

# SAINT KURIAKOSE ELIAS CHAVARA

*A Spiritual Flame for Children, Youth & Religious*



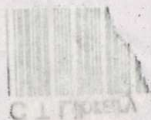
Fr Sebastian Kalappurackal CMI



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**Rev. Fr Sebastian Kalappurackal CMI**



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## **Saint Kuriakose Elias Chavara**

*A Spiritual Flame for Children, Youth & Religious*

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*St Kuriakose Elias Chavara*  
*Pray for us...!*

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Author & Design  
Vikram K.C.

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## PREFACE

The man who had taken the less - travelled paths and left the trails behind.... A unique personality who has done wonders with the power of his thoughts and words and still does to the world... the one who did all the good he could, to all the people and places he could reach within a single life time. St Kuriakose Elias Chavara was that distinctiveness who had amazed the natives of Kerala of this time with the magic of his wondrous deeds. He spread the light of wisdom to the minds and lives of each of Keralites and has chosen the roads that are not taken. The names of the great men like Brahamanada Swami Shivayogi, Chattambiswamikal, Sree Narayana Guru and Vagbhatananda who had toiled away for the welfare of the Keralites are written in golden letters in the history of Kerala. The voice rose at the time for the total reformation of the society... From the scintillating personalities like Kumaranashan, Mannath Padmanabhan, V.T. Bhattathirippadu, Ayyankali and K. Kelappan who possess a significant role in the history of the days have gone. The religious movements like SNDP, NSS etc., and that of social as well as political leagues like Indian National Congress, Rationalist Movement etc. are the ones that brought tremendous changes in the society.

At the same time it is painful to think about the negligence shown towards some other remarkable personalities of the time like Vaikunda Swamikal, Poikayil Yohannan, Kumara Gurudevan and Thaikkattu who spend their lives for the upliftment of the downtrodden and to bring forth a new cultural face of Kerala. Although the contributions given by the Christian communities and the missionaries were fringed to the history of Kerala to add its beauty, Saint Chavara stands apart from the paths of glory

and historical significance. Even though his contributions to the cultural society of Kerala were incredible and unparalleled, he never got the acceptance in the social, cultural and historical backgrounds of the society. This negligence is clearly reflected through the words of Prof. A. Sreedhara Menon, a historian, who said, "St Kuriakose Elias Chavara is one of the victims of this merciless negligence."

The concept of education of the Keralites was totally changed with his declaration in 1864. It was to establish schools with each church and to open up the opportunities to all those without any discrimination of caste and creed. The greatness of this noble decision could be revealed only when we think of the tireless effect put by Ayyankali to pave opportunity for the Dalit to learn in the government school along with others. But it was made possible only after a long period of 46 years. Before Sree Narayana Guru advised to be enlightened with education Fr Chavara exhorted his people to start schools with parishes and thereby he became the pioneer of complete literacy in Kerala. Even though Fr Chavara didn't get the recognition that he deserved, he occupied the minds of many and his canonization itself is proving it. The prayers of many become fruitful and he becomes hailed as a saint on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2014.

He was born on 10<sup>th</sup> February 1805, in the serene atmosphere of the beautiful village Kainakary in Kuttanadu. He was baptized on 18<sup>th</sup> February 1805 at the Chennamkary Parish Church and was dedicated under the feet of mother Mary on 8<sup>th</sup> September 1805, at the Vechoor church. He joined in the Pallipuram seminary in the year 1818 along with Fr Thomas Palackal Malpan and got ordained and heavenly blessed from Bishop Maurelius Stabilini on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1829. On 30<sup>th</sup> November 1829 he celebrated the

first Holy Mass. In 1831 he started the first indigenous congregation was started at Mannanam by the three stalwarts of Syro-Malabar church. In 1833, Fr Chavara started the Way of the Cross from the bottom of Mannanam hill to its hilltop. This is the first devotional practice of the Cross in India. In 1846, Fr Chavara started the first catholic educational institution and first catholic press at Mannanam. He started many devotional practices in the Syro-Malabar Church, for e.g., 40 Hour Eucharistic Adoration, Happy Death Society of St Joseph, Devotional observance of our Lady in the Mother of Mary. In 1866 Fr Chavara together with Fr Leopold started the CMC Congregation. In 1869 Fr Chavara started the first old age home at Kainakary. In 1871 January 3, he slept in the Lord. Fr Chavara together with Sr Alphonsa was beatified when the Holy Father, John Paul II, visited Kerala in 1986 February 8<sup>th</sup> at Kottayam. In 2014, on November 23<sup>rd</sup> Holy Father Pope Francis declared Fr Chavara as a saint of the Holy Catholic Church.

His faith in the divine providence and the power of his prayer made him do miracles during a short span of time. He was always worrying about his inability to express gratitude for the incredible love and mercy and forgave all those who troubled him only because of his ardent love and faith in the supreme power.

I render my sincere thanks to Fr Provincial, Rev. Fr Cyriac Madathil CMI for the distinction he has lent to this book by his invaluable Foreword. I am indeed indebted to CMI St Joseph's Province, Thiruvananthapuram for publishing my humble piece of work. I record my thanks to Rev. Fr Thomas Chempilparampil CMI for his valuable suggestions and corrections on the manuscript for improvement. I run short of words to adequately express my gratitude to all Fathers and brothers of St Joseph's Province, Thiruvananthapuram for their wholehearted support and sincere

appreciation.

Finally, I thank the St Joseph's Press, Cotton Hill, Trivandrum for printing this book. May Saint Kuriakose Elias Chavara bless us all.

Fr Sebastian Kalappurackal CMI

24 March 2015

CMI Provincial House, TVM



## FOREWORD

There are lots of publications coming out with the Canonization of Saint Kuriakose Elias Chavara. Since the publication of 'Complete Works of Saint Chavara' (1982), there were plenty of studies published on the life and sanctity of Saint Chavara. However, this book which is in fact written in the form of a Quiz bank stands differently unlike many other volumes.

The author tries to go deep into the history, spirituality and the contributions of Saint Chavara by framing very suitable, but simple questions to elicit the right answer from the readers which in turn will stick to the mind of the reader.

Therefore, I am sure that this book will enkindle the spiritual flame of Saint Chavara especially in the minds of Children, Youth and Religious particularly. My sincere congratulations to Rev. Fr Sebastian Kalappurackal CMI for his strenuous effort in reading Saint Chavara and sharing it to the public during the 'Chavara Year'. May St Chavara himself bless this budding author so that he may be able to share more volumes.

Fr Cyriac Madathil CMI  
Provincial  
CMI St Joseph's Province  
Thiruvananthapuram



# *Milestones*

- 1805 - Born at Kainakary on 5<sup>th</sup> February
- 1818 - Joined Parish Seminary at Pallipuram
- 1829 - Ordained Priest at Arthumkal Church
- 1831 - Foundation of the first Indian Religious Congregation (CMI) for Men
- 1833 - Established the first Syro-Malabar Seminary at Mannanam
- 1838 - Introduction of 'Way of the Cross' devotion at Mannanam
- 1844 - Appointed Malpan (Tutor of Sacred Subjects) and Examiner
- 1846 - Foundation of the first printing press of the Syro-Malabar Church
- 1846 - Foundation of the first Catholic Sanskrit School at Mannanam
- 1853 - Foundation of the first Syro-Malabar Catechumenate at Mannanam
- 1855 - First Priest to profess as Religious in the Indian Church
- 1861 - Appointed as the first Vicar General of the Syro-Malabar Church
- 1864 - Introduction of 'May Devotion to Blessed Virgin Mary' at Mannanam
- 1866 - Foundation of first Indian Religious Congregation (CMC) for Women
- 1868 - Introduced 40 hours Eucharistic Adoration at Koonammavu
- 1868 - Started the first Boarding House and School for girls at Koonammavu
- 1869 - Foundation of the first Home of Charity 'Upavisala' at Kainakary
- 1871 - Slept in the Lord at Koonammavu on 3<sup>rd</sup> January
- 1889 - Mortal remains re-interred at Mannanam
- 1955 - Canonization process started officially with the approval from Rome
- 1984 - Declared 'Venerable' by Pope St John Paul II in Rome
- 1986 - Beatification by Pope St John Paul II at Kottayam, Kerala
- 1987 - Release of Postal Stamp by the Govt of India
- 2006 - Portrait in the Literary Academy Hall of Thrissur by Govt of Kerala
- 2014 - Canonized by Pope Francis on 23<sup>rd</sup> November in Rome



## **SAINT CHAVARA SPEAKS TO CHILDREN**

1. Children, you are God's investment in the hands of your parents.
2. The children who love and fear God will love and respect their parents.
3. Trust your mother. God will hear the mother's request like the baby's request.
4. As food is for the body; knowledge and sanctity for the soul.
5. Go to school regularly and review the learning material and renew your memory every week.
6. Idleness breeds all vices.
7. Let your friends be those who love God.
8. Good friends will make you good. Tell me who your friends are, and I shall tell you who you are.
9. Keeping bad books with you is like hiding fire in straw.
10. Regular reading of good books and meditating on it will illumine your intellect.
11. Become punctual by means of a regular time-table.
12. You angels will be turned into devils, if you are caught up in bad circumstances.
13. You ought to reach home before evening and take part in the evening prayers.
14. You must have proper attire and purity of soul befitting your age. Immoderate attire may lead you to evil.
15. Let your ability be manifest in your discipline of life, in piety and control your senses.

16. You should love truth and justice.
17. What you earn by deceit and theft will soon melt like snow.
18. Engage in works suited to your age and education.
19. Let there be no day in your life in which you did no good to others.
20. Let not the insult and quarrels of others be a cause of aggravating hatred and enmity in you.
21. Do not insult or trouble the poor.
22. It is God who decides your vocation and you respond to it by choosing the decision of God.
23. When you choose your partner in life, choose one who has a good character and good manners.
24. Even when you reach maturity and become capable of doing things, you have to give proper recognition and obedience to your parents.
25. Do not hate your own brothers and sisters.
26. It is the duty of children to look after their parents in their old age.
27. Do not be let your parents shed tears on account of you. If you offend them, you will have to suffer punishment in this world itself.
28. The greatest among you is the one who is the humblest.
29. When you go through sufferings and sickness, surrender yourself totally to the will of God.
30. Since you belong to God, you should be given back to God.



## **SAINT CHAVARA SPEAKS TO PARENTS**

1. A good Christian family is the image of heaven. The communion of those who bound by ties of blood and affection, living together duly respecting and obeying parents, conforming to God and men, trying to attain the union with God according to one's own vocation, constitute a real family.
2. The sweet consolation and peace for a person, experiencing trials and difficulties in this world, is to live in a family where order and mutual love reign.
3. It is most distressing to live in a family where there is no order and peace; where the members are unconcerned with the service of God and their own salvation.
4. Live in love with one another and forgive the short-comings of the other. It will give you peace on earth and eternal joy in heaven.
5. Even though for a just cause, do not go for law suits. It will destroy families.
6. Do not contract marriage alliance with families that despise order or have no fear of God. It is the orderly and God-fearing relatives that will make your family more virtuous and happy.
7. The essential worth of a family consists in its holiness and fear of God. Such a family will enjoy divine blessings both in this world and in the next. Slander and foul talk in homes, darken the light of good families.
8. Books of wisdom and philosophical knowledge help us to increase our devotion and they form the treasure which parents should earn and save, for their children. Keeping bad books in your house is like hiding fire in haystacks.
9. Parents, remember that it is your primary duty and responsibility

- to bring up your children. They are 'Sacred Treasure' entrusted to you, by God to be purified with the most precious blood of our Lord, to be trained up in His service and to be returned to Him on the judgment day.
10. When children are grown up a little, send them to school. Enquire after their progress in studies from time to time, also what type of companions they do have. Check up, on every Sunday, what they have studied.
  11. If you desire your children to be good and helpful to you in your old age, take care that you give them training as good Christians when they are young.
  12. Mothers should frequently commend their children to God; entrust them to the protection of the Holy Family and pray for them very often. God will receive your prayers as that of your child.
  13. Teach them to call on Jesus, Mary and Joseph as soon as they are able to lisp out; also the prayers like the 'Our Father', the 'Hail Mary' and other small prayers. How commendable it is to nourish the souls of your children, as you bring them up in the physical plane.
  14. Do not be very stiff or very lenient towards your children. Too much affection will make them proud. Excessive stiffness, anger and punishment will make them desperate, dejected and even unashamed.
  15. Give the children due freedom to choose their vocation when they come of age. For, to decide it, is the matter of God and to follow the same, is of the children.
  16. Parents should effect partition of properties before they grow too old. They will be held accountable for dissensions between children, arising on account of their failure to do so, in time.

17. In the evening, after the Angelus, say the family prayers in common. Do not interrupt this routine because of some important guests being in your house at that time. Do not fail to observe this regular feature on any account.
18. Do not deny or delay the payment of just wages to labourers. For, that is a sin which cries up to the throne of God for retribution.
19. Do not belittle or humiliate the poor. For God will demand of you an account of their tears.
20. Days on which you have not rendered any good to others, will not be reckoned among the days of your life.
21. Work, as it suits your status of life. It is not suitable for a noble man to refuse to work. Laziness is mother to all other vices; especially the father of drunkenness, which is disgraceful before the world, and sinful before God.
22. Even animals can retaliate. But to ignore wrong and to forgive them is possible only for the prudent, strong and dignified man.
23. Do not be satisfied with only the Holy Qurbana on the days of obligation. Spend most of the day in listening to sermons, in reading good books and in visiting the sick especially the poor ones and in exercising charity in general.
24. If all members of the family cannot attend Holy Mass on all week- days, let them take turns; so that one or two persons, at least, can attend Mass every day.
25. Do not engage in unbecoming conversations and gossips in the presence of your little children, thinking that they are too young to understand what you say.
26. Extravagance and miserliness-both are sinful. The wealth of the miser will be devoured by worms. He will never be happy

- in his life. The luxuries of the extravagant will disappear like smoke.
27. Do not have many friends. Choose one carefully from among a thousand. One, who does not love God, will not love you either truly.
  28. Do not show off your wealth and power. Do not spend more money than what you can, on festivals and celebrations. It is better to light a small lamp and keep it longer, than blaze a haystack and light up for a short time.
  29. The wealth we accumulate by stealing or tricks will vanish, like ice-tips.



## **SAINT CHAVARA SPEAKS TO PRIESTS**

“I am holy and therefore those who serve me must be also holy” said the Lord. Examine how you have behaved in the house of the Lord. Around the altar, a place most holy and sacred, there the heavenly Cherubim and Seraphim bow trembling in adoration! And, they prostrate before the sacred mystery which is being taken, broken, shared and given through your hands! Examine carefully with what devotion are you ascending the altar day by day to perform the sacred rituals, while this heavenly crew doesn’t even dare to have a glance at the Holy Face without proper awe and devotion.

In the old dispensation, when rams and oxen were offered in sacrifice at the altar, a little carelessness on the part of the priest was punished very severely. Fire descended from heaven and consumed everything and the priest fell dead. O, my devout brother, it isn’t a lamb or an ox or the flesh of turtledoves or young pigeons that are being offered in the holy Sanctuary you enter but the Son of the eternal Father who by a single word is able to create as well as annihilate everything. You touch the same Son with your hands; you receive Him in your heart every day. Remember, then, how pure should be your hands and how clean should be your heart!

Remember what the Lord has done for you. He chose you from out of thousands. He has chosen you from many and blessed you. He has granted you His place and power. Yet, wonder of wonders, He admitted you into His home, accepted you as His beloved and endowed you with many gifts of matter and spirit. It looks as if you are wrestling with God by choosing to go your own way. The more He loves you, the more you are ungrateful. The more He is patient with you, the more you grow impatient and insulting. Oh! What a tragedy it is! You have been chosen to love Him and serve

Him. But you have joined hands with the world that hates Him and insults Him. Oh! Servant of God! Arise from your lethargy. Do not allow yourself to be caught in the clutches of the devils whose only desire is to drag you into perdition. How long has God been patient with you? How lovingly has He accompanied you?

He forgives everything without showing any anger or disgust, no matter, how you and I approach His holy altar! He accepts everything regardless of the state of the hands that take Him, the tongue that receives Him, and the heart, which He is offered to dwell in!

Had not the Lord in your heart silently admonished you to reform your life by daily meditation, examination of conscience, weekly confession and spiritual reading? Did you not make a promise to observe all these? For a time you did it, then took to the old ways. You preferred to listen to the voice of the world rather than the voice of God. If you continue this manner of blowing hot and cold, as the scripture confirms, God will vomit you out of His mouth.

Remember, Oh! Privileged priest, don't you know that you are appointed to bring about salvation of souls by offering the sacrifice on the altar and by your prayers and penance? It is you who are to abandon the wrath of God towards the sinners.

*(Complete Works of Fr Chavara, Vol. II, Spiritual Books, PP 51, 56, 60, 62)*



## **SAINT CHAVARA SPEAKS TO RELIGIOUS**

- Brethren, Jesus Christ, the Divine Master, has called you to follow His footsteps, by purchasing your soul and the souls of your brethren with His precious blood, to save you from sin and make you an instrument of salvation for others; and to make you virtuous and by you to make others virtuous, thus to unite you all with Him.
- A religious community is not man- made. Rather, as you have witnessed, it's our Lord Himself, who has nurtured it with genuine care and helped it to grow.
- Neither persecution nor discouragements from men is capable of destroying religious life. But one thing can undo it; if we forget our holy vocation, neglect the sacred duties of our state, and fail in humility, obedience, charity, religious modesty and genuine devotion, and are satisfied with valuing them only in spirit and words and not in deeds, it would, certainly, be destroyed.
- The members of our religious community must strive hard to foster real charity among them and maintain a true bond. They must be like the members of the same family who are born to, nursed and brought up by the same mother, however numerous the monasteries be. Never let this love weaken, but let it grow stronger from day to day.
- The strength of a religious house is in the zeal and virtues of the members who live in it and not in the thickness of its walls.
- The significant mark of a true religious is his total self-denial and perfect obedience, as if he has no eyes or ears.
- A religious house would transform itself into a little heaven if its members live in mutual respect, respecting their immediate as well as higher authorities.

- The straight way to the summit of perfection and the means not to tumble down from the height is this: avoid wasting your time in useless conversation. The time you save after your proper work and recreation should be spent in spiritual reading. Spiritual reading nourishes a religious to love and enjoy solitude and when a soul delights in solitude, Jesus Christ would come to converse with it.
- Meditation is a dialogue with God. It is an act of dialogue of the person united in love with Jesus Christ, as if two friends are united in love. Friends, when sit close to each other, find enough topics to talk about without cessation. If there is love, conversation goes unbroken, and no one needs to teach either of the two friends how to go on talking... So also if there is true love for Jesus, there will always be enough matter to converse with Him in meditation.
- For a fruitful meditation, one should remain closer to God. Since God doesn't dwell in a sinful heart, one should get oneself absolved of all sins.
- Oh! Soul of the servant of God! Check what are you doing now; where are you going and where will the path you are treading take you? How fruitful is your present life and how effective will it be in the future? Make a review now and see whether your life is leading you to eternity or not, as a traveler is on guard on his way making sure that he is on the right road.

*(Complete Works of Fr Chavara, Vol. III, PP 14, 15, 49, 50. Vol. IV, PP 90, 94, 99, 100, 116)*



## CHAVARA QUIZ

1. When was St Chavara born?  
10 February, 1805
2. Where was St Chavara born?  
Kainakary, Alappuzha
3. Who were the parents of St Chavara?  
Kuriakose and Mariam
4. When was young Chavara baptized?  
18 February, 1805
5. Name the church where St Chavara got baptized?  
St Joseph's Church, Chennamkary
6. The church, where young Chavara was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary?  
The Marian Shrine at Vechoor
7. When was young Chavara dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary?  
08 September, 1805
8. The ancestral home from which the Chavara family had its origin?  
The ancient Pakalomattam Family
9. Name the work in which St Chavara speaks about his mother?  
Compunction of the Soul (Atmanutapam)
10. Home parish of St Chavara?  
St Joseph's Parish Church, Chennamkary
11. How old was St Chavara, when he was initiated to education?  
5 years
12. Where did St Chavara had his primary education?  
In a local school known as Kalari
13. Who recommended his parents that young Chavara be sent to a seminary?  
Fr Geevarghese Thoppil, his uncle
14. Name the seminary where St Chavara joined for his priestly

training?

Pallippuram Seminary

15. When did St Chavara join the seminary?

1818

16. In which of his works do we find a reference to St Chavara's entry into the seminary?

The Chronicles (Nalagamam)

17. Who was the master of St Chavara in the seminary?

Malpan Fr Thomas Palackal

18. Who sent St Chavara along with three others to Varappuzha to learn Latin?

Bishop Prendergast

19. Who gave St Chavara the preliminary lessons in Latin language?

Fr Maine, the parish priest of Thankey

20. Who conferred the order of Sub-Diaconate upon St Chavara?

Bishop Prendergast

21. When was St Chavara ordained as a sub-deacon?

1827

22. From whom did St Chavara receive the minor orders?

Bishop Peter Alcantra

23. When was St Chavara ordained as a Deacon?

1828

24. Who ordained St Chavara as a deacon?

Bishop Maurelius Stabilini

25. When and where did St Chavara get ordained as a priest?

29 November, 1929 at St Andrew's Church, Arthumkal

26. Who conferred the holy order of priesthood upon St Chavara?

Bishop Maurelius Stabilini

27. To which church did St Chavara enter officially (Veedu Kayattam) as part of the rites of his ordination?

Mar Sleeba Church, Pazhavangady, Alappuzha

28. When did St Chavara offer his First Holy Mass?

30 November, 1829

29. Where did St Chavara offer his First Holy Mass?  
St Joseph's Church, Chennamkary
30. Who has narrated in his diary about the celebrations related to the First Holy Mass of St Chavara?  
Fr Jacob Palakunnel
31. "He will be a lion once he mounts up the pulpit". Who made this remark on St Chavara?  
Fr Thomas Palackal
32. Where did St Chavara preach a retreat that made him famous all on a sudden?  
St Mary's Parish Church, Pulincunnoo
33. When did St Chavara preach his famous retreat at Pulincunnoo?  
March 1829
34. Name the bishop who granted permission to start a monastery at Mannanam?  
Bishop Maurelius Stabilini
35. When was the permission to start the monastery granted by Bishop Maurelius?  
01 April, 1829
36. The amount given by Bishop Maurelius to St Chavara as a patrimony to start the monastery at Mannanam?  
Rs 200/-
37. Who was the secretary to Bishop Maurelius, when he granted permission to start the monastery at Mannanam?  
Fr Thomas Porukara
38. Which was the place chosen initially before setting up the monastery at Mannanam?  
Pullarikkunnu, Kottayam
39. What was the name given by the founding fathers to the Mannanam hill?  
Besrauma

40. What does the Syriac word 'Besrauma' mean?

The house built on mountain top (The house of prayer)

41. Who donated land for the construction of the monastery at Mannanam?

Mr Kurian Thayil and his brother Kochu Pothen Mappilai

42. Who made the first contribution towards the fund for the construction of the monastery?

Bishop Maurelius Stabilini

43. Name the first parish churches that helped St Chavara financially in the construction of the monastery?

St George Church, Edathua and St Mary's Church, Pulincunnoo

44. Who proposed the name of St Joseph to the new monastery at Mannanam?

Fr Thomas Porukara

45. What was the name suggested by Bishop Maurelius Stabilini to the new monastery?

St John, the Baptist

46. What was the name recommended by Fr Thomas Palackal to the monastery?

St Dominic

47. Who was the Vicar General of Varappuzha, when the construction of the monastery was in progress in the year 1831?

Fr Nicholas

48. Who toiled day and night to amass fund for the construction of the monastery?

Fr Thomas Porukara

49. Where was St Chavara transferred to while he was engaged in the construction of the monastery at Mannanam?

Pallippuram

50. Who laid the foundation stone for the monastery?

Fr Thomas Porukara

51. Where does St Chavara speak about the grant of permission to start monastic life from the bishop?

- In his Chronicles (Nalagamam)
52. Name the work in which St Chavara mentions the beginning of the monastery and vocation of Brother Jacob Kaniyanthara?  
The Chronicles (Nalagamam)
53. When did the CMI way of monastic life formally begin at Mannanam?  
11 May, 1831
54. Who formally recognized the constitution of the Carmelite Congregation?  
Bishop Bernadine Baccinelli
55. Where was the first common seminary of the Syro-Malabar Church established?  
Mannanam
56. When was the seminary at Mannanam established?  
1833
57. Who was the first Rector of the Mannanam Seminary?  
Fr Kurian Kochupurackal
58. To which category do the plays written by St Chavara fall to?  
Eclogues/Pastoral plays
59. How many eclogues/pastoral plays did St Chavara write?  
12
60. For whom did St Chavara write his eclogues/pastoral plays?  
For the seminarians at Mannanam
61. Who initiated the devotional practice, the Way of the Cross in the K erala Church?  
St Chavara
62. Where did St Chavara introduce the Way of the Cross first?  
At Mannanam
63. When did St Chavara introduce the Way of the Cross at Mannanam?  
1833
64. The book St Chavara used for his daily meditation?  
Jnana Muthumala (A String of Pearls of Wisdom)

65. Where is the mother house of the CMI congregation situated?  
Mannanam
66. When did the community way of living formally begin at Mannanam?  
18 June, 1840
67. How long did the association between Fr Thomas Palackal and St Chavara last?  
24 years, until the death of Fr Thomas Palackal
68. When was Fr Palackal called to eternal rest?  
16 January, 1841
69. How old was Fr Palackal, when he died?  
66
70. Where were the mortal remains of Fr Palackal laid to rest?  
St Mary's Church, Pallippuram
71. Which was the home parish of Fr Palackal?  
St Mary's Church, Pallippuram
72. Who is the author of the first biography of Fr Palackal?  
St Chavara
73. Who inspired St Chavara to write the biography of Fr Palackal?  
Fr Leopold OCD
74. Which was the home parish of Fr Thomas Porukara?  
Kalloorkkadu (Champakulam)
75. When did Fr Porukara expire?  
8 January, 1846
76. Where was Fr Porukara laid to eternal rest?  
Monastery Chapel, Mannanam
77. Who initiated the devotion to the Blessed Sacrament in the Kerala Church?  
St Chavara
78. When did St Chavara start propagating the devotion to the Holy Eucharist?  
1843
79. Which of Chavara's works give us an account of his first holy

communion?

Atmanutapam (Compunction of the Soul)

80. When was St Chavara appointed as a Malpan?

16 November, 1844

81. How old was St Chavara when he was appointed as a Malpan?

39

82. How long did St Chavara serve the Church as a Malpan?

27 years

83. Who appointed St Chavara as a Malpan?

Bishop Francis Xavier

84. Who established the first catholic printing press in Kerala?

St Chavara

85. When did St Chavara establish the printing press at Mannanam?

1846

86. Name the bishop who granted permission to start the printing press at Mannanam?

Bishop Ludovic Martini

87. When was the permission to start the press granted to St Chavara?

18 May, 1846

88. Name the king who granted necessary permission to start the press at Mannanam?

Maharaja Swathi Tirunal Rama Varma

89. Who assisted St Chavara in obtaining the permission of the King?

Mr M. Kallan, the then British Resident General

90. Name the press that denied access to St Chavara, when he visited it?

CMS Press, Kottayam

91. The press on which St Chavara modelled his wooden press?

Government Press, Thiruvananthapuram

92. Name the press St Chavara started at Mannanam?

St Joseph's Press

94. Whose intercession did St Chavara seek in the establishment

of the printing press?

The intercession of St Joseph

95. Who helped St Chavara by cutting square-shaped metal letters for printing?

Mr Sivaraman, a staff of CMS Press

96. The first book printed at the Mannanam Press?

Jnana Piyusham (Spiritual Ambrosia)

97. When was Jnana Piyusham published?

1846

97. The magazine regularly published from the Mannanam Press?

Karmela Kusumam (1903)

98. Name the press St Chavara started at Koonammavu?

The Archbishop's Press

99. What according to St Chavara is the advantage of reading good books?

It would enlighten our minds

100. Who started the first catholic school in Kerala?

St Chavara

101. Where did St Chavara start the first catholic school?

Mannanam

102. When did St Chavara start the Sanskrit school at Mannanam?

1846

103. Who was the first teacher in his Sanskrit school?

Mr Warriar from Thrissur

104. When did St Chavara start the primary school at Mannanam?

1865

105. What would be the state of the uneducated, according to St Chavara?

Intellectually blind

106. Who introduced the Noon Meal programme (Ucha kanji) in the schools of Kerala?

St Chavara

107. Why did St Chavara introduce the Noon Meal Programme

in schools?

To attract the poor children to school education

108. Who appointed religious priests to proclaim the Word of God in the Kerala Church?

Bishop Ludovic Martini

109. Who were appointed to proclaim the Word of God in the Kerala Church?

The religious priests from Mannanam

110. Who employed St Chavara and his fellow priests to conduct spiritual retreats in Kerala?

Bishop Ludovic Martini

111. To whom did St Chavara write for the permission to start the solemn procession of the Holy Eucharist?

Bishop Ludovic Martini

112. Who inspired the churches in Kerala to conduct solemn processions in connection with parish feasts?

St Chavara

113. When did St Chavara write letters to his students as well as neighbouring parishes requesting contributions towards the construction of the Mannanam monastery and the study of the seminarians?

1850

114. Who suggested St Chavara to start seminaries in other monasteries as well?

Bishop Bernardin

115. Where was the first catechetical centre of the Kerala Church?

Mannanam

116. When did St Chavara start catechetical training at Mannanam?

1853

117. When did St Chavara and his ten brethren profess their first religious vows in the Church?

08 December, 1855

118. Where did this first religious profession take place?

Mannanam Monastery Chapel

119. Who gave St Chavara and others a retreat in preparation of their first religious profession?

Bishop Marceline

120. Before whom did St Chavara make his first religious profession?

Bishop Marceline

121. Who is the first Indian to make his solemn religious profession in India?

St Chavara

122. The name St Chavara accepted at his religious profession?

Kuriakose Elias of the Holy Family

123. The Bible verse St Chavara took as his motto at his religious profession?

“Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure” (Psalm 16:5).

124. How old was St Chavara when he took his religious profession?

50 years

125. What was his designation after St Chavara took his religious profession?

The Prior of Mannanam Monastery as well as the Congregation

126. Who was the next person to take his religious profession after St Chavara?

Fr Geevarghese Thoppil

127. Who was the youngest of the first 11 members to make the religious profession?

Fr Scaria Ephrem Kalathil

128. Who among the first 11 members of the CMI Congregation died at Plasanal?

Fr Mathew Kalappurackal

129. Who among the first 11 professed members called for eternal rest first?

Fr Jacob Valliara (December 24, 1855)

130. How many of the first professed members were interred at Mannanam?

5

131. How was the first indigenous religious congregation of India known in the beginning?

The Servants of Mary Immaculate

132. Which ashram was closed down owing to the continued attack of epidemics?

Plasnal Ashram

133. Who granted permission to Fr Antony Kudakkachira to start an ashram at Plasnal?

Bishop Ludovic Martini

134. When was the ashram at Koonammavu established?

14 August, 1857

135. Who was appointed the first superior of the ashram at Koonammavu?

Fr Mathew Munjanattu

136. How was the ashram set up at Koonammavu by St Chavara named?

St Philomena's Ashram

137. Who renamed the place "Eluva Thuruthu" as "Elthuruthu"?

St Chavara

138. What does El-Thuruthu (Elthuruthu) mean?

The Island of God

139. Who accompanied St Chavara in his search for a suitable place to establish an ashram at Vazhakulam?

Br Jacob Kanianthara

140. When was the ashram at Vazhakulam established?

12 June, 1859

141. How was the ashram established at Vazhakulam named?

Carmel Ashram

142. Who made a rigorous attempt to obtain permission for the Syrian priests to wear cassock?

Fr Thomas Palackal

143. When did the white scapular become a part of the official habit of the CMI Congregation?  
1859
144. Who recognized white cassock as the official habit of the CMI Congregation?  
Holy Pope Pius X
145. When was the novitiate at Koonammavu established?  
1859
146. When did Fr Leopold arrive in India?  
1859
147. When and where did Fr Leopold get ordained a priest?  
1860, Koonammavu
148. Name the other languages which St Chavara could handle with ease?  
Tamil, Sanskrit, Syriac, Italian, Latin and Portuguese
149. When did St Chavara establish a monastery at Pulincunnoo?  
3 February, 1861
150. Name the ashram at Pulincunnoo?  
St Sebastian's Monastery
151. Who was the spiritual master of St Chavara?  
Fr Leopold OCD
152. When was the name of the Congregation, Servants of Mary Immaculate (SMI) changed to TOCD?  
1861
153. Give the full form of TOCD?  
Third Order of Carmelites Discalced
154. On whose recommendation had the CMI Congregation been made the Third Order of the Carmelite Congregation?  
Bernadine, the Bishop of Varappuzha
155. Who was the first Prior General of the CMI Congregation?  
St Chavara
156. How long had St Chavara been the Prior General of the CMI

Congregation?

16 years

157. Who made Sunday homilies mandatory in our churches?

St Chavara

158. Who was the first Vicar General of the Syrian Church of Kerala since the office of the Archdeacon ceased to exist?

St Chavara

159. Who declared St Chavara as the Vicar General of the Syrian Church of Kerala?

Archbishop Bernadine Baccinelli

160. When did Archbishop Bernadine appoint St Chavara as the Vicar General of the Syrian Church?

8 June, 1861

161. When did St Chavara write to the Holy Pope regarding the Roccas Schism?

19 June, 1861

162. Name the Pope to whom St Chavara wrote his letter on the Roccas Schism?

Pope Pius IX

163. How many parish churches were there for the St Thomas Christians when Thomas Roccas arrived in Kerala?

155

164. How many parish churches joined hands with Thomas Roccas?

116

165. Who were the prominent priests who joined Thomas Roccas?

Fr Antony Kudakkachira and Fr Antony Thondanattu

166. How many parish churches were in complete allegiance to Thomas Roccas even as he was about to leave India?

86

167. Who was the secretary to Bishop Thomas Roccas?

Fr Antony Thondanattu

168. When did St Chavara get the reply on the issue of Thomas Roccas from Pope Pius IX?

5 September, 1861

169. When did the letter from the Holy Propaganda regarding Thomas Roccas reach St Chavara?

7 October, 1861

170. Who took the risk of carrying the excommunication orders for Thomas Roccas to Njarackal?

Fr Mathew Mariam Kappil

171. When was Thomas Roccas excommunicated by Bishop Bernadine Baccinelli?

3 November, 1861

172. From where did Thomas Roccas come to Kerala?

Babylon

173. Name the book written by St Chavara in the context of the Roccas Schism?

The Martyrdom of Anastasia

174. Why did St Chavara compose the work The Martyrdom of Anastasia?

To inspire his colleagues as well as the ordinary faithful in the context of the Roccas schism

175. Which Malayalam verse style did St Chavara employ in his work, The Martyrdom of Anastasia?

Boat Song (Vanchippattu)

176. When was The Martyrdom of Anastasia written?

1862

177. Which is the first minor epic written in Malayalam?

The Martyrdom of Anastasia, written by St Chavara

178. How many verses are there in the minor epic, The Martyrdom of Anastasia?

364

178. Which book inspired St Chavara to compose the Compunction of the Soul?

The Mystical City of God, a Spanish book written by Sr Maria D' Agreda

180. Who requested the Holy Propaganda to appoint St Chavara as the Bishop of the Syrian Christians in Kerala?  
Archbishop Bernadine Baccinelli
181. When did Archbishop Bernadine Baccinelli write to the Holy Propaganda requesting that St Chavara be appointed the Bishop of the Syrian Christians in Kerala?  
15 June, 1861
182. Name the person who filed a fake charge against St Chavara in the court?  
Mathan Kalappurackal, Manjoor
183. How does St Chavara describe the Holy Rosary?  
The Holy Bible hung on a string
184. When did St Chavara start the school for the Dalits?  
1864
185. Where did St Chavara start the school for the Dalits?  
Thuruthumaly Hill at Aarpookara, near Mannanam
186. What was the programme initiated by St Chavara to provide noon meal for the Dalit students?  
The Practice of Pidiyari (Handful of Rice)
187. What did St Chavara do to ensure the financial stability of the school?  
He collected some funds and bought some wet paddy field
188. How many students were there when St Chavara started the school for the Dalits?  
75
189. When did St Chavara implement the idea, "A School for a Church"?  
1864
190. Who started the May Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary in Kerala Church?  
St Chavara
191. When did St Chavara start the May Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary in Kerala Church?

1864

192. Where did St Chavara introduce the May Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary first?

Mannanam Monastery

193. Who encouraged St Chavara in propagating May Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary?

Archbishop Bernadine Baccinelli

194. Name the place where St Chavara rendered his service during the last years of his life?

Koonammavu

195. When did St Chavara make Koonammavu his permanent residence?

1864

196. Who started Forty Hour Adoration in Kerala?

St Chavara

197. Name the place where Forty Hour Adoration was first conducted in Kerala?

Koonammavu

198. What was the system introduced by St Chavara to improve the financial position of the Diocese?

The mandatory delivery of five percent of the annual income of every parish church to the Episcopal curia

199. When did Brother Jacob Kaniyanthara take his religious profession?

2 February, 1865

200. When did the College of Cardinals seek the opinion of Archbishop Bernadine on appointing St Chavara as a Bishop?

6 March, 1865

201. Where was the first Congregation for Women in Kerala established?

Koonammavu

202. Which is the first indigenous congregation for women in India?

Congregation of the Mother of Carmel (CMC)

203. Who were the founders of the Congregation of Mother of Carmel?

St Chavara and Fr Leopold OCD

204. How was the first convent for women known?

Panambu Madam (Bamboo-Mat Convent)

205. How many members were there in the first convent?

4

206. Who were the first members of the CMC?

Sr Elishua, Sr Anna, Sr Clara and Sr Thresia

207. When did the first members of the CMC take their first religious profession?

16 July, 1868

208. Before whom did the first members of the CMC profess their first vows?

Fr Leopold OCD

209. Who was the first Superior General of the CMC?

Sr Elishua Vakayil

210. Who was the first Novice Master of the CMC?

Fr Leopold OCD

211. Name the first convent established at Koonammavu?

St Theresa's Convent

212. The capital with which St Chavara began the foundation works of the convent?

Rs. 18/-

213. Where did St Chavara start the first school for girls?

Koonammavu

214. When was this school for girls started?

1868

215. Where did St Chavara start a Boarding House for girls?

Koonammavu

216. When did he start this Boarding House for girls?

1868

217. Where did St Chavara first conduct 13 Hour Adoration and the Holy Hour Adoration to foster the devotion to the Holy Eucharist?  
Koonammavu
218. When and where did St Chavara start the famous Forty Hour Adoration first?  
Koonammavu, on 15 February, 1866
219. How was the Forty Hour Adoration at Mannanam known initially?  
Adoration for Absolution
220. How many years did St Chavara live at Koonammavu?  
Seven
221. When did St Chavara write his Testament of a Good Father?  
1868
222. Why did St Chavara write his Testament of a Good Father?  
For the renewal of Christian families
223. To whom did St Chavara write his Testament of a Good Father?  
To his fellow parishioners at Kainakary
224. Who is the founder of the Seminary at Puthenpally?  
St Chavara
225. When did St Chavara establish the Seminary at Puthenpally?  
3 August, 1866
226. When did Archbishop Bernadine Baccinelli pass away?  
1868
227. When did St Chavara start the Monastery at Ampazhakkad?  
20 October, 1868
228. How is the Ashram at Ampazhakkad known?  
St Theresa Ashram
229. Which was the first Novitiate House of the CMI Congregation?  
Koonammavu
230. What was the name of the novitiate house at Ampazhakkad?  
St Theresa's Novitiate House

231. Who started an ashram at Manjummel to propagate religious life style among the Latins?  
Bishop Leonard Mellano
232. Where is the first Home for the Destitute in India situated?  
Kainakary, Alappuzha
232. How was this Home for the Destitute known?  
Upavisala/Dharmasala (House of Charity)
233. Who was the founder of this House of Charity?  
St Chavara
234. When did St Chavara establish this House of Charity?  
1869
235. How did St Chavara raise funds for this House of Charity?  
Collecting voluntary contributions from the people
236. Name two innovative ways by which St Chavara raised funds for the House of Charity?  
Keeping a charity box, and setting apart a coconut tree at every home solely for this purpose
237. Who was in charge of running this House of Charity?  
Administrators nominated from the Confraternity formed from the contributors
238. How did St Chavara name the charity box kept at each family for raising funds towards the functioning of the House of Charity?  
Happy Death Charity Box
239. Who was the Delegate of the Syrian Christians to the Vatican Council I?  
Fr Leopold OCD
240. How much money did the Syrian Christians under St Chavara contribute towards the conduct of the Vatican Council I?  
Rs 32,000/-
241. Name the Pope who convened the Vatican Council I?  
Pope Pius IX
242. When was the Vatican Council I convened?  
1869

243. Who started the Confraternity of St Joseph for a Happy Death in Kerala?  
St Chavara
245. Where did St Chavara start the Confraternity of St Joseph first?  
Kainakary
246. When did St Chavara start the Confraternity of St Joseph?  
1869
247. Which of the spiritual works of St Chavara begin with the poetic presentation of the initial verses of Ecclesiastes, chapter 7?  
Dirge/Pana (Song of Mourning)
248. How many verses are there in the Dirge?  
1162
249. To whom did St Chavara request in writing to appoint indigenous Bishops from the Syrian Rite for the Christians of Kerala?  
To Cardinal Alexander Barnabo, the Prefect of the Congregation of the Propaganda
250. When did St Chavara write this letter to the Prefect of the Congregation of the Propaganda?  
1869
251. Who made the pioneering attempts in the reunion of the Christian Churches in Kerala?  
St Chavara
252. In which year did St Chavara start his attempts for the reunion of the Churches in Kerala?  
1869
253. When did St Chavara write to Rome requesting to invite the Jacobite Bishops of Kerala also to the Vatican Council I?  
1869
254. When did St Chavara compose his spiritual work, Compunction of the Soul?  
1869
255. In which of St Chavara's writings do we find a reference to the

Holy Death of St Mary?

Compunction of the Soul, Chapter 12

256. What is the theme of the concluding prayer that appears at the end of Compunction of the Soul?

The intercessory prayer to St Mary

257. Which is the longest chapter in Compunction of the Soul?

Chapter 7

258. How many chapters are there in St Chavara's Compunction of the Soul?

12

259. How many verses are there in St Chavara's Compunction of the Soul?

4021

283. How many letters written by St Chavara are available to us?

67

284. Which of the books written by St Chavara is a compilation of his mental prayer?

Meditation Colloquies (Dhyanasallapangal)

285. How many times does St Chavara address God 'Appa' (Father) in his Meditation Colloquies that runs over 32 pages?

31

286. What kind of families does St Chavara advocate us to establish relationship with?

Families that fear God

287. What is the primary wealth of a good family according to St Chavara?

True devotion and fear of God

288. When did St Chavara start the ashram at Mutholy?

1870

289. How is the Ashram at Mutholy named?

St John of the Cross Monastery

290. What piece of advice did St Chavara give to his co-religious before his death?

- Let the Holy Family reign your hearts
291. Name the diocese where the birth place as well as the tomb of St Chavara is situated?  
The Archdiocese of Changanacherry
292. Which parish did St Chavara serve first in the capacity of a parish priest?  
St Mary's Church, Pallippuram
293. Who is the father of literacy in Kerala?  
St Chavara
294. What would incur, upon a family, the displeasure of the Lord according to St Chavara?  
Non-fulfillment of the obligation of Holy Mass and other religious promises
295. Who is the greatest among men, in the view of St Chavara?  
One who is the most humble
296. "This piece of paper will remain, even after I'm dead and gone". On what did St Chavara make this comment?  
On his Testament of a Good Father
297. For whom did St Chavara urge his spiritual children to offer a Holy Mass on Mondays?  
For the souls in the purgatory
298. What kind of books should parents collect for their children according to St Chavara?  
Philosophical books and other books that teach moral values
299. How is the spiritual diary of St Chavara known?  
Meditation Colloquies (Dhyanasallapangal)
300. What should be the criterion of justice in the view of St Chavara?  
Love
301. What does a good Christian family resemble, according to St Chavara?  
Heaven
302. In which book does St Chavara recollect the spiritual gifts he had received?

Compunction of the Soul

303. Name the doctor who treated St Chavara at Koonammavu?

Dr Guenther from Ernakulam

304. What did St Chavara suffer from in his last days of life?

Rheumatic fever and blindness

305. To whom did St Chavara dedicate his Congregation and its members, on his death-bed?

To the Holy Family

306. State the bold and inspiring statement St Chavara made moments before his death?

By the grace of God, never had I an occasion to be deprived of the grace received in baptism

307. St Chavara preserved a picture of the Holy Family with him in great devotion all through his life. Where was that picture printed?

France

308. How old was St Chavara when he died?

66

309. When did St Chavara breathe his last?

3 January 1871, at 7.30 am

310. Where did St Chavara breathe his last?

At St Philomena's Ashram, Koonammavu

311. When was St Chavara buried?

4 January, 1871

312. Where were St Chavara's mortal remains laid to rest?

At St Philomena's Ashram, Koonammavu

313. Who recorded for the first time that St Chavara was a 'holy and graceful soul'?

Fr Leopold OCD, on 3 January, 1871

314. Who preached the sermon during the funeral ceremonies of St Chavara?

Fr Mathew Mariam Kappil

315. "Today, the flag of Kerala is fallen". Whose words are these?

- Fr Mathew Mariam Kappil's
316. "Today, the flag of Kerala is fallen'. On whom did Fr Mathew Mariam Kappil make this remark?  
On St Chavara
317. When were the relics of St Chavara transferred to Mannanam?  
On 24 May, 1889
318. Where do we find the most authentic record of the events related to the transfer of the relics of St Chavara from Koonammavu to Mannanam?  
In the Chronicles of Fr Varkey Parappurath
319. How does Bishop Marceline describe St Chavara?  
The Flower of Mannanam
320. Where does Bishop Marceline describe St Chavara as the Flower of Mannanam?  
In his work Keralathinte Satya Veda Charitram (The History of Christianity in Kerala)
321. Bishop Marceline dedicated one of his works to St Chavara. Name the work?  
The Biography of St Therese of Avila
322. What does Br Roche TOCD mention about St Chavara in his diary?  
A man who used to have the vision of God
323. When did Fr Leopold publish *Compunction of the Soul* written by St Chavara?  
1871
324. Who rendered *Compunction of the Soul* in regular Malayalam language?  
Fr Z.M. Muzhoor CMI
325. When did the Postulator for the Cause of St Chavara publish *Compunction of the Soul* first?  
1959
326. Who succeeded St Chavara as the second Prior General of the CMI Congregation?

Fr Kuriakose Eliseus Porukara

327. When was Fr Kuriakose Eliseus Porukara appointed as the Prior General of CMI Congregation?

22 February, 1871

328. "I have my own fears about our houses where there are no sick members. The reason is that the absence of a suffering member in the house would not bring God's blessing in its wake". Who wrote so to Fr Kuriakose Eliseus Porukara?

St Chavara

329. "I've dipped my finger in the blood of my brethren. The thought about their future really hurts me". Whose words are these?

Fr Kuriakose Eliseus Porukara's

330. "I've dipped my finger in the blood of my brethren. The thought about their future really hurts me". When did Fr Kuriakose Eliseus Porukara write this?

When he signed in the order of expelling seven religious priests from the congregation upon orders from the higher authorities

331. How were these priests expelled from the CMI Congregation known?

The Seven Sorrows

332. One among the Seven Sorrows later ordained a bishop. Who was that?

Mar Louis Pazheparampil

333. Name the diocese to which Fr Louis Pazheparampil was appointed the bishop?

Ernakulam

334. Who was expelled by the bishop of Verapoly from among those first 11 members who took the religious vows?

Fr Mani Kaniarakath

335. Who wrote the first biography of St Chavara?

Fr Leopold OCD

336. When did Fr Leopold write this biography?  
1871
337. When did Fr Leopold OCD return to Italy?  
1875
338. When did Fr Leopold OCD pass away?  
22 April, 1914
339. How many years of his life did St Chavara spend at Mannanam?  
33
340. Which was the first ashram established after the death of St Chavara?  
S.H. Monastery, Chethipuzha
341. When was S.H. Monastery, Chethipuzha established?  
1883
342. Which is the first English High School of Syrian Christians in Kerala?  
St Ephrem's High School, Mannanam
343. When was St Ephrem's High School, Mannanam established?  
1885
344. The year in which the seminaries at Vazhakulam and Elthuruth were stopped?  
1886
345. When was the seminary at Puthenpally relocated to Mangalappuzha?  
1932
346. Which is the first Malayalam daily in Kerala?  
Nasrani Deepika
347. When did the Nasrani Deepika start functioning?  
14 April, 1887
348. Who were the first editors of the Nasrani Deepika?  
Fr Mani Nidheerickal and Fr Varkey Parayil
349. When did the CMI Congregation start functioning directly under the jurisdiction of Rome?  
1887

350. When was the first religious congregation started by St Chavara for women named CMC?

21 May, 1963

351. What is the full form of CMC?

Congregation of the Mother of Carmel

352. When did the different convents of the CMC get unified under a common Superior General?

16 November, 1963

353. When did the religious congregation for women started by St Chavara get separated as two congregations, viz. CMC and CTC?

1890

354. When did the congregation for men started by St Chavara get the name CMI?

1958

355. What is the full form of CMI?

Carmelites of Mary Immaculate

356. When did the CMI become a Pontifical Congregation?

2 March, 1967

357. When did the CMC become a Pontifical Congregation?

29 July, 1967

358. When did St Alphonsa receive a miraculous healing through the intercession of St Chavara?

1936

359. Which General Synaxis of the CMI Congregation took the decision to begin the Process for Canonization of St Chavara?

13<sup>th</sup> General Synaxis (1936)

360. Who was the Prior General when 13<sup>th</sup> General Synaxis (1936) of the CMI was held?

Fr Bartholomew

361. Who wrote the first formal biography of St Chavara?

Fr Valerian Plathottam CMI

362. Who entrusted Fr Valerian with the responsibility of preparing

- a formal biography of St Chavara?  
Fr Simon Pattasserry CMI
363. In which year did Fr Valerian write the biography of St Chavara?  
1939
364. Who is the author of the first biography of St Chavara in Malayalam?  
Fr Kuriakose Eliseus Porukara CMI
365. When did Eugene Cardinal Tisserant, the Prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, advise Fr Maurus Valiaparampil CMI, the then Prior General to initiate the process for canonization of Fr Chavara?  
1953
366. Name the Prior General who initiated the process for the canonization of Fr Chavara?  
Fr Maurus Valiaparampil
367. When did the Congregation of Rites, Rome, grant the permission to institute the informative process as part of the canonization of Fr Chavara?  
1955
368. Who instituted the Historical Commission for the process for the canonization of Fr Chavara?  
Mar Mathew Kavukatt, Archbishop of Changanacherry
369. When did Mar Mathew Kavukatt institute the Historical Commission for the process for the canonization of Fr Chavara?  
31 December, 1957
370. Who were the members of the Historical Commission instituted by Mar Mathew Kavukatt?  
Fr Kurian Vanchipura, Fr Anselm Perumalil CMI and Fr Antony Kaithara
371. Who was the president of the Historical Commission for the Cause of Fr Chavara?  
Fr Kurian Vanchipura, the then Chancellor of the Diocese of Pala

372. Who was the secretary of the Historical Commission for the process of canonization?

Fr Anselm CMI

373. When was the Historical Commission for the process for the canonization of Fr Chavara formally inaugurated?

3 January, 1958

374. Who was the first Postulator of the Cause of Fr Chavara?

Fr Placid Podipara CMI

375. Who was the first Vice-Postulator of the Cause of Fr Chavara?

Fr Maurilius Kakkanatt CMI

376. Who received a miraculous cure that had been taken as a strong case of reference to the beatification of Fr Chavara?

Joseph Mathew Pennaparampil

377. What was the miraculous cure Joseph Mathew obtained through the intercession of Fr Chavara?

The miraculous cure of his deformed foot with which he was born

378. When did this miraculous cure take place?

1960

379. Who constituted the Tribunal as part of the process of beatification of Fr Chavara?

Archbishop Mar Mathew Kavukatt

380. When was the Tribunal for the process of canonization constituted?

15 August, 1962

381. Who were the members of the Tribunal for the process of canonization of Fr Chavara?

Fr Romeo Thomas Mannanal CMI, Fr Eapen Aylooparampil, Fr Nicholas Perumalil CMI, Fr Paulinus Jeerakathil CMI and Fr Mathias Mundadan CMI

382. Who was the Principal Judge Delegate of the Tribunal for the process of canonization?

Fr Romeo Thomas Mannanal CMI

383. Who was appointed the president of the Tribunal when Fr Romeo Thomas resigned owing to old age and ill health?

Fr Lucas Vithuvattickal CMI

384. How many sessions did the tribunal hold in the process of canonization?

501

385. How many witnesses did the tribunal examine as part of the process of canonization?

109

386. When did the Tribunal complete its work?

1970

387. Who presided over the solemn conclusion of the work of the Tribunal?

Archbishop Mar Antony Padiyara

388. When were the documents sent to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints?

1970

389. How many documents were submitted to the Congregation in all?

210

390. When did the Congregation for the Causes of Saints publish the decree on the writings of St Chavara?

12 October, 1973

391. Who prepared the first Positio as part of the process of canonization of Fr Chavara?

Fr Lucas Vithuvattickal CMI

392. How many pages did the Positio prepared by Fr Lucas Vithuvattickal CMI have?

Over 800 pages

393. In which language was this Positio prepared?

Latin

394. When was the work on this Positio completed?

1977

395. When did Fr Lucas Vithuvattickal CMI submit the Positio to the Congregation for the Cause of Saints?  
1977
396. When was the Positio finally submitted to the Pope, completing all scrutiny and formalities?  
28 June, 1979
397. Name the Pope who accepted the Positio?  
The Holy Pope St John Paul II
398. When was Fr Chavara declared a Servant of God?  
15 March, 1980
399. Who declared Fr Chavara Venerable?  
Pope St John Paul II
400. When did Pope St John Paul II declare Fr Chavara Venerable?  
7 April, 1984
401. How many cases of miraculous healing were submitted to Rome for the beatification of Fr Chavara?  
3
402. Which of the 3 miracles had been selected for scrutiny as part of the process of beatification?  
The miraculous cure of Joseph Mathew Pennaparampil
403. When did Rome officially decree the cure of Joseph Mathew Pennaparampil as a case of miraculous healing through the intercession of the servant of God Fr Chavara?  
9 May, 1985
404. Name the Pope who declared Fr Chavara Blessed?  
Pope St John Paul II
405. Who was the saint declared Blessed along with Fr Chavara?  
St Alphonsa
406. Where did the official beatification of Fr Chavara and Sr Alphonsa take place?  
At Kottayam, Kerala
407. When did the official beatification of Fr Chavara and Sr

Alphonsa take place?

8 February, 1986

408. Who was the Prior General of CMI when Fr Chavara was declared Blessed?

Fr Vijay Anand Nedumpuram CMI

409. Who was the Mother General of CMC when Fr Chavara was declared Blessed?

Sr Prima CMC

410. Who was the Prefect of the Congregation for Oriental Churches when Fr Chavara was declared Blessed?

Simon Cardinal Lourdusamy

411. Who was the Prefect of the Congregation for the Cause of Saints when Fr Chavara was declared Blessed?

Peter Cardinal Palazini

412. Who was the Postulator General for the Cause of Fr Chavara when he was declared Blessed?

Fr Lucas Vithuvattickal CMI

413. Who was the Vice-Postulator for the Cause of Fr Chavara when he was declared Blessed?

Fr Caius CMI

414. Who was the first Indian to be declared Blessed?

Fr Chavara

415. When did the Government of India issue a postal stamp in honour of Fr Chavara?

20 December, 1987

416. Where was the postal stamp issued in honour of Fr Chavara released formally?

Thiruvananthapuram

417. What was the value of the postal stamp issued by the Government of India in honour of Fr Chavara?

60 Paise

418. Name the President of India who officially released the postal stamp issued by the Government of India in honour

of Fr Chavara?

Dr R. Venkataraman

419. Who was the Governor of Kerala when Dr R. Venkataraman released the postal stamp issued by the Government of India in honour of Fr Chavara?

Sri. P. Ramachandran

420. How are the complete works of St Chavara categorized?

Chronicles, Literary Works, Spiritual Works and Letters

421. Who edited the literary works of St Chavara in Malayalam?

Fr Z.M. Moozhoor CMI

422. When was the Chronicles, a part of the Complete Works of St Chavara published?

1981

423. When was the Literary Works, a part of the Complete Works of St Chavara published?

1981

424. When was the Spiritual Works, a part of the Complete Works of St Chavara published?

1981

425. Who edited the Spiritual Works, part of the Complete Works of St Chavara in Malayalam?

Fr Z.M. Moozhoor CMI

426. When was the Letters, a part of the Complete Works of St Chavara published?

1982

427. Who edited the Letters, part of the Complete Works of St Chavara in Malayalam?

Fr Lucas Vithuvattickal CMI

428. Which is the first Church erected in the name and honour of St Chavara in India?

Edayoorkkunnu Church, Mananthavady, Kerala

429. Which is the first Church erected outside Kerala in the name and honour of St Chavara?

- Egipura Church, Bangalore, Karnataka
430. When was the church at Egipura constructed?  
1987
431. To which Diocese St Chavara Church Egipura ascribed?  
Archdiocese of Bangalore
432. When did the Government of Kerala unveil a portrait of St Chavara in the Sahitya Academy Hall, Trichur, recognizing his contributions to Malayalam literature?  
4 May, 2006
433. Name the social service society started in honour of St Chavara?  
CEVA
434. When was CEVA established?  
1985
435. Give the full form of CEVA?  
Cyriac Elias Voluntary Association
436. The office set up jointly by the CMI and CMC Congregations to pursue research in the spirituality of St Chavara and to propagate devotion towards him?  
Chavara Central Secretariat
437. Where is the headquarters of the CMI Congregation situated?  
Chavara Hills, Kakkanad, Kochi
438. Where is the headquarters of the CMC situated?  
Thaikkattukara, Aluva
439. Which was the final miracle approved by the Holy Pope for the canonization of Blessed Chavara?  
The miraculous healing of an eye of Mariamol Jose Kottarathil
440. Which parish is Mariamol Jose ascribed to?  
St Thomas Cathedral Church, Palai
441. Name the bishop who constituted the Tribunal to examine the miraculous healing of Mariamol Jose as part of the process of canonization of Blessed Chavara?  
Mar Joseph Kallarangatt, Bishop of the Diocese of Palai

442. When did Mar Joseph Kallarangatt constitute this Tribunal?  
16 July, 2013
443. When did the Postulator formally submit the Positio as part of the process of canonization of Chavara to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints?  
23 October 2013
444. When did the Plenary Assembly of Cardinals formally recognize the cure of Mariamol Jose as a genuine case of miraculous healing obtained through the intercession of Blessed Chavara?  
18 March, 2014
445. When did Pope Francis formally endorse the document recognizing the cure of Mariamol Jose as a genuine case of miraculous healing obtained through the intercession of Blessed Chavara?  
18 March, 2014
446. Who was the Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints when Blessed Chavara was canonized?  
Cardinal Angelo Amato
447. Name the Pope who declared Blessed Chavara a Saint?  
Pope Francis
448. Where did the formal declaration of Chavara's Canonization take place?  
Rome
449. When did the formal declaration of Chavara's Canonization take place?  
Sunday, 23 November, 2014
450. What was the importance of 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2014, the day on which St Chavara was canonized, in the liturgical calendar of the Catholic Church?  
The Feast of Christ, the King
451. How many persons were canonized on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2014 along with St Chavara?

452. Who was the other Keralite canonized along with St Chavara?  
Sr Euphrasia
453. Name the congregation in which St Euphrasia was a member?  
CMC
454. Who was the first saint canonized from the Congregation of the Mother of Carmel?  
St Euphrasia
455. When was the National Level Celebration of the canonization of St Chavara and St Euphrasia formally held?  
29 November, 2014 at Kakkanad, Kochi
456. Who was the Prior General of the CMI Congregation when St Chavara was canonized?  
Fr Paul Achandy CMI
457. Who was the Superior General of the CMC when St Chavara was canonized?  
Sr Sancta CMC
458. Who was the Postulator General for the cause of Fr Chavara when he was canonized?  
Fr Cherian Thunduparampil CMI
459. Who was the Vice-Postulator for the cause of Fr Chavara when he was canonized?  
Fr James Madathikandam CMI
460. Who was the Prior of St Joseph's Monastery, Mannanam, when Fr Chavara was canonized?  
Fr Sebastian Chamathara CMI
461. When was the Chavara Year formally inaugurated in the CMI Congregation?  
15 August, 2014
462. When does the Catholic Church celebrate the feast of St Chavara?  
3<sup>rd</sup> January
463. "Fr Kuriakose Elias Chavara, was a highly prolific social leader born ahead of time. This visionary holy flame – a gift of the

19<sup>th</sup> century to humankind - is a social reformer to whom the historians of Kerala have always been unjust and unfair". Who commented so?

Prof. A. Sreedhara Menon (Historian)

464. "When I reflect upon the virtuous Fr Kuriakose Elias Chavara, I'm reminded of the story of a desert which is blossomed as soon as a holy sage steps into it. Isn't the very same experience Kerala also had, with the birth of Fr Chavara?" Who said this?

Sri Perumpadavam Sreedharan (Author, Former Chairman, Kerala Sahitya Academy)

465. "Those who render life worthwhile through the acts of virtue, defy history. They break the barriers of death and become immortal. In fact, their lives begin after death". Who commented upon St Chavara like this?

Prof. M.K. Sanu (Critic, Biographer)

466. "Father Kuriakose's life and the lives of these new religious were dedicated to the service of the Syro-Malabar Church. Under his leadership or inspiration, a good number of apostolic initiatives were undertaken...His success in this, was undoubtedly due to the intense charity and prayer which characterized his daily life, his close communion with Christ and his love for the Church as the visible Body of Christ on earth". Whose words are these?

Holy Pope St John Paul II

467. "Fr Chavara could announce confidently at his death bed that he was able to preserve the Grace he obtained from Holy Baptism throughout his life. Simultaneously, he always lived with a deep sense of sin. He remains as a big question mark to the modern world which lacks any sense of sin and its serious consequences". Who made this statement?

Cardinal Peter Palazini (Former Prefect, Congregation for the Causes of Saints)

468. "Blessed Chavara is the delight not only of the people of Kerala

but of the entire human race". Who made this comment?

Sri. P. Ramachandran (Former Governor, Kerala State)

469. Who referred to St Chavara as one of the rarest master spirits of the age, who could elegantly blend action and meditation in his life style?

Dr R. Venkataraman (Former President, India)

470. Who described St Chavara as a master of perfection, who lived in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, emerged as an epic in the 20<sup>th</sup> and has become the lighthouse of the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

Dr Sukumar Azhikode (Orator, Critic)

471. "Fr Chavara's vision of life is lucid. It's exuberant and embellished with optimism. Though an ascetic to the core, he never felt lonely even for a moment in his life". Who said so?

Dr K.M. Tharakan (Critic)

472. "For me, Fr Chavara is not an ordinary spiritual personal; he is, rather, a spiritual elegance, an enchanting divine presence, an incarnation of profound love for God and concern for fellow beings". Whose words are these?

Cardinal Simon Lourdasami (Former Prefect, The Congregation for Oriental Churches)

473. "Fr Chavara was a venerable soul, designated divinely to provide our Church with an ardent leadership, when it was confronted with complex issues in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The story of this great soul, who shone bright with sublime spirituality, unblemished love for the Church and creative vision, is indeed, the story of our Church itself". Who said this?

Cardinal Antony Padiyara (First Major Archbishop, Syro-Malabar Church)

474. A biography of Fr Kuriakose Elias Chavara – a virtuous man, defender of faith and an unordained bishop, who was popular all over Kerala – would never want in anything, even if it doesn't bear an introduction. Who wrote so?

Mar James Kalasserry (Former Archbishop, Changanacherry)

475. "Fr Chavara was the greatest spiritual master Kerala has ever seen. He was thoroughly spiritual; yet, nothing human was alien to him". Whose remark is this?

Mar Joseph Powathil (Archbishop Emeritus, Changanacherry)

476. "Fr Chavara and Mannanam could be well described as St Benedict and Monte Cassino of India respectively". Who made this comment?

Mar Kuriakose Kunnasserry (Archbishop Emeritus, Kottayam)



## **PRAYER TO SAINT KURIAKOSE ELIAS CHAVARA**

Saint Kuriakose Elias Chavara, we your children bow before you, who are chosen by God to give new life to the Church in Kerala. God was pleased with you for like St Paul who fully co-operated to the will of God, lived a life from which the Grace of God was never lost in the least.

Because God has adorned your soul with lovely virtues and glorified you in heaven and made you done august deeds for the glory of God and for the salvation of souls, we offer in union with you praise and worship to God.

Loving Father, like the fiery prophet St Elias who burned with zeal for God, you spent all your life span for the salvation of souls, now in imitation of your life, obtain for us the Grace of God to live our lives pleasing in God's sight and with it now grant us the blessings we beseech ..... through your intercession, Amen

*1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory*







"Saint Chavara stands apart from the significance. His faith in the divine, his prayer made him do miracles. He was always worrying about his inability to express the incredible love and mercy and forgiveness only because of his ardent love and faith in the Supreme power."

Fr. Nandhikara



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Author

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Pope Saint John Paul II

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Sri. Perumpadavam Sreedharan

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