



The CAPUCHIN PROVINCE OF ETHIOPIA MARY "KIDANE MEHERET"

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Date

03/04/2020

Ref.

CO/044/2020

Dear Brothers,

May the Lord grant you his peace.

In my letter of 19/03/2020, I invited you to pay careful attention to the guidelines issued by Br. Roberto Genuin, our General Minister, and the Bishops Conference of Ethiopia, regarding ravaging and deadly Corona Virus or COVID-19. In the same letter, I beseeched you to limit movements and avoid any physical contacts. As we all know, the outbreak of the coronavirus has been ferociously accelerating and already impacted the lives of hundreds of millions around the globe, and is gradually spreading here in our country. For some cases have even been detected in some regional cities.

By now through listening and reading, we already know how to reduce the risk: washing our hands meticulously, avoiding physical contacts and keeping necessary distances. Moreover, since we are asked to halt, at least for some weeks, celebrating Holy Eucharist for the faithful, hearing confessions and visiting their homes to give sacraments, I would therefore like to kindly ask you to stay preferably indoors or spend your times around the compound of the friary where you are based. Even though it won't be so easy for us (who got used to go here and there for rendering different services) to remain whole day at home, let's try our utmost, all the same, to be as creative as possible so as to do away with possible dizziness and boring and try to make good use of this opportunity for reading, personal prayers (like rosary, personal recollection, eucharistic adoration) etc. As our way of life is very much prone to easily get infected (as we live, pray, dine and share the same toilets, recreation rooms etc., together, I strongly encourage you to accurately observe prescribed distances and remain at fraternity for at least two or three coming weeks as the Government advised us to do. If someone is obliged to go out, he should ask the permission of the local superior and make all the necessary precautions wherever he goes. We need to care for and protect each other

Last but not the least, dear brothers, let's keep on praying especially for those who are ill and those who have died. We also need to offer prayers for those affected by disruptions, such as quarantines and closures of workplaces and schools. Finally, we pray for health care workers, and express our gratitude for their service in combating this disease.

Fraternally,

Br. Gebrewold Gebretsadik

Provincial Minister





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