

Dear Rev. Fathers and Brothers

Wish you the greetings and blessings of the feast of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara, our beloved founder.

10 Things CMIs should say more often:

1. Our congregation is not manmade. God has nurtured it with genuine care and helped it to grow.
2. After having received innumerable blessings from God, our monasteries shall be so dear to Him and so beneficial to souls.
3. Persecution from outside cannot destroy our congregation, but our self interested members with divisive tendencies can cause its ruin.
4. Always remember our holy vocation with gratitude and be committed to its sacred duties.
5. Our monasteries founded by God shall be the mirrors of virtues and assembly of holy people.
6. Beware of the self willed administrators who belittle the spiritual practices and the congregational priorities for temporary institutional gain.
7. Live as simple as you can with minimum private needs and sacrifice one's own comforts and desires for the sake of the community.
8. Rather than looking for a place and superior one likes, be a genuine religious who seeks the will of God to find happiness everywhere.
9. Superiors, who rely not on the will of God, but only on the likes and dislikes of the members, will be responsible before God for the endless evils in the congregation.
10. The newly ordained young priests shall be living models of humility, piety and obedience instead of leading an unrestrained life thinking that they know better than the rest.

(Common Circular: July 1, 1869)

Yes. St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara may not be proud of every CMI who utters his name, but only the one who lives his legacy.

May the feast of St. Kuriakose Elias be a time of true self awakening to tread Chavara way of life: ***God's will always and everywhere!***

Fr. Paul Achandy CMI

Prior General