

Dear Rev. Fathers and Brothers

Yes. He comes into our world, even when He is unexpected and unwelcome.

Despite our efforts to keep Him out, God intrudes. Jesus entered our world through a door marked "No Entrance" and left through a door marked "No Exit." The whole incarnation is framed by two impossibilities: virgin womb and empty tomb. (Peter Larson)

Advent is the opportune time to get ready, to make a place for the Lord in our lives and communities.

1. **25 hours with the Lord (an hour a day):** Could you not watch with me one hour? (Matthew 26:40) They saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. (Matthew 2:11)
2. **25 Good Deeds for the Lord (A Good deed a day):** Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. (Matthew 25:40)
3. **Read a new book in 25 days:** And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written (Luke 4:17)
4. **Open our hearts/campus for Christ:** Take these things away; stop making My Father's house a place of business. (John 2:16) When they could not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for Him. (Luke 2:45)

Let us prepare the way of the Lord. Let us travel that way together in faith. Let us allow Jesus to be born in our hearts and lives. "What does it profit me if Jesus is born in thousands of cribs all over the world, and He is not born in my heart?" (Alexander Pope)

Let us pray with St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara, "I long to see you"

Fr. Paul Achandy CMI

Prior General