



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

# Pilgrim

Volume 17 Issue 11

NOVEMBER 2017



### 2017 Motto

**'Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.'**

*Philippians 4:6*

ഒന്നിനെക്കുറിച്ചും വിചാരപ്പെടരുത്; എല്ലാറ്റിലും പ്രാർത്ഥനയാലും അപേക്ഷയാലും നിങ്ങളുടെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ സ്തോത്രത്തോടെ ദൈവത്തോടു അറിയിക്കുകയത്രേ വേണ്ടതു.

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**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY**  
**November 5**

# Pilgrim

**NOVEMBER 2017**

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## Editorial

### *The Perfect Will...*

Have you ever been driven by your thoughts, circumstances or dreams? Have you ever yielded to those overwhelming forces? Was it your conscience, morals, culture, tradition or the Spirit that forced you to give way? What ever be it, man is always susceptible to the internal or external forces in varying degrees. When our thoughts, emotions and actions are channelized by the author of our faith – the eternal father, they reflect the perfect will of God.

*For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. (Phil 2: 13)*

Many people find it difficult to comprehend God's will for them. Some even try to relate their will to God's will by way of juxtaposing. A few just believe that whatever they do is the perfect will of God for them and for others. Knowing God's will and working towards realizing it can be daunting. People might even succumb to the strange idea that there is no need to make any effort; God is all powerful and will do everything. They hardly realize that God creates an effect in us. This influence leads us into doing His will that benefits us and those around us. Jesus accomplished the will of His father. He could have just waited on His father. But instead, He offered Himself to be sacrificed. The result was astounding – His action, when triggered by the will of God, redeemed the lost. It is also an encouragement to those who believe that nothing good can come out of them. The grace of God is enough to transform the power of man to the heavenly power that accomplishes the will of God.

If you are bent on doing the will of God, look no further. The knowledge of your limitations, and the absolute surrender to His holy will are the keys towards this realization. May the ever-present grace of God enable you to realize His will.

Samuel Anselm Samuel  
Editor

## Achen's Message



Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Saviour and Lord!

The relevance of Christian Education is increased during our times as we see chaos, confusion and anti-God attitudes. The values have changed and the outlook of life altered. Robert Raikes (1736 – 1811), a philanthropist, took an initiative about the children around him who were having no true sense about life. The generation which was immersing into all kinds of wrong doings were safely brought aside into the side of truth and light by the efforts of Robert Raikes. His attempts resulted in the Sunday School movement. Every Sunday, Mr. Raikes called every child into his place and taught them values of life from the Bible. This was later taken up by the Church and the endeavor grew into the Sunday School Movement.

Christian Education is very important, not only for children, but also for every senior. As in any field, we need to upgrade our knowledge of the Bible too according to our times. As it is said in Matthew 7:24 onwards, we are called to build our lives upon the firm foundation of rock, who is Christ. I urge every parent to re-think and prioritize their Sundays so that as a Church, we could grow in the Word and our generations will be blessed. May all the endeavors by our Sunday School team be found fruitful in our Lord.

Our Church hosted the first Bible Quiz Competition held by the Kerala Christian Ecumenical Fellowship (KCEF) in honour of late Rev. Fr. Dr. P. K. Mathews on September 23. We are happy that the CSI Church, Toronto has won the second place among the 14 Churches which participated. Appreciation, congratulations and thanks to the dedicated and systematic preparation and tireless efforts by Mrs. Elizabeth Verghis, Mr. Hans Thomas and Mr. Chris George for the Bible Quiz.

We could thank and praise God with the resources that He has bestowed on us during our Harvest Festival and Thanksgiving. It was a blessing in the life of the Church. Hearty gratitude to all who have generously contributed towards the growth of the Church. May God bless and keep all families who have offered their best for God. May our generosity be for the glory of God's name.

Youth Sunday was observed meaningfully. Our young people are talented. Thanks to the Youth Fellowship Director, Mr. Hans Thomas and all our young friends for their lively participation in the Divine Service. Our Youth Fellowship members participated in the Regional Youth Conference, which was held in Detroit. May the Almighty bless them with a fruitful future.

We could also observe the Missions Sunday last month. Mission is central to our faith and it is the responsibility of all who have known salvation to give Christ to the "Christ – less". Let us continue to uphold in prayer the missionaries whom we support, and those missionaries who work for His sake, forsaking the self. Thanks to the Missions Director, Mr. Sanju Cherian for the Mission endeavors.

We are collecting the Shoe boxes. Each family is humbly requested either to give the amount for the box(es) or pack a box or boxes with family members. You may also take boxes and encourage your friends to pack those boxes and return. Please be encouraged to offer your part the best way possible.

The Ascension CSI Congregation, Edmonton completed one year of faith journey on October 15. A Thanksgiving Service was held and Harvest Festival was observed. Let us continue to uphold the Congregation in our prayers.

Our sister congregation, the Canadian Mar Thoma Church has moved into their new place of worship in Stouffville. May the Lord bless their faith journey and allow both Congregations to grow in unity.

Let us continue our journey of life trusting God, cleansed by the blood of Jesus.

Yours in His Service,

Siby Achen.



### BIRTHDAYS

Ani Chacko	Biby Esther Abraham
Christina Fredrick	Prem Narayan
Vivek Joseph	Mary Jacob
Nikhil Joseph	Leanne Chacko
Reji Johnson	Matthew Gajraj
Ashley Lional Ajay	Sonijya Raj
Elizabeth Kuruvilla	Smitha Titus
Balaji I. Kuruvilla	Susan Mathew
Chris George	

### ANNIVERSARIES

Abraham K. Varghese & Shalini Mary

Ajoy Lional & Rejy Elizabeth

Rakesh Thampi & Neena Kuruvilla

Nibu Varguise & Ajin Annie Varguise

Abraham P. George & Elzy George

<p><b>November 5</b>  <b>World Sunday School Day</b></p> <p>22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<b>Abundant Life in Christ</b>		
	Old Testament	Proverbs 23:15-26	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	119:33-40	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 6:10-18	Sunday School Team
	Gospel	John 10:7-15	
<p><b>November 12</b>  <b>Unity Sunday</b></p> <p>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<b>Treasures in Clay Jars</b>		
	Old Testament	Micah 6:1-8	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	106:1-12	Read by
	Epistle	II Corinthians 4:7-15	Ajoy Lional & Family
	Gospel	Mark 4:26-29	
<p><b>November 19</b>  <b>Girl Child Sunday</b></p> <p>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<b>Girl Child: Precious Gift of God</b>		
	Old Testament	Exodus 2:1-10	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	144	Read by
	Epistle	Acts 9:36-42	Christopher Gajraj & Family
	Gospel	Mark 10:13-16	
<p><b>November 26</b></p> <p>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<b>Preparing for the Coming of the Lord</b>		
	Old Testament	Hosea 10:12-15	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	37: 1-24	Read by
	Epistle	Colossians 4:1-6	Daniel Thomas & Family
	Gospel	Luke 12:35-40	

Youth Sunday

# YOUTH SUNDAY

# Pilgrim





### **Monthly Fasting Prayer**

Our regular Monthly fasting prayer will be held at 10.00 am on Saturday, November 4. All are invited.

### **Children's Sunday**

We will be observing Children's Sunday on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Our Sunday school children will be taking an active part in the worship service.

### **Thank you**

We take this opportunity to thank you all for your whole hearted co-operation and participation in our Harvest festival, and for making it a huge success.. Also thanks to Almighty God for his blessings on that Day.

### **Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Project 2017**

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box project is open for 2017. This year also, we as a congregation intend to participate in this noble venture. There are 3 options by which all the families could participate:

1. donate CA\$25 towards any number of boxes that you would like to present
2. pack with your family any number of boxes that you would like to contribute
3. take any number of boxes to your friends/ relatives and return them packed

Sunday School team will pack the boxes, with the help of the Youth fellowship. Packing the Shoe Box will be done on Sunday November 5 and dedication of Shoe Box will be done on November 12 during the service. For more information, please contact the Mission Director, Mr. Sanju Cherian.

### **Cottage Prayer**

Cottage Prayer for SHALOM Group will be held on Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> at Mr. & Mrs. Babu Joseph's residence at 6.30 pm . All area members are invited.

Cottage Prayer for JORDAN Group will be held on November 11<sup>th</sup> at Mr. & Mrs. Joy Chemmanoor's residence at 6.30 pm . All area members are invited.

Cottage Prayer for GILEAD Group will be held on Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup> at Mr. & Mrs. P. J. Skariah's residence at 6.30 pm. All area members are invited.

### **Ecumenical Christmas Celebration**

The Kerala Christian Ecumenical Christmas Celebration will be held on Saturday, November 18. Time and place will be announced in the church. All are invited.

### **Church Carol Service.**

Our Church Carol service will be held at 6.00 pm on December 9<sup>th</sup> Saturday . Please invite your friends and relatives for the service. All are welcome.

### **Church dues**

Those who haven't paid the membership fee and other church dues please remit them by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

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**The Executive Committee Members of the CSI Church, Toronto**

President	Rev. George Jacob		
Vice-President / Rector's Warden	Mr. Abraham P. George	Women's Fellowship Director	Mrs. Susan Joseph
Secretary / People's Warden	Mr. Christy Abraham	Men's Fellowship Director	Mr. Santhosh Cherian
Joint Secretary / Trustee	Mr. Rennie Philips Joseph	Sunday School Director	Mr. Samuel Anselm Samuel
Treasurer	Mrs. Sheeba L. Ghosh	Youth Fellowship Director	Mr. Hans Thomas Varghese
Joint Treasurer / Trustee	Mr. Abhilash Raj	Mission Director	Mr. Sanju Cherian
Choir Director	Mr. Daniel Thomas	Social & Entertainment Director	Mrs. Susan Kurian

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**Christmas Area Carol Singing,**

This year, instead of House to House Carol singing, we will be conducting Area Group Carol Singing.

**Following are the dates:**

December 10 — Shalom Group, after the service, location to be announced

December 16 — Jordan Group, time & location to be announced

December 17 — Gilead Group, after the service, at the Parsonage