



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

Volume 15 Issue 4

APRIL 2015



HAPPY EASTER !!

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

April 2, Maundy Thursday 7:30 pm
April 3, Good Friday 10:00 am
April 5, Easter Sunday 11:00 am
April 10, Friday - Family Night 7:00 pm

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Pilgrim

APRIL 2015

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Editorial

HE is not here

Have you ever encountered an 'unexpected reality'? How much impact has such an encounter created in your life? Two thousand years ago, the grave that held the body of Jesus had a terrifying encounter. The grave could boast of being immensely secure – the entrance stone was sealed and a watch set. But it couldn't contain the Resurrection. The earth quaked, the seal broke and death lost its power. The watchmen were petrified, and the women were afraid. They heard the angel say, 'He is not here: for he is risen. Come, see the place where the Lord lay'. (Matthew 28:6)

The resurrected Christ is the basis of our hope, faith and life. It is interesting to note that the outward manifestations of power at the grave yard followed the spectacular resurrection inside the grave. Those who went inside to have a look, saw only the empty tomb. The fact that no barricades can stop the power of resurrection might have been too overwhelming to the women and the disciples. Their human minds failed to comprehend this sublime reality. But it is quite comforting and soothing to know that graves can't hold our lives. The power of resurrection that abides with us can make us eagerly wait for that call, 'Lazarus, come out – the last trumpet'.

The people who witnessed the reality of resurrection were afraid till they met the resurrected Lord. However, the transformation that happened in their lives through the granting of peace was enormous. They became bold and strong. During this Easter, let the resurrected Lord grant us peace to witness and glorify Him. Shall we, the ambassadors of Christ, help the world break the shell of fear, and help others to be clothed in the Resurrection and the Life?

Wish you all a blessed and joyful Easter.

Samuel Anselm Samuel

Editor

Achen's Message



Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings to all of you in the name of our Risen Lord!

In April, we are at the final days of the forty-day lent (Great Lent). The first week marks the Holy week, when we draw near to the Table of the Passover, the Cross and the Empty Tomb. These three occurrences in history mark the foundation of Christianity. Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ could not be contained or confined to the cross or the tomb. This reality embraces the very fact that truth, justice and righteousness cannot be suppressed forever, and those core values will have an ultimate victory. This thought increases hope in our lives. There will be an end to all endurances and sufferings as we read in Revelation 21. Clarence W. Hall has rightly pointed out that "Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there."

Martin Luther had observed of Easter as "Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time." When we observe the change in colour and nature of the flora and fauna, it is sure that hope and joy abound in us. It is very true even of our weather. By God's grace, we have overcome another winter. God has been faithful in keeping all of us safe and sound in our day to day lives. All glory may be unto our Heavenly Master!

A "Family Night" is organized in our congregation at 7:00 pm on Friday, April 10. Each and every member is welcome to perform his / her talents in various capacities (cultural or physical or both), either as an individual or in a group. This should be a time of fellowship, getting to know each other and fun. We look forward to the earnest participation of every family.

The classes for the Confirmation candidates are progressing. I request all of you to keep all the ten candidates in your valuable prayers, so that they would be blessed and thus our congregation. We are hopeful to conduct the Service of Confirmation during July. Continue to pray for the Bishop, the candidates, the divine service of Confirmation and Holy Communion on that day.

The preparations for the CSI North American Council as well as Family and Youth Conference are being done in the Niagara Convention Centre. I request all of you to give your valuable time for this venture, which will be a great time of renewal and fellowship for all CSI members in North America.

I am happy to wish all of you a very meaningful Holy Week and a joyful Easter. It is my sincere prayer and hope that the Power of Resurrection leads us and guides us in all our walks of life till our last breath.

May the good Lord, who has conquered the sting of death and the depth of grave, grant us strength, mind and wisdom to look at the empty cross and tomb, and walk victoriously in His name.

Blessings and Peace,

Siby Achen.



റൈറ്റ് റവ. തോമസ് കെ. ഉമ്മൻ
(സി.എസ്.ഐ. ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി മോഡറേറ്റർ & മദ്ധ്യകേരള മഹായീടവക ബിഷപ്പ്)



ദേവാലയപ്രതിഷ്ഠാശുശ്രൂഷയും പൊതുസമ്മേളനവും

2015 മാർച്ച് 24 ചൊവ്വാഴ്ച

4.30 പി.എം. : ദേവാലയ പ്രതിഷ്ഠാ ശുശ്രൂഷ
6 പി.എം. : പൊതുസമ്മേളനം

സെന്റ് മാർക്കസ് സി. എസ്.ഐ. ചർച്ച് പൂഴിക്കുന്ന്

ദേവാലയ പ്രതിഷ്ഠാ ശുശ്രൂഷയും പൊതുസമ്മേളനവും

കർത്താവിൽ പ്രിയരെ,
1930 - കളിൽ റാന്നി ഇടവക വികാരിയായിരുന്ന ഏബ്രഹാം കോശി അച്ചന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനഫലമായി സ്ഥാപിക്കപ്പെട്ട സഭയാണ് പൂഴിക്കുന്ന് സെന്റ് മാർക്കസ് സി.എസ്.ഐ സഭ. പ്രസ്തുത സഭയ്ക്ക് വേണ്ടി ടൊറന്റോ സി.എസ്.ഐ സഭയുടെ മുഖ്യ സാമ്പത്തിക സഹായത്തോടെയും, സഭാ സന്ദേഹികളുടെ നിർലോഭമായ സഹകരണത്തോടെയും നിർമ്മിച്ച പുതിയ ദേവാലയത്തിന്റെ പ്രതിഷ്ഠാ ശുശ്രൂഷ 2015 മാർച്ച് 24 -ാം തീയതി ചൊവ്വാഴ്ച 4.30 പി.എം. ന് ദക്ഷിണേന്ത്യ സഭയുടെ ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി മോഡറേറ്റർ റൈറ്റ് റവ. തോമസ് കെ. ഉമ്മൻ തിരുമേനി നിർവ്വഹിക്കുന്നതാണ്.

ഏവരുടെയും പ്രാർത്ഥനാപൂർവ്വമായ സാന്നിധ്യ സഹകരണങ്ങൾ സാദരം അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

എന്ന്,

റവ. ഷിബിൻ വർഗീസ്
(ഇടവക വികാരി)

ഒ.പി ജേക്കബ്
(സഭാ പ്രവർത്തകൻ)

വി.എം. മാത്യു
ചാക്കോപോൾ
(കൈക്കാരന്മാർ)

കാര്യപരിപാടികൾ

4.30 പി.എം. : സി.എസ്.ഐ ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി മോഡറേറ്ററും മദ്ധ്യകേരള മഹായീടവക അദ്ധ്യക്ഷനുമായ റൈറ്റ് റവ. തോമസ് കെ. ഉമ്മൻ തിരുമേനിയുടെ കാർമ്മികത്വത്തിൽ

പ്രതിഷ്ഠാ ശുശ്രൂഷ

6.00 പി.എം. : പൊതുസമ്മേളനം

- പ്രാർത്ഥന സ്വാഗതം
- അദ്ധ്യക്ഷപ്രസംഗം : റവ. ഷിബിൻ വർഗീസ് (ഇടവക വികാരി)
- അനുഗ്രഹ പ്രാർത്ഥന : റൈറ്റ് റവ. തോമസ് കെ. ഉമ്മൻ തിരുമേനി
- ആരംഭങ്ങൾ : ശ്രീ രാജു ഏബ്രഹാം എം.എൽ.എ
- : റവ. ഡോ. സാബു കെ. ചെറിയൻ (മഹായീടവക ട്രഷറർ)
- : ശ്രീമതി. സുസൻ അലക്സ് (ബ്ലോക്ക് പഞ്ചായത്ത് പ്രസിഡന്റ്)
- : റവ. കെ.ജി തോംസൺ (കുന്യാളംപൊയ്ക മെല്ലാ ചെയർമാൻ)
- : ശ്രീമതി ഷേർലി ജോർജ്ജ് (റാന്നി- പഴവങ്ങാടി ഗ്രാമപഞ്ചായത്ത് പ്രസിഡന്റ്)
- : റവ. രാജു ജേക്കബ് (മിഷൻ ബോർഡ് ഡയറക്ടർ)
- : ശ്രീ. ഏബ്രഹാം നിക്ക്കോളാസ് (ചർച്ച് വാർഡൻ, സെന്റ് പോൾസ് സി.എസ്.ഐ ചർച്ച്, റാന്നി)
- : ശ്രീമതി ലാലു വർഗീസ് (വാർഡ് മെമ്പർ)

കൃതജ്ഞത :
സമാപന പ്രാർത്ഥന :
ആശീർവാദം :

April 2 Maundy Thursday	Eucharist: The Celebration of Remembrance		
	Old Testament	Exodus 12: 1 - 17	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	116	Read by
	Epistle	I Corinthians 11: 23 - 34	Joseph K. David & Family
	Gospel	Matthew 26: 17 - 30	
April 3 Good Friday	Death of Death		
	Old Testament	Numbers 21: 1 - 9	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	22	Read by
	Epistle	I Corinthians 15: 50 - 58	Samuel Anselm Samuel & Family
	Gospel	Matthew 27: 1 - 56	
April 5 Easter	Resurrection: Celebrating the Joy of Salvation		
	Old Testament	Exodus 14: 5 - 31	English Service
	Psalm	118: 14 - 29	Read by
	Epistle	Colossians 3: 1 - 11	Benjamin Chacko & Family
	Gospel	Matthew 28: 1 - 10	
April 12 1 st Sunday after Easter	Encounter with the Risen Lord		
	Old Testament	Genesis 32: 22 - 32	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	40	Read by
	Epistle	Acts 9: 1 - 18	Aji V Mathews & Family
	Gospel	John 20: 24 - 29	
April 19 2 nd Sunday after Easter	Identifying Risen Lord in the Work Place		
	Old Testament	Ruth 2: 1 - 18	English Service
	Psalm	15	Read by
	Epistle	Acts 9: 36 - 43	Sam Daniel & Family
	Gospel	John 21: 1 - 14	

BIRTHDAYS

04	Mathew Modayil Kuruvila	17	Jacob Cherian
04	Rachel George	17	Kiran Masih
06	Angelina Raichel Ajoy	20	Tim Eapen
09	Jija Ajay	21	Jacob P. John
10	Jamal Masih	21	Manoj Joseph Kurien
11	Miriam Chacko	21	Mini George
12	Regi Koshy	21	Nisha Thomas
15	Diani Mathai	21	Sonali Byru
15	Rini Miriam Jacob	22	Abraham Chacko
15	Mary Alexander	24	Nathan Jinoj
16	Ruth Philip Joseph		



ANNIVERSARIES

08	Aji V. Mathews & Sophy Aji Mathews
24	Reji Kumar P. B & Preethamole R



Holy week service

Maundy Thursday

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

Good Friday service at 10.00 AM

Our Good Friday service will start at 10.00 AM. Please note this time change and plan to attend the service.

Fasting Prayer

Our Monthly Fasting Prayer will be held on April 4 at 10.00 AM. All are invited

Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday Holy Communion service will be held at our usual worship time 11.00 AM. All are invited for this special service.

Family Night at the Church

The Church is holding a Family Night on Friday April 10, starting at 7.00 PM. All our members are invited. Come, relax, plan some entertainment program and have some good food on this Friday Night. The Committee has authorised Mr. Joseph P. Mathews and Mr. Sanju Cherian to coordinate the Family night. More details will be announced in the church. Please plan to attend and have a great fellowship.

Cottage Prayer

Cottage Prayer for SHALOM Group will be held at 6.30 PM on Saturday, April 11 at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Ajay Joseph (Apt. 2402 - 5 Dufresne Court, Toronto, M3G 1B7). All area members are invited to attend.

Cottage Prayer for JORDAN Group will be held at 6.30 PM on Saturday, April 18 at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Sudeep Oommen (23 Bay Crest Dr., Brampton, L6Z 1H5). All area members are invited.

Cottage Prayer for GILEAD Group will be held at 6.30 PM on Saturday, April 25 at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Chacko (1237 Deer Run, Mississauga, L5C 3S5). All area members are invited.

Community Formation around Resurrection Experience			
April 26 3 rd Sunday after Easter	Old Testament	Isaiah 25: 1 - 9	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	126	
	Epistle	Acts 4: 32 - 37	Joseph Thomas & Family
	Gospel	Luke 24: 13 - 35	

I DON'T CARE

Suja Sara Koshy

A true report: A family of four once went on vacation to California and on the last day before returning home, they decided to visit the beach. It seemed like the perfect day to spend on the beach. It didn't take very long for the kids to start their play and fun. The sun was shining down on them, the gentle breeze was all they needed to settle into their beach attires and laze on the chairs. The kids were excited and rolled in the sand and were enjoying thoroughly. Soon after, the parents though not far away, were both immersed in reading books that they brought along with them. As time passed, in between the fun and frolic, the parents noticed that the busy beach side now had fewer people and even fewer people swimming. The tides were getting rough and they thought it best to get packing and go back to the hotel. As they sauntered through the warm sand they saw their daughter making sand castles ... but alone. Looking around for their son and not seeing him caused panic and fear to rise in their hearts. Just then they saw the waves carry someone right into the deep end of the ocean. There was only one other man swimming closer to the shore. The father plunged right into the rough waters hoping to save his son, and also yelled to the man swimming, to help rescue his son. The mother ran to the life guard who was getting ready to leave as the next life guard took charge. Both the life guards ran towards the beach, seeing the dangerous situation at hand. But the little boy was drowning rapidly as he was not able to resist the rough, strong currents and was beyond anyone's position to rescue him. The life guards and the father swam back in despair and tears. The police were called, helicopters zoomed around and finally when they found the boy, they rushed him to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. The parents were distraught and agitated, the father was sure that, had the man who was swimming tried, he could have saved his son. So the parents decided to take this young man to court. Many months passed before the judgement came. The verdict was: the young man was let go – FREE – because technically it was not required of him to try and rescue the drowning boy.

Reading this news, I began thinking, the courts of this world may have let him go free, but how will he face his conscience? Could he have saved that child if he tried? What if he had decided not to ignore the plea of the desperate father? Won't that child's cry haunt him for the rest of his life?

We too are often insensitive to the needs of our friends and neighbours and are so quick to say "I don't care!", "Whatever!", "Who cares?", "Am I my brother's keeper?" But God has called us to be a sharing, caring community of believers. Jesus loved us enough to die on the cross for us. His 5th words on the cross was "I thirst" (John 19:28). I do believe that Jesus, being fully man, was actually feeling thirsty at that time. Jesus, who fed the crowd of 4000 people until they were satisfied; Jesus, who gave the Samaritan woman living water at the well so she doesn't thirst anymore – the same Jesus was now helpless and on the cross thirsty! More than the physical thirst I think that Jesus was actually thirsting for all those souls around him, for all those who hit him and hurt him and hated him. It was for their salvation, for their redemption and their reconciliation with the Father through His cursed death on a cross. Yes, even today, Jesus thirsts for souls that are on the road to destruction. I pray that we be sensitive to the calling of God and be responsive and say, "Lord not mine will but thine"

In this Lenten season dear friends, please remember when we say I don't care, Jesus says, **"I THIRST"**

Looking forward

Mona Anna Abraham

We, the youth fellowship of CSI church, Toronto, were delighted to have our first official meeting for 2015 on March 7, with our beloved Achen and newly appointed youth leader, Sanjuachachen. Bi-juachachen, our leader in 2014, did a great job recapping our experiences from the previous year. Lo and behold, we are off to a great start this year with a mission statement laid out to us that is as powerful and succinct as can be: Believe in Jesus Christ and Grow in Relationship with Him. Learn to Serve and Go Share Christ in the World. It is with tremendous enthusiasm, the youth connects with this mission as it prompted some great discussions. Collectively, we have declared to learn and grow as a family in God, to contribute to the life of the church, and be a force to reckon with in our community.

We intend to meet every first Saturday of the month after 1 p.m. These meetings will be led by Achen and guest speakers. The topics to be discussed at our meetings are the subjects regarding areas of concern, proposed by the youth. Overcoming peer-pressure and sharing the Gospel with non-believers were the topics raised at our last meeting. Our mentors reminded us that the answer to both these issues lie in living according to the Word of God, and in growing our own knowledge of Him. As written in 1 Peter 3:15-“always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect”. All we can do is live and share as Christ would, and let the Holy Spirit take care of the rest.

Following our discussions, we spent ample time charting out activities for the youth to carry out in the New Year. Each activity was mapped back to the mission statement. Without giving away too much, all I would like to proclaim is that the youth ministry is very much alive in our church, that we are full of potential and ideas, and that we have a desire to follow through with our plans. We request our church family's prayers and full support. God has amazing things in store for us in the year 2015!

“Life is wasted if we do not grasp the glory of the cross, cherish it for the treasure that it is, and cleave to it as the highest price of every pleasure and the deepest comfort in every pain. What was once foolishness to us—a crucified God—must become our wisdom and our power and our only boast in this world.”

— John Piper, Don't Waste Your Life

CHURCH SCHEDULE FOR 2015 - 2016


FEBRUARY 18, 2015	WEDNESDAY	Ash Wednesday
MARCH 22, 2015	SUNDAY	Women's Sunday
MARCH 29, 2015	SUNDAY	Palm Sunday
APRIL 2, 2015	THURSDAY	Maundy Thursday Service
APRIL 3, 2015	FRIDAY	Good Friday Service
APRIL 5, 2015	SUNDAY	Easter Service
APRIL 10, 2015	FRIDAY	Church Family Night
MAY 8 - 10, 2015	FRIDAY - SUNDAY	Gospel Convention / Church Anniversary
MAY 29, 2015	FRIDAY	Prayer - At the feet of Jesus
MAY 31, 2015	SUNDAY	Matins - Youth Fellowship
JULY 2 - 5, 2014	THURSDAY - SUNDAY	CSI Family Conference
JULY 5, 2015	SUNDAY	Episcopal Visit / Confirmation Service
JULY 11, 2015	SATURDAY	Ecumenical St. Thomas Day (Tentative)
JULY 19, 2015	SUNDAY	Half yearly General body meeting
JULY 25 / AUGUST 8, 2015	SATURDAY	Church Family Picnic
JULY 31, 2015	FRIDAY	Prayer - At the feet of Jesus
AUGUST 9, 2015	SUNDAY	Men's Sunday
AUGUST 20 - 23, 2015	THURSDAY - SUNDAY	Vacation Bible School
AUGUST 30, 2015	SUNDAY	Matins - Youth fellowship
SEPTEMBER 13, 2015	SUNDAY	Mission Sunday
SEPTEMBER 20, 2015	SUNDAY	Choir Sunday
OCTOBER 4, 2015	SUNDAY	Youth Sunday
OCTOBER 18, 2015	SUNDAY	Thanks Giving & Harvest Festival
OCTOBER 30, 2015	FRIDAY	Prayer - At the feet of Jesus



NOVEMBER 1, 2015	SUNDAY	Children's Sunday
NOVEMBER 7, 2015	SATURDAY	House to House Caroling
NOVEMBER 14, 2015	SATURDAY	House to House Caroling
NOVEMBER 21, 2015	SATURDAY	House to House Caroling
NOVEMBER 28, 2015	SATURDAY	Ecumenical Carol Service (Tentative)
DECEMBER 5, 2015	SATURDAY	House to House Caroling
DECEMBER 6, 2015	SUNDAY	House to House Caroling (After service)
DECEMBER 12, 2015	SATURDAY	Church Carol Service
DECEMBER 20, 2015	SUNDAY	Sunday School Exam
DECEMBER 25, 2015	FRIDAY	Christmas Day Service
DECEMBER 27, 2015	SUNDAY	Family Sunday/ Sunday School Anniversary
DECEMBER 31, 2015 - JANUARY 1, 2016	THURSDAY - FRIDAY	Year End & New Year Worship Service
JANUARY 29, 2016	FRIDAY	Prayer - At the feet of Jesus
JANUARY 31, 2016	SUNDAY	Matins -Youth Service
FEBRUARY 26, 2016	SUNDAY	Annual General Body Meeting
MARCH 6, 2016	SUNDAY	Women's Sunday

MONTHLY SCHEDULE

FIRST SATURDAY	Fasting Prayer & Youth Meeting
SECOND SATURDAY	Cottage Prayer—SHALOM group
THIRD SATURDAY	Cottage Prayer—JORDAN group
FOURTH SATURDAY	Cottage Prayer—GILEAD group
THIRD SUNDAY	Women's & Men's Fellowship meetings

(Please note that all the dates are tentative and are subject to change. Any changes to the schedule will be announced in the church.)

The Executive Committee Members of the CSI Church, Toronto

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 Lional	Social & Recreational Director	Mr. Benjamin Chacko
Joint Treasurer	Mr. Samuel Anselm Samuel	Trustees	Mrs. Annie Koshy
Sunday School Director	Mrs. Diani Mathai		Mr. Joy Chemmanoor



FAMILY NIGHT 2015

CSI CHURCH, TORONTO

April 10, 2015 7 PM
@ our church basement

Welcome new members
Enlighten ourselves
Refresh our spirits

Laughter
Joie de vivre
Food
Naadan Malayali Food
Fun

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