



**NAVARSAN**

**CORONA  
MEMOIRS**

**- June - 2020 -**

## CORONA

**Abin Chacko CMI**

There is nothing good about the novel coronavirus—it is killing many people, and shutting millions more inside, with fear as their main companion. However, if we are fated to go through this passage, we may as well learn something from it, and it does strike me that there are a few insights that apply to the climate crisis that shadows all of our lives. Some of these lessons are obvious: giant cruise ships are climate killers and, it turns out, can become floating sick wards. Other ideas evaporate once you think about them: China *is* producing far less carbon dioxide, for the moment, but, completely apart from the human toll, economic disruption is not a politically viable way to deal with global warming in the long term, and it also undercuts the engines of innovation that bring us, say, cheap solar panels. Still, it's worth noting how nimbly millions of people seem to have learned new patterns. Companies, for instance, are scrambling to stay productive, even with many people working from home. The idea that we need to travel each day to a central location to do our work may often be the result of inertia, more than anything else. Faced with a real need to commute by mouse, instead of by car, perhaps we'll see that the benefits of workplace flexibility extend to everything from gasoline consumption to the need for sprawling office parks.

Of course, that's a lesson that can be learned in reverse as well. Two things- In order for substantive progress to take place to stymie the climate crisis, humanity needs to operate from a standpoint of intergovernmental solidarity, empathy, equity, and moral clarity. I felt a great sense of optimism, community, and belonging, but I also felt mad, because we invited our elected officials to speak and none of them could provide us a real plan to get us out of this crisis. What I hoped for was not just for fifteen thousand people or twenty thousand people to show up. It is the whole world that can stand against this crisis altogether.

# God and Good

**Ajay Ekka CMI**

The day will come when humans will perish with their own inventions and discoveries. We have witnessed the tragic events where thousands of humans have died or are affected by some serious disease. These dangerous events do not come on their own but they are brought by new experiments or by some new researches. Nazi camp, world war, Gas tragedy and flood in Kerala. These were the events in which thousands of lives were lost, and now currently whole world is affected by Corona. Due to this virus there was a sea of dead bodies in many parts of the world. In spite of these tragic events in human life, there are always two great entities in life namely; God and Good. During the time of flood in Kerala, people remembered God and did Good to others. Now this present time is also for us to realize God and to help the needy ones, the hungry ones and the poor ones. The blessed time of corona should not be the time of division but a time to see people without religion, caste and creed. This time of grace is to transcend divisive identities and to see every one as human. When the Good happens among the people then God will be manifested among them. Corona has brought days when nature has breathed in its full. Nature had a 'good' experience after a long time. Nature had an experience of God, its creator. Human activity has come to a full stop. There was again the coming back of God and Good.

LINK

**Akhil Pallicka CMI**

Life is always busy. People find it very trying to spend time at home, always at their job, tuition, coaching classes etc. Husband finds it very demanding to spend time with his wife. Parents find it hard to spend some time with their children. People are always busy and restless. Nobody has enough time to take rest. I don't know who created this corona, either it can be God or it can be man. I have come to know that corona is a manufactured bio weapon. Though it is very small, it helped other to take rest from their errands.

Corona is giving a long rest to the people, to reflect and meditate on their lives. Corona has fused the separated relationships. It has become a reason for an open discussion between the husband and wife.

Families are transformed into temples. When the temples were closed God opened temples in all the homes. Corona has helped people to pray together, eat together and live together.

Yes! Corona is a blessing, but, only for some.....

# **God is Abba**

**Albin Mathew CMI**

Some of us talk rather easily, even glibly about God. For Jesus, God was His Abba and yet at the same time Jesus treated Him with awe and respect. He took God seriously and He challenges us to do the same.

The word God has been seriously misused and misunderstood in the days of Corona; we treat God as the ‘all-powerful manipulator’ who sends us corona, floods, earthquakes and other disasters; a God who is ‘far away’ from us. Nowadays we believe that corona is a punishment from God because of the World’s sins. We express our own God as merciful Father and as a punishing judge at the same time. God’s name has been seriously tainted. Mystics speak of God as unknowable. Thomas Aquinas says that we do not know who God is; we only know who God is not. Meister Eckhart says, “God is closer to me than I am to myself. My being depends upon God’s being near me and present to me.....” God I near us, but we are far from Him. God is in, we are out. God is at home, we are abroad.

# THE I-THE STORY OF A BOOK

Alvin Parokarran CMI

Long ago I was a bamboo. In my younger days, I was happy and joyful with my friends at all times. Then came a day, when some people geared with axe and ropes severed our elders. The grief that overshadowed me that day might have been the experience of the others when I was too severed. The place which they took me to was a huge factory, where I was put off with many more I could not estimate the amount of pain felt when I was passed through those machines. At the end, the Paper-I asked to myself “who are you?” As the time flew, I became a piece of paper on which letters were punched. I was feeling difficult to recognise the old self in this new one.

Time passed, a young man bought and took me his home. Later there, I realized something; some other books like me named as Bible were kept in beautiful shelves & venerated by many, and look at me, left alone for nothing.

At times I was opened & read from, but when I was found uninteresting, they shut me and put me aside. What wrong did I do to become uninterested? I was not made a book by my own choice, was I? At first I would raise my voice, later I was exhausted. Who would listen to me? My flics changed colour, and I found myself alone. There were some statues near me stuck in co-webs. We were all plunged in despair. I think that, that statue was smiling at my grief. I also returned a smile and was famished. Years later, I became a book full of dust. Then came one day when someone took me, wiped off my dust and started to read me from the start. I thought I was dreaming. As I was sleepy, I dozed off. When I woke up, he was sleeping and I found myself in a clean place. The statue which smiled at me is with me here. I asked him where are we? What happened to us? Because I was wondering what changed my place.

Slowly that statue started to talk to me; “I know you, and you don’t know me but I am there inside of you. You came here to him according to my will. I made the new-You. I am the only reason for your being here now.

After talking so, he again smiled at me. I asked him “who are you?” the reply was one simple and attractive smile. “Who am I?”, I asked. He stared to move and he lifted me against the mirror. I read my name... **BIBLE** .again asked him “what made you to bring me here?”

A word which I never heard, which I never will. That is “CORONA”. I heard that name first time in my life. What would be its meaning? I don’t know. But I know something. The guy who talked to me with an attractive eyes and hair flowing to his chest, a thin body, a knot around his waist. Something had cut a wound in his hand. May be a broken glass piece or something. There is a red stain in his white dress, on the left side of his chest. Again I asked

to myself “Who am I?”... He showed me what I am... **BIBLE** He said; You work for me. I  
don't know I don't know anything.....

Amal Thadathil CMI

The world seems smaller,  
Craving to blot out the Human Race It approaches stealthily  
People are drawn apart, some are deserted  
What about him?  
He's left behind, how would he be on his own?  
That heart seems to be crushed all like the shattered glass pieces around,  
The roads that carry him are torn apart,  
All that seems pristine is his hopeless spirit,  
He smears his eyes only to confront darkness,  
Every step is a ditch for him, what would he do?  
All seems to be an illusion,  
Where is the one who proclaimed I'm the Way, the Truth and Life?  
Where is He when he needs him the most?

But then there was a Voice,  
“From when (you were) in the womb of your mother I knew you”  
There he saw a beam, the glory, far radiant than the sun,  
He said, ‘You are mine’  
He never felt so belonged,  
That made him limp crying with joy,  
The voice continued, ‘Even if the world forgets I will not forget you’  
He threw the support, took to his heels, dashing with a burning zeal,  
He raised his chin gave a smile,  
He closed his eyes and opened his inner ears  
“I'm with you”  
That is when he heard himself saying  
I believe in ‘God My Father’  
He was freed beyond the limits of everything

Rise to the Divine Hope

## **Best for God**

Amit Kispotta CMI

God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. (1 Cor 1:25)

Corona is the best time for us to do our best for God. It is the best time when whole country is under lockdown and now all of us are free too. Today is the best day and best time to please God and praise his holy name by praying for all corona patience.

People interpret in a different way about this virus, some say it spreads from bats, some say it is from China, some think it is God's grace and few others think it is a curse of God on the human being for the sins of the world. Recently there was a news, it was reported that mother Mary appeared in a convent of Chindvada district of Madhya Pradesh state, which comes under Nagpur Archdiocese. Mother Mary spoke to a few sisters that Corona virus is from God and it will be there for long time for the sins, which the world has committed. Moreover, she instructed them to pray.

We do what we are given to do; we do not put our heart and soul into it! Certainly result will be far better if we did so. There is no powerful motivating power than doing it for God, as any father likes to give the best one to his son or the son tries to please his father. An ordinary piece of work inspired by the father or the love of God can become a work of art! Prayer is the greatest gift which God has planted in each one of us, whether we are sinners or righteous, fools or wise this grace is in all.



Our routine is that we only pray for our intention, our needs and for our benefits, but we forget the most important fact that we are children of one holy God and it is our duty to help each other to enter the kingdom of God. We must inspire ourselves and give the world our best and that best will come back to us. In a similar way when we pray for God's children surely God's blessing will be showered upon us.

It does not matter how small or big our prayer is, it matters to God the way we pray.

The psalmist says, I keep the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Take courage and have faith in God. Pray and that is the best thing that we can do and give to God. All that can be done in these times is pray and that would be the greatest happiness for God.

## Corona is an antidote for wrong relationships...

Arun Kariyil CMI

The sun's rays give life for the day, the moonlight gives life for the night. As we compare moon with the sun, the moon is too small, but the creator creates twinkling stars to support the moon. As we see in every film, there is a villain to set everything in order. In the life of nature, there is also a villain to set everything in order; it is 'Time.' Every creature in the world depends upon time. Time interprets that what happens now? And what is gonna happen? Every relation in the world is guided by time. When we crack through the inner meaning of relation, we find that, it is something more than what we have ever realized. In the book of Genesis, we find that God created Adam and Eve to demonstrate a life of good relationships. However, the timely intervention of Satan dethroned all the authorities of relationships, God had with them. However, during the days of the corona, God rethinks the vision that He had in the beginning of creating the world. God reveals that these are days for all of us to re-experience the joy of paradise with God, which was taken away from our first- parents because of their wrongdoing.

During the holidays as a part of the tutorial, I was going through the book 'I and Thou' written by Martin Buber. There I found a big tragedy that the current world is facing in the field of relationships. He puts different kinds of relationships people have; I-It, I-I, It-It, I-Thou, We- We and Us- Them. But the contradiction is that 90% of people have It- It, I- It or I-I relationships, which means they have no space for others. On the other hand, 10% of people have I-Thou relationships, which means considering others as their own.

In the Old Testament, God points out two examples of these relationships. First, we find in the book of Joshua 7/ 1-26, the life of Akan, he represents an example of I-It relationships. His heart was most attracted to the material things, which he found on Jericho. It led him to a great disaster. The second example we find in the book of Genesis 45/ 1-15, the life of Joseph, he represents as an example of I-Thou relationships. He revealed himself in front of his brothers. The result was that he and his sons were blessed by his father, Jacob. Martin Buber says that the basic word I-Thou can only be spoken with one's whole being. The basic word I-It can never speak with the whole being."

The days of corona is a coming back from I-It to I-Thou. We should reflect on the wrap to transit from me-It to me-Thou. Here I am suggesting five antidotes for transit ourselves.

C- Closeness

O- Openness

R- Response

O- Oneness

N- Needfulness

A- Availability

Let's practice these five antidotes during the days of corona and make our family life and personal life more beautiful and strengthen our relationships as more bonded ones. Annie Frank says "Whoever is happy will makes others happy too."

# TAKE A BREAK

Aswin Paliekara CMI

This is the time to take a break and to realise and reflect. In the Old Testament during six days of creation, the Lord took break on the seven day. In the Gospel Lord Jesus after working miracles the whole day took a break and went into the darkness and spent time with His father, also He found time to be along with His disciple. In our life too, we need some breaks to reflect and to be with our dear ones. When we drive the car, at certain times, breaks help us and saves our life and others life also. In our school days, when we get break after every two sessions, that was the time that helped us to refresh our minds, play with our friends and it is the time to ask doubts to our teacher about what we learnt in the class.

When we grow up, we forget to take breaks in our life we have no time to speak with our friends, no time to help our parents, no time to spend with our family, no time to sit in front of the Lord. This affects our relationship with the Lord and our dear ones.

Lord knows that we need breaks, it is because of this that the Lord gives us a time to take a break through a small virus and gives us time to spend with our family, talk with our friends and sit in front of the Lord. How can we spend time with our family? Two tables are an answer for this question; one is dining table and the second is recreation table. Sit on the chair and make your family relationships strong. There is no end in friendship, recollect your past good experiences with your friends and talk with your friends, talking makes friendship stronger. This time of Corona is the time to employ more time with the Lord for He is the one who knows us. Take our Holy Scripture and Holy things from the box, pray to the Lord, and make strong relationship with God.

# The Last War Lessons

Christy Kanjirakattukunnel CMI

In 1935, on the eve of the World War II, British dramatist Neil Grant scripted 'The Last War', a fantasy in one act. Here nations were seen attacking each other with bio-weapons carrying the most deadly viruses. These lethal viruses liquidate not only the warring nations but the whole of mankind. As the narrative progresses, the drama features a group of animals talking about the conditions around the world. "I had already foreseen this situation years ago, carrying a man to the battlefield and witnessing how atrocious they were to each other ", says a horse. The king, Lion says, "We kill other beings only to satisfy our hunger, which is our basic need, but man kills his fellow men and creatures for silly and selfish reasons". As the meeting proceeds, a view, exhausted after accomplishing the task of annihilating the human race, enters the scene. According to viruses, man caused his own self-destruction. Meanwhile an angel enters and comments about the fragility of human life. "Man created a new world, the world of science. He was given all things on one divine condition that he should live in peace with brothers and sisters". To the great surprise and rage of everyone, a wounded soldier comes on to the stage and pleads the animals to kill him, as he finds no meaning in life without a human company. He apologises on behalf of all humankind. At the end, the angel saves this man from the animal's fury.

We are in the middle of trying to figure out how this deadly virus spread is and what have to do to control this infection. Medical science is trying its level best to figure this out and to attend to everyone who has been infected with this disease. The rest of us are being asked to stay inside and practice 'social distancing' for an unknown period of time.

The play begs us to understand decisive deliberations on human destiny. It reminds us that we have taken everything for granted, unmindful of the fact that the planet doesn't belong to us alone. This Covid-19 outbreak once again reminds us that we can be much more empathetic towards mother Earth and our fellow creatures. St Augustine says 'This nature searches for its own God in its inner solitude'. Earth preserves all creatures. At the same time, creatures need to take responsibility of preserving the earth from all negative and evil forces. The earth and the humans are inter-dependent. One without the other cannot exist. Today many ecological issues wait for answers from us, humans.

This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have to see ourselves as her Lords and Masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life (Laudatos Si).

This crisis is an invitation to restore everything; to purify our hearts, to love our nature and to be the man of mercy.

## **ABSENCE OF GOD=TRAGEDIES**

**Evin Kaitharath CMI**

In the film 'Bahubali', when Bahubali was sent out of the palace by Sivakami Devi, the people who were standing outside the palace received him with much enthusiasm and they exclaimed, "See, God has come down in our midst to live with us and to take away our sorrows and pains." Because they had firm faith that if God is with them nothing will torture them. Moreover, in the film, Bahubali is presented as a person who takes away all their pains and sorrows. They had a very good time from that day onwards. Because he was with them to be one with them in their adversities and sorrows.

Likewise, when God was with them, the Israelites, prospered in every step they took. They were delivered from the slavery of Egyptians, they won all the battles they fought and they were fed plenty even in the desert. Nevertheless, there was a time when God left them because of their iniquities and it cost them very badly and firmly. They were defeated, they were enslaved and they lost their prosperity and so on. Above all, it became the cause of their ruin.

Friends, today when we face many tragedies let us ask ourselves if it is caused because I neglected the presence of God within me. All the tragedies sprout because of our negligence. Currently, we face it through a tiny micro-organic virus called 'Corona' that which stuck the world and that, which had reached its peak. Above all that, this caused the painful death of lakhs of innocents. Yes, when we did not give importance to God, we ourselves were digging our graves.

Nevertheless, we have hope that God, who is the creator of the whole human race and universe, is not a god who takes retribution. Rather he is a God who waits for his shattered children like the father of periodical son and he is a good shepherd who goes behind the one which went astray from the hundred. He says

My hand is not too shot to save nor my ear too dull to hear. (Is 59:1)

Therefore, I believe that this extraordinary time of corona is something a great opportunity for us to see whether I have lost God from my life. It is also a chance to invite him back to our lives a better and prosperous future ahead.

## Let's Transcend our Thoughts

Jibin Chathely CMI

Last 3.5 Months and still we are under the arrest of a pandemic, itself is a tiny object in the mass universe which can be easily rubbed away by the soap. However, the real fact is that the tiny object has swept 1.5 lakhs of life from the world. A pandemic literally means a disease that stalks all people but it has visibly unequal effects. Social distance during the lock down is not necessarily a punishment. Silence and solitude are potent means for personal growth and self-renewal a great way to nature tendency of the sense is to go outwards and enjoy the whole creation. Right from the moment, you wake up in the morning you want to see, hear, smell, taste and touch. However, the ability of the senses to enjoy is limited. How long can you watch the beautiful scenery? The desire to enjoy through the senses first comes in the mind, but the capacity of senses to enjoy is limited. Suppose you love cake or apple pie how much can you eat -one piece, too pieces, three pieces, etc.? By the third time we might have stopped. The same thing that was giving you pleasure becomes painful. This is because our ability to enjoy is limited to our senses. We can enjoy anything on the planet only when what we desire is available on the planet. Some say this is waste of time for human being or same this is blissful time. Whatever it may be I say, it is time to see our inner hearts, what we desire, and also to check if it's available or not. The Question Mark is far from us during this unusual time. Think, is this waste of time or blissful time for life?

## **LIVE MEANINGFUL TODAYS**

Prince Pathinarilchira CMI

In this time of corona pandemic, when the whole world is thinking about the meaning of life on this earth, how can we make this life meaningful in this world, as the wealth, the achievements, the power and all status symbols of human life are irrelevant and ineffaceable in front of the small virus called Corona! Since it is spreading so fast whole over the world, it will not give time for us to reflect on our life and correct it and to make our life more meaningful in the coming future. The death is knocking at the door of everyone's life. Now many people especially those who are away from their family and dear ones dream a happy and bright future if they would get a chance over this death. This small virus teaches us that when you have chance to do good to others don't miss it. Respect every one! Love every one otherwise, when you wish to do so you might not get a chance or you couldn't life is meaningful when you live in the present, doing good, not expecting a better tomorrow.



# TIME OF BLESSING

"I CLOSED MY EYES TO THE OLD ENDS AND OPENED MY HEART TO A NEW  
BEGINNING"

Shabin Ozhakanattu CMI

The word corona was a fearsome word for everyone. It always gave a tension in all the lives. Everyone believed that corona was a punishment from God but I feel that it is not a punishment; rather it is a time of a blessing. In other words, we can say that it is a time of communion with God as well as with others. During early days, world was not much developed. However, there was love among the people. We were able to see loving relation in the family and in society. Later when world developed economically and technically, there love decreased. Man considered his fellow men as an object. When man was at the hilltop, there arose a breeze of flue that put him down. Now every family is in communion. When I called to my house, they said that they eat together, sit together for few hours everyday. Then I was happy. It is all about my family. There can many stories from each family. So really corona is a blessing

## REST FOR BRIGHT FUTURE

Tennish Thadathil CMI

Only a tireless worker can enjoy a well-earned rest, After all, there was once work, so there is now rest. In times of quarantine or isolation unheard for a routine worker, the virtues of both work and rest could not have become more glaring. Every individual should remain in a shell not because he or she is allowed to die because of him or her. All our misbehavioral qualities, stubbornness recklessness, irresponsibility can create in limited time to isolation the evil called corona. If now we take this time as a challenge to destroy this pandemic, you also become a valuable person for this world. A normal citizen is turning in to be the hero of the world by taking rest at home. In fact, a human being is saving human race by doing nothing specifically. Today's world is begging everyone to stay at one's home now the world is control by each individual because now a person misbehavioral can make world as hell. Nevertheless, your good behaviour can make the future of the world as heaven. We need not fear the situation but understand the situation and give up fear and develop hope by understanding the situation.

Love should escalate, laughter must spread, faith should proclaim and reaction should prosper during this well-earned break keeping the mind on tight leash, so that the absolute freedoms remain under permissible limits is to be stressed more. Nothing can be more satisfying than welcoming healthy and unrestrained future by ensuring a controlled hearty today's.

## **Corona Eats Up!**

Jijoy Arackal CMI

What did the world benefit from such a long time? If you ask me then I would say, probably, the only workspace the nations of the world would have been magnanimous at is violence; even though we had able and courageous personalities who sought to Ahimsa as their path of encounter. Secondly, what actually could the world be suffering from such a long time? If you would ask me I would undoubtedly reply, it is the distanced barriers we have with the other. Now at this pointless juncture, what has taken its turn upward and volunteered for our help? There are some instances that we do not decipher or try to make out unless we are struck with something lethal. For example, a child will continue his unusual pranks in a shrine unless he is corrected by his parents, or else he would never understand the deed to be something wrong. In the same way, God has just decided to prick us with this long needle called Corona through which he has delivered us an important message about how our lives would feel when we are distanced from each other for such a long time; it is the picture of hell. You surely might have tasted a bit of this fire. It would have almost burned your 'SELF' up but you were left a little longer to think where the road was leading you. Recently we saw in the newspapers how the government is securing its trade deal and policies in the weapon sector. Let me ask you, on whose head are you trying to break the atom when the person or the group you must've wished to attack are battling their chance against this virus? You would be such a sadist to provoke your emotions against them in this unpredictable situation. Now, here we have crossfires and debates regarding land issues and officials have deployed men of valour at the Line of Control to keep things at ease when both the parties have their family members fighting this epidemic back at home! What about those people who need their children, their husband and their siblings safe so that they can fight this virus with their full will? Then I believe we are yet to call ourselves humans in this prospect. Dear friends, relationships and communal friendship are some necessary facts that have to bloom in our hearts as we are called in to love and let live. If we fall for crazy inhibitions of the devil we are sure to lose more and that would drive us into our downfall. Do not forget how lacks and lacks of migrants are facing trouble without food and water. Instead of raising a fist to punch let us raise an arm to feed. We are sure to leap into a bright future from all our setbacks and may God deliver us from these testing times.

## Turn your Full Stops into commas...

Joseph Madapurackal CMI

Human being is the powerful being on earth. But remember, TIME is faster than us. It is the most powerful weapon. Sometimes, TIME becomes favourable to us and then we say “It’s my turn, it is a good time for me”; OR sometimes the TIME becomes an adversary for us and then we say, "It's a bad time for me".

Now, my question is- How TIME becomes good and bad...?

It’s always the same... 24 hours...

When we judge the TIME as good and bad, we keep a FULL STOP in our life. Remember that, it is very easy to keep a full stop rather than a comma. It is sure that when we keep full stops in our life, we come to an end; the end of TIME and there is no hope, the hope of resurrection...

Keep COMMAS in your life, it will give you a pause- to reflect, to realize and to rise up.....

# FIGHT WITH UNITY

Justin Puthiyath CMI

There are birds in the sky, but on the earth all the roads are empty. In some places there was not a day without traffic block, but now we can walk through the centre of these roads. All the shops and many other things are locked. Now, it is one and half month. For all these things there is only a cause. As we all know that is the corona virus, Covid-19. I think it is the first time situations have become like this. Lakhs of people died with this disease, lakhs of people suffering from this, lakhs of people are in quarantine, and lakhs of people are stuck in foreign countries. In addition, a very good number of people are in their houses because of the lockdown. In some places, the condition of rich and the poor is the same. They are not going outside of their house, but there is a difference. Rich people have money, because they have bank accounts, savings etc. but the poor people those who do not have a good house or those who are doing the daily labour for the daily bread, but these days they have no work every day. Therefore, their condition is very pitiable. Anyway, we can appreciate our government, because they are trying to bring the food materials to the houses. It is a free service. There are also many congregations and parishes those who are trying to bring the food materials and other things.

When we look into this corona period there is a lot of problem. Most of the people lost their dear and near ones and most of them are praying for the coming back of their near and dear ones. But we also see some positive impacts of the corona virus, that, there were people who were busy with their jobs, they did not have time to spend with their families. And now people are doing many things creatively. But friends, remember we are in lockdown. We are in our own homes. But there are a good number of doctors, nurses, police officers and other government staffs those who work hard for the recovery or the control of corona virus. When we are at home, let us remember and pray for all the people who are fighting against coronavirus.

Dear friends, we can do only one thing for the control of corona virus; that we obey all the special rules and be where you are.

# CORONA

Leemon Kalathiparambil CMI

In the beginning, there were men. They lived without weapons. Their food was vegetable and raw flesh but they started to think since man was a rational animal. Then they got new ideas. They started to eat fried fish; they felt it to be tastier. They started to speak through words. It was easy for them to communicate their ideas. Thus, the humankind was developed and man changed his behaviour. Man lives as per his choice. He controls as he likes, he controls others, and he controls even the world. In the beginning, man lived through his body but today man lives through a machine. Whenever one finds a short cut, he gets easy work. However, its supremacy will be bad. Whenever one finds a narrow way, his work gets difficult. Nevertheless, its supremacy will be very positive. Today all find short-cut ways. Man does not find the negative outcome of short-cut ways. In the beginning, there were no diseases, conflicts, etc. But today there are because of his controlled way of life, he destroys the world. That is why there was a flood, several kinds of diseases etc. Today COVID 19 destroys man. Thought has done marvellous things to help man, but it has also brought about great destruction and terror in the world

## CORONA

Manu Chakkangal CMI

It is a cry of the environment because we torture them. We are suffering of corona virus. Our world is standing with helpless hands. Many have died because of this small virus. There is no medicine found for it. It is a time when we have return to the former days. So many of them don't have any meals and they are dying because of hunger. When so many of them are crying at this time, many of them are also doing good things extending their helping through giving food kits and helping the poor to buying medicine and so on.

In this laborious situation many of them are using their time creatively and they are finding variety of things and giving simple tips on knowing subjects and extra-curricular activity so many of them are learning tips and for cooking and so many other things. Because of this disease, both positive and negative things are happening. Many of them have died and many are suffering. There are many others doing creative things and using the time effectually.

# WHEN I REMEMBERED TOMORROW

Mathew Puthenpurackal CMI

When I stood at the pride of hilltop  
I thought heaven and earth were at my fingertip.  
When I thought, I was able to do everything.  
Nevertheless, I realized there is someone  
Who can do everything?

When my Brethren and myself strive for life  
I realized how cruel I was to my mother earth.  
If I can live tomorrow  
Then mother earth would be my teacher.  
And we will come to a point that  
We all are the children of the same Father.



## Corona a time of beauty

Noel Puthoor CMI

There was already a rhythm for nature, a rhythm of love. Corona is a season to bring back the lost rhythm of nature. Nature had a rhythm but it was lost because of human greed. There was a love story between nature and earth. Nature was in love with the earth because in the past earth looks beautiful with green eyes (forest), a golden crown (deserts), and a blue dress (sea), and so on. Now the earth has lost its beauty. Now it had many disfigured parts in its body such as concrete pillars, skyscrapers etc. she looks very sad because she had lost her first beauty. Even though she was caring for her children in the world but her loving nature wanted to bring back the first beauty she already had. Therefore, he added a season of corona to stop the exploitation of humans on earth. This is the season where every human have their holidays now on earth is coming back to her first beauty.

“So let’s enjoy the beauty of the earth with open eyes.”

## Remember!

Sebastian Akkathara CMI

As we know 'Corona' changes our life and our behaviour. In the beginning God created everything. And whatever He created he subjected them to man's authority. But this domination is not for destruction or misuse. On the other hand, like our loving father we must care for each one; from that day until now we are misusing and expressing our authority over them, but now a small, less than one-inch, virus has tried to bring back whatever is lost. It is a warning to us, because we think that we are the most powerful on the earth, therefore we have become proud and arrogant. We think that through our discoveries everything is subdued by our power. However, the man forgets that earth is circular. As we in a circle everything is equal. Every side is equal and all places are equal. On earth, man is only a part, not a dominative power. If we try to dominate the earth, it will level us down. In the coming days we will depend up on our nature, in the earth nature, man and other things are equal. No one is great. Therefore, whatever changes or development we do we are only a part of the earth. On earth everything is equal. Everything has its own freedom. Whether it is man or nature, to respect each other and to love each other is always mandatory. We will use nature only for sufficient needs. Whatever you do, please remember- it is a cyclic process. Therefore, earth will always try to stabilize its equilibrium.

## Covid – The Crown for Christians

Phillips Chalakkal CMI

The COVID-19 virus has dominated the news unlike anything we have ever seen. Thousands of schools across the country have closed, followed by restaurants and other public locations. Air travel has almost ground to a halt. Entire cities, and in some cases, entire countries, are on lockdown with many normal movements around the city prohibited. Some grocery stores have experienced "panic buying" and, of course, the phrase "social distancing" has been introduced to our vocabulary.

At this time of great panic and standstill, I would like to provide four reflections from my personal standpoint:

First, we are a people of faith, not fear. The gospel is, among other things, the triumph over fear. The apostle John says in 1 John 4:18 that "Perfect love casts out fear." It is precisely that sanctifying work of God's love in us which enables, through his empowering presence, for all fear to be cast out. The apostle Paul admonishes us in 2 Timothy 1:7, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and love and self-control" This means that even if your church has cancelled public services and postponed many events or seminaries have cancelled their classes, it is not done out of fear, but out of love. It is because we have compassion and love for those who are most vulnerable among us. Whatever social distancing we do is an act of faith, not fear.

Secondly, the coronavirus has reminded us anew of the fragile nature of the world system. Just a few weeks ago we heard boasting about how strong the economy was and how good trade was. The stock market was booming and all was well. Then, in a matter of a few weeks, it seemed like overnight, everything was changed. It is like a hurricane blowing through, or a tsunami hitting our shores, or an earthquake which suddenly shakes a city. God allows these phenomena because they serve a larger redemptive purpose. They force the world to look straight into the eyes of our own frailty. James makes this very clear when he says to us,

*Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." (James 4:13-15 )*

It is an important reality check in a world of pompous boasting about our strength, our capacities, and our will to do this or that. The coronavirus is like a global "re-set" button, reminding us of our frailty and his sovereign grace in our lives.

Third, the church is a people, not a place. Many of us have had our church services cancelled for at least two months. It is a strange thing for a Christian to wake up on Sunday morning and not be in the fellowship of God's people. But, from a theological perspective, it is impossible to "cancel church." Because, as the famous church nursery rhyme goes, "The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church of God is people!" We are the church whether we are dispersed in the world, inside our homes, or watching our services on live stream. The church cannot be "closed," only buildings can be closed. Your parking lot may be empty for a few weeks, but you are still the living embodiment of the gospel wherever you are or wherever you go!

Fourth, the "white space" in your calendar may be a means of grace. It is important for Christians to remember that this coronavirus spread has been taking place during the time of grace. Lent has always been designated as a time for deeper reflection. However, in the busyness of the season and the planning of services, we may not have taken time to stop for times of extended prayer. The growing number of postponed meetings, cancelled flights, and services stopped may actually provide more time to "keep your time with the Lord" well. Calendars, which once were filled with meetings and appointments, have been suddenly cleared, freeing up time. Many meetings are happening through Zoom or Skype; but the point is, there has been whitespace created in most of your calendars. This is a means of grace. Take time to pray. To seek God's Face; To listen to the voice of the Lord. To keep our days of prayer well.

One of the central symbols of the Holy Season of Lent that just swept across a few days back is the thorny crown. It reminds us of sacrifice and self-denial. It is a symbol of the cost Jesus paid. The term "corona" in "coronavirus" is a word meaning "crown." It is because the virus, under extreme magnification, actually looks like a thorny crown; therefore, it is quite literally the thorny crown virus. The coronavirus reminds us that as Christians we always—even when there is no virus in our midst—embody the sufferings of the world. Lent is the time when we are particularly reminded of that great truth.

Let us be bold in our faith. Remember the fragile nature of this world and long for a better one. Never forget that the church is always the church in the world. Take time to pray more and reflect more. Finally, during this holy season of Corona, remember that we bear in our bodies the blessed marks of Jesus as we retrace his passion in the world.

# **CORONA-A DEADLY SPREADING PANDEMIC**

## **RENEWING THE BONDS OF RELATION**

Jeeson Kappiyankal CMI

A deadly spreading pandemic is changing the entire life style of the world. Corona is totally a destructive pandemic but, somehow it brought forth an efficacious change in

the bonds of relation: in the relation towards the family members, the relation towards the nature, the relation towards the other and the relation towards the God. Most of the people are delighted in this period of lockdown, because they are experiencing more love and care from others. Children are experiencing the love and care from their parents, couples are finding the meaning of family life, parents are fulfilling their responsibilities, and earth is getting back her earthiness, animals and birds are getting back their nature. Due to corona the whole world is trying to grow a deep mutual relationship.

Mutual relationship is the most important thing in life. We must have a deep concern and love towards others as I have towards myself. The strength of the relation will increase the equilibrium of the life, and there will not be any problem. If ones relation has to be strong he/she should spend his/her own time to others copiously. I think in this present laborious situation we are getting plenty of time. It is up to you and me to use our time. The virus corona can be expressed thus;

**C- Communicate to others**

**O- Occupy others**

**R- Relationship with others**

**O- Open to others**

**N- Nurture others**

**A- Accept everything and everyone**

And transform this laborious situation into a time of blessing, a time of renewing the bonds of relation and be with others.

## Glory to God for the Mighty Pains

-Bro. Mejo Pampilly CMI

Glory to God for the strange Corona

Glory to God for His plan – Corona

For the mighty pains bestowed on us,

For the sanctifying love towards us.

Earth is much a better place to live in.

Nature is reviving by healing

Landscapes into better setting;

Creatures into happy beings.

Oh God! How troublesome were these days;

The lonely and slothful days.

How painful the pathetic departure of men.

Mere figure they now are; and no more men.

But you saved our souls by your plan;

Sanctified us sinners by your plan

Glory to God for strange Corona

Glory to God for His plan – Corona.