

Like all communities, Covid 19 has affected us. It was especially during the Easter celebrations that we felt it. While usually on Palm Sunday there is an influx of faithful, this year no one, the instructions given by the Ministry of Health and supported by the Episcopate have been scrupulously observed. It was especially the south of the country that was affected, around Parakou not much. But the instructions were for the whole country. For all the celebrations of the Paschal Triduum: empty church. But we celebrated it all as usual without missing an iota. The solemn profession of Sister Rosina which was to take place on Mercy Sunday has been postponed. It will take place on August 22, as movement within the country is now possible.

We lived daily life as usual, liturgy and work without modification, except that for a month the outside workers did not come, other than a few that were indispensable. It was mainly the economy that suffered at the beginning because of the store which was closed for some time as well as the guesthouse. The retreats planned for the summer months were partly canceled, all this to avoid large gatherings. Outside in front of the store and in front of the Church, large buckets with taps have been installed for people to wash their hands before entering.

Wearing a mask is compulsory in the Church for celebrations and keeping the necessary distance between the faithful. The celebrant must wash his hands before distributing Communion. We do it all.

We were given herbal teas and other things to swallow as a protection for ourselves.