



CARMELITES OF MARY IMMACULATE

CMI PRIOR GENERAL'S HOUSE

Chavara Hills, P.B. No. 3105, Kakkanad P.O.
Kochi 682 030, Kerala, India



ST KURIAKOSE ELIAS CHAVARA
1805 - 1871

Fr Thomas Chathamparampil CMI
Prior General

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Circular of Fr Prior General

Dear members of the CMI Fraternity,

We have received the sad news that Pope Francis, the head and Father of the Universal Church and Bishop of Rome was called to his eternal rest at 7.35 am (Italian Time) on Easter Monday. CMI Congregation expresses deepest sorrow at the demise of the Holy Father who constantly preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ, radiated the joy of the Gospel, and enjoyed the company of the people of God, drawing energy from them and returning their affection with a word or sometimes with just a caring smile.

He is and will be remembered as a Pope of close to the heart of the poor and marginalised and a prophet of Peace through his tireless appeals and constant visits to show closeness to those suffering the consequences of war, the most unjust human-made disasters. Even on this Easter day, previous day of his passing away, appearing for the great "Urbi et Orbi" blessing, his words echoed his repeated appeals for the world leaders for peace.

The CMI Congregation cherishes with gratitude the memories of Pope Francis declaring St Kuriakose Elias Chavara, our founding father and St Euphrasia as saints in the Holy Catholic Church on 23 November 2014. On the day of thanksgiving at St Peter's Basilica Pope Francis said the following words: "Father Kuriakose Elias Chavara and Sister Euphrasia Eluvathingal, who was a member of the religious institute founded by him, remind each of us that God's love is the source, the support and the goal of all holiness, while love of neighbour is the clearest manifestation of love of God."

While praying for this great Pope who read the signs of the times and was leading the Church with great missionary zeal and enthusiasm even to the last moment of his life, I would like to remind our members that while complying with the instructions given by our Major Archbishop and the Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI), we shall also fulfil the suffrages for departed given in our CMI Constitutions and Directory.

"When the Holy Father passes away, solemn requiem services shall be held in all our houses and every priest shall offer one holy mass" (D 59 (d)).

Fr Thomas Chathamparampil CMI
Prior General

