

March 25, 2020

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Next Sunday's Gospel reading is the raising of Lazarus from the dead. As I was reflecting on this Gospel, I was reflecting on maybe how Jesus is calling us out of our tombs. Our tombs of inadequacy, our tombs of fear and anxiety, our tombs of anger and loneliness, our tombs of confinement. I believe He is calling us out of our ordinary ways of doing things, and spending time with Him in prayer, and with our families. It is hard for those of us who are called to serve God and his people to remain idle and contemplative. Hopefully we can hear the call of Jesus to 'come away and spend some time with me'. I was watching the Corona Virus news and they were interviewing a minister and he gave this advice. Remain calm. **C**- Celebrate God's goodness. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord always; **A**- Ask God for help. Let your requests be made known to God; **L**- leave your concerns with Him with thanksgiving; **M**- meditate on things that are good and worthy of praise.

Be assured of my prayers as we continue our own monastic stay at home. May we pray for one another, those who are sick, and for those who care for them. We pray for those who hunger and thirst for the Lord because of this time of separation from the sacraments and the family of God.

Fr Tim