

## DHARMARAM VIDYA KSHETRAM

Bangalore 560 029, Karnataka, India

### HAPPY CHRISTMAS!



Dear Eminences, Graces, Excellencies, Rectors, Superiors, Staff and Students,

“Have you not heard his silent steps? He comes, comes, ever comes” (Tagore, *Gitanjali*, XLV). In fact, the great feast of Christmas unfolds the story of a visiting God. If we glance through the Bible, we do realize that “He comes, He comes, and He ever comes.”

The walking God with Adam and Eve (Gen 3:8), the appearance of Yahweh to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre (Gen 18:1), the encounter of Yahweh with Moses in the burning bush (Ex 3:14), the revelation of Yahweh to Elijah in a sound of sheer silence (1 Kings 19:12), the convincing presence of Yahweh to Solomon in the night (2 Chr 7:12), the assuring words of the Angel of the Lord to Zachariah (Lk 1:13), and the salutations of the Angel of the Lord to Mama Mary (Lk 1:26) brought significant changes in the lives of these heroes and heroines of the Bible, which, in turn, scripted the course of history.

Finally, God decided to pitch his tent among his people (Jn 1:14), and he was born in a manger, because there was no place in the inn (Lk 2:7); and he was called ‘Emmanuel’, which means ‘God is with us’ (Mt 1:23). Yes, he comes, he comes and he ever comes to visit his people. “If in your heart, you make a manger for his birth, then God will once again become a child on earth” (Angelus Silesius).

Today, our mission on earth is to make a manger in our hearts for the birth of God, so that people may experience the presence of God amidst the encircling gloom, caused by the pandemic Covid-19 and its variants. The Corona virus is here not to make us go through dark times; but to see the true light; the Corona virus is here not to make us desperate, but to remind us anew the fragile nature of this world order; the Corona virus is here not to make us socially indifferent; but to teach us what truly matters. And what truly matters today is kindness and love: “God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him [...] may have life” (Jn 3:16). As children of the loving God, we ought to love our brothers and sisters, especially in the backdrop of social distancing caused by the lockdowns, as much as we would love them, when they are with us.

Yes, God comes and ever comes through our lives, and thus make people experience the joy and peace of His birth: “Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to people of good will” (Lk 2:14). In the name of Fr. Rector, Staff and Students of Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram (DVK), Bangalore, may I wish you all HAPPY Christmas and a BLESSED New Year 2021!

Fr. Kurian Kachappilly, CMI  
President, DVK

