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

THE EPISTLE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



April 2017



Lent Prayer/Service

1-Apr	Saturday	Mr. Viju Varghese	7:00 PM	Manna
2-Apr	Sunday	Mr. Toby Philip	7:00 PM	Ebenezer
3-Apr	Monday	Mr. Phil Mathew	7:00 PM	Manna
4-Apr	Tuesday	Mr. Koshy Thomas	7:00 PM	Ebenezer
5-Apr	Wednesday	Mr. Jeff Thomas	7:00 PM	Emmanuel
6-Apr	Thursday	Mr. John Thomas (Kunju)	7:00 PM	Ebenezer
7-Apr	Friday	Holy Communion - 40th Friday	10:00 AM	
7-Apr	Friday	Mr. Anil Mathew	7:00 PM	Manna
8-Apr	Saturday	Mr. Babu P Simon	7:00 PM	Agape
9-Apr	Sunday	Palm Sunday	7:00 PM	
10-Apr	Monday	Church	7:00 PM	
11-Apr	Tuesday	Church	7:00 PM	
12-Apr	Wednesday	Church	7:00 PM	
13-Apr	Thursday	Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion Service	7:00 PM	
14-Apr	Friday	Good Friday Service	9:00 AM	
16-Apr	Sunday	Easter Sunday	7:00 AM	

ലോകത്തിന്റെ സ്ഥിതി

ആദിയിൽ ഏദൻതോട്ടമാം ഭവനം
 ചമച്ചവൻ എൻ ദൈവം
 ആദം ഹവ്വ ആദിമ നരരെ
 സൃഷ്ടിച്ചവൻ എൻ ദൈവം
 ആനന്ദത്തിൻ കാലത്തെത്തി
 സൂത്രക്കാരൻ സാത്താനവനും
 പാത്തിരുന്നവൻ പത്തി വിടർത്തി
 തക്കം നോക്കി നാവു തുറന്നു
 പാപം ചെയ്യാൻ പ്രേരണ നൽകി
 പാവം ഹവ്വ പാപിനിയായി
 പാപം ഏറി ലോകം മാറി
 ആനന്ദത്തിൻ കാലം മാറി
 ആത്മബലത്തിൽ തളരും ലോകം
 സ്വാർത്ഥ ബലത്തിൽ ഉയരും ലോകം
 ഇടറും ദേശം തമ്മിൽ തമ്മിൽ
 പിണങ്ങും ജാതികൾ തമ്മിൽ തമ്മിൽ
 ജീവിത ശൈലികൾ എങ്ങും ശൂന്യം
 ജീവനു പാരിൽ വിലയോ നഷ്ടം
 നേരും നെറിയും പേരിനു മാത്രം
 പോരും പടയും പെരുകുന്നത്രേ
 പരസ്പര സ്നേഹം കുറയും ലോകം
 സ്വാർത്ഥത എങ്ങും ഏറും ലോകം
 താതനെ മുറ്റും മറക്കും ലോകം
 സ്വയത്തിൽ മാത്രം ലയിക്കും ലോകം
 കഷ്ടത പട്ടിണി ഏറും ലോകം
 കൂട്ടിനു ഭീതിയെ നൽകും ലോകം
 ആധിയിലനുദിനമോടും ലോകം
 അന്യതയോളം എത്തിയ ലോകം

- Lizy Philip

BIRTHDAYS

1-Apr	Jane Mathew	Mesquite	18-Apr	Omana Cherian	Sunnyvale
1-Apr	Abel Chacko	Garland	18-Apr	Cheian Mathew	Garland
2-Apr	Thomas K. George (Toy)	Garland	19-Apr	Neenu George	Grand Prairie
3-Apr	Alice Thomas Mathew	Mesquite	20-Apr	Jolly Babu	Garland
3-Apr	John Oommen	Garland	20-Apr	Lillykutty Thomas	Mesquite
3-Apr	Linda Mathew	Mesquite	20-Apr	Manu Varghese	Garland
3-Apr	Shibin Mathewkutty	Garland	20-Apr	Sally Koshy	Garland
5-Apr	Lee Mathew	Garland	21-Apr	Jully Joseph	Garland
5-Apr	Joshua Mathew	Plano	21-Apr	Raju Varghese	Sunnyvale
5-Apr	Stephanie Jacob	Mesquite	22-Apr	Sossamma Kunjappy	Sunnyvale
6-Apr	Jaya George	Sunnyvale	22-Apr	Suja Thomas	Mesquite
6-Apr	Jonathan Cherian	Garland	22-Apr	Tom Thomas	Garland
7-Apr	Jacob Skariah	Garland	23-Apr	Varughese K Varughese	Grand Prairie
7-Apr	Kezia Cherian	Forney	23-Apr	Varghese Mathai	Garland
8-Apr	Anisha Sarah Mathew	Sunnyvale	25-Apr	Kushy Lal	Mesquite
8-Apr	Nilty Varughese	Grand Prairie	25-Apr	Saji P. George	Sunnyvale
9-Apr	Joann Simon	Garland	27-Apr	Grace George	Mesquite
10-Apr	Ashwin A Varghese	Sunnyvale	28-Apr	Anish Mathew Thomas	Garland
10-Apr	Hansa Abraham	Sunnyvale	28-Apr	Asish Mathew	Sunnyvale
10-Apr	Nidhin Thomas	Garland	28-Apr	Joselin Mathew	Rowlett
11-Apr	Alen Sam Koshy	Garland	28-Apr	Mohan Philip	Rockwall
12-Apr	Sunil K. Abraham	Garland	29-Apr	George Mammen(Sunil)	Rockwall
14-Apr	Mariamamma Thomas	Garland	30-Apr	Kripa Thomas	Sunnyvale
14-Apr	Rubin Thomas	Mesquite	30-Apr	Abigail Thomas	Sunnyvale
17-Apr	Neksa George	Rockwall	30-Apr	Ameila Mathew	Garland
			30-Apr	Nathaniel Mathew	Garland

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

From March, we have entered into the spring season. Spring is the season that symbolizes new life. Winter is when all the plants and trees are all dried and dead, but with spring comes the bloom of the flowers, and what was once dead is now alive again! Creation prepares our hearts for the remembrance of Good Friday and the celebration of Easter. From Palm Sunday to Easter, we commemorate the final week of Jesus before His death. From 25th Day of Lent, we have been conducting evening vespers (Sandhya namaskaram) in our respective members' houses. I encourage those who have not attended yet to join in the days leading up to Palm Sunday. The liturgy used for the evening vespers can truly spur our hearts in worship as it helps us understand what Christ has done for us. The Lenten season is a time for us to examine our hearts as the culmination of the season points us to the cross where we see the ultimate sacrifice of Christ. In Christ, we who were once dead are now alive again!

Friday, March 17 to Saturday, March 18, the South West Region conducted the annual MTVEA, Sevika Sangham, and Yuvajana Sakhyam Conference. I am overjoyed to note that after the host church, our church had the second highest number of attendees. The theme for the conference was "Walk by Faith, not by Sight." My prayer is that all of the attendees were spiritually enriched and will continue in their faith journey with the Lord.

Saturday, April 8th, the South West Region Center A Sevika Sangham will have a center meeting at our church. I encourage all of the members of the Sevika Sangham to attend and extend hospitality to our fellow sisters from the nearby parishes.

Thursday, April 20th to Saturday, April 22nd, the Diocesan Clergy and Assembly will be conducted at St. Stephen's Mar Thoma Church, NJ. This particular assembly will be where the council will be elected for the next three year term. Please keep this meeting in your prayers, and may those who lead this diocese for the next three years be effective and obedient to the call of God.

Thursday, April 27th is the birth centenary of the Most Rev. Dr. Philipose Mar Chrysostom Valiya Metropolitan. As the Valiya Metropolitan completes a hundred years in his life, let us pray that God continues to use him for His glory.

May these last few days of the Lenten season, the Passion Week, Good Friday, and Easter really draw your hearts to your Savior, so you experience more of His love, grace, and mercy.

Happy Easter!

In His Service,
Rev. Shaiju P. John
Vicar
St. Paul's MTC, Dallas
April 2017

You are a Winner

By Mariam Chacko

When we read 1 John 2:14, the author says that when the word of God abides in us, God gives us the power to overcome evil and worldly pleasures. The word of God gives us the fear of God and sin. God created human beings to be winners. Jesus said that there are troubles, sickness, sorrow, and hardship in this world. Again, He assures us to be bold and courageous. God told Joshua the same thing when the children of God (Israelites) were trying to conquer their promised land. God created Adam and gave him dominion over His creation. However, Adam did not realize the loss of this dominion caused by his disobedience. Thus Adam and Eve were separated from God's presence. Scripture says that obedience is better than sacrifice. This is a sad story. When we are born again, our story has a happy ending.

Faith in Jesus can make us a winner. During this Lent season, we must search ourselves and try to change our lifestyle according to God's ways. Sometimes we have to give up something and add new things. Faith without action is dead. If we believe that Jesus is the Christ, the only Son of the living God, then we become more than a conqueror (Romans 8:37). We can't think that there is no problem in our lives. It simply means we can go through and emerge triumphant. We can do all things through Jesus Christ who strengthens us. When we are down with problems, failures, rejection, etc., go to the scripture. It shows that we can be successful. Every time when a challenge come up, respond by saying well, "praise God, I can beat this thing as I am an overcomer in Jesus." Jesus came to this world and dies for us to give us an abundant life and salvation. Let the above word of God abide in us to be a winner out of all our trails and troubles.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1-Apr	Mr. & Mrs. Edison K. John	Sunnyvale
6-Apr	Mr. & Mrs. George C. George	McKinney
15-Apr	Mr. & Mrs. Siby Thomas	Mesquite
25-Apr	Mr. & Mrs. Philip Samuel	Sunnyvale
27-Apr	Mr. & Mrs. Simon P. P	Garland
30-Apr	Mr. & Mrs. Skariah P.M.	Garland

Lectionary/Worship Information

Sunday, April 2, 2017 The Restoring Christ (36th Sunday)		
Lesson 1: Job 42:10-17	Epistle: Eph. 2:1-10	
Lesson 2: Phil. 2:5-11	Gospel: Mark 10:46-52	
Sunday, April 9, 2017 Hosanna - Christ the Lord of Peace (Theological Seminary Day)		
Lesson 1: Zech. 9:1-12	Epistle: Col. 1:15-23	
Lesson 2: Heb. 5:1-10	Gospel: Mark 11:1-11	
Sunday, April 16, 2017 Kemtho - End of Great Lent Resurrection: Celebration of New Life in Christ		
Lesson 1: Isa. 60:1-22	Epistle: 1 Cor. 15:20-28	
Lesson 2: 1 Cor. 15:42-58	Gospel: Luke 24:1-12	
Sunday, April 23, 2017 New Sunday - Christ Lord and God to us (1st Sunday after Easter)		
Lesson 1: Gen 3:13-17	Epistle: Col. 1:15-23	
Lesson 2: Col. 3:1-11	Gospel: John 20:24-29	
Sunday, April 23, 2017 Imitation to Christ's Hospitality 2nd Sunday after Easter		
Lesson 1: Gen 18:1-10	Epistle: Heb. 13:1-8	
Lesson 2: Rom. 12:9-16	Gospel: John 21:1-14	