

“I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Mt 28:20)



My Dear Sisters,

May the peace and joy of the Risen Lord be with you all!

This year we began the journey of Lenten Season in a very unusual situation of the Pandemic COVID looming all around the world. During the last 40 days of our preparation we were forced in a way to have a desert experience like Jesus and ask some radical questions about our very existence. This tiny invisible virus hidden behind the symptoms has brought the world to a standstill, creating fear and claiming many innocent lives. Whether it is nature's fury or man-made disaster, one thing is very clear, that we are not in control and in need of Divine intervention. This is exactly what we celebrate at Easter. Humanity, being caught up in the bondage of sin and death was rendered helpless not being able to ransom itself. Therefore, God in His mercy sent the Saviour to conquer sin and death by His very death on the Cross and offered us everlasting life through His Resurrection.

Easter is a reminder and encouragement that God in Christ continues to love and care for the whole world. Just as the unseen virus vigorously damages human existence, Jesus though invisible, yet present in the Sacred Eucharist continues to accompany us at this moment of helplessness and gives us hope. These days we are advised to wash our hands to maintain social distance and to wear a mask, we must rightly do so. All the same we need to be aware that internal purification of heart and mind is more essential than external purification through washing of hands. Social distancing is a call to maintain physical distance from each other and not to cut out ourselves from social concerns and get into selfish individualism. It is a call given to us to remain closely united to God and all his creation. Wearing a mask is suggested to avoid the spread of the virus through tiny droplets which come out from our mouth. This should also remind us of the words which Jesus said: *“what goes into the mouth does not make anyone unclean; it is what comes out of the mouth that makes someone unclean”* (Mt, 15: 11). Therefore, we need to be careful not to get engaged in diabolic gossip and destroy other person's image and reputation.

Christ is alive and He offers us life in abundance. Therefore, He calls us to remain rooted in Him, clothed with His light and sharing the warmth of His love in the world. Let us give heed to the Risen Lord as he speaks to us through the present day situation and experiences, committing ourselves to mutual charity and solidarity with those experiencing difficulty in their lives. Let us be Easter people bringing the Good News to others first having had a close encounter with the Risen Lord. May He strengthen us to live our lives as “signs of Hope”.

Wish you all a Happy Easter!

Yours affectionately in the Risen Lord,

Sr. Selin Karikkattil
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Superior General