



Founded 1846

SEAMEN'S CHRISTIAN FRIEND SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 209133, Company No. 378765, Headquarters & Correspondence Address: Unit Ch 18, Inspire Business Park, Carrowreach Road, Dundonald BT16 1QT, Tel: 0044 2895 217 770, www.scfs.org, www.facebook.com/seafarerz

God To Be Remembered

"...wherever I cause my name to be honoured, I will come to you and bless you." Exodus 20:24

Dear Friends,

Trust you are all well. Sometimes I think about how we ended up in these dark and hard situations because of the Coronavirus. It seems our life is covered with darkness and we don't know where to go from here. However, I was encouraged when I read the book of Exodus recently; *"...total darkness covered all Egypt for three days..... Yet all the Israelites had light in the places where they lived (10:22-23)."* I praise God for the Light of Jesus who makes a way where there seems to be no way. When God brought the Israelites out of Egypt, they became nomads in the wilderness for 40 years before they entered into the Promised Land. To meet His people, God ordered Moses to make the tabernacle, which was a portable temple. When they worshiped Him wherever they rested putting up the tabernacle, they experienced His presence and blessings such as His making a way for them, providing water, Manna and quail, protecting them from their enemies, healing them by looking at the bronze snake, etc. Thanks to what Jesus has done on the cross, today we can worship God in spirit and in truth wherever we are. I know that God blesses us with His grace, forgiveness, justifying righteousness through the blood of Jesus Christ on the cross, a right to eternal life and most of all His presence within us through the Holy Spirit who leads us to His peace and joy. There are around 178,000 ships on the oceans at any one time. There are many seafarers like nomads at sea for many months far away from home. There are many

Christian seafarers who remember and worship God opening their Bibles and praying to Him who will lead them to their home one day. I hope and pray you will be encouraged today to know Jesus



who surely remembers you and loves you always interceding for you even though we sometimes forget Him.

In the first week of March before the lockdown, I met Matthrew, Filipino chief officer on Kaley (person beside me). He told me with joy, "I will meet my youngest sister in Dublin city today." He had not met her for more than two years as she has been working as a nurse in Dublin. I drove him to the city to help him to meet her. He was so happy to see her. I had a blessed time on Kaley over three days. When I shared the Gospel with Mark, Bulgarian captain and prayed for him, he wanted to have more time with me appreciating my visit and time. Please pray for him that he will meet Jesus personally one day.



When I visited Ottomana, an oil tanker, its Italian and Filipino crew members welcomed me. Luke, chief cook (person in the middle) told me he has a 9 month old daughter. Even though her first birthday was coming soon, he couldn't be with her. He was happy to receive a lovely sweater for her. Please pray for seafarers like him who miss their family and family events.



I decided to visit four managers in the port before the lockdown. As always they welcomed me and offered a cup of tea as well as spending time to talk and pray. They were thankful for my visit and prayers. Occasionally they contact me and ask about my situation. Please pray for the safety and wellbeing of them as well as all other port workers.

"I am overwhelmed," said John (person on the right corner) on Madrid Express who was baptized last December. Since no visitors to ships were allowed in Dublin port and later in Cork, Colin and I set up a virtual meeting for fellowship or a Bible study with Christian seafarers. One week we had



four fellowships with them, sharing the Bible, singing together and praying for each other in different ships through the app Zoom. Before we had the meetings we contacted many seafarers to encourage them to continue to meet for a Bible study and to be faithful to God. Each meeting lasted around one hour. It was encouraging to have Martin, a port missionary in Hamburg, at some meetings. We praise the Lord for such a new way to have a meeting with seafarers to continue to encourage them to be faithful to Him and His Word during this hard time. We need your prayers more than ever these days. Please pray that we will be able to continue to serve seafarers through virtual meetings until our ports are open again.

Peter (person on the right) who is a Burmese Christian on Allegro, a container ship told me that he was supposed to leave for home on 10th March. However, although his contract was over he couldn't go home because there were no flights. He didn't know when he will go home. All crew members, even the captain, have been stuck on



the ship. Now they feel it more difficult to get internet sim cards or a top up for the internet, which causes them to be more isolated. One day Peter cried, "Sir on 4th of April my dad passed away I can't do anything, only can pray." He still works at sea longing to go home. Please pray for God's comfort and peace for him and his family.

Another seafarer is James, a weekly Bible study group member on Endeavour, finished his contract in March and could not go home for his wedding in May. It should be a time to prepare for his wedding at home with his fiancée. Sadly they cancelled their wedding and don't know when they will have it. We prayed together for his situations. Please pray for seafarers like Peter and James.

11:14 AM

There are many seafarers at sea who have been waiting to go home for several months while many cannot join a ship to work and are suffering financially. I am sure you remember Timothy who had been a monk in a monastery near Moscow for many years and worked on Samskip Endeavpour last year. He used to join a weekly Bible study to have continuous relationship with Jesus. He told me last



month that he wasn't able to join a ship at the moment and found a job near Alaska in Russia where are no cities or villages, which means no churches to attend (the container is where he lives). He misses fellowship that he had on board. Please pray for seafarers like Timothy who cannot help working in such a place for their families.



Andrew (person on the right), a Filipino cook who is a new Bible study group member had been quarantined in his cabin for three days because of fever. All crew members on board his ship were worried about him as well as being affected by him thinking he might have the Coronavirus. Other crew members took turns to cook and feed Andrew by putting food into his cabin. A doctor told him on the phone that he should be quarantined for 14 days. However, he carefully worked alone wearing a face mask as he cooked. Now he is healthy physically and spiritually. During the hard time he was invited to our virtual Bible study and he has joined it every week knowing Jesus and growing in faith.



I praise the Lord for two weekly Bible study groups who have shown their desire to grow in Jesus through reading His Word and fellowship every week. I would like to thank you for your prayers for them and for our family. Micah was unable to do his Junior Certificate at school and has just finished up for the summer with online tests. Yena is missing the end of sixth class and the transition to secondary level, and has been very upset by this. Kathy has been homeschooling and trying to teach both esol and piano online, not always easy! But we thank God that we live in rural Ireland where we can all get out to exercise and enjoy the beauty of creation all around us.



Thank you!



Jaeguen, Kathy, Micah & Yena Bae
Shelvins, Glaslough, Co. Monaghan,
H18 TD36, Ireland, Tel: +353 4788989
Email: dublin@scfs.org

