnerability, especially when you are in self-isolation and not permitted to leave your accommodation. If we are consciously reminded every moment that we are mortal, if every cell in the body is constantly aware that it is going to be terminated, then life is not at a total ease. Again, the comforting message of Jesus from the wisdom of Pope Francis is encouraging. Reflecting on a passage from the Gospel of Mark (4:35-41), he said; "For weeks now it has been evening, thick darkness has gathered over our squares, our streets and our cities; it has taken over our lives, filling everything with a deafening silence and a distressing void, that stops everything as it passes by; we feel it in the air, we notice it in people's gestures, their glances give them away." In this situation, he said, we feel afraid and lost, like the disciples whose boat was in danger of sinking while Jesus slept at the stern; not that Jesus is absent but was sleeping.

Almost 100 days of Lockdown! March-April-May-June....! The Virus has stripped my pride of self-sufficiency! As Pope Francis says; true faith germinates "when we realize we are in need of salvation" and are not self-sufficient. Arrogant selfsufficiency sluggishly liquidates into fear, to dependency, to helplessness, to fragility, and to an unpredictable future. Notwithstanding, Father Rector and I took courage and decided
to stay back in Rome because Pope Francis is here. Throughout the pandemic, he 'came into the dining rooms' of the Italians with his usual witty conversations, uplifting, encouraging, and healing the shattered souls. He reminded all to turn to Jesus and offer Him our fears. He will conquer them. "Because this is God's strength: turning to good everything that happens to us, even bad things. He brings serenity into our storms, because with God, life never dies." God asks now, amid the tempest, "to reawaken and put into practice that solidarity and hope capable of giving strength, support and meaning to these hours when everything seems to be floundering."

In the past few weeks, since the partial re-opening of Rome and Italy as a whole, streets slowly cope and learn to adapt within a changed situation. As the virus spread, 'the Eternal City' flattened out. Now, the crowds lining up to enter St. Peters Basilica, Colosseum or to visit the Forum have thinned; the crowds throwing coins in the Trevi Fountain or mounting the Spanish Steps have all but disappeared; restaurants and bars usually overflowing with patrons are almost unoccupied. In this partial re-opening, anyone could cherish the dream of paying a visit to the Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel in solitary magnificence. However, the actual effect of the emptying out, is terrifying. A week ago, going with a colleague for dinner at 8 P.м., we walked through the Piazza Navona, the most beautiful square in the world, and were completely on our own. A unique, but strange experience!

What would be the vital lesson I learn from this pandemic? Ultimately it is humility. The humility to accept my vulnerability, to look inward and realize that I belong to this world. This has challenged my pride, presuppositions, priorities, decisions and has allowed me to be humbled. "Humility is not being downcast and humiliated; rather, it is the discovery of our true greatness that flows from the recognition that we have been created. It is the humility that Christ taught us that allows me to be freed

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from the trap of terrible follies of pride."2 Pope Francis said we have all gone ahead "at breakneck speed", ignoring the wars, injustice, and cries of the poor and our ailing planet. "We carried on regardless, thinking we would stay healthy in a world that was sick." In our stormy sea, we now cry out: "Wake up, Lord!" Yes, it is a wakeup call for us to return more to embrace the beauty and natural resources of the earth with humility. Cardinal George Alenchery's call to return to agriculture and farming, in his recent appeal has a similar vibe. Locked- in days for me, thus became days to nurture the nostalgia about my own agricultural background and upbringing, and days of priestly formation; and allowed me to find time for gardening.

In conclusion, when confronted with fear, uncertainty and open questions, we would do well to respond to the pandemic coronavirus and reflect on what determines a healthy Christian response to this threat. "I hear many whispering, 'Terror on every side!'" (Psalm 31:13). In times of crisis we often find it easier to identify with the psalmist. But the psalmist would have us move past terror to say, "I trust in you, Lord ... My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies" (Psalm 31:14-15) As St. Augustine would say, "as we are saved by hope, so we are made happy by hope." "The Covid-19 pandemic has reminded us that we are all in the same boat," said Pope Francis, "and so we call out to Jesus." The disciples ask Him, "Teacher, do you not care if we perish?" The Pope said these words would have shaken Jesus, "because He, more than anyone, cares about us." Concluding, what does it mean that he cares for me? I would pray with the psalmist, "Surely, (His) goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever" (Psalm 23:6).

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## CORONA QUOTES

I don't think of all the misery, but of the beauty that still remains.

- Anne Frank

We would ask for the same schemes that are being extended to healthcare workers to be extended to allied workers. - Masood Mallick, Ramky Enviro Engineers

# A Symptomatic Spiritual Retrospection of Covid-19 Featuring Post-Covid Life 

Dr. Jijo James Indiparambil CST

## Introduction

The forgone months with corona pandemic have been very terrible for at least several of us, quite some feel sick and panic alarmingly thinking like having covid-19, quite a few still distressingly waiting for final test results, and some others having this Covid 19, hospitalized, and fighting literally for their lives. It has now become real, dwells amidst us, and hastily spreads in our communities. People whom we know are sick and dying from it and they want nothing but to know - Where is God? An amounting fears in line with this deadly/endemic or virulent disease and of course few unknown reasons lead people to take the decision of committing suicide. The dreaded experiences of present trepidation at this rampage of sickness form crossroads that all Christians will eventually face. When our untested faith in God's goodness is suddenly challenged, we are but left with the question, how can I believe God works for my good when what he is allowing seems far from it? These questions are not made up for the sake of this script. These and numerous other thoughts have been running through my mind these days as the fear of this virus has come so close to my own neighborhood.

However, as quickly as a question would come, God's Word would speak to our hearts a comforting verse, which is quick, powerful and sharper than any Two Edged Sword. Beating down the fear, and cutting between the doubts and leaving us with faith to believe and hope and feel God's presence. So, when I dare to think a little religiously about this pestilence that has overtaken man's intellect, the world's schemes and
scandals with all its pride, what comes first to my mind is St. Paul's words in his Epistle to the Romans: "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God..." (Rom. 8:28). It clearly says that all things, good and bad, pleasant and unpleasant - everything -including every person, works together for the best for those who love God. What a comforting verse is given to our disposal - everything that we meet in life, everything, without exception, works together for our good. Accepting this solacing Word of God, I make a retrospective reflection over the Covid season.

## A Blessed and Serene Time for Introspection

Apart from pausing a crazy longing for possessing more and more material goods and services, the Covid season stopped an extreme-passionate religious fanatical impulses and cravings, which even led often to psychological compulsive behaviors and settlement rather than a spiritual journey. Religion, faith, and devotion had been altered to some extent by an involuntary journey with some kind of flow or a peripheral voyage with the current. However, due to the break-the-chain campaign of covid-19 and its preventive measures of social distancing and staying at home, like everywhere, the Church is limited to a live social media feed piecing in clips of recorded sacramental administration - virtual Holy Masses and other worships from recent weeks. There are many elements of normal Church services that were not administered for the past few weeks or months: elements that we all love and expect at least on Sunday mornings, elements like the one who opens the door and welcomes us into the Church, the smell of the frankincense, the warmth of meeting other believers, and lovable greetings, handshake or hug, the live music and sound of others worshiping around us, etc.

It seems like a whole lot of unnecessary races and wadding of human beings has finally come to an end and for me, it sounds like a gifted time and opportunity to look inside of myself - a spiritual introspection - to see God and experience his love. It is a golden opportunity for everyone to rethink and decide the direction and destination of his or her own spiritual expedition. This introspection and sitting along with Jesus make us partakers of His presence. Like Mary from Bethany, we choose that "one thing" implying what it really means to sit at the feet of the Lord Jesus and hear His Word. The commendation for us to imbibe recalls what is the number-one requirement for every Christian and especially for Religious not service alone, but sitting at the feet of the Lord Jesus. It is all the more mandatory to welcome Jesus in our presence before sitting at His feet, implying a reception. Then the act of sitting at feet will recognize total submission to His teaching, truth and sovereign authority as Lord our God. This season of Corona once again reminded us that reception and submission are binding parameters before any fruitful service. For, Jesus wanted to show Martha that sitting at His feet was necessary as the first requirement of a prolific service. So, let us now ask ourselves how much time I spend alone with Him, in comparison with the time I spend in service.

## A Transit from Shallow Devotion to Profound Spirituality

It gives a new meaning to our religiosity by bringing a radical transformation or a paradigm shift from a superficial public devotion to an authentic private spirituality. This makeover or rather internal conversion is an affirmative consequence or an optimistic result of above said introspection. Spirituality is something internal to a person with adequate knowledge and awareness of being what one is, while devotion is related to the rituals or external practice of what one believes. Spirituality then helps one to build self-discipline with routine and habitual spiritual
practices and being consistent in his/her prayers and it prepares all for other disciplines needed in their life. Devotion can be perceived only as a part of the spiritual world. Very often our devotional practices or informal gestures had become a part of formal liturgies widely recognizing that everything is linked to the Divine. There have been instances that have bracketed our own religious existence according to these precincts. At this time of a pure vacuum or emptiness due to the complete lockdown affecting all social, economic, political and religious realms, when people felt nothing is left under the feet and still standing at a zero point seeing no race of hope or a spark of life at the end shore, it compels us to move from the wandering fringe side to dive deep into and dwell in the comforts of spiritual depths.

It is so easy to drift through life with deceptions of public religious performance without having any inner conviction about the same. It is time to renounce the extremely binding harbored expressions of public devotion. Fear - being afraid of what might happen - may be the root of our folly and by which we may take more foolish choices in our spiritual and prayer life. This season of the Corona epidemic undoubtedly induced many faithful to take a fresh step in prayer and spirituality that was in the dream and teaching of Jesus: "... go into your inner room, shut your door, and pray ... in secret..." (Mt. 6:6). It fetches in a relative manner that God may not remove anything from us or abundantly replace with something far greater than we ever could have imagined and expected, but He is truly making all things together for the good of those who love him. An important take away at this situation is that the Word of God is there. The discourses and preaching of the Word that gives strength and comfort to us who may grow weak in the faith will be there. The anointed presence that brings the Power of God into our homes and lives will be there.

It is a Time When Alternatives are Allowed
As the possibility and legal provision of reopening of Churches is granted, Cardinal Oswald Gracias, as part of giving guidelines to the faithful, affirmed the factors that need to be taken into account. These are: "the right of our faithful to have pastoral care; our responsibility to protect people from the danger of infection that could prove to be fatal; government directives, and liturgical law." At present, I have the impression that we have been depending on our "buildings" too much and too long. That's what this virus is teaching me. The concept building is not necessarily the infrastructure alone, rather all other build ups that the Church has propagated as obligatory for salvation. What I am considering right now is God cutting away all the crutches that we have been leaning on and leaving us with virtually only the ability to preach His Word - Word of life, Word of hope, Word of strength and salvation. In the midst of all this fear, anxiety, confusion and sickness, this Word will stand forever and does not fail, bend or bow, and this has to be experienced and professed.

An important progression is that we could reach very quickly without any discussion or interruptions a consensus on alternatives are allowed. The rituals have all been proven to be relatively simple and a matter of discretion that can be altered if necessary. Many of the faith practices, customs, ceremonies, etc. that would not have been valid if this were not the case, have been promoted and encouraged without further debate or dialogue. It seems just like the fulfillment of Christ's Words "the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath." The "Sabbath" - sacraments, rituals, and the procedures of belief and faith practices were intended to help people, not to burden them in any case. In the same way, we cannot disregard or forget that it has created great convictions among the faithful. For even those who just came to the Mass as viewers and
returned home, feel heartbreaking when attending the same now live via the present broadcasting of digital media, though something lively. It is only after the living rooms have been turned into Altars that many realize that the Holy Eucharist was indeed being experienced and is now not possible in the same way.

## Revisiting the ekklésia being Institutional to Evangelical Nature

Institutional appearance and evangelical expression are the two misrepresented faces of the present Church. Suddenly in one day everything that was eagerly built became irrelevant. We have misled somehow and slipped from the Evangelical aspect of Christ's Church and pitched our tent more at its institutional facet. Institutionalized form of being the Church tends to align itself against the significance of the ordinary and traditional Church practices and often goes against the needs of individuals who are poor and marginalized, while at the same time exalting an elite few. In fact there is a tendency to reckon the Church to be only the offices of the institutional pattern, from whom the offices are presumed gifted with authority. All our worships and rituals gradually and in excessive ways, became institutionalized. As a result, there was an immense failure in preparing our younger generation to facilitate themselves to create a personal spirituality and to teach them that one, by being in himself, can find his own God. Perhaps that is why when the Churches, Shrines and worshiping centers were closed, our Christian youths were more captured and badly affected than the peer group of Hindu/Muslim brothers and sisters.

It is true that an institution can enrich life, but institutionalization takes that 'good thing' and turns it into perishable goods and cause for bereavement. When the activities and ministries of the Church become over institutionalized, it becomes fragile, narrow and life-exhausting.

Therefore, I personally perceive that the time of Corona is a good sign and a time of realization that there arises a personal spiritual pedagogy going beyond the vagueness of institutional or social affairs. In this way, the evangelical nature of the Church always retains the sacred aura of the original liberating and salvific purpose of Christ. This will keep our church on an upward trajectory of life-giving renewal. Over the time, as the Spirit encourages us and prompts under God's mighty hand, our plea over the changed circumstances begins to lessen and our plea of changed hearts begins to increase. This alteration is truly a mark of the proper representation of our hearts towards God's covenant and God's faithfulness to his promise to work all things together for the good of those who love Him.

## Reaffirmation of Church's Identity of Diakonia

The Church is always conscious of her diakonia, her call to serve. This is the active part of the above mentioned contemplative (spiritual introspection) nature of the Church partaking outwardly the needs of the society. During the Covid pandemic and the lockdown, the Church in Kerala has served several groups of people in multiple categories in an unprecedented way. This marked from opening of health and other facilities for treatment and quarantine to working as frontline workers providing food and survival kits to migrants, guest laborers and needy families. The Church has done it from the Parish level to the national level. Every Christian was on the lookout to reach out to the poor and the needy in a legally accepted manner with a social distancing. However, the mission is far from completing because the pandemic continues and perhaps worse is yet to come. As service providers and the comforters of the needy, we confront two issues: to get over the pandemic as soon as possible and work on the recovery of normal life. The Church should play a role in both. This would
rather see the ship of people's hope for the future kept afloat than allowing sinking it.

So, the Church can play the role of organizing people in virtual platforms, raising awareness, creating different programmes for betterment of the society. The movement of people even within the state for jobs needs regulation and control. Creating access to resources and entitlements in this regard should also be the distinct role of the Church. Generating spiritual and material livelihoods in all areas of human life is of paramount importance today. A cluster of gainful activities to uplift the poor and the downtrodden is highly required in this critical situation of rapid spread of a dreaded disease. In other words, there is a lot of scope for Church ministries for spiritual nourishment, skill development, training, and credit to create alternatives. All this should be regenerated on new terms and conditions based on the principle of love, justice, mercy and brotherhood. What was happening prior to COVID-19 was far from normal; it was injustice and oppression that was normalized or rather made to feel that it was normal. This has come as an opportunity in disguise to create an egalitarian society. The Church should take her social teachings seriously and work on them. Likewise, during the corona season the Church becomes something that we can never confine within four walls and real worship becomes something that words cannot box in.

## Conclusion

I persuade all of you to stay in the Word of God while staying at home and make an upward journey with God alongside. Let the Word cut through all the doubt and fear that is plaguing our world today. Don't turn back at the "destruction" - temptations and failures - behind you. Move forward in your faith and in your life with Him. For, the world feels surrounded by the Corona Virus and are full of anxiety and fear. But the

Church needs to understand that God has surrounded us by His Spirit. His protection is all around us. His presence, power and protection is wherever you are at right now if you are surrounded by His glory. Believe and profess that we are surrounded by the radiance of God's glory. When the priorities of values are reversed and changes in lifestyles take place, this pestilence will cause, for certain, to have a true Christian vision for the next generation. A new era with young faithful will arise having realized how to stay with Christ without the backup of festivities and crowds. People of this golden epoch will be like Mary, the mother of all, who proclaimed to fulfill the word of God in her, like Mary of Bethany who had chosen the best part, and like John, who stuck in Jesus' heart, and they, as a community of believers with deep spiritual visions, will publicly proclaim and profess, like Thomas, the Apostle, "my Lord my God." Then it is arguably and ironically the Church re-incarnated.

## CORONA QUOTES

The need of the hour is to enable doctors to support the maximum number of people even with the travel and geographic restrictions.

- Pankaj Agarwal, Cisco

Healthcare workers getting infected is the worst thing to happen because healthcare professionals are most required resource at this time.

- Mudit Dandwate, Dozee


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## ญฺிவ <br> OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONSECRATED PERSONS IN THE POST COVID 19

- Consecrated Life is ever relevant at all times as it is the expression of the meaning and ultimate purpose of life, as Jesus taught by His life and preaching- "A grain of wheat remains no more than a single grain unless it is dropped into the ground and dies."(John-12:24) The Consecrated Life is aiming at this purpose of life - give life to others - life in its fullness.
- There is greater need of committed people who are able to sacrifice their lives for others because the priorities and focus of many people are on money, prestige, power, positions, materialistic life style and enjoyment for themselves. Majority of people has become very selfcentred.
- The selfishness and lack of concern for others lead to exploitation, undue competition, discrimination and alienation of the other. The greater victims are the socially and economically poor people. Consecrated Persons can correct this trend and create another world of equality, justice and peace. A new social and economic order is very much needed.
- Consecrated Persons, through their life and witness, can draw the attention of all to this new world of equality, justice and peace. There is rampant violation of human rights, equity and justice against which the Consecrated Persons shall become the voice of the voiceless.
- In spite of the tall claims of the vested interest groups and political parties, India continues to be a poor country. The Government does not show much interest in the empowerment of the poor. We see everywhere the withdrawing State instead of a welfare State, privatizing and disposing the public institutions and services which could have been available and accessible to the citizens. The policies of the Government are more favourable to the big
corporate companies and multinationals. The gap between the poor and the rich is widening day-by-day. The Matthew Effect "the rich become richer and the poor become poorer" has become the trend of the time (Refer Mt-25:29). The Consecrated Persons should involve in changing this scenario. They should work to make the Government, the Companies and the entire system pro-poor in approaches, policies and practices and be accountable to the people.
- In the Church, all the structures and systems in the Church and all the Church members, particularly the Consecrated Persons, need a re-focusing and re-dedication to the core values of the Gospel of Jesus and radical discipleship.
- There is greater role for the Consecrated Persons as there are stronger human resources and expertise at their hand. They have better institutional and social back up to shoulder greater responsibilities.
- There are thousands of villages and millions of people in India who are waiting for their progress in life, development and liberation. Covid 19 has exposed the vulnerabilities of India and the need for focused interventions. The most affected sectors have been the daily wage earners, the small farmers, petty shop keepers, the foot-path vendors, the low income groups, the migrants, parents and their children of the remote areas - the list prolongs. They have lost their livelihood and are facing the dark days of displacement, acute poverty, loss and deprivation.
- This is also the time to make the Right-holders to claim their Rights and Duty-bearers to perform their Duties with more responsibility, accountability, transparency and better leadership skills.
- The Consecrated Life will have meaning and relevance in the post Covid 19 and beyond, if we hear the cries of the poor.

Fr. Francis Kilivallickal CST

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## Bro. Albin Varakukalayil CST

































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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The quotes in the text by Pope Francis are taken from His reflection on the occasion when He delivered an extraordinary blessing "To the City and to the World" on Friday 27 March 2020, and its translation is taken from the writing of Devin Watkins.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Bishop Mark Davis, "English Bishops Reflects on the Way Ahead After Coronavirus," in National Catholic Register, 22 May 2020.

