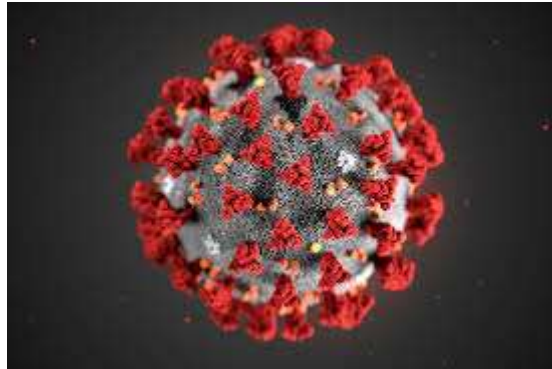


# Religion in a time of pestilence

## *21 short prescriptions during the Covid-19 pandemic*



### Part 9



I love a cup of strong coffee, drunk together with an Italian biscotti. Now that we are forced to spend so much time indoors, I have taken to reading the wording on the biscotti packet to help while away the time.

Imported from Europe, it tells me in 7 languages that *“each mouthful is an unforgettable experience.”*

While I’m delighted it says: “each” and not “every”, I’m dubious about the claim each mouthful will be an unforgettable experience.

How many unforgettable experiences have you had?

Pious Christians in former times were expected to reply: *“My baptism, confirmation and first communion”* when asked about life changing or important events in their life.

I imagine 2020 will always be remembered as the year of the coronavirus pandemic. Never mind if it also happened to be the year of your 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, golden wedding anniversary, marriage, graduation, etc, etc.

Our lives are currently on hold, but we can use the time profitably to engage with our faith at a deeper level. Thinking deeply about most things gives most people a headache: much easier just to drift along without challenging ourselves.

Our Christian faith is dynamic in the sense that each day is a new day with the Lord and as the Bible teaches: *“This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.”* **Psalm 118:24.**

If we say: *“this is the day the virus has made ...”* we limit ourselves and God’s grace and love for us.