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**ARTICLES NEEDED!**

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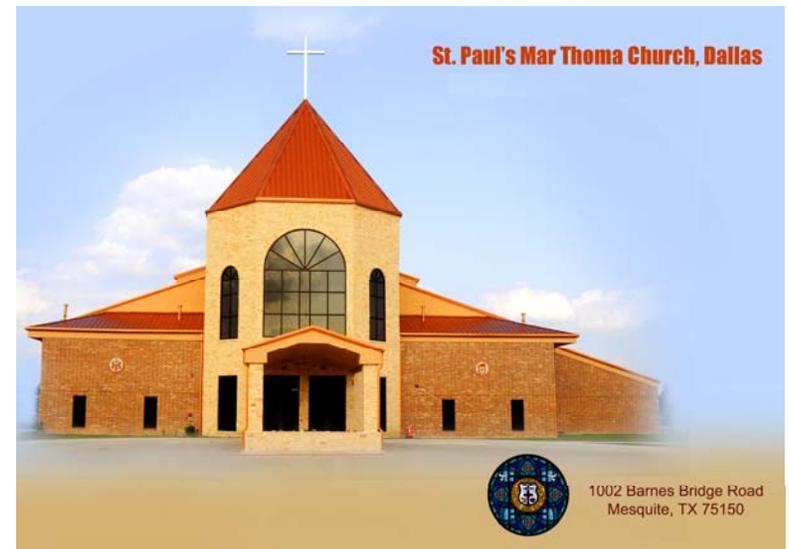


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**St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church**  
1002 Barnes Bridge Rd.  
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# THE EPISTLE

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION**



**September 2014**



**MESSAGE FROM VICAR**



*Dearly Beloved in Christ,*

Loving Greetings to all in the gracious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. The month of September has come. After the Summer vacation our children has gone to colleges and schools for their new year studies.

According to the Indian culture, there are four stages in a human life. It is known as four ASRAMAM.

They are: 1. Brahma Charyam, 2. Grahasthasramam, 3. Vanaprastham, 4. Sanyasam.

BrahmaCharyam is the age up to twenty years. It is purely a unmarried life. Complete concentration on education and in learning the art of living. Not bothered by any other matters in the world.

Grahasthasram: the age between twenty and fourteen. At this age one find a job and get life settled. Marriage and family life is found at this age.

Vanaprastham: Pilgrimage to the world around and spend time to spread the spiritual values. This is the age from sixty onwards. In the end reach the Moksha or Eternal Abode of the soul. Thus life progressed and completed in a worthwhile manner. This is very relevant for today also. Have a well planned and orderly life

from the cradle to the grave.

Sanyasm: is the age between forty and sixty. After having family matters get done,, begins a complete devotional life. Life is dedicated for Godly matters.

Spent more time for prayer, learning more about spiritual matters and gradually keep away from the matters of the world.

Sunday the September seventh is Education Sunday according to the Mar Thoma Sabha Calendar. Education for Liberation is the theme for the Day.

Gospel Portion for reading at worship is from Mark:6:34-44. It is about the description about Jesus feeding the Five thousand with five loaves of bread and two small fish. The purpose of education is to liberate men from every bondage. Jesus himself was a completely liberated person. He trained his disciples to have the values of the Kingdom of God and bring others to this values. To achieve this in our life we are to be

Liberated from our self . Rabindranath Tagore wrote in the autograph of a foreigner who visited his Residential Educational Institution known as Santhi Nikethan 'Know Thyself'. Later in the same autograph he wrote 'Forget Thyself'.

Too much self consciousness creates anxiety and depression. Depression of the failures of the past and too much concern about the future. When we properly know ourselves we will be satisfied of the past success or failures and will have the confidence to face future

What is the purpose of Education? The purpose of Education is , Andrei Laly Chau says is to produce the participants of the society able to participate in social governness; To help people to realize own unique potentials; To provide methodological mind set , so that everybody is able to build own holistic and integral understanding of the society and find own place in the sys-

*Lectionary/ Worship Information*

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <p><b>Sunday, September 7, 2014</b><br/>Education for Liberation-Education Sunday<br/>(13th Sunday after Pentecost)</p>    |                               |
| <b>Lesson 1:</b> Prov. 8:1-12  | <b>Epistle:</b> Col. 1:24-29  |
| <b>Lesson 2:</b> Acts 8:26-38  | <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 6:34-44   |
| <p><b>Sunday, September 14, 2014</b><br/>Women as Change makers- Sevika Sanghom Day<br/>(14th Sunday after Pentecost)</p>  |                               |
| <b>Lesson 1:</b> Num. 27:1-11  | <b>Epistle:</b> Rom. 16:1-16  |
| <b>Lesson 2:</b> Acts 16:11-15   | <b>Gospel:</b> John 4:27-30   |
| <p><b>Sunday, September 21, 2014</b><br/>Accepting the Elderly (Senior Citizens Day)<br/>(15th Sunday after Pentecost)</p> |                               |
| <b>Lesson 1:</b> Isa. 40:21-31   | <b>Epistle:</b> 1 Tim. 5:1-10 |
| <b>Lesson 2:</b> Eph. 6:1-9  | <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 2:25-38   |
| <p><b>Sunday, September 28, 2014</b><br/>The Sacrament of Baptism<br/>(16th Sunday after Pentecost)</p>                    |                               |
| <b>Lesson 1:</b> Exo. 14:15-31   | <b>Epistle:</b> Titus 3:3-8   |
| <b>Lesson 2:</b> Rom. 6:1-11   | <b>Gospel:</b> John 3:1-8     |



## *Youth Chaplain's Message*

### **MISSION ASSIGNED**

*32So those who were sent went away and found it just as He had told them. 33As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" 34They said, "The Lord has need of it..." (LUKE 19:32-34)*

We all begin our day with a mission assigned to us and it would be in different forms each one of us might be not be aware that they are fulfilling the give chart or taken a new one in order to achieve the dreams or targets in given time. If we are on a mission then we should have plan how to go for it. Parents have a mission assigned to bring up their kids and to give them the best, I believe very few have the mindset that they have nothing to achieve or need to strive and this was the same with disciples who after being called they followed the master and thought everything will be provided by the master, but Jesus had different plan and he through his actions and talks he made them aware of their mission and call. Son of God became Son of Man and it was mission assigned by His Heavenly Father to restore the lost creation through Cross. The mission assigned to Disciples to ask and untie and they did it.

**MISSION OUTREACH-** it's always great to reach out the unreached and to stand for a cause but many a times our outreach and mission orientations are time bound or part of our religious statements. Our actions and mission outreach should be in building others and we might be just a facilitator to others to accomplish the assigned task. Every outreach is a witnessing and it's a serious business for its not by chance you are their but me and you are part of a given time to stand for a cause and it would be for others. Our worship and gathering is not a mere get-together its symbol of outreach. No Mission is insignificant for all has a purpose. Our mere presence for cause speaks lot about our witness and our stand. Jesus when walked through villages, sat by the neglected ones, touched and hugged the lost one he communicated a KINGDOM VALUES rather than religious rules. **Have you ever thought that smallest of smallest in creation worked with our master to communicate outreach Kingdom values?**

Water that turned into wine, Boat Jesus travelled , The spit and sand Jesus used to open the deaf and dumb, The bread Jesus took to feed the five thousand The food Jesus tasted at Mary and Martha's house, The water Jesus drank from the Samaritan's well The sand Jesus wrote on after forgiving the women caught in adultery , Coin Jesus asked to answered the Pharisees , The cup Jesus drank, The colt Jesus used for his journey, the alabaster oil and the women who wiped Jesus foot with her hair, the cross Jesus was hung on, the tomb Jesus was buried and the stone that was rolled away **THEY ALL** participated in outreach mission. These Mundane things have been in existence for long time and it did find **value when it was used in economy of salvation by the Master.** People might not see something good or worthwhile in you but for we all have a divine bliss in us and there for each one of us has a divine destiny. *The above Mundane Things were transformed and could untie or mul-*

*tiply because it was touched by Master. **REMEMBER WE ARE RELEASED BY JESUS BLOOD AND OUR MISSION IS TO RELOCATE OUR SELVES IN PLACES OF STUDY, WORK, WORSHIP AND FAMILY TO ENHANCE ECONOMY OF SALAVTION. WISHING AND PRAYING FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE ENTERING INTO NEW ACCADEMIC YEAR IN PRAYERS***

GEORGEACHEN