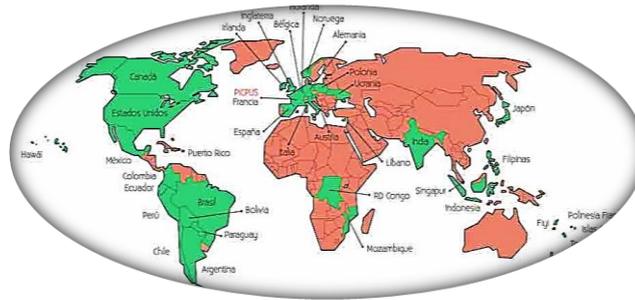


ADORATION FOR THE FEAST OF SAINT DAMIEN DE VEUSTER



◆ Chapel Setting

It is suggested that in front of the altar be placed a map of the world (it can be one that shows our SSCC presences - such as you find in the worship guide), a mask and a pair of gloves.



◆ Hymn and Exposition

◆ Introduction

We are living in a time of global pandemic that is causing pain, suffering and death. This situation has led us to experience confinement, unable to express our closeness through an embrace or the shaking of hands. Above all, as a consequence of Covid-19, we have experienced the loss of several brothers and sisters of the Congregation, especially so in the Netherlands. We join their lives to the lives of so many other people who are in similar situations and who are going through such a time of uncertainty and trial at this moment in the world. Our brother Damien, without gloves or masks, alone, save for the company of the smell of his pipe, experienced for himself the harshness of exclusion and illness. In line with his missionary activity as a friend and disciple of Jesus, we unite in this adoration, presenting not only pain but also our hope in the Bread that gives life and in the One who rises up in the face of darkness and meaninglessness.

◆ Silence

◆ Testimonials and signs of light

Before Jesus in the Eucharist we present some brief testimonies of sisters and brothers from all over the world. Each time we read one of these testimonies we place a candle over the country from which they come. At the end of the texts that follow, each community can continue by presenting personal testimonies or those of other places it knows, also accompanied by a candle.

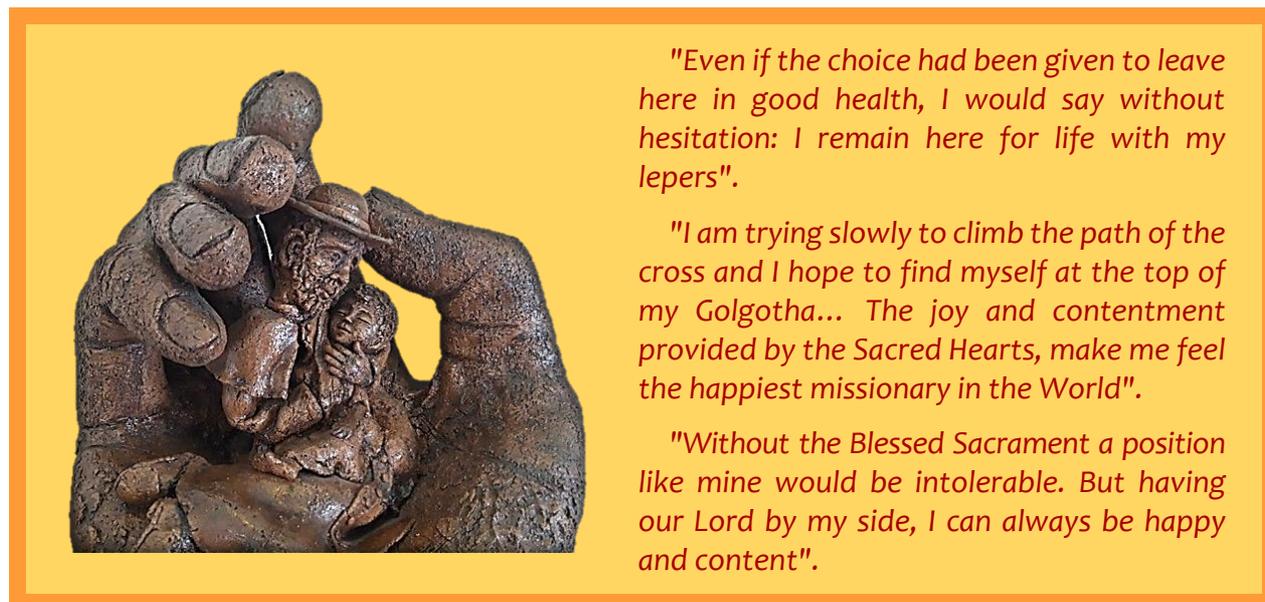
Italy: **Angelo Marcandella** ssc, 89 years old, parish priest at Castell'Arquato, Piacenza, has been hospitalised for several weeks on account of coronavirus. He has already been discharged. This is how he relates his inner experience: "I have lost a lot of weight and I do not have the balance to walk. That's why I'm going through the recovery process to become independent. For me, the good news of Easter is that I am learning a new life again".

Mozambique: **Maru Cornejo** ssc is working as a nurse in the prevention of Covid-19: "We are scared. This is going to spread like wildfire and become uncontrollable. Let's pray a lot because we don't know where this story is going to end".

Mentawai (Indonesia): Kornelius Paulus Bala Koten sscC asks: "On Easter morning, "If Jesus were to rise up in this time of pandemic, would he come out from his tomb and encounter with Mary Magdalene and his other disciples?" The answer would be "FOR SURE" just as sure that He was born human for our sake to save us. So, as children of the Sacred Hearts, where are we right now? In our comfortable room? In the darkness of our tomb? Or?

United States: Herman Gomes sscC expresses his confidence: "We will overcome this dark time with greater hope and faith, and with a stronger commitment to proclaim God's Love for generations to come!

◆ **DAMIEN's testimony:** Let us allow Damien himself to illuminate our path:



◆ **Hymn**

◆ **Matthew 11: 28-30**

"Come unto me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find your rest. For my yoke is easy to bear, and my burden light".

◆ **Shared prayer**

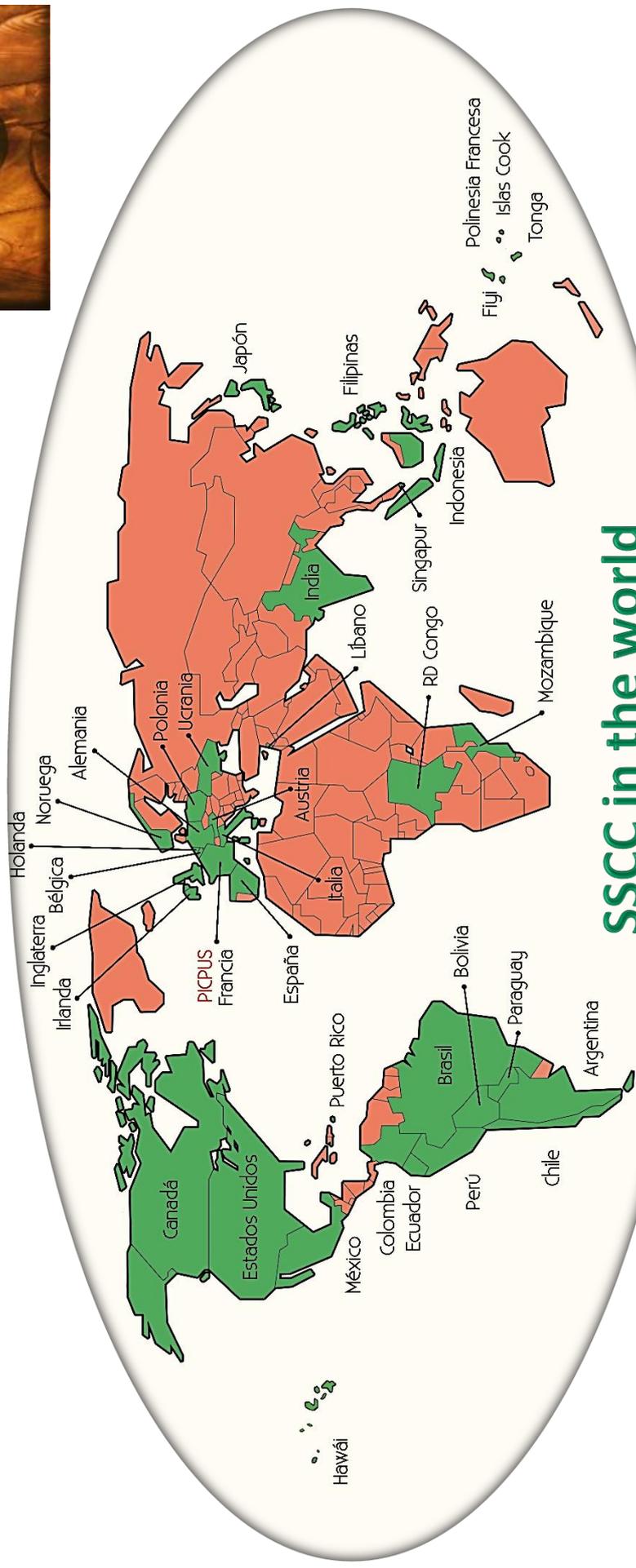
◆ **Our Father and Blessing**

◆ **Closing Prayer**

Lord Jesus, Bread broken and distributed by Love, help us in this time to recognise You present in all those who share in the pain of the sick and those who live in loneliness, those without a home, without medicine, without a future. As sisters and brothers of the three branches, let us be united in this moment of uncertainty before the merciful light of your pierced Heart, following the example of our brother Damien. You who live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

◆ **Hymn to Mary**

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SSCC in the world