



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

# Pilgrim

Volume 25 Issue 8

AUGUST 2025



## 2025 Motto

“Here am I. Send Me!” - Isaiah 6:8

"അടിയൻ ഇതാ, അടയാനെ അയക്കേണമേ" - യെശയ്യാ 6:8

**August 7-9: VBS**

**August 10: VBS Sunday**

**August 17: Half-Yearly General Body**

**August 23: Church Picnic**

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# Pilgrim

**AUGUST 2025**

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## Editorial

Which blessings?

The messaging of the culture around us today goads us to pursue our own welfare and comfort, and the only thing that matters is the extent of the “must haves” one has achieved. In fact, we have deadened our conscience as a society such that ethics and integrity no longer matter in the path to success, and taking shortcuts or shortchanging others along the way is considered acceptable. This selfish and rebellious stance of the times we live in is in stark contrast to the Bible’s definition of blessing and success.

The Beatitudes found in the Gospel of Matthew are eight spiritual blessings spoken by Jesus which quite frankly are not things the world associates as blessings or a blessed state. A poor spirit or meekness are not conditions we desire, and we definitely don’t want to have to mourn anyone we love. Yet, in Matthew 5:3-12 Jesus called the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who pursue righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers and those who are persecuted as “blessed” and He pronounced unique blessings for each of them. Jesus’ blessings were not of material things, but rather they were spiritual gifts of comfort, of being in God’s presence and being called His children.

Interestingly, the mark of success in today’s times measures everyone against the same standard; the big house, flashy cars, well-paying jobs, high achieving children, a certain physical appearance, etc., and while having these things is not wrong, striving after a false image of success which pushes you to the brink of physical, mental and moral exhaustion is definitely not what God intends for our lives. As Christians we should recognize that God created us uniquely for His purposes and plans and calls us to run our race in His strength, Therefore, we are not to get lured into the trappings of success painted by a secular, consumerist and social-media centric world.

So, while the values and promises of the Bible may seem unattainable in today’s life, the big difference is that the world pushes us to compete beyond our natural ability and strength for transient things, whereas the spiritual blessings promised to us by God are for us alone, and He helps us achieve it through His strength. The question we need to ask ourselves then, is which blessings we want? May God lead each of us to choose wisely!

Reshma George  
Editor

## Achen's Message



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Warm greetings to you all in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As we journey through the month of August, the lectionary invites us to reflect on four central themes that shape the life of the Church—priesthood, baptism, the Holy Eucharist, and marriage. Each of these are not merely a religious ritual or an isolated spiritual moment; rather they are living signs of God's on-going presence, grace, and purpose. It becomes a sacred opportunity to return to the roots of our faith and to rediscover the deeper meaning of what it means to be the Church of Christ in the world today.

We begin this month with a reflection on priesthood, a ministry marked not by titles or robes, but by the wounds of Christ and the call to shepherd God's people with humility and love. Priesthood - both ordained and the shared priesthood of all believers - is a vocation of intercession, teaching, and sacrificial service. In a world increasingly skeptical of religious leadership, the priestly role must be reclaimed as one of vulnerability and integrity, grounded in the example of the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep. The following Sunday brings our attention to baptism, the doorway through which we enter the Christian life. It is a powerful sign of dying and rising with Christ—a personal exodus from old patterns of sin and fear into a new life of grace, purpose, and discipleship. Baptism is not simply a ceremony from the past but a living reality that shapes our daily choices, our identity, and our calling. It reminds us that we belong—not to the world, not even to ourselves—but to Christ and His body, the Church.

As we move further into the month, we reflect on the Holy Eucharist, the sacrament that lies at the heart of our communal worship. In the Eucharist, we encounter the mystery of Christ's presence—His body broken, and His blood poured out for the life of the world. It is here that we are most intimately nourished by divine love. But the Eucharist also compels us to become what we receive: to be broken and shared for others, to be agents of reconciliation and hope in a fragmented world. The table of the Lord invites not only worship but transformation. We conclude the month reflecting on marriage, a holy covenant that mirrors the eternal love between Christ and the Church. In a culture that often treats relationships as disposable and self-serving, the Christian understanding of marriage calls us back to mutual submission, self-giving love, and a life-long journey of grace. Marriage, like priesthood and baptism, is a sacred commitment through which God's love is made visible in human form.

These reflections are not just theological themes for our Sundays; they are living invitations to deepen our discipleship, renew our faith, and re-commit ourselves to being the body of Christ in a world that desperately needs hope. May the Lord who has called each of us by name, who has marked us in baptism, nourished us in the Eucharist, and bound many in sacred vows, continue to lead us with grace and truth.

In His service,  
Binuachen



### **Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship**

The Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship will take place every Thursday from 10:00am to 12:00 noon in the church sanctuary. Please join the fellowship through **Zoom** link.

### **Board Meeting**

The monthly board meeting (in-person) will be held on August 10, 2025, at 1:30pm.

### **Half Yearly General Body**

The half yearly general body will be held on August 17, 2025, immediately after the worship service. Requesting all eligible members to attend the meeting.

### **VBS And VBS Sunday**

The 2025 VBS will take place from August 7-9, 2025, at CSI Church Toronto. Continuing with the VBS spirit, August 10, 2025, will be celebrated as VSB Sunday. For further information, please feel free to contact our Sunday School Director, Ani Chacko.

### **Family Picnic**

Our annual family picnic will be held on August 23, 2025 at Sibbald Point Provincial Park, 26071 York Regional Rd 18, Sutton West, Georgina, ON L0E 1R0. Requesting all members to join this fun day. For any further information, please contact our member Abraham P. George (Shabu).

### **Cottage Prayer Meetings**

- **Jordan** area prayer – No prayer has been scheduled.
- **Gilead** area prayer - No prayer has been scheduled.
- **Shalom** area prayer will be held at the residence of Sajan Itty and Binu Sajan on Sunday, August 24, 2025, at 6.30pm. Their address is 19 Forman St, Port Perry, ON L9L 0B2.

If you wish to be included in the parish e-mail list to receive special notices, please send your e-mail ID to the Secretary at [secretary@csichurchtoronto.org](mailto:secretary@csichurchtoronto.org)



CSI CHURCH  
TORONTO

# FOOD SALE

AN INITIATIVE OF YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

STARTS RIGHT AFTER CHURCH SERVICE

AUGUST 10<sup>TH</sup> 2025

We're hosting a delicious food sale  
to raise funds for our upcoming  
**Youth Retreat!**

**FEED YOUR CRAVINGS & FUEL OUR RETREAT!**

For more donations, please etransfer via [donate@csichurchtoronto.org](mailto:donate@csichurchtoronto.org)  
(mention "Youth Fundraising" in the etransfer comments)

For more info Contact - Rufus Johns [Youth Director] (289) 544-9372

1315 KIPLING AVE, ETOBICOKE, ON

[www.csichurchtoronto.org](http://www.csichurchtoronto.org)



CSI CHURCH  
TORONTO

# Health & Wellness Week

STAY HEALTHY TO SERVE THE LORD

Join us as we strengthen our faith together with a weekend of insight, care & fun

## Virtual Podcasts - Friday August 15th



### MOBILITY

**Dr. Chloe Morgan** - B.Sc. in Human Kinetics and Doctor of Chiropractic

### DIET & NUTRITION

**Jenny Cherian** - Pharmacist and Certified Diabetes Educator



### FITNESS

**Brian Turda** - Personal Fitness Head at YMCA



## Saturday - 16<sup>th</sup> August (10:00 AM)

In person event with a day full of hands on wellness



Faith and health

Expert Talks



Physio Advice

Nurse Consults



Workout Routines

Fun Activities



**SIGN UP TODAY!**

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ALL!!!

For Details Contact: Joshua Moothedom | Missions Director |





<b>August 3, 2025</b> <b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b>	<b>Ordained Ministry: Fragrance of Christ</b>		
	Old Testament	Exodus 29:1-9	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	99	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 5:1-14	Suby Mathews & Family
	Gospel	Luke 10:1-11	
<b>August 10, 2025</b> <b>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b>	<b>Marriage: Lasting Life of Love</b>		
	Old Testament	Genesis 29:1-20	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	128	Read by
	Epistle	Hebrews 13:1-6	VBS Students
	Gospel	Matthew 19:3-9	
<b>August 17, 2025</b> <b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b>	<b>Baptism: Born from Above</b>		
	Old Testament	Genesis 8:1-14	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	25	Read by
	Epistle	Colossians 3:1-11	Jijo Cherian Varghese & Family
	Gospel	John 3:1-8	
<b>August 24, 2025</b> <b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b>	<b>Restoring the Image of God in Distorted Communities</b>		
	Old Testament	Micah 6:1-8	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	113:1-9	Read by
	Epistle	Galatians 3:18-29	Febin Varkey Mathew & Family
	Gospel	Luke 4:16-21	

Sacrament of Holy Communion			
<b>August 31, 2025</b> <b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b>	Old Testament	Exodus 12:1-14	<b>Malayalam Service</b>  Read by Women's Fellowship
	Psalm	42	
	Epistle	I Corinthians 10:14-22	
	Gospel	Luke 22:7-20	

**CSI CHURCH TORONTO**

**VBS 2025 August 7 to 10**

Venue: 1315 Kipling Ave, Etobicoke ON

**Time: 8:30AM to 4:30PM**

*Registration Fee*  
**\$15**

**please etransfer to donate@csichurchtoronto.org (include child's name in comments)**

For more info contact - Ani Chacko (Sunday School Director)

**LIVE IT OUT**  
 DISCOVER HOW TO LOVE LIKE JESUS



**BIRTHDAYS**

1	Michael Philip Gajraj	13	Sam Daniel P
1	Surya Ramachandran	13	Hannah Mariam Mathew
2	Bobby P. Cherian	15	Saurabh Itty
2	Githa Hutton	15	Jinoj Titus
3	Suby Mathews	16	Daniel Abraham
4	Declan Geo Robin	17	Anna Kurien
6	Shijo Perumannoor John	18	Nibu Varguise
6	Akif Ashraf	18	Jerish Bradly
6	Sam Paratt Kuruvilla	18	Rajiv Abraham
7	Jacob M. Chemparathimoottil	19	Sairah Anna Prasad
7	Trisha Cherian	20	Mary John
7	Raina Achu Roy	20	Sanjay Charuvil Ninan
7	Littin Jacob John	20	Aby Babu
8	Jonathan J Verghis	21	Inshaa Serah Jeffin
9	Benjamin Chacko	22	Anu Mariamma Easo K
9	Annamma Skariah	22	Aaron Pramod
9	Aleena Cherian	23	Jithin Sathyaraj Kanaath
10	Ajay Joseph	27	Rylan Mathew Roy
10	Sean Raymond	28	Mathew Joseph
10	Jibin Johnson Joji	29	Jophy Jacob Philip
12	Agnel Vinsber James Vincent	29	Norah Grace Thomas



**BIRTHDAYS**

- |    |                       |    |                   |
|----|-----------------------|----|-------------------|
| 29 | Anuja Jose            | 30 | Shoby Jacob Sunny |
| 30 | Roshen Elizabeth Raju | 30 | Sneha Jacob       |
| 30 | Gitu Geevarghese      |    |                   |

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 7 Aji Sam Mathews & Sushmita Keerthi
- 8 P. Matthew Verghis & Elizabeth Verghis
- 15 Jijo Cherian Varughese & Anushka Aley Abraham
- 16 Rijo George Cherian & Gitu Geevarghese
- 17 Williams Silvanose & Suja Williams
- 18 Jacob Cherian & Biby Esther Abraham
- 18 Vinod Maliyekal & Binssy Mathew
- 20 Nibu Mavila Issac & Nimisha Thomas
- 22 Reuben Benjamin & Steffy Jenson
- 25 Febin Varkey Mathews & Ansu Rachel Raju
- 26 Benjamin Chacko & Ani Chacko
- 26 Shinu Punnoose & Nesy Victor
- 26 Thomas C Joseph & Neha Susan Joshua
- 29 K. Philip Alexander & Mary Alexander
- 29 Anoop Easo & Anumol Cherian
- 31 Ajay Joseph & Surya Ramachandran

## Youth Summer Outing



## Anglican Cricket Festival



## Men's Fellowship Sunday





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

<b>President</b>	Rev. Binu Philip		
<b>Vice-President / Rector's Warden</b>	Mr. Santhosh Cherian	<b>Secretary / People's Warden</b>	Mr. Abraham K Varghese
<b>Joint Secretary / Trustee</b>	Mr. Joby Paul Mathew	<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr. Samuel Anselm Samuel
<b>Joint Treasurer / Trustee</b>	Mr. Shijo Perumannoor John	<b>Sunday School Director</b>	Mrs. Ani Chacko
<b>Choir Director</b>	Mr. Jefin Mathews	<b>Men's Fellowship Director</b>	Mr. Febin Varkey Mathews
<b>Women's Fellowship Director</b>	Mrs. Asha Susan Joy	<b>Youth Fellowship Director</b>	Mr. Rufus Luke Johns
<b>Mission Director</b>	Mr. Joshua Moothedom	<b>Public Relations Director</b>	Mr. Varughese V. John
<b>Social &amp; Recreational Director</b>	Mr. Ashley Jeji George	<b>Malayala Lokam Director</b>	Mrs. Stephamol S.S