



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

Volume 18 Issue 11

NOVEMBER 2018



2018 Motto

...for it is written, 'you shall be holy, for I am holy.'

1 Peter 1:16

'ഞാൻ വിശുദ്ധൻ ആകയാൽ നിങ്ങളും വിശുദ്ധരായിരിക്കണം' എന്നു എഴുതിയിരിക്കുന്നുവല്ലോ.

Sunday School Sunday - November 4

Eccumenical Carol - November 17

Gilead Area Carol - November 24

At The Feet of Jesus - November 30

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Pilgrim

NOVEMBER 2018

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Editorial

The Four Seasons...

Which season of the year is your favorite? How well do you enjoy the seasons? The four seasons remind us that change is inevitable. Sometimes we look forward to a season because we're fed up by another. In his poem, Ode to the West Wind, P. B. Shelley says, "O Wind, If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?" The transitory nature of the seasons reminds us that our lives also pass through different stages during our sojourn. The journey of a pilgrim is like the clouds fleeting across the sky. When we grow weary of the fact that "all our ground is sinking sand", it is consoling to learn that there is something that stands the test of time. Isaiah 40:8 says, "*The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.*"

Like the four seasons, our lives also pass through different phases. If summer symbolizes vitality and life, spring reminds us of our humble state and prosperity. Just as the sprouts appear and the plants bloom, spreading colour and fragrance, our lives also pass through this stage of significance. This stage of fame may create a defiant spirit within us. "*Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.*" Proverbs 16:18. Many people consider fall or autumn to be a very colourful season. But this soon transcends to a bleak and senseless state – the fall, a grim reminder of the Fall. The slick, slushy and cold winter sometimes triggers depression and creates an attitude of giving up. When people give in, they think that all is lost. The lessons from the four seasons can help us reflect on the state of our lives.

When we pass through the different stages of our lives, it is comforting to note that the Word of God endures for ever. The trust and hope we put on the Word will certainly see us through. That will seamlessly take us to our ultimate stop – the eternity. May the Living Lord fill us all with His grace and love in this journey.

Samuel Anselm Samuel

Editor

Achen's Message



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
Greetings!

It is wonderful to reflect on Jesus's interacting with children. Children are needy and dependent, and they know almost nothing about life. Listen to the word of our Lord, "Let the little children come to me, and don't hinder them! For the kingdom of Heaven belongs to such these" (Mat:19:14). Children need to be blessed by the Lord. Therefore, parents are encouraged to bring their children to Jesus at an early age and teach them His ways. Maybe in this busy life, we have no time to teach our children. So, for the good future of our generation, Church has an educational system - the Sunday School. Robert Rakes, the founder of Sunday School started this mission among the slum children in November 1780. He brought the children to the Sunday School and taught them the way of life - Jesus Christ.

The disciples of Jesus tried to prevent the children (Mat:19:13). But Jesus wanted children to come to Him. As parents, we must encourage children to come to Sunday School every Sunday. It will help them find the presence of Jesus in their lives and improve their spiritual growth. We are going to celebrate World Sunday School day on the first Sunday of November. Please Pray for our Sunday School teachers and children. If anybody is missing Sunday school, please bring them.

November Second Sunday is also important because it is Unity Sunday. As we all are united by the blood of Jesus Christ (Eph:2:13), it is important to express unity through our life because we are spiritually developed by one Holy Spirit (Eph:2:18), who leads us to the almighty God, the Father.

All who attended this year's Harvest festival & Thanks giving service at the church on October 14, 2018 had a beautiful time. Many thanks to all of you. I extend my sincere thanks to Zac Santhosh Koshy, Ajoy Lional & Suja Koshy (record keeping), Abraham P. George, Christy Abraham, Joy Chemmannoor, Shibu Pulikkapparambil, Jacob John (event setting-up) and Daniel Thomas (Coordinating the Harvest festival).

We had a blessed Youth Retreat 2018 of CSI North American Region No. 6 at Toronto from 26 to 28 of October. The theme was Christ-centered, Gospel-shaped, Spirit-led community and worship. Thanks to Hans Thomas, Samuel Chacko and Vishal from CSI Christ Church for taking charge of the entire retreat and for conducting it in a blessed way. The conference ended with a communion service. Rev. Josiline P. Chacko, vicar CSI Christ church Toronto, led the communion service in our church. On behalf of CSI Church, Toronto I express my gratitude to everyone.

Men fellowship retreat will be conducted on Saturday, Nov 3, 2018. Rev. Moncy Varghese, Vicar, Marthoma church is the main speaker of this retreat.

Extra Ordinary General Body meeting, to approve the revised constitution of CSI church, Toronto, will be held on Nov 18, 2018.

We have to return filled shoe boxes on November 4th.

North American Annual Council decided to hold a mission tour to Madhya Kerala Diocese of CSI. Proposed dates are Jan 25 to Feb 9/ Feb 28 to Mar 2, 2019. If anybody is interested, please contact the Mission director.

Our Carol Service will be held on December 8th.

Please pray for all our events and the development of our church.

May God bless you all

Rev Anish M. George Padickamannil



BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|---------------------|
| 03 | Ani Chacko | 20 | Biby Esther Abraham |
| 04 | Christina Fredrick | 26 | Prem Narayan |
| 08 | Vivek Joseph | 27 | Mary Jacob |
| 09 | Nikhil Joseph | 29 | Matthew Gajraj |
| 13 | Reji Johnson | 29 | Sonijya Raj |
| 14 | Ashley Lional Ajay | 30 | Aneasow P. Anish |
| 15 | Elizabeth Kuruvilla | 30 | Smitha Titus |
| 16 | Balaji I. Kuruvilla | 30 | Susan Mathew |
| 19 | Chris George | | |

ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|----|---|
| 18 | Abraham K. Varghese & Shalini Mary G. Enoch |
| 19 | Ajoy Lional & Rejy Elizabeth |
| 22 | Rakesh Thampi & Neena Kuruvilla |
| 25 | Nibu Varguise & Ajin Annie Varguise |
| 26 | Abraham P. George & Elzy George |

| | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <p>November 4 Sunday School Sunday</p> <p>24st Sunday after Pentecost</p> | You are a letter of Christ | | |
| | Old Testament | Exodus 2:1-10 | English Service |
| | Psalm | 47 | Read by |
| | Epistle | 2 Corinthians 3:1-11 | Sunday School |
| | Gospel | Mathew 5:13-16 | |
| <p>November 11 Unity Sunday</p> <p>25th Sunday after Pentecost</p> | Light on the Lamp Stands | | |
| | Old Testament | Zechariah 4:1-14 | Malayalam Service |
| | Psalm | 27 | Read by |
| | Epistle | 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 | K Philip Alexander & family |
| | Gospel | Mathew 5:14-16 | |
| <p>November 18 Sunday for the girl child</p> <p>26th Sunday after Pentecost</p> | Protecting the girl child | | |
| | Old Testament | Job 42:10-17 | English Service |
| | Psalm | 45:8-14 | Read by |
| | Epistle | Acts 16:16-18 | Benjamin Chacko & family |
| | Gospel | Mathew 15:21-28 | |
| <p>November 25</p> <p>27th Sunday after Pentecost</p> | Celebrating the promises of God | | |
| | Old Testament | Samuel 2:1-10 | Malayalam Service |
| | Psalm | 66 | Read by |
| | Epistle | Hebrew 11:29-40 | Abraham P. George & family |
| | Gospel | Luke 1:39-45 | |

Appreciation - Very Rev. Dr K. J. Chacko



Upcoming Events

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols | December 08, 2018 |
| Area Caroling - Jordan | December 15, 2018 |
| Area Caroling - Shalom | December 15, 2018 |
| Christmas Service | December 25, 2018 |
| Watchnight Service | December 31, 2018 |



Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship

The Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship will be held in the Sanctuary every Wednesday from 10:00 AM till 12:00 noon, so please come out and join us.

Men's Fellowship Retreat – November 03, 2018

Members of Men's Fellowship will be having a retreat on Saturday, November 03, 2018. If you are interested to participate, please contact Santhosh Cherian, Director of Men's Fellowship.

Sunday School Sunday - November 04, 2018

This year, the Sunday School Sunday will take place on Sunday, November 4th. Sunday School teachers and students will take an active part in the service. Please plan to attend this special Sunday.

Operation Christmas Child - Shoe box "Samaritan's Purse Canada"

"From children to seniors, people pack shoebox gifts each year to bless children in need around the world. Parents often use the project to teach their kids about giving. The Amazing Journey of a Shoebox Gift Begins with You and Results in Evangelism, Discipleship, and Multiplication". Please note that all filled/completed shoe boxes must be received by Sunday, November 4th.

Please contact Elizabeth Mathai, Director of Mission for further information.

Church Executive Committee Meeting – November 11, 2018

A meeting of the Church Executive Committee will be held at the board room on November 11, 2018 at 1:00 pm. All committee members are requested to attend.

Kerala Christian Ecumenical Carol Service - November 17, 2018

Kerala Christian Ecumenical Carol Service will be held on November 17th from 5:00 to 10:00 pm. More details to follow. Please plan to attend.

Extra Ordinary General Body (EGB) – November 18, 2018

Please be advised that an Extra Ordinary General Body (EGB) to approve the revised Constitution of CSI Church, Toronto Inc. will take place on Sunday, November 18, 2018 immediately after the social hour. All members are requested to attend this special meeting. If you haven't picked up your copy of the revised constitution of CSI Church, Toronto Inc., please do so at your earliest.

Area Caroling – November 24, 2018

Gilead area caroling will start at 11:30 am at the residence of Mr. George Mathew (Joji) & Mrs. Siji Joseph on Saturday, November 24, 2018 and will end at the residence of Dr. Nibu Varguise and Dr. Ajin Varghese at 6:30 pm. Please plan to join.

At the Feet of Jesus – November 30, 2018

We are pleased to invite and encourage you with family and friends to participate and invoke blessings upon your life's spiritual journey by sharing your time worshipping and witnessing our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Come prayerfully, acknowledge God's work in your life, witness unto Him and praise Him, intercede for various concerns of the Church and the world. Please be encouraged to invite your dear ones and friends. Let us be revived in our walk with Christ, our Redeemer!

Men's Fellowship Volunteer work at Scott Mission

Scott Mission is a Christian ministry organization that aims to meet the needs of people with love and compassion and seek to bring spiritual, physical, and emotional wholeness to their lives. Scott's Mission has three locations in the GTA area.

As a part of Toronto CSI church mission values and community outreach program, Men's fellowship team members went to Scott's Mission, Toronto to do a volunteer work on October 06, 2018. There were 7 members who participated in this volunteer work. Even though Rev. Anish Achen had landed recently in Canada, he wholeheartedly came to support us for this work. We were divided into different groups and were assigned to help their staff in the kitchen to cook lunch for the visitors. Later, we also helped in serving food for visitors as well as in the clean up afterwards. There were more than 120 visitors who had lunch during our time. It was a great experience for our men's fellowship members to serve and help Scott mission charity work. My sincere thanks to Rev. Anish M George Padikamannil, Daniel Thomas, Sanju Cherian, Ajoy Lionel, Jacob P. John and Tinu Varghese John for rendering their valuable time and making this work very successful. God bless you all.

Thank you

Santhosh Cherian

Men's Fellowship Director





Thanksgiving & Harvest Festival

Women's Fellowship Bible Quiz

Quiz #8, Gospel of Matthew (Chapters 19, 20, 21, 22)

Instructions:

1. *May follow NIV or NRSV as reference*
2. *Answer the question with related bible verse (eg ,Ans : xxxxxx chapter 1 versus 2)*
3. **Send the answers to elzygeorge@gmail.com.**

*Answers should reach on or before **20 November 2018***

Questions - Quiz # 8 Matthew 19, 20, 21, 22

Answer true or false and give the reference:

1. It was the rich young man who asked, "Who then can be saved?", to which Jesus replied, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." T/F
2. In the parable of workers in the vineyard, we understand that the landowner is generous and also teaches us not to be envious of the blessings of others, but to thank God for His mercy toward others and ourselves. T/F
3. It was to the mother of Zebedee's sons that Jesus asked, "What do you want me to do for you?" T/F
4. According to Matthew 22, the Pharisees and Sadducees did not believe in resurrection. T/F
5. It was to the Pharisees that Jesus said, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's." T/F

Answer in one word or sentence with reference:

1. Why did the rich young man come to Jesus? What was his weakness, that Jesus exposed?
2. In chapters 19-22, who else, besides Moses, did the people consider as prophets?
3. We read in one of the parables that "the man was speechless". What is the question that made him speechless, and in which parable is it mentioned?
4. In chapters 19-22, Who all addressed Jesus as Son of David?
5. When did Jesus predict his death, and to whom did he give the details of his death and resurrection?

Winners of Quiz #7 on the Gospel of Matthew 15, 16, 17,18 October 2018

First - Jeena Joseph, Jenny Cherian, Suja Sara Koshy, Susamma Jacob

Second - Mary Alexander

Third - Elizabeth Mathai, Shini Samuel, Susan Kurian

Answers for Bible Quiz #7 - Gospel of Matthew 15 - 18

Answer true or false and give the reference:

1. True (Matthew 15:9)
2. True (Matthew 15: 24)
3. False (Matthew 16: 1-4) It was not to the crowd but Jesus said this, responding to the question from the Pharisees and Sadducees
4. False (Matthew 17:22-23) It was not in Jerusalem, but Jesus said this to His disciples, when they came together in Galilee.
5. True (Matthew 17:24)

Answer the following questions in one word or sentence with reference.

1. The people were with Jesus for 3 days. (Matthew 15:32)
2. i) Simon Peter, replied to Jesus. (Matthew 16:16) ii) Simon Peter answered "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God". (Matthew 16:16)
3. i) Jesus said "What goes into a man's mouth does not make him 'unclean,' but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him 'unclean.'" (Matthew 15:11). ii) Out of the heart comes evil thoughts and desires. (Matthew 15:18-19)
4. It was to the Pharisees and Sadducees, Jesus said "You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times." (Matthew 16:1)
5. Jesus said they are blind guides, referring to the Pharisees. (Matthew 15:12-14)

The Executive Committee Members of the CSI Church, Toronto

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| President | Rev. Anish M. George | | |
| Vice-President / Rector's Warden | Mr. Zac Santhosh Koshy | Women's Fellowship Director | Mrs. Selvakumari Daniel |
| Secretary / People's Warden | Mr. Daniel Thomas | Men's Fellowship Director | Mr. Santhosh Cherian |
| Joint Secretary / Trustee | Mr. Abraham K. Varghese | Sunday School Director | Mr. Samuel Anselm Samuel |
| Treasurer | Mr. Ajoy Lional | Youth Fellowship Director | Mr. Hans Thomas Varghese |
| Joint Treasurer / Trustee | Mrs. Elizabeth Verghis | Mission Director | Mrs. Elizabeth Mathai |
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