

ST. PAUL'S MAR THOMA CHURCH
1002 BARNES BRIDGE RD.
MESQUITE, TX 75150

Phone: 972 613 9080

PARSONAGE ADDRESS

5906 BLUE OAK DRIVE
GARLAND, TX 75043
972 226 0976

ARTICLES NEEDED!

If you would like to submit any articles in English or Malayalam,
please send it to: Jacobkab@hotmail.com

**WE'RE ON THE
WEB!**

WWW.STPAULSMTC.ORG

PRESIDENT
REV. A. P. NOBLE

VICE PRESIDENT
DR. MOHAN PHILIP

SECRETARY
MR. PHIL MATHEW

TREASURER
MR. OOMMEN KOSHY

ACCOUNTANT
MR. THOMAS PHILIP

LAY LEADERS
MR. ZACHARIAH THOMAS
MR. SOJI SKARIAH

St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church
1002 Barnes Bridge Rd.
Mesquite, TX 75150

THE EPISTLE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



May 2010



Published by Sub-committee for Communications of St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church, Dallas



Prayer Meetings

AGAPE

LEADER: JOHN OOMMEN

TBD

EBENEZER

LEADER: JOHN K. MATHEW

May 16, 2010 at 6pm—Residence of Mr. & Mrs. N. V. Abraham

May 22, 2010 at 7pm—Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Mathewkutty Geevarghese

EMMANUEL

LEADER: GEORGE MAMMEN

TBD

MANNA

LEADER: ANNIE THOMAS

May 15, 2010 at 7pm—Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Oommen Koshy

SHALOM

LEADER: ABRAHAM KOSHY

May 23, 2010 at 6pm—Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Koshy



Birth Announcements

We proudly announce the birth of

STEPHY

Daughter of

Tiji and Sunil Abraham

Laity Duties

	Worship Service Assistant	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Prayer
May 2 <i>Ebenezer</i>				
May 9 <i>Emmanuel</i>				
May 16 <i>Manna</i>				
May 23 <i>Shalom</i>				
May 30 <i>Agape</i>				



MESSAGE FROM VICAR

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

We celebrated Easter, the feast of resurrection. The Christianity in its very essence is a resurrection religion. The concept of resurrection is the heart and basis of Christianity. It is not a story of imagination, but it is a historical even that divided the history into two eras- before Christ and after Christ. There are mainly four evidence is to believe that Jesus is risen: i) the empty tomb; ii) Appearance of the risen Christ before five hundred disciples; iii) Transformation happened in the lives of the apostles and iv) the growth of Christianity.

What is the message of resurrection?

- i) It is victory of god over evil of powers. Jesus is the light, truth, and life. So resurrection is the victory of light over darkness. Truth over falsehood and a life over death.
- ii) It is transformation, from earthly body to heavenly body and from deeds of flesh to the deeds of the spirit.
- iii) It is hope of eternity and second coming of Jesus.
- iv) It is continuing the mission of Jesus Christ through the church, his body.

The 13th of May is the day of the feast of ascension and May 23 and is the day of the feast of Pentecost. The risen Christ appeared before his disciples for 40 days and then ascended into the heavens. As Jesus promised to his disciples, God sent the Holy Spirit on the 50th day after resurrection. Jesus died on the cross as the lamp of Passover and was resurrected on the third day as the first fruit among the dead on the day of the feast of the first fruits. The Pentecost today comes on the 58 today after the feast of fruits to remember the birth of the old testament church, the Israel when god made covenant with them (exodus 19). The same day became the day of birth of the New Testament church when Holy Spirit came on the disciples (Acts: 2). The word "Pentecost" means 50th day. The Holy Spirit is the presence of the risen Christ who dwells in believers and in the church. He is the counselor who helps us to overcome the powers of the evil and to live a transformed life which is the experience of salvation. Holy Spirit also equips the church for its mission. The resurrection of Christ becomes a reality in our life when we live in the Holy Spirit. May God Almighty help us to become witnesses of the risen Christ!

Yours in Christ Service
Noble Achen
revnobleap@yahoo.com

Faith and Practices of the Church- Study Series: Marriage and Family.

God’s purpose about marriage.

1) Companionship

God said: “is not that man should be alone. I will make a suitable companion for him.” (Genesis 2:18). By marriage man leaves his father and mother and leaves for his wife and becomes one flesh (Genesis 2:23-24) (Matthew 19:5). Companionship means two things:

- i) Sharing life and household with each other and
- ii) Helping each other to fulfill all needs- physical, mental, emotional, social, spiritual and sexual needs.

The happiest wife is not the one that marries the best man, but the one who makes the best of the man she marries. Man and woman are created to become complimentary to each other.

St. Paul says: “Each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband to avoid immorality. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife’s body doesn’t belong to her alone, but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband’s body does not belong to him alone, but also to his wife” (1 Corinthians 7:2-4)

Sex is God given emotion for human beings. It is not the result of sin. But due to sin sex came out of marital relationship and caused immorality. Sexual love in marriage is a relationship in which a couple affirms each other’s identity by which they heal and sustain each other and through which they make Christ sacramentally present to each other. In the ideal marriage, husband and wife are loyal to each other not because it is their duty but because it is there joy.

2) Procreation.

God blessed Adam and Eve and said: “Be fruitful and increase in number. Fill the earth and subdue it.” (Genesis 1:28). “Children are a heritage from the Lord and a reward from him.” (Psalms 27:3) Marriage has a higher dignity and power, for it is God’s holy ordinance, through which he wills to perpetuate the human race till the end of time. In marriage husband and wife are a link in the chain of generations which God cause to come and to pass away to his glory and calls unto his kingdom. So Christian marriage is more than something personal, it is a status and an office. It is God given responsibility for the parents to nurture their children with human values to build up a healthy society.

3) New Relationships.

Man is a social being and family is the place where he learns to live as a society. A marriage is the beginning of new relationships between husband and wife, parents and children, brothers and sister, son or daughter in laws and grandparents and so on. The culture and human values are the product of social life and relationships.

Next Issue: Preparation for Marriage

Lectioary/Worship Information

Sunday, May 2, 2010 - (Holy Qurbana - English) Home for the Homeless - Metropolitan Fund (4th Sunday after Easter) Solidarity with the needy	
Lesson 1: Isaiah 40:1-11	Epistle: Philippians 4:10-20
Lesson 2: Acts 4:32-37	Gospel: Matthew 6:1-4
Sunday, May 9, 2010 - (Holy Qurbana - Malayalam) Christ the Lord of Life (5th Sunday after Easter)	
Lesson 1: Genesis 2:4-17	Epistle: 1 Peter 1:13-22
Lesson 2: Revelation 22:1-7	Gospel: John 6:31-40
Sunday, May 16, 2010 - (Holy Qurbana—English) Pastoral Ministry to the People of God	
Lesson 1: Ezekiel 34:1-16	Epistle: 1 Peter 5:1-14
Lesson 2: Hebrews 13:7-21	Gospel: John 10:7-18
Sunday, May 23, 2010 - (Holy Qurbana - Malayalam) Pentecost : Worship in the Spirit (50 days after Easter) Sacred Music & Communication Sunday	
Lesson 1: Joel 2: 18-32	Epistle: Colossians 3:12-17
Lesson 2: Acts 2:37-47	Gospel: John 16:7-14
Sunday, May 30, 2010 - (Holy Qurbana - English) Holy Trinity (First Sunday after Pentecost)	
Lesson 1: Genesis 18:1-15	Epistle: 1 John 5:1-12
Lesson 2: 2 Corinthians 13:11-14	Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17



KECF Ecumenical Convention

St. Paul’s Mar Thoma Church, Dallas
June 25th through June 27th
(Friday to Sunday)



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

4-May	Mr. & Mrs. James Mepurath	Sunnyvale
4-May	Mr. & Mrs. Raju George	Mesquite
9-May	Mr. & Mrs. Varghese Alexander	Fate
9-May	Mr. & Mrs. George P.C.	Mesquite
16-May	Mr. & Mrs. Samkunju K.O.	
17-May	Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Kurian	Mesquite
17-May	Mr. & Mrs. Mathewkutty Geevarghese	Mesquite
18-May	Mr. & Mrs. Saji P. George	Sunnyvale
23-May	Mr. & Mrs. Thomaskutty Thomas	Garland
23-May	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mathew(Valsan)	Mesquite
28-May	Mr. & Mrs. John Thomas	Garland

Sowing and Reaping

- By John Thomas (Kunju)

Jeremiah 17:10 says, "I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."

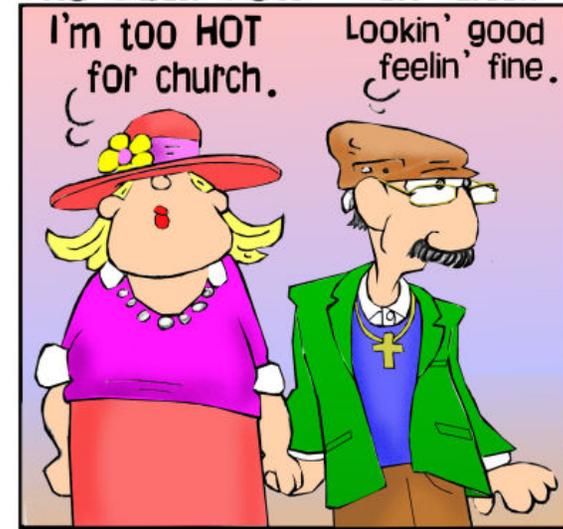
The Bible says we will get the reward according to our deeds. Whatever we are sowing, we are reaping. Are we sowing good deeds in our hearts? If not, the consequence will be a perishing life. We all yearn for an everlasting, abundant life. How do we attain that? We must live according to the Word of God. Although, in the world encompassed in sin, living a sinless life is difficult. We can easily fall into the hands of sin, but with the guidance of the Holy Spirit we can overcome sin. We "all have sinned and [have fallen] short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). We must accept our sinful lives and turn away from the wrath of God. We should earnestly ask the Lord to forgive our sins and redeem us with a new life. Our Father, who is heaven, will give us new lives and forgive us from all sins, remembering them no more. He knows our plans, our successes, and our failures—he knows everything. God can turn around our sinful ways and redeem us with victorious lives.

We, as a St. Paul's family, are now in a new beautiful church. This church is the body of Christ, and we are the children of God. As children of God, we must live a life pleasurable in the eyes of God. We must stay away from all the worldly pleasures. We must not conform to the world. We must live according to His will, for we should be ready when He comes.

Youth Chaplain's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Brenda and Donald wore their Sunday clothes like they did their faith. LOUD and PROUD. James 2:1-3

What is the message of the Resurrected Christ? How is it related to the mission of the Church? Do we really grasp the responsibility God has give us as a Church?

The resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is not only the victorious message of salvation for all humanity but, also the impulse for mission and transformation in the world. The cross itself has transformed into a dynamic example of Christ mission in the world. In fact, the resurrection of Christ marks a radical change in the task and life of the disciples. They are no longer simply called to "follow Him" but to "Go" and transform through the power and under the authority of Christ. So, as we reflect on the message of the Resurrected Christ to the disciples it is important for us to note a few key aspects:

Witness. The women, the disciples and the community of faithful had the unique opportunity to see, and experience the presence of Christ. In fact, it was the encounter with Christ that empowered to move beyond their fear and strengthened to immediately witness. Thus, the very first element of witness must be a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The disciples were so impacted that their response was not only personal but, immediate and powerful. *How is our witness today? Do we witness through a true personal relationship with Jesus Christ?*

Community. It is important to note that Jesus when Jesus communicates with his faithful after the resurrection it is always in community (or group). This community represents the Church. In fact, the message Christ offers through this is that the mission is not a singular effort but, it work that must be done together. There-

fore, the message is that of unity for the sake of mission. They were bonded by the blood of Christ for mission of Christ in the world. *Is it not true that we sometimes assume mission without first seeking unity within ourselves or others in our Church?*

Universality of Mission. Perhaps one of the most commonly repeated words by Christ after the resurrection is “Go” or “I send you”. Christ sends his disciples out from known experiences (world) to unknown experiences, and from security to insecurity. See, it in order to “go out into all the world” and impact all people the disciples first had to move beyond the common and welcome the foreign. Therefore, it is this willingness and courage to move beyond our comfort zones that God utilizes for radical mission in the world. *Is our mission truly to all? Are we able to move beyond our security and the familiar and reach out to those whom Christ is sending us to?*

May God Almighty strengthen us all to grow in personal relationship with Him and become His true community of mission for all people!

Your brother in Christ,
Jaisen Achen
C- 214-604-6678
H- 972-495-5393
revjathomas@yahoo.com

Church Organizational Activities

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Regular classes at 8.45am.

SEVIKA SANGHAM:

TBD

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP:

Tuesdays - Bible Study with Rev. Jaisen Thomas

Thursdays - Prayer Call

Fridays - Prayer Fellowship -

YUVAJANA SAKHYAM:

Saturday, May 8, 2010 at 7pm—Prayer meeting at the residence of Mr. Thomas Mathew (Shiju) & Asha, 5316 Hopewell Dr., Garland, TX 75043

PARISH MISSION:

Fridays at 7pm - Bible Study/Prayer fellowships at the Church.

Friday, May 14, 2010 at 7pm—Prayer Meeting at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Mepurathu

Sundays at 9-9:30am - Intercessory Prayer

CHOIR:

Sundays - Practice sessions after Holy Qurbana.

BIRTHDAYS

1-May	Rev. Biju P Simon	Garland	22-May	Abraham N.V.	Mesquite
2-May	Asha Abraham	Mesquite	22-May	Princey Varghese	Garland
4-May	Nisha Jacob	Garland	23-May	Jessy Thomas	Mesquite
5-May	Stanley Varghese	Garland	23-May	Vinu Ipe	Garland
7-May	Leelamma Mammen	Rockwall	24-May	Sam Koshy	Mesquite
8-May	Janse John	Mesquite	24-May	Susheela Thomas	Mesquite
8-May	John Thomas	Garland	25-May	Anupa Zachariah	Mesquite
8-May	M.M.Mathai	Sunnyvale	25-May	Hanna M.John	Garland
10-May	George C.George	McKinney	26-May	Chacko T. Oommen	Garland
10-May	P.V.George	Sunnyvale	27-May	Salomi Chacko	Garland
12-May	Phil Mathew	Sunnyvale	27-May	Thomas George	Rockwall
13-May	Ancil Mathew	Sunnyvale	28-May	Matthew Babu	Rockwall
13-May	Vinod Cherian	Garland	28-May	Gemini Mathew	Sunnyvale
13-May	John Yohannan	Mesquite	28-May	Mini John	Mesquite
15-May	Allen Mathew	Garland	28-May	Philipose M.V.	Dallas
15-May	Janet Philip	Greenville	29-May	Mathew Kurian	Mesquite
15-May	Melvin	Garland	30-May	Abraham Koshy	Mesquite
15-May	Miriam Easo	Mesquite	30-May	Podiyamma Johnkutty	Mesquite
15-May	Sheela Sherry	Garland	30-May	Rajankunju C.	Mesquite
16-May	Abraham Mepurath	Mesquite	30-May	Serine Chacko	Mesquite
16-May	Asha Thomas	Garland	30-May	Susan Mathew	Mesquite
18-May	Thomas Koshy	Mesquite	30-May	Sherly K Jacob	Mesquite
19-May	Mathai Abraham	Mesquite	30-May	Susan John	Sunnyvale
20-May	Kurien Easo	Mesquite	31-May	Babu John	Mesquite
20-May	Mathew Mathai	Mesquite	31-May	Jaisy Raju	Mesquite
20-May	Susamma Varghese	Garland	31-May	Laly Abraham	Mesquite
21-May	Leelamma Jacob	Garland	31-May	Philip P.S.	Greenville
21-May	Liana Cherian	Garland	31-May	Raju George	Mesquite
21-May	Sherry P George	Garland			