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ARTICLES NEEDED!

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

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WEB!**

WWW.STPAULSMTC.ORG

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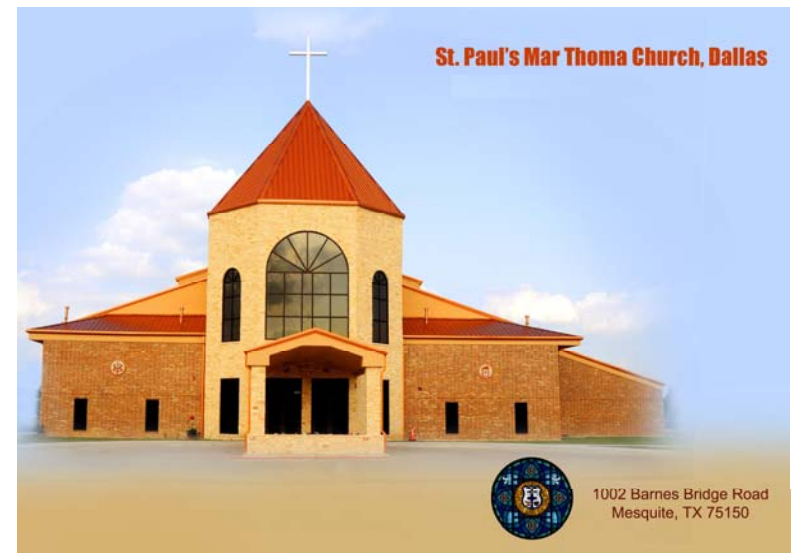


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St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church
1002 Barnes Bridge Rd.
Mesquite, TX 75150

THE EPISTLE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



March 2012



MESSAGE FROM VICAR



Christian Discipline.

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

We are passing through the 50 days Great Lent period which is a Spiritual Discipline. The Christian life is possible if and only we have spiritual disciplines because they are foundations of a person, family and community. The Holy Bible is the authority for these disciplines. Main Christian disciplines are the following:

1. Prayer Life.

Prayer is our communication with God and the submission before God. It is the power of our life. It has personal, family and corporate dimensions. It includes Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication. Jesus Christ was a model of prayer and he taught how to pray. The Lord's Prayer (**Luke: 11: 1-4; Mat: 6: 9-13**) is the short but most beautiful and most meaningful prayer. The first half of this prayer requests the 'divine in the human' and the second half places the 'human in the divine' realm. It is in this Lord's Prayer that all Christians are united as one.

2. Reading and Meditating of the Bible.

The Bible is our spiritual food, the Light to our path, the Mirror to see ourselves and the sword to transform our life. Jesus Christ is the incarnated Word of God, the Bible is the written Word of God and the Sermon is the spoken Word of God.

3. Festivals, Feasts and Lents.

Our Church observes the feasts and Lents to commemorate the important events of our Lord Jesus Christ such as:

- (i). Three days Lent in January to meditate up on Jonah,
- (ii). Thirteen days Lent in June which is the Feast of the Apostles,
- (iii). Fifteen days Lent in August which is the Feast of the Saints,
- (iv). Twenty five days Lent in December as the Feast of the Advent and
- (v). Fifty days Great Lent to meditate upon sufferings, death and resurrection of Jesus.

The Lents are observed with special time for meditation and devotion and it is the collective celebration of the Church. Lent is the affirmation of eternal life over this material life. In all religions people observe Lents.

The three main pillars of the Lent are:

(i). Prayer, (ii). Fasting and (iii). Alms Giving.

Jesus Christ taught about these three pillars (**Mat: 6: 5-18**).

The prophets questioned the meaningless ritualism of the Lent and revealed God's will

(**Joel: 2: 12-17; Isa: 58: 3-7; Micah: 6: 6-8**).

Let these days of the Great Lent be the time of repentance, renewal and transformation in our life. May God strengthen and guide us to partake in the divine mission for this world.

Yours in Christ's service,

Yours In Christ's service,

A.P.Noble achen.

Email: revnobleap@yahoo.com

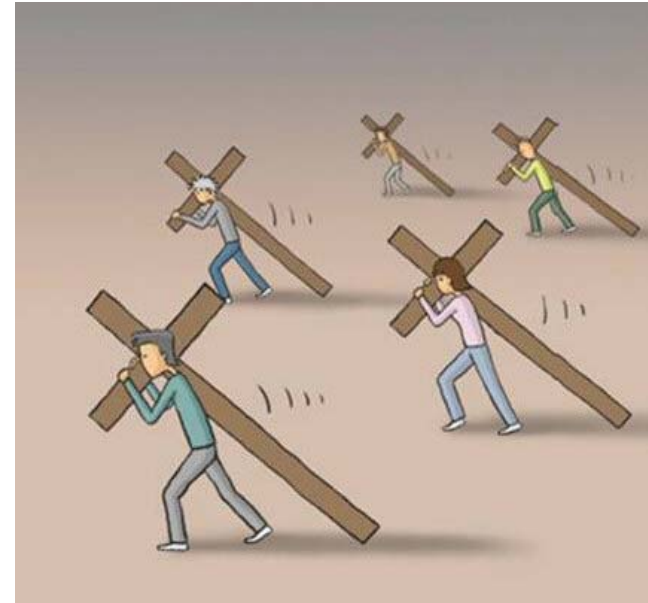
ST. PAUL'S MAR THOMAS CHURCH			
TOTAL INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT TILL FEB 29, 2012			
INCOME		EXPENSES	
Rent from Leasing	7,178.06	1002 Barnes Inspection	140.00
TOTAL Building Fund	7,178.06	Building REPAIR	5,750.00
Baptism	300.00	Cleaning and Janitorial Service	525.00
General	489.00	Coffee, Refreshments, etc	238.10
Other Donations	640.76	Electricity	2,511.90
TOTAL Donations	1,429.76	Garbage Disposal	61.24
Birthday	1,750.00	Medical Insurance & Expenses	60.00
General Offertory	2,881.00	Mortgage	19,630.22
Wedding Anniversary	1,111.00	Printing & Stationery	332.23
Other Offertory	108.00	Property Insurance	1,122.00
TOTAL Offertory	5,850.00	Repairs and Maintenance	708.48
Church Facilities	300.00	Vicar's Salary	4,071.00
Other Other Income	250.00	Water	123.03
TOTAL Other Income	550.00	TOTAL Church	35,273.20
Pledge	33,455.00	Cleaning Supplies	12.98
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 48,462.82	Bank Charges	9.75
		TOTAL Other Items	22.73
		Internet & Cable	109.66
		Lone Star Gas	151.02
		Mortgage	2,023.68
		Repair and Maintenance	72.88
		Telephone and Cellphone	505.68
		Utilities (Elec, Water, Garbage)	300.93
		TOTAL Parsonage	3,163.85
		Retreat 2012	250.00
		Travel	3,992.42
		Total Travel Expense	4,242.42
		TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 42,702.20

Lectioary/Worship Information

Sunday, March 4, 2012 - (Holy Qurbana - English 10:15 AM) Diocesan Sunday James who absolves our sin (3rd Sunday in Lent)	
Lesson 1: Isa 1:1-20	Epistle: Heb 9:24-28
Lesson 2: 1 John 1:5-2:6	Gospel: Mark 2:1-12
Sunday, March 11, 2012 - (Holy Qurbana - Malayalam 10:15 AM) (Family Retreat & Youth Retreat Sunday) The Zeal of Faith (4th Sunday in Lent)	
Lesson 1: Isa 45:1-8	Epistle: Gal 2:11-21
Lesson 2: Acts 16:6-15	Gospel: Mat 15:21-28
Sunday, March 18, 2012 - (Holy Qurbana - English 10:15 AM) Restoration through Worship (5th Sunday in Lent)	
Lesson 1: Isa 59:9-21	Epistle: Eph 6:10-20
Lesson 2: Rom. 8:31-39	Gospel: Luke 13:10-17
Sunday, March 25, 2012 - (Holy Qurbana - Malayalam 9:30 AM) (Episcopal Vistit & First Communion) Messiah: Fulfillment of the Promise (6th Sunday in Lent)	
Lesson 1: Isa 42:1-9	Epistle: 2 Cor 11:18-28
Lesson 2: Acts 16:19-34	Gospel: Mark 10:46-52
Friday, March 30, 2012 - (Holy Qurbana - Malayalam) 40th Friday Victory over Temptation through the Word of God	
Lesson 1: Num 21:4-9	Epistle: Gal 6:11-16
Lesson 2: 1 Cor 1:18-31	Gospel: Mat 4:1-11

Youth Chaplain's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



Look at the cross of Christ! Does it echo any meaning to you?

As we are in the season of the Great Lent, let us journey with Christ to the Cross. The Cross is an amazing thing! It expresses the depth of God's love that transformed death into life. The Cross of Christ communicates much to us and forever stands as a symbol of true love. The Cross is true model of friendship and relationship. In St. John 15: 13 we understand that "greater love has no one than this that he lay down his life for his friends." There is no greater love we can show to another than through sacrifice. However, the Cross is also our commission to live and love as Christ has shown us. "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth" (1 John 3:16-18). To live the new life requires that we embrace the pain that comes with the death of what was and trust that God will be with us in the future.

Once there was a rooster who crowed at sun-up each morning without fail. One day, the barnyard dog said to the rooster, "I guess you think your crowing raises the sun into the sky everyday. Well, I've got news for you. The sun will come up whether you crow or not." The rooster looked at the dog with surprise, and said, "I know that! I didn't make the sun, and I can't raise the sun. Only God can do that." "Then why in the world," asked the dog, "do you get up in the dark every day to holler your lungs out?" The rooster eyed the dog disdainfully and said, "God gave me a voice. If God is going to raise the sun into the sky, the least I can do is to use my gift to show my appreciation. God has died on the cross, risen and is coming back; the least we can do is live for Him!

May God strengthen us to understand the truth of the Cross and testify His love through a renewed and transformed life.

Your bro in Christ,
 Jaisen Achen
 214.604.6678

To Him be Glory Both Now and Forever
-Mariam Chacko

Heaven will be full of the ceaseless praises of Jesus. Is He not a priest forever after the order of Melchisadec. He is King of kings and Lord of lords (1 Tim 6:15), Everlasting Father (Isa 9:6). Never will His praises cease. What was bought with blood deserver to last while immortality endures. The Glory of the cross must never be eclipsed, the luster of the grave and of the resurrection must never be dimmed. O Jesus!, You will be praised forever. Father God help me to glorify You. I am a poor sinner, help me to glorify You being content. I am sick, help me to give You honor by being a patient. Jesus, help me to use my talent, time, money to extol You. I have a heart to feel. Lord, let my heart feel Love for You and glow with no flame but affection for You. I have a head to think. Lord, help me to think of You and for You. You have put me in this world for something. Please show me what that is, and help me to work out the purpose of my life, Lord. I cast my time and eternity into your treasury like the poor widow cast all her living. I am all Yours. Take me and enable me to glorify You now in all that I say, in all that I do, and with all that I have.

BIRTHDAYS

1-Mar	Patrick Marthummotil	Sunnyvale	15-Mar	Mary John	Mesquite
1-Mar	Tony Easo	Mesquite	16-Mar	Rachel Philip	Rockwall
3-Mar	Sonia Alexander	Fate	17-Mar	Anil Mathew	Sunnyvale
3-Mar	Shibu Chacko	Mesquite	18-Mar	Joseph George	Garland
4-Mar	Nisha Mary Koshy	Mesquite	20-Mar	Leena G. Panicker	Mesquite
6-Mar	Binu Tharian	Mesquite	21-Mar	Anjali M. Varghese	Sunnyvale
7-Mar	Shiju Mathai	Garland	21-Mar	Geevarghese Mathew	Garland
8-Mar	Grace Varghese	Rockwall	21-Mar	Justin Mathew	Rowlett
8-Mar	Saramma Mathewkutty	Mesquite	21-Mar	Mathews Idiculla	Garland
9-Mar	Alice Raju	Mesquite	23-Mar	Stanly Johns George	Mesquite
9-Mar	Viju Varghese	Sunnyvale	23-Mar	Stephy Sunil Abraham	Garland
9-Mar	Shibu Mathai	Garland	24-Mar	Ligi Babu Simon	Garland
10-Mar	Blessy Jacob	Garland	24-Mar	Abraham Thomas	Mesquite
10-Mar	Gracykutty Thomas	Garland	25-Mar	Jamie K. Jacob	Mesquite
11-Mar	Minnie Mathew	Plano	30-Mar	Sheena P John	Garland
11-Mar	Smitha Stanly George	Mesquite	31-Mar	Shelby Alexander	Sunnyvale
12-Mar	Thomas Mathew	Plano			
12-Mar	Sarah Lilly Philip	Rockwall			
13-Mar	Crystal Rajan	Sunnyvale			
15-Mar	Ajith Cherian	Garland			

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. Raju Mathew	Rowlett
3-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. Sunil K. Abraham	Garland
5-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. Chandy Jacob	Mesquite
9-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. John Oommen	Garland
16-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. Phil Mathew	Sunnyvale
30-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. Bassy Philip	Grand Prairie