



# Bishop's *Circular*

For Priests / Sisters

**Bishop George Rajendran sdb**

**Diocese of Thuckalay**

Bishop's House, P B No: 12, Thuckalay PO,  
Kanya kumari Dt- 629 175, Tamil Nadu, India

**Ref. No. Priests/GR/105/2020**

19 March 2020

Dear and Rev. Fathers,

Greetings from Bishop's House, Thuckalay!

In the light of the spread of Corona Virus (COVID-19) I sent a circular No/GR/20/2020 to all the priests, religious and faithful of our diocese. It should be read in all our parishes on 22 March, 2020. For your personal information and kind follow up I suggest the following:

1. While I asked the faithful to pray the psalms, Mercy rosary etc, it's our bounden duty to call up the mercy of the Lord that we may overcome this epidemic as soon as possible
2. All our parishes and institutions shall fully cooperate with all the precautionary/preventive measures adopted by the government agencies. Therefore, kindly instruct the faithful and also put out the government issued circulars on our notice board.
3. As mentioned, catechism classes are suspended till 31 March but exams will be conducted as usual. Avoid *Uravium* and meetings of all the pious associations these days.
4. No need to cancel the Holy Qurbana, however I suggest that you increase the number of masses in parishes where the churches are small in size and faithful are thickly populated. Make sure that there is sufficient gap between the persons while they stand in the church.
5. Bowing heads with folded hands will be sufficient for the exchange of peace in the Holy Mass.
6. If there are any specific instructions with regard to the Holy Week, they will be notified to you in due course of time.
7. I request Rev. Fathers to remain in the parishes itself and to avoid travels as much as possible. Let us be in our parishes providing courage and spiritual strength to the people of God.
8. Rev. Fathers are requested to spend a little more quality time in front of the Blessed Sacrament interceding for the People of God
9. Kindly encourage our faithful to spend time in personal prayer and also family prayer. In this regard I request you to keep the church door open for the individuals to pray.
10. The Holy Week recollection for priests and religious will go on as usual on 7 April, 2020 at Sinai Retreat centre. If there is any change I will notify to you later.

Dear fathers, while requesting special prayers when our own people and the whole world are encountering a huge crisis, I request you to take adequate care personally and in all our parishes/missions and institutions so as not to be infected by the virus. Christ who went around the villages and towns doing good and healing the sick may bless and heal everyone (Mat. 14:14, 15:30, 19:2)

With my prayers and blessings,

Yours in Christ Jesus,

+ **George Rajendran SDB**  
Bishop of Thuckalay

