



My Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Our beautiful Christ the King Church is in trouble. We have been operating close to the line, economically, for the past several years. But the present COVID-19 crisis has caused us serious financial problems. The time has come to ask yourselves if you want Christ the King to continue to be there for baptisms, weddings, funerals, Catechism for your children, and even daily and weekly Worship services. All of these are in Jeopardy, unless you care for them.

Those of you who remember **Father Martin Bettin**, who was here in the 1990's, probably remember him admonishing us when we let things slide at our church. Whether it was falling weekly collections, or lack of help at Mass, or volunteers 'forgetting' their responsibilities, his message was the same. **"This Church is YOUR Church. Not mine, not the Bishop's, not God's. It is YOUR Church, and if you want it to be there when you need it to be there, then you have to ensure it's viability."**

My message today is just the same. **Christ the King cannot run without you and your adequate funding.** It's viability depends on the generosity of regular parishioners and timely donations. Due to COVID-19, and the inability to have regular services, there has been a corresponding unprecedented drop in revenue. Our Church has been basically closed for 3 months, but the costs to run it have not gone away.

I am asking you to help. If you are a regular parishioner, I ask you to calculate how much you would have given in weekly donations for the 12 weeks we were closed, and give that amount to Christ the King today. If you are not a regular parishioner, but enjoy coming at Easter and Christmas, and want the Church available for the main events of your, and your family's life, please consider giving Christ the King a onetime larger donation to help us keep doing God's work.

I hope you realize that I don't write these words easily. No one likes to admit that they need help, as it may be perceived as a failing. But this COVID-19 crisis has hurt us. **There is no getting around it, but with your help, we will get over it.** Please consider my request seriously.

Hoping to see you enjoying Christ the King soon,

Fr Thomas Kakkaniyil,

June 28, 2020