

In general, community life in all aspects runs normally as usual. Thank God that we are all healthy. Although the area where the monastery stands on belongs to the most secure zones from covid transmission compared to the other zones in our country, Indonesia, let alone that monastic life itself already protects us from a pandemic, but still there is a small sense of anxiety and afraid of being contracted.

But the more important is increasing the fear of God, realizing that we depend absolutely on Him, mainly in situations where death is so close to daily life. Therefore we are awakened to break our humane pride feeling great of ourselves, to come out of egoism, to hone sensitivity and awareness of our social care, to be compassionate to our neighbor (at least through prayer, which we do particularly at daily Mass after communion).

For the sake of prevention and caution, we highly regard the protocol of health that applies, such as: we do not receive any guest at all, go out of the abbey only for matters that are really important and urgent (and strictly follow the health protocol for members who return from travelling); prohibit people attending Masses (this includes last Holy Week's ceremonies); maintain distance between members during Mass; manage the ordinance of priests in receiving the Body and Blood of Christ.

Some of the effects that we experienced :

- The appreciation of the cloister and separation as well as the atmosphere of silence are intensely felt.
- The opportunity of having orientation time in the monastery for several signed-up candidates must be suspended.
- The chance to receive bi-monthly Sacrament of Penance from an outside-priest is stopped.
- The carry out of several projects to add up monastery's income are delayed (bakery and drinking water project).
- There is a sense of "loss" without the presence of the Lamanabi villagers during Sunday Masses and especially at Holy Week's ceremonies.
- The negative effect that we mostly feel lies in the economy: monastery's income declines quite significant, even from the guesthouse and the shop, two units which are quite contributing to community's economic life, is absolutely zero. Whereas community's expenditure is escalating along with the price of goods that are rising up a lot and there are extra spendings for health purposes due to covid prevention.

What we need and expect in the future:

- To have faith that perhaps there is a beautiful plan of God behind this pandemic and continue on living and keep on surrendering ourselves to Divine Providence.
- Concerns to see the faithful who can only celebrate the Eucharist through live streaming, realizes us to intensify our love, appreciation and longing to God, especially in the Eucharist in order not to fall into a mere routine.
- It teaches us: to respect the value of health as a gift from God; to maintain cleanliness; to remain cautious and disciplined in keeping our health, highly regarding the health protocol for members who return from travelling, and the procedure in receiving guests (maintain distance, wash hands, use of face-masks) because the actual situation is difficult to predict due to the difficulty of detecting people without symptoms even though they have been exposed to the virus.
- Hope that this pandemic will end soon and there will not be a continuation. And hopefully through this pandemic we are changed towards a better direction, whether as a person, or as a community or as a family of humankind in general.