



# THE PILGRIM

A Church Publication since 2000

*A monthly Newsletter published for the  
Church of South India, Toronto, Canada  
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Brampton, Ontario*

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*Motto for 2011*

*"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us,  
that we should be called children of God!" 1 John 3: 1*

**കുറിവാക്യം-2011**

കാണിൻ, നാം ദൈവമക്കൾ എന്നു  
വിളിക്കപ്പെടുവാൻ പിതാവു നമുക്കു എത്ര വലിയ  
സ്നേഹം നൽകിയിരിക്കുന്നു; 1 യോഹന്നാൻ 3:1

*For Private Circulation only*

പിള്ളി

(ശ്യാമപ്രസാദ്)



President and Pastor  
Rev. Shaji M. Johnson

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Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

I, from the bottom of my heart thank God almighty for the precious opportunity he has given me and family to be with you here in Toronto. I also thank all of you for receiving and accommodating us with much love and affection as part of your fellowship. I recognize that it is your prayer and supplications that made us to come over here. We are grateful to all the parish members for the wholehearted support and cooperation you are giving to us. May God bless you all. I do acknowledge all the tireless works and services of my predecessors for the benefit of our church and pray that God bless them as they continue their service wherever they are. When I compare myself to them I admit myself to be the least and last and seek God's guidance and your prayers to do His ministry.

We are living as a church. What is a church? Church is a set apart community living to take up the mission and ministry of Christ. Church is not an institution or a club. It is the union of the saints. Unless and until we maintain unity and fellowship we cannot be a called apart community. The zeal and spirit of Jesus Christ should inspire us to live the life of Christians in all walks of our life. As we live as a Diaspora community mutual understanding and sincere love are to be the signs of our Christian life.

We are in the episode of the commemoration of silver jubilee. As we move on the journey of faith we should be aware of the great heritage we are having. We came together, worshipped together and sang the tune of unity. So we created harmony in our congregational life and its influence should prevail in our souls as we go ahead. We also have to uphold the Christian values and ethos as a witnessing community. The Psalmist says that "we shall be satisfied with the goodness of your temple" (Psalm 65:4) What is goodness in the temple of God? There is abundance of goodness in God's house, and what is satisfying to the soul; there is enough for all, enough for each; it is always ready; and all without money and without price. By faith and prayer we may keep up communion with God, and bring in comfort from him, wherever we are.

I seek your prayers and support in all activities of our church. Let us celebrate our church life in unity and peace.

May God bless you all

Yours in Christ

Shajiachen

## Welcome to Canada



*It is with great pleasure that we welcome with open arms our new pastor Rev. Shaji M. Johnson, Sangeeth Kochamma and Hannah Mol into our midst.*

*We thank the Almighty for their ministry and may God fill them with the Holy Spirit as they continue in His ministry here in Toronto.*

### Men's Fellowship News

#### **MEN'S SUNDAY**

We will be celebrating June 12<sup>th</sup>. 2011 as Men's Sunday. Members of the Men's Fellowship will be taking an active part in the worship service. Mr. Joy C. Mathew will deliver the message.

#### **FOOD BANK DONATIONS**

The Men's Fellowship will start their Food Bank collection. Please contribute generously to the food bank.

#### **BIBLE STUDY CLASSES**

Bible Study classes will be held every 3<sup>rd</sup>. Sunday after the worship service. The first Bible Study will be combined with the Women's Fellowship and will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup>. after the worship service. All women's and men's fellowship members are requested to attend these meetings. Our Achen will lead the first bible study.

Please visit our website: [csitoronto.org](http://csitoronto.org) for pictures of church events

**BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE****Birthdays**

- 1 Leonard Fredrick
- 2 Oommen Cherian
- 2 Aushin Sanjay
- 3 Soniya Bava Thomas
- 7 Melissa Kanjirappallil
- 7 Susan Joseph
- 8 Jerry John Thuthikattu
- 11 Ponnamma Thomas
- 11 Mary Joseph
- 15 Rejini Gajraj
- 18 Vijayan Kunnankody
- 19 Sheeba Thomas
- 20 Rachel Abraham
- 21 Molly Eapen Kanjirappallil
- 23 Elizabeth Koshie
- 24 Arpit Samuel George
- 26 Ryan Thomas James
- 26 Valsa Mathew
- 26 Benji Kondoor
- 26 Kevin Thomas
- 27 Achamma Kanthan
- 27 Christopher Gajraj
- 28 Shawn Cherian
- 29 Eric Kuriyan

**Anniversaries**

- 6 Zachariah Philip & Elizabeth
- 7 Joseph P. Mathew & Sonia
- 10 Zac Santhosh Koshy & Suja
- 21 Chris & Rejini Gajraj
- 23 Kurien Benjamin & Sunu
- 26 Mathew George & Annie

**BIBLE READINGS FOR JUNE 2011**

June 5<sup>th</sup>. 6<sup>th</sup>.. Sunday after Easter – Promise of the Holy Spirit

1<sup>st</sup>. Lesson: Joel 2: 28-32  
 Psalm: 42  
 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lesson: Galatians 5: 22-26  
 Gospel: John 14: 15-21  
 Read by: Mr. & Mrs. Reji Johnson & family

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June 12<sup>th</sup>.. - PENTECOST SUNDAY – Come Holy Ghost, Transform us (Mal)  
**MEN'S SUNDAY**

1<sup>st</sup>. Lesson: Ezekiel 36: 22-32  
 Psalm: 29  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Acts 2: 1-13  
 Gospel: John 20: 19-23  
 Read by: The Men's Fellowship Members.

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June 19<sup>th</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup>. Sunday after Pentecost – Trinity Sunday – Sing to the Triune God

1<sup>st</sup>. Lesson: Exodus 3: 12-15  
 Psalm: 98  
 2<sup>nd</sup> lesson: Revelations 4: 1-11  
 Gospel: Matthew 28: 16-20  
 Read by: Mr. & Mrs. Phil Mathai & family

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June 26<sup>th</sup>. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sunday after Pentecost – Christian Discipleship

1<sup>st</sup>. Lesson: 2 Kings 2: 1-15  
 Psalm: 119: 38-48  
 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lesson: Titus 2: 1-15  
 Gospel: Luke 14: 25-33  
 Read by: Mr. & Mrs. Joy C. Mathew & family

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## PARABLE OF THE PENCIL

**Anonymous**

The Pencil Maker took the pencil aside, just before putting him into the box. There are 5 things you need to know, he told the pencil, before I send you out into the world. Always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best pencil you can be.

**One:** You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in someone's hand

**Two:** You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, but you'll need it to become a better pencil.

**Three:** You will be able to correct mistakes you will make.

**Four:** The most important part of you will always be what's inside.

**Five:** On every surface you are used on, you must leave your mark. No matter what the condition, you must continue to write.

The pencil understood and promised to remember, and went into the box with purpose in its heart.

Now **replacing the place of the pencil with you**; always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best person you can be.

**One:** You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in God's hand. And allow other human beings to access you for the many gifts you possess.

**Two:** You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, by going through various problems, but you'll need it to become a stronger person.

**Three:** You will be able to correct mistakes you might make or grow through them.

**Four:** The most important part of you will always be what's on the inside.

**Five:** On every surface you walk, you must leave your mark. No matter what the situation, you must continue to serve God in everything.

By understanding and remembering, let us proceed with our life on this earth having a meaningful purpose in our heart and a relationship with God daily.

**As Psalms 78:72 says "let us submit ourselves to God Almighty so that He will mould and guide us with His skillful hands. "**

**Contributed by Meljo Varghese**

## BEAUTIFUL TONGUE?

**By Hank Lindstrom**

Have you given much thought to your tongue? Do you look often at your tongue in the mirror? Do you go on shopping trips for your tongue in the mall? Do you diet to get your tongue back in shape?

Is your tongue beautiful? Or is it ugly? Of course, we are not talking about its physical beauty. Although the tongue is small, it is one of the most important members of the body. Even though the tongue is small, it has tremendous influence.

James 3:3-5 says, "Behold, we put bits into horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body. Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth. Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!" Just like the rudder of a great ship can change the direction of the entire vessel, the tongue can greatly affect things.

The Bible says in Proverbs 18:21, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue..." The tongue can lead a person to Christ. The tongue can lead a person away from Christ. The tongue can bring praise and honor

to God, or the tongue can blaspheme and curse God. The tongue can win friends or lose them. The tongue must be brought under control if it is to be a beautiful tongue. And that is not easy! In fact, the Bible says that no man can tame the tongue. Without the Lord's help, it is impossible to tame or control the tongue.

James 3:7,8 says, "For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison." Animals of all kinds have been tamed according to the Bible, but the tongue no man can tame. The power of God's Holy Spirit can enable us to control our tongues.

An interesting example is the Apostle Peter. The night that Jesus was betrayed, Peter cursed and swore that he did not know Jesus Christ. Matthew 26:74 says, "Then began he to curse and to swear, saying I know not the man..." Here we have Peter using profanity to emphasize the fact that he did not know the Lord. Amazingly, we have the same man, Peter, who sinned with his tongue before Calvary, after the resurrection using his tongue under the control of the Holy Spirit to glorify the Lord by preaching the gospel.

Jesus promised, "But ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you...(Acts 1:8)." The power had to do with the tongue in particular as we learn in Acts 1:8 which says, "...and you shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." When the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, the first object on earth that it used was the tongue! The disciples began to speak in languages that would be understood by the foreign Jews who were visiting in Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost. Simon Peter, who had earlier cursed and sworn before a servant girl while denying Christ, got up and gave a message under the control of the Holy Spirit. Three thousand people responded and were saved as a result (Acts 2:41).

Your tongue can become a thing of real

beauty through the power of the Holy Spirit. Under your own power, the Bible says that no man can achieve victory over his tongue. We all need the Lord's help!

There is some good advice in God's Word concerning the tongue. James 1:19 says, "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath." We often need to put the brakes on our tongue and be silent. The book of Ecclesiastes tells us that there is "a time to keep silence, and a time to speak." Let's look at some verses in Proverbs: Proverbs 17:27,28 says, "He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understand is of an excellent spirit. Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding." Being "slow to speak" but "swift to hear" is good advice.

Gossip is one of those sins that is forbidden throughout the Word of God. "Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbour: I am the Lord (Leviticus 19:16)." God will judge the sin of gossip. The Bible says, "An ungodly man diggeth up evil: and in his lips there is as a burning fire. A froward man soweth strife; and a whisperer separateth chief friends (Proverbs 16:27,28)."

"The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly (Proverbs 18:8)." Gossip can deeply wound and hurt its targets. Some good advice from God's Word is found in Philippians 4:8. Is it true? Is it honorable? Is it just? Is it pure? Is it lovely? Is it gracious? If it passes all these tests, then pass it on. But if it doesn't, it should not be shared. Even if something is true, we must still apply the test of love. It is usually at this point that our conversation often "flunks out". No one can gossip about someone else and truly love that person at the same time.

No doubt about it! The gossip keeps a fire going! "Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer,

the strife ceaseth (Proverbs 26:20)."

Our tongue can be used to bring the gift of eternal life to a lost person (Romans 6:23). In fact, we are commanded to do so in Mark 16:15, "...go ye into all the world and preach (tell) the gospel to every creature." A witnessing tongue is a beautiful tongue.

Peter, the apostle, experienced this joy on the day of Pentecost having led three thousand people to Christ. Have you been using your tongue to glorify the Lord? Has your tongue brought the good news of Christ to a lost person? Is your tongue kind and considerate? Is it a compassionate, loving tongue? Maybe you could enhance the beauty of your tongue.

"Speak not evil one of another, brethren...(James 4:11)."

### CHURCH BULLETIN BLOOPERS (OLDIES BUT GOODIES!)

*Believe it or not the following announcements actually appeared in various bulletins (or so they say!):*

**Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa will be speaking tonight at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine. Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.**

**Announcement in the church bulletin for a National PRAYER & FASTING Conference: "The cost for attending the Fasting and Prayer conference includes meals."**

**Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again" giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.**

**"Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands."**

**Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.**

**Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.**

**Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person(s) you want remembered.**

**Attend and you will hear an excellent speaker and have a healthy lunch.**

**The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment, and gracious entertainment and gracious hostility.**

**A new loudspeaker system has been installed in the church. It was given by one of our members in honor of his wife.**