



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

Volume 19 Issue 1

JANUARY 2019



2019 Motto

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Ephesians 5:14

ഉറങ്ങുന്നവനെ, ഉണർന്നു മരിച്ചവരുടെ ഇടയിൽനിന്ന് എഴുന്നേൽക്ക; എന്നാൽ ക്രിസ്തു നിന്റെ മേൽ പ്രകാശിക്കും.

A CELEBRATION OF NEW MINISTRY

Induction Service

January 6, 2019 @ 4 PM

Sunday School Exam - January 20

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Achen's message....	3
Celebrations.....	4
Bible Portions.....	5
Christmas.....	6,8
Church News.....	7
Article.....	9
Sunday School.....	10
Quiz.....	11

Pilgrim

JANUARY 2019

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chief Editor

Rev. Anish M. George

Editor

Samuel Anselm Samuel

Publication Team

Shini Samuel
Suja Sarah Koshy
Akshay Koshy
Chris George

Address

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

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

Editorial

Awake and arise....

Have you ever been carried away by the norms set by human intellect? Have you ever found that these are sometimes contrary to the norms set by the Word of God? If so, you're not alone. But where do we draw a line? The Word of God surmounts all earthly wisdom and sends a powerful admonition to everyone.

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you. (Ephesians 5:14)

The Light

The fall and winter fleet to bring,
The spring and summer sweet and warm;
In passing ever minds of charm,
And ring in babes, the hopes that cling.

The earth has lost its light sublime,
In search of perfect love so bold,
The bright and morning star behold,
The light consumes the dark from climb.

Awake from sleep, arise from dead,
Or *Homo fuge*; sin is dark
And Christ will shine to help embark
A life of light to bless the world.

(Samuel Anselm Samuel)

The myriad blessings we received in our lives can comfort and calm us as we enter 2019. Having a list of New Year resolutions is just great. We may be able to realize those. But greater would be when we wake up and arise from the dead. If we're able to do this, blessings galore will be ours this new year, and we'll become a blessing unto many.

Wish you a happy and blessed New Year!

Samuel Anselm Samuel
Editor

Achen's Message



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I wish you a blessed happy New Year. The theme for 2019 is, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." (Ephesians 5:14) Before this statement, Paul says that people were in darkness. The deeds they did then, were fruitless. It is a very pathetic situation as it is rebelling against God. The people continue to do such corruption, disobedience and thoughtlessness in a shameless way.

If you go back to verse 3 in Ephesians 5, Paul explains there was sexual immorality, impurity, greed, dirty jokes etc. It is a description of human being's life style without God. And it is a life of self-glorification and idolatry. Paul said to Corinthians, "the god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel." (2 Cor. 4:4). Satan encloses and surrounds us so much so that we're kept asleep in darkness. He tempts us with temporary schemes or attractive moments and make us stumble in dark. Sin feels best in the beginning, but it never gets better after that. Moreover, worse things will chase us the rest of our lives. It is the trap of sin, and you can't escape from there. Your life is like being dead - means having a spiritual death. Are you lazy to pray to God? Is your family inactive to lead family prayer? Are you not regular in the church activities, Bible study, caring for others? Are you giving more importance to the worldly life, status, wealth etc.? If your answer is yes, you are spiritually dead. But by the blood of Jesus Christ, you can rise from this life. So, St. Paul reminds us to awake from the sleep with Jesus, and He will shine on you. In this new year, try to speak to one another with the quotes of psalms, hymns and Bible verses. It will change your life, and you will lead a worthy and perfect life in Christ with the help of Holy Spirit.

We had a very beautiful Christmas carol service this year. Our church choir is one of the best choirs in North America. I would like to extend my thanks to our chief guest, Rev. Stephen Blackmore (Area dean, Anglican Diocese of Toronto), the choir members, instrumentalists, friends and relatives, sister-church members, youths from Detroit CSI church, those who did the lay ministry, decoration, visual works, video, photography, sound system technicians, prayer supporters and church members. I would also like to thank our choir master, Mr. Daniel Thomas and choir director, Mr. Chris George.

My induction service will be held at 4 pm on January 6, 2019. The Bishop of York-Credit Valley, The Right Reverend Jenny Andison will lead the worship and communion service. I invite you all to this service. Please note that there is no morning worship service on that day.

Most of our members attended the Christmas day service. After the worship, we had a Christmas lunch.

We had a blessed watch night service / New year service. Our church members came at 10 pm for sharing experiences and testimonies on December 31st.

We are starting confirmation classes next month. Children aged 15 or more in 2019 are eligible. Forms are available in the office. Please return the filled forms before January 6th, 2019.

Our Bible study, on the second coming of Jesus Christ, will start at 7:30 pm on January 10th. Please pray for our all activities.

May God bless you.

Rev. Anish M George Padickamannil

Cell: 6479948238



BIRTHDAYS

04	Ninu Ann Varghese	22	Aji V. Mathews
04	Ryan Eipe Thampi	23	Abraham P. George
05	Sonia Mathews	25	Reeni Philip
06	Daniel Phil	28	Ryan Mathews
09	Joy Abraham	29	Neha Chemmanoor
10	Aezekiel Mathews	29	Megan Thomas
10	Riddhi Ghosh	30	Selvarajan Thampy Puthenkulangara

ANNIVERSARIES

01	David Thomas & Rachelamma Thomas
02	Nittu Mathew Jacob & Anu Mariamma Easo .K
03	Manoj Joseph Kurien & Asha Joy
03	Santosh Cherian & Jenny Varghese
05	Mathew Joseph & Mary Joseph
07	Jophy Philip & Smitha Victor Sam
11	Joy & Mini Chemmanoor
16	Sudeep & Sarah Oommen
21	Raj Hariharan & Sonijya Raj
21	Jacob P. John & Mary Jacob
26	Shibu Paul Pulikaparambil & Shiny Paul
27	Joseph Thomas & Raimole Joseph

Celebration of New Ministry			
January 6 Epiphany (4 pm)	Old Testament	Isaiah 60:1-6	English Service
	Psalm	72:1-14	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 3:1-12	Church Committee
	Gospel	Matthew 2:1-12	
Be Holy			
January 13 1 st Sunday after Epiphany (10 am)	Old Testament	Deuteronomy 7:1-11	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	5	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 5:18-20	Christy Abraham and family
	Gospel	John 17:13-17	
One Body and One Baptism			
January 20 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany (10 am)	Old Testament	Amos 9:5-12	English Service
	Psalm	115	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 4:1-6	Christopher Gajraj and family
	Gospel	Matthew 16:13-20	
Ecumenical Sunday - United in Love			
January 27 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany (10 am)	Old Testament	Deuteronomy 4:1-10	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	30	Read by
	Epistle	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Suby Mathews and family
	Gospel	John 15:11-17	

Christmas

Pilgrim





Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship

The Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship is held in the Sanctuary every Wednesday from 10:00 am till 12:00 noon. Please come and join us for the fellowship.

A Celebration of New Ministry – January 6, 2019 at 4:00 pm

A Celebration of New Ministry Service for Anish Achen will take place on Sunday January 6, 2019, (the feast of Epiphany) at 4:00 pm. The Bishop of York-Credit Valley, **The Right Reverend Jenny Andison** will lead the service along with area clergies. Please invite your friends and relatives to this special celebration of new ministry.

Bible Study – “The Second Coming of Jesus Christ”



To accommodate all members, the study takes place each Thursday night from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm and each Sunday morning from 9:00 am to 9:40 am starting January 10, 2019. Bible Study provides an in-depth study on the Second Coming of Christ. It also provides an opportunity for members to connect and learn with each other while continuing to grow their personal relationship with God. Anish Achen will lead the bible studies.

Please plan to attend one of the studies according to your schedule.

Cottage Prayer

Jordan area prayer will be at the residence of Mrs. Elizabeth Mathai (Daisy) on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Address: 85 Nuffield Street, Brampton, ON. L6S 5T7. Please plan to attend.

Church Executive Committee Meeting – January 13, 2019

A meeting of the Church Executive Committee will be held at the board room on January 13, 2019 at 1:00 pm. All committee members are requested to attend.

Sunday School Examination - January 20, 2019

Our Sunday school exam will be held on January 20, 2019.

Upcoming Events

Monthly Fasting Prayer	February 02, 2019
Sunday School Anniversary	February 03, 2019
Annual General Body	February 10, 2019

If you wish to be included in the parish e-mail list to receive special notices, please send an e-mail to Secretary at torcsichurch@gmail.com



The wisest of women builds her house, but folly with her own hands tears it down. (Proverbs 14:1,ESV)

SelvaKumari Daniel

Beloved in Christ, Happy New Year to all.

Building a house is not easy. We need materials like wood, bricks, sand, cement etc. To construct a house, we need to lay the corner stone, construct the basement, then build the main house, roof etc. However, Proverbs 14:1 doesn't talk about building such houses.

The wisdom of a woman enables her to enlarge her household, teach her children and be a blessing to her husband. On the contrary, a foolish woman is a curse to her husband and a detriment to her children. She drives her family away. The discouraging aspect is, most women who are foolish think they are wise, while their houses sink. Today's world encourages foolishness by praising independent existence, while victimizing wise women by gender bias. Performing actions according to God's standards is wise behaviour. It's recommended to build our houses on the rock – Jesus, not on sand.

ROCK-Wise Builders: Everyone who hears these words of mine and acts upon them [obeying them] will be like a sensible (prudent, practical, wise) man who built his house upon the rock. (Matthew 7:24, AMPC)

SAND-Foolish Builders: And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand. (Matthew 7:26, AMPC)

Wise Women:

It all starts with the family- a wise woman fears God and helps anchor her family on the strong foundation of rock, unlike the foolish woman. Let's have a look into the lives of some wise and foolish women.

Deborah

Deborah believed God will go before them and give victory over enemies. She urged Barak to take men and go for war against Canaanites. (Judges 5). Where did this boldness come from? It came through obedience to God, the rock.

Manoah's wife

Manoah was childless and lived 40 years under bondage of Palestinians because of Israel's sin. But God wanted to deliver His people through Manoah's family. Manoah was fearful in thinking they will die when they see God. *It was Manoah's wife who calmly and insightfully encouraged* him with words of faith. This paved the way for God's will to be done in their lives.

Ruth

Ruth was a Moabite, a cursed race born and raised in paganism. After the death of her husband, she was left with the choice of rock or sand. She saw Naomi following true God and decided to follow Naomi despite prospects of famine, hunger and death. She cared for her mother-in-law so well that her testimony of Ruth's noble character reached the ears of Boaz. She believed our God.

On the contrary:

Jezebel: In 1Kings 16:31, Israel's King Ahab marries Jezebel-who made Ahab, a Baal-worshipper. Ahab made a huge mistake! Jezebel illustrates a woman who corrupts others – she brought in foreign god and goddesses, leading her husband and nation astray (1Kings 21:25).

Lot's wife: When the Lord planned to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah because of their sin, Lot's family got mercies from God. As soon as the angels had brought them out, one of them spoke. He said, "Run for your lives! Don't look back! Don't stop anywhere in the valley! Run to the mountains! If you don't, you will be swept away!" But Lot's wife looked back. When she did, she became a pillar made of salt. (Genesis 19:17,26, NIRV). Her attachment and longing for her old life despite God's favour destroyed the entire family.

The proper foundation for a life is Jesus' words. We ought not to be hearers only, but doers as well (James 1:22). At times, it seems that everything in the world is set up to make us turn away from God's

(Continued on page 12)



Women's Fellowship Bible Quiz

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 January 2019**

Questions - Quiz # 10 Matthew 26, 27, 28

Answer true or false and give the reference:

1. At Gethsemane, Jesus prayed three times and each time he prayed that the Father's will be done. T/F
2. Jesus replied, "Yes, it is as you say," to both Caiaphas and Pilate, but at different times. T/F
3. Pilate knew that Jesus was innocent. T/F
4. It is evident from Matthew's description that Galileans spoke with a distinct accent. T/F
5. Jesus greeted the women on their way from the tomb and said, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my disciples to go to Galilee; there they will see me." T/F

Answer in one word or sentence with reference:

1. Who was the rich man who became a disciple of Jesus and how did he honour Jesus or show his love?
2. Name the disciple who followed Jesus after he was arrested. How far did he follow Jesus and why?
3. In one of the last three chapters, Matthew mentions the name of a prophet. Which prophecy of this prophet was fulfilled?
4. There were many women who followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs. Among them, who all are mentioned?
5. What is the lie or story that is widely circulated regarding the body of Jesus? Who devised this plan?

Winners of Quiz #9 on the Gospel of Matthew 23 - 25 November 2018

First - Shona Sam, Jeena Joseph, Ponnamma Varghese

Second - Shalini Enoch

Third - Jenny Cherian, Suja Koshy, Daisy Mathai, Susamma Jacob

Answers for Bible Quiz #9- Gospel of Matthew 23 - 25

Answers - true or false with reference:

1. True. (Matthew 23:1-3)
2. False (Matthew 23:16-22)
3. True (Matthew 24:30)
4. True (Matthew 25:1-13)
5. True (Matthew 24:10)

Answers - one word or sentence with reference.

1. Jesus speaks this to the crowds and disciples in the temple, because the people of the city of Jerusalem had repeatedly rejected Jesus' message. Jesus said that they would not see him again until they said, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" (Matthew 23:1, 37, 39).
2. It was spoken of by the prophet Daniel (Matthew 24:15). Jesus compared the second coming to the days of Noah (Matthew 24:37).
3. The parable of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25:31-46). Jesus spoke this to his disciples on the Mount Olives (Matthew 24:3).
4. The gospel of the kingdom will be preached to the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come (Matthew 24:14).
5. Yes. The parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30).

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
Choir Director	Mr. Chris George	Social & Entertainment Director	Mr. Abhilash Raj



(Continued from page 9)

words. And often, our own feelings pull us toward doing the exact opposite of what the Bible says. But a wise woman will follow the words of God despite these pressures—not to “show off” or earn salvation, but because she trusts God. As we follow the Lord, we learn to trust and obey Him. The reward is, our “house” remains steady and solid, unshaken by circumstances. The wise person is a believer whose life is built upon Christ, the Rock. The wise is like the tree planted by the riverside, whose leaf does not wither (Psalm 1:3).

May God bless each one of us and help us to build the house on Jesus. Amen

For Private Circulation Only

Published by CSI Church, Toronto, 1315 Kipling Avenue M9B 3N7, ON. All rights reserved