



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

Volume 26 Issue 3

MARCH 2026



2026 Motto

"Thus far the Lord has helped us" - I Samuel 7:12(b)

“ഇത്രത്തോളം യഹോവ നമ്മെ സഹായിച്ചു” I ശമുവേൽ 7: 12 (b)

March 22: Women's Fellowship Sunday
March 27: Men's Fellowship Praise Night
March 29: Annual General Body Meeting

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Pilgrim

MARCH 2026

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chief Editor

Rev. Binu Philip

Editor

Reshma George

Publication Team

Geogy Thomas
Rishvi Narayan

Address

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

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

Editorial

A Seed of Faith.

The metaphor of the mustard seed was used by Jesus in the Gospels to teach his disciples about the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 13: 31-32) and the importance of having faith (Matthew 17: 20). In both these contexts Jesus drew a parallel between the obvious smallness of the mustard seed and the capacity of its plant to grow to great heights.

These texts outline Jesus' key message - the importance of having deep faith, and how even a small amount of it could yield great results. It is likely that the disciples were focussed on following Jesus and learning His teachings, but may not have understood the necessity and power of true faith. In fact, the disciples couldn't heal the demon-possessed boy so the father brought the boy to Jesus who first openly lamented over everyone's unbelief and then healed him (Matthew 17: 14 -18). We too may be like the disciples, where we earnestly follow Jesus but do not have the faith He wants us to have.

Most of us live rather effortlessly as Christians in our daily lives but we will all face challenging times where we may need to take a stand for our faith or practice it consciously and boldly in our public or private lives. We do not know the timing or context and may not even fully understand the situations we are in or why, but we can firmly believe that Jesus will always honour our faith, no matter how small or unnoticed and quiet it is.

Jesus said, "...If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you" (Matthew 17: 20). So, this passage offers true encouragement to us because we are promised that it is God's power and greatness that makes miracles possible. We just need to have enough faith to believe that! May this season of Lent help us to grow in faith, and may all we desire from it be to see God's glory!

Reshma George
Editor

Achen's Message



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

March draws us deeper into the sacred journey of Lent — a season that gently calls us to pause, reflect, and renew our hearts. These weeks invite us to look honestly at our lives, to seek God in quiet moments, and to rediscover the grace that meets us wherever we are. Whether your Lenten journey has been marked by discipline, struggle, insight, or quiet faithfulness, every step taken in sincerity is a step toward spiritual renewal.

As we approach the last Sunday of March, we come to Palm Sunday, standing at the doorway of Holy Week. We remember the moment of welcome and praise as Jesus entered Jerusalem, greeted with palms and hope. Yet we also know this path leads through sacrifice toward resurrection. Palm Sunday holds both joy and solemn reflection, reminding us that faith often carries both celebration and surrender. It invites us to walk attentively with Christ, trusting that God's love is present in every part of the journey.

This month we also celebrate Women's Sunday, giving thanks for the faithful witness, leadership, compassion, and service of women in our church and community. Their strength, wisdom, and quiet acts of care enrich our shared life of faith in countless ways. It is a time to honour their gifts, to listen with gratitude, and to support one another in building a community rooted in dignity, respect, and love.

May this Lenten season continue to renew our spirit, deepen our compassion, and prepare our heart for the hope that lies ahead.

In His Service,
Binuachen



Bible Study

The Lenten Bible Study series, 'Creation to New Creation', will be held every weeknight from **8:30pm** onwards. Please plan to attend the Bible study through the church Zoom line.

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 the church Zoom line.

Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

The monthly board meeting will be held (in-person) on March 8th, 2026, at 2:00pm – immediately after social hour.

Women's Fellowship Sunday

Women's Fellowship Sunday will be held on March 22, 2026. For more information, please contact Women's Fellowship Director, Asha Susan Joy.

Men's Fellowship Praise Night

Men's Fellowship will be hosting a praise night at 6pm on March 27, 2026, at CSI Church Toronto. For more information, please contact men's Fellowship Director, Febin Varkey Mathews.

Annual General Body Meeting

The Annual General Body meeting will be held on March 29, 2026 immediately after the worship service.

Cottage Prayer Meetings:

- **Jordan Area Prayer:** This prayer meeting will be hosted in-person by Mr. Selvarajan Thampy Puthenkulangara and Mrs. Eva Bose at 6:30pm on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at their residence at: 184 Tiller Trail, Brampton, ON L6X 4S8.
- **Gilead Area Prayer:** This prayer meeting will be hosted in-person by Mr. Sam Daniel and Mrs. Selva Kumari at 6:30pm on Saturday, March 28, 2026 at their residence at 1 Needham Dr., Etobicoke, ON M9W 3G5.
- **Shalom Area Prayer:** This prayer meeting will be hosted in-person by Mr. Sudeep Oommen and Sarah Oommen at 6.30pm on Saturday, March 14 at their residence at 1026 Beaufort Avenue, Oshawa, ON L1G 1G6.



Mr. Deepu J. Varughese, Secretary of the Council of CSI Congregations in North America, presenting an Appreciation Award to Rev. Binu Philip in recognition of his support.



March 1, 2026 2nd Sunday in Lent	Call to shoulder each other's burdens		
	Old Testament	II Samuel 9:1-13	English Service
	Psalm	41	Read by
	Epistle	Galatians 6:1-10	Sajesh Mathew & Family
	Gospel	Mark 2:1-12	
March 8, 2026 3rd Sunday in Lent	Cross: Manifestation of Grace		
	Old Testament	Micah 7:15-20	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	31	Read by
	Epistle	I Peter 2:17-24	Calvin Jacob & Family
	Gospel	Mark 10:46-52	
March 15, 2026 4th Sunday in Lent	Call to be Liberative		
	Old Testament	Isaiah 1:12-17	English Service
	Psalm	9	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 6:5-9	Shinu Punnoose & Family
	Gospel	Luke 13:10-17	
March 22, 2026 Women's Fellowship Sunday	Role of Women in Restoration: In the Church and in the Society		
	Old Testament	II Kings 8:1-6	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	71:12-24	Read by
	Epistle	Romans 16:1-7	Women's fellowship members
	Gospel	Matthew 26:6-13	

<p>March 29, 2026 Palm Sunday</p>	Let the King of Peace Enter		
	Old Testament	II Kings 7:3-20	English Service
	Psalm	24	Read by
	Epistle	Philippians 4:4-13	Abraham Varghese & Family
	Gospel	Mark 11:1-11	





BIRTHDAYS

1	Ivana Micheal Donny	16	Lenora Grace
2	Hans Thomas Varghese	17	George Mathew
2	Jayden Hans Thomas	17	Miriam Achu Kurian
2	Thankamma Mathew	17	Anoop Easo
3	Raimole Joseph	18	Neil Mathews
4	Jeena Joseph	18	Vaiga Thampy
4	Soloman Danny Alamshah	18	Robin George
5	Joseph Thomas	18	Jaby Mathew
6	Jijo Devasya	18	Rohan Vergis John
7	Nithin Jacob	19	Sonia Joseph (Dr)
7	Tom Abraham	20	Vilayil I. Kurian
8	Abigail Cherian	20	Mathew George
9	Shinu Punnoose	20	Niya James
9	Littymol Xavier	21	Nathan Kuruvilla Sam
10	Vimal Philip	22	Elzy George
10	Vinod Maliyekal	23	K. Philip Alexander
11	Sidhant Mathews	23	Chinnu Elizabeth Mathew
11	Neil Jinoj	23	Sneha Arnold Prem
12	Ashley Varghese	24	Jovet Abraham Sabu
12	Ujwal Prakash	24	Sanju Abraham

Celebrations



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BIRTHDAYS

25	Emily A Verghis	28	Elizabeth Philip
25	Marilyn M Verghis	28	Ansu Rachel Raju
25	Aswin Alex Seth	30	Susan Alex
27	Bryan Philips	31	Rakesh Thampi

ANNIVERSARIES

11	Oommen Cherian & Mariamma Cherian
14	Tom Abraham & Sanju Abraham
14	Chris George & Miriam Chacko
28	Donny Philip Varughese & Anuja Jose
30	Sam Daniel P & Selva Kumari



Bible Facts

Book Name	Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy	Joshua
Author of the book	Moses	Moses	Moses	Moses	Moses, after death of Moses, it was Joshua	Joshua
Who is the book written for	People of Israel	People of Israel	People of Israel	People of Israel	People of Israel who are entering the promise land	People of Israel who entered the promise land
Year of writing	BC 1480 - BC1410	BC 1480 - BC1410	BC 1446 - BC1445	BC 1480 - BC1410	BC 1406	BC 1406
Location	Middle East	During the travel in the desert	Base of mount Sinai	Various location of Mount Sinai	East of Jordan river	Promise land of Canaan (present day Israel)
Important verses of the book	1:27 & 12:2-3	3: 7 & 16	19:2, 17:11, 20:7&8	14:22	7:8	6:4
Number of chapters	50	40	27	36	34	24
Number of verses	1,533	1,213	859	1,288	956	658
Middle verse in the book	27: 39	22:27	15:7	17:4	17:8	12:26&27
Number of questions asked in book	148	58	3	59	33	21
Number of promises	71	28	26	5	47	15
Important Characters	Adam, Eve, Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abram (Abraham), Sarai (Sarah), Issac, Rebekah, Jacob, Joseph	Moses, Miriam, Pharaoh, Pharaoh's Daughter, Jethro, Aaron, Joshua, Bezalel	Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, Ithamar	Moses, Aaron, Miriam, Joshua, Caleb, Eleazar, Korah, Balaam	Moses, Joshua	Joshua, Rahab, Achan, Eleazar



Bible Facts cont'd

Book Name	Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy	Joshua
Where did the events take place	Mesopotamia, Canaan, Egypt, and the wilderness of the Negev.	Egypt, Mizraim, Goshen, Nile River, Midian, the Red Sea, and the wilderness leading to Mount Sinai	Mount Sinai and the wilderness of Sinai.	The wilderness of Sinai, the desert of Paran, and the plains of Moab, land on Canaan	Plains of Moab, on the east side of the Jordan River	Canaan, specifically the Jordan River, Jericho, Aai, Mount Gerizim, Mount Ebal, and Shiloh, Gilgal, Shechem
Why was the book written	Genesis covers creation, the fall of man, the flood, Babel, and the patriarchs' early history. It establishes God's covenant with Abraham, leading to Israel's formation. The book reveals God's purpose for humanity and His covenant.	Exodus tells the story of God's deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. It also includes the giving of the Law (including the Ten Commandments) and the establishment of Israel as God's covenant people. It emphasizes God's power and faithfulness.	Leviticus outlines laws on rituals, sacrifices, and purity, emphasizing holiness and proper relationship with God, forming the foundation for worship and moral behavior.	Numbers chronicles Israel's journey from Sinai to the Promised Land, recording the census, wanderings, and challenges. It highlights God's faithfulness despite Israel's disobedience and the need for trust in His promises.	Deuteronomy is Moses' farewell address before Israel enters the Promised Land. It recaps the covenant, encourages faithfulness, and stresses obedience with its consequences, preparing the next generation to follow God's law.	Joshua records the conquest and division of Canaan, fulfilling God's promise. It also highlights Israel's commitment to the covenant and emphasizes trusting God in battle and life.
Interesting facts	God created male and female only and named them Adam, once they were removed from the garden the female was called Eve	The parting of the Red Sea is not just a historical event but a timeless symbol of God's ability to make a way where there seems to be no way - a powerful reminder of His faithfulness and might	The concept of atonement through sacrifice and ritual points forward to the ultimate atonement made by Jesus Christ in the New Testament. The detailed sacrifices, like the sin offering (Leviticus 4), point to Christ as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world	When the Israelites complain and are bitten by poisonous snakes, God commands Moses to make a bronze serpent and put it on a pole. Anyone who looks at it is healed. This story prefigures the healing power of Jesus, referenced by Jesus in John 3:14-15.	Moses gives three speeches to the Israelites before they enter the Promised Land. He retells their history, emphasizing God's faithfulness, warns against disobedience, and stresses the importance of loving God with all their heart, soul, and strength (Deuteronomy 6:5)	20 lakh people were in the journey only Joshua and Caleb were the only who entered the promise land

Women's Fellowship Bible Quiz



Men's Fellowship Retreat



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

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

CONTACT INFORMATION:

- Church related general enquiries: vicar@csichurchtoronto.org | secretary@csichurchtoronto.org
- Church Directory updates / Corrections: churchdirectory@csichurchtoronto.org
- If you wish to be included in the parish e-mail list to receive special notices, please e-mail the Secretary at secretary@csichurchtoronto.org

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