



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

Volume 15 Issue 3

MARCH 2015



Season of Lent

2015 Motto

'Fear God, and keep his commandments; for that is the whole duty of everyone.'

'ദൈവത്തെ ഭയപ്പെട്ടു അവന്റെ കല്പനകളെ പ്രമാണിച്ചുകൊൾക;

അതാകുന്നു സകല മനുഷ്യർക്കും വേണ്ടുന്നതു'

Ecclesiastes 12:13

Women's Sunday: March 22
Palm Sunday :March 29

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
Achen's message....	3
Celebrations.....	4
Bible Portions.....	5
Recognition.....	6
Church News.....	7
Special.....	8

Pilgrim

MARCH 2015

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chief Editor

Rev. George Jacob

Editor

Samuel Anselm Samuel

Publication Team

Shini Samuel
Suja Sarah Koshy
Akshay Koshy
Chris George

Address

CSI Parsonage
1311 Kipling Avenue
Etobicoke M9B 3N7 ON
(416) 231- 1717

Articles/ Feedback
May be sent to
pilgrimcsi.to@gmail.com

Editorial

I always focus on.....

Have you ever encountered insurmountable mountains in your life? Have you ever been dismayed by the deep valleys, or overwhelmed by the vast plains? We are often totally affected by these tangible realities that we feel the sure grasp of destiny. Depression and other serious conditions can take the place of the serene, placid life. But the psalmist was convinced beyond doubt that his help came from the maker of heaven and earth, the explicit reality. *I lift up my eyes to the mountains – where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.* (Psalm 121: 1 – 2)

Our current focus may have brought us to a standstill, like the people of Israel before the Red Sea. Just as the traffic gridlock that upsets the smooth running of our lives, the realities pose hurdles that make it difficult for us to jump over. When Peter changed his focus, the waters tried to pull him down. Our foci need to undergo a paradigm shift. Like the psalmist, our foci should shift from the mountains to the maker of heaven and earth. During Lenten, our eyes should be on Lord Jesus and His sufferings, rather than the surroundings. Full attention on our Saviour provides us with sustenance and a way out of the maze we are in. Guided by the reasoning faculty, amidst our other mountains, we may even be pulled down by atheistic perceptions. As we pass through this Golgotha, our faith can change the much acclaimed intangible to a tangible reality. The face of the loving father will become clearly visible.

If we can't see Christ who suffered for us on the cross, then our visions are impaired by the glories of the world. It is encouraging to know that He neither slumbers nor sleeps, and that He watches over us. Shall we not then look through the abundance of mountains, hills and valleys, and behold the maker of heaven and earth? If we find Him, the abundance of love and mercy shall be our portion, and life becomes meaningful.

May the almighty God help us to be focussed!

Samuel Anselm Samuel

Editor

Achen's Message



Dearly beloved in Christ,

I am delighted to greet every member in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We have been journeying through the lent season since February 18. The Western Church tradition, to which we belong, has 40 days of lent journey. The pilgrimage of 40 days, an important figure in Biblical history, combines the thoughts of the precious passion, crucifixion, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, our redeemer, and the present state of one's life with fallibilities and possibilities. 40 days of lent should strengthen us to pursue the resurrection power, with which we have to witness the Lord during these days. Let us continue to search our hearts and souls and conform our life to the purpose and will of the Almighty.

Traditionally, March first Sunday is observed as Women's Sunday in Madhya Kerala Diocese. We will observe Sunday, March 22, as the Women's Sunday. Women will be playing an active role in the divine service. The theme for the day is "Women: Partners in God's Liberation Acts". In an age that seeks to define the role of women, we have forgotten the possibilities defined by God for them. The increasing number of women who are smokers, alcoholics, singles, who hesitate to be called as mothers and so on, do compel us to think of the future society. Women are called to be co-workers with God in His mighty acts of liberation. Let our women be aware of their calling and nurture themselves in the Word of God.

Our General Body was held on February 22, and the new Executive Committee for 2015 was elected. The list has been sent to the Madhya Kerala Diocesan Bishop for approval. Soon after the receipt of Thirumeni's approval of the list, the new Executive Committee will be dedicated. I take this opportunity to thank each member, who attended the Annual General Body. I express my sincere gratitude to the 2014 Executive Committee for their commitment and contributions. I do congratulate the newly elected Executive Committee and wish God's blessings upon them as they serve our Lord.

I congratulate Mrs. Annie Koshy on achieving the 2015 National CAISAP Rising Star Award. May God bless her abundantly.

I have come to notice that still some of us have not contacted our prayer partners. It still disheartens me that yet there are members to take the Offertory Covers and Motto 2015, pick their prayer partners, and start One Year Bible Reading Plan and daily devotion with the Bible and "Our Daily Bread". I encourage all of you to be responsible and participate in the Spiritual life of the Church, without which our life and fellowship become meaningless.

May the good Lord grant us His wisdom to follow Him more closely in our daily walk of life.

Blessings and Peace,

Siby Achen.



BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|---------------------|
| 02 | Thankamma Mathew | 20 | Mathew George |
| 03 | Raimole Joseph | 22 | Elzy George |
| 05 | Joseph Thomas | 23 | K.P. Alexander |
| 08 | Abigail Cherian | 25 | Marilyn M. Verghis |
| 11 | Sidhant Mathews | 25 | Emily A. Verghis |
| 13 | Vivek Philip | 27 | Bryan Philip Joseph |
| 17 | George Mathew | 28 | Mona Anna Abraham |
| 18 | Vaiga Thampy | 30 | Susan Alex |
| 18 | Neil Joseph Mathews | 31 | Shruti Balakrishna |
| 20 | Vilayil I. Kurian | | |

ANNIVERSARIES

- 07 Niranjan Byru & Shobha Byru
- 11 Oommen Cherian & Mariamma Cherian



Daniel Thomas - Recognition of the order at CSI Church, Toronto during Sunday worship service on January 04, 2015



March 01 5 th Sunday before Easter	Persistence In Prayer		
	Old Testament	2 Kings 20 :1 - 11	English Service
	Psalm	116	Read by
	Epistle	1 Thessalonians 5 :12 - 22	Christopher Gajraj & family
	Gospel	Mark 7 :24 - 30	
March 08 4 th Sunday before Easter	True Worship That Liberates		
	Old Testament	Exodus 3 :11 - 18	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	137	Read by
	Epistle	Acts 16 : 25 - 34	Ajoy Lional & family
	Gospel	Luke 13 :10 - 17	
March 15 3 rd Sunday before Easter	Cross A New Vision Of Messianic Age		
	Old Testament	Deuteronomy 18 : 15 - 22	English Service
	Psalm	73	Read by
	Epistle	2 Corinthians 1 : 3 - 11	P. Matthew Verghis & family
	Gospel	Luke 18 :35 - 43	
March 22 Passion Sunday	Women: Partners In God's Liberation Act		
	Old Testament	Exodus 1 :15 - 22	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	148	Read by
	Epistle	Romans 16 :1 - 16	Women's Fellowship
	Gospel	Mark 15 : 37 - 41	
March 29 Palm Sunday	Hosanna - New King In The Temple		
	Old Testament	Isaiah 56 :1 - 8	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	24	Read by
	Epistle	1 Corinthians 3 :16 - 23	Daniel Thomas & family
	Gospel	Matthew 21 :1 - 17	

Laity receive Order of the Diocese of Toronto



“The Order of the Diocese of Toronto (ODT), an award created in 2013, honours members of the laity in the Diocese who have given outstanding service over a significant period of time in their volunteer ministry. We give thanks to God for the work and witness of these faithful people who, in the exercise of their baptismal ministry, have demonstrated that “their light shines, their works glorify.” In 2014, the recipients came from the following deaneries: Oshawa, Mississauga, Eglinton, Huronia and Tecumseth.” *(taken from the Anglican Church of Canada Diocese of Toronto's website)*

Daniel Thomas receives the Order of the Diocese of Toronto

Daniel Thomas, member of the CSI Church, Toronto was nominated for the order by Archbishop Colin Robert Johnson (Diocesan Bishop of Toronto and Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario). The Order of the Diocese of Toronto was presented to Daniel Thomas by the Archbishop at a service on Jan 01, 2015 at St James Cathedral in Toronto.



Daniel Thomas, ODT

Church of South India, Toronto

“The Church of South India has recently entered into a formal relationship with the Diocese of Toronto due in no small measure to the tireless efforts over an eight-year period of Danny Thomas. Mr. Thomas



is a key leader and current church warden and choir master at CSI Toronto. Using his considerable negotiation skills, he was able to find a balance between South Indian traditions and the Diocese of Toronto’s requirements that has created both mutual respect and trust. His skill, mission, and creativity make him a perfect leader of the outstanding music program at CSI. Mr. Thomas helps the young people of CSI deepen their awareness of their traditional spirituality, language and culture. He serves on the York-Credit Valley Area Council as well as the diocese’s Intercultural Committee and is a passionate voice for the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ.”

(taken from the Anglican Church of Canada Diocese of Toronto's website)



Monthly Fasting Prayer

Our Monthly fasting prayer will be held on March 7 at 10.00 AM. All are invited

Lenten Prayer meeting

Lenten Prayer services will be held on March 4, 11, 18 and 25 (Wednesdays) at 7.30 PM at the Church. All are invited.

Youth Fellowship meeting

There will be a Youth Fellowship meeting and Bible study on March 7 from 1.00 PM to 3.00 PM

Women's Sunday

The Church will be observing March 22, Sunday as Women's Sunday. Women's Fellowship members will be taking an active part in the worship service.

Cottage Prayer

Cottage Prayer for SHALOM Group will be held on March 14, Saturday at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Selvarajan T. Puthenkulangara at 7.00 PM. All area members are invited.

Cottage Prayer for JORDAN Group will be held on March 21, Saturday at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. P. Mathew Verghis at 6.30 PM. All area members are invited.

Holy week services

Palm Sunday

We will be celebrating Palm Sunday on March 29. All are invited for this Holy communion service on this special Sunday.

Maundy Thursday- April 2, at 7 .30 PM

Holy Communion service will be held on April 2, Maundy Thursday at 7.30 PM . All are invited for this special service.

Good Friday - April 3 at 10.00 AM

This year the Good Friday service starts at 10.00 AM.

Easter Sunday - April 5 at 11.00 AM

The Executive Committee Members for 2015

Vicar & President	Rev. George Jacob	Men's Fellowship Director	Mr. Joseph Thomas
Vice-President / Rector's Warden	Mr. Abraham P. George	Women's Fellowship Director	Mrs. Susan Joseph
Secretary / People's Warden	Mr. Christy Abraham	Youth Fellowship Director	Mr. Sanju Cherian
Joint Secretary	Mr. Varghese V. John	Choir Director	Mr. Daniel Thomas
Treasurer	Mr. Ajoy Lionel	Social & Entertainment Director	Mr. Benjamin Chacko
Joint Treasurer	Mr. Samuel Anselm Samuel	Trustees	Mrs. Annie Koshy Mr. Joy Chemmanoor
Sunday School Director	Mrs. Diani Mathai		

Special

Pilgrim

Women's Fellowship Retreat



Appreciating the Organists



Published by CSI Church, Toronto, 1315 Kipling Avenue M9B 3N7, ON. All rights reserved