



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

Volume 19 Issue 2

FEBRUARY 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.

**Sunday School Anniversary-
February 03**

Annual General Body- February 10

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Editorial

The awesome majesty....

Have you ever wondered how it snows? How often have you appreciated winter? Winter heralds the sweetness of a beautiful nature and the harshness of a cold nature. It reminds us of the marvel in God's creation. It not only motivates us to count the innumerable blessings, but it also invites us to rely on the warmth of His love. It proclaims God's work and His infinite wisdom.

"He says to the snow, 'Fall on the earth,' and to the rain shower, 'Be a mighty downpour.' So that everyone he has made may know his work, he stops all people from their labor." (Job 37: 6,7)

Snow can descend mildly like the downy flakes. The beauty of snow flakes is just a reminder of God's craftsmanship. We usually try to understand this unfathomable wisdom of God using our limited knowledge of science. Robert Frost, the famous American poet, in his poem, 'Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening', talks about the mystical beauty of the snowy evening that captivated him. He's awakened by the harness bells of his horse, and he pulls himself away from the enticement. He's also reminded of the miles to go.

The snowfall can also be vehement like a snowmageddon or snowpocalypse. Whiteouts, ice storms, blizzards, black ice etc. are just a few manifestations of the destructive power of snowfall. Some may even have winter blues or SAD. We always shovel and plow to keep the snow at bay. This can be symbolic of the way we deal with hardships and troubles that come our way. But a time will come when the warm rays of the sun thaw the accumulated snow and ring in a beautiful spring. Let's wait for the glorious, warm rays of the Son of God to fall afresh on us and thaw the problems we encounter in our lives.

God bless!

Samuel Anselm Samuel
Editor

Achen's Message



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In Romans 8:26-27, Paul says, "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. But God knows you very well. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will". We all are weak in some areas. The area of our weakness could be physical, spiritual, emotional or intellectual. In our weaknesses God called us.

Here Paul gives importance to a word 'groaning'. Our Lord God listens to our groaning, because He knows us. We might not know what to pray for, and we don't know what is best for us. But the Holy Spirit intercedes for us in our groaning. Though we might not have expressions in our pains, the Holy Spirit communicates with the Father in a deep, intimate and wordless language. There, the Holy Spirit is the Voice of the voiceless. On our behalf, the Spirit interprets the groaning of our heart. Remember, it does not change God's Will, but it does change our heart to understand the Will of God.

Paul wanted to receive healing from his sickness, from the thorn in his flesh. But how did God respond to this? 2 Corinthians 12:9 says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness". How comforting is it to know that in the midst of our difficulties, He brings us this assurance. If it is His Will, the solution will arrive to us in His time. So prayer will calm our hearts, and it will point us in the right direction. We need to admit our sin, acknowledge His provision for that sin, and receive God's Spirit to transform our lives. When we have the Spirit of God working in us, there is no need for language fluency, no need for a special form of prayer, and no need of vibrant vocabulary. Because our Father knows us very well, even our groaning. So I urge all of you to pray daily. Pray with your family, and pray with fellow believers.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank the Almighty, and, thank each one of you for your prayers, presence and support at my Induction Service. I thank Rt. Rev. Jenny Andison, the Area Bishop of York-Credit Valley for leading the Service. I also thank Rev. Canon Philip Hobson OGS, Rev Stephen Blackmore, Rev. Ravi Kalison and all other respected clergy who blessed the occasion with their prayers and presence. On behalf of my family, let me thank our Church Wardens, the Executive Committee, Church choir, the Social Committee and all others who helped in making the occasion an unforgettable and blessed experience for us.

Bible Study classes on 'Second Coming of Christ' have started on Thursday evenings from 7.30 pm to 8.30 pm, and on Sunday mornings from 9 am to 9.45 am.

I congratulate all participants and winners of the quiz on Matthew's Gospel. Special thanks to Women's Fellowship Director, Mrs. Selva Daniel and Mrs. Elzy George, for their time and efforts.

There are seven children preparing for confirmation, please keep them in your prayers.

It was good to note that Men, Women and Youth Fellowships had their monthly meetings on January 20th. I encourage all area prayer groups to have monthly cottage prayer.

Sunday school anniversary is planned for February 3rd Sunday, I request all of you to support our future Church, with your presence and prayers.

Please remember to participate wholeheartedly in the annual general body meeting on February 10th.

May God Bless you all!

Yours in His Service

Rev. Anish M George Padickamannil



BIRTHDAYS

01	Aldrin Pramod	18	Rohan Raj
02	Shaji Levison Moothedom	19	Mariamamma Cherian
02	Rex P. R	19	Mariamamma Thomas
03	Santhosh Cherian	20	Abraham P. John
03	P.J. Skariah	20	Rishvi Narayan
05	Suvin Oommen Alexander	20	Philip Z. Mathai
06	Pranoy Narayan	23	Jiby Jacob
07	Sudeep Oommen	23	Savannah Thomas
10	Ryan John Varghese	24	Rinu John Mathew
12	Aaron Fredrick Simon	25	Jinu Mary Jacob
15	Rahul John Oommen	25	Joy Chemmanoor
16	Thomas C. Joseph	26	Christine E. Joseph
16	Binu Sajan	26	Asha Abraham
18	Thomas Mathai		

ANNIVERSARIES

- 02 Sajan Itty & Binu Sajan
- 09 Vinu Jacob & Simi K. Sunny
- 14 Benjamin Ninan & Sneha John

<p>February 3</p> <p>4th Sunday after Epiphany</p>	Praise the Lord (worship)		
	Old Testament	Exodus 9:1-7	English Service
	Psalm	81	Read by
	Epistle	Revelation 5:1-14	Mr. Rennie Philips & Family
	Gospel	John.2:13-22	
<p>February 10</p> <p>Healing Ministry Sunday</p> <p>5th Sunday after Epiphany</p>	Healing in Sickness		
	Old Testament	Exodus 4:10-17	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	103:1-10	Read by
	Epistle	II Corinthians 12:1-10	Mr. Abraham P. George & family
	Gospel	John 9:1-7	
<p>February 17</p> <p>9th Sunday before Easter</p>	Mission Sunday		
	Old Testament	1 Kings 17:1-16	English Service
	Psalm	107:1-15	Read by
	Epistle	Galatians 2:1-10	Mr. Tim Eapen & family
	Gospel	Matthew 13:47-52	
<p>February 24</p> <p>8th Sunday before Easter</p>	The Corruption of Creation		
	Old Testament	Isaiah 5: 1-13	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	8	Read by
	Epistle	Galatians 1: 5-10	Mr. Samuel Anselm Samuel & family
	Gospel	Luke 10:13-16	

Induction Service

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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.



Bible Study – “The Second Coming of Jesus Christ”

To accommodate all members, the Bible study is taking place on every Thursday from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm and on every Sunday from 9:00 am to 9:40 am. The Bible Study provides an in-depth learning on the Second Coming of Jesus 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 be leading the Bible studies.

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

Sunday School Anniversary - February 03, 2019

Our Sunday School Anniversary will be held in the sanctuary on February 3, 2019, immediately after the divine worship service. Please plan to attend.

Church Annual General Body - February 10, 2019

As announced earlier in the church, members' Annual General Body meeting of the CSI Church, Toronto will take place in the sanctuary on February 10, 2019, immediately after the divine worship service. All members are required to attend this special annual meeting.

Cottage Prayer

Jordan area prayer will be at the residence of Varghese V. John (Shibu) and Liji Varghese on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Please plan to attend.

Gilead area prayer will be at the residence of Jacob Cherian and Biby Esther Abraham on Saturday, February 16, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Please plan to attend.

Upcoming Events

Monthly Fasting Prayer March 02, 2019

At the Feet of Jesus March 29, 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 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

Winners of Quiz #10 on the Gospel of Matthew 26,27,28 January 2019

First - Elsie Verghis, Ponnamma Varghese, Suja Koshy

Second - Jeena David, Jenny Cherian, Shona Sam

Third - Susamma Jacob

Answers for Bible Quiz #10- Gospel of Matthew 26-28

Answers - true or false with reference:

1. True (Matthew 26:39,42,43)
2. True (Matthew 26:64; 27:11)
3. True (Matthew 27:18,19,24)
4. True (Matthew 26:73)
5. False. (Jesus calls them brothers instead of disciples) (Matthew 28:10)

Answers - one word or sentence with reference.

1. Joseph of Arimathea. After asking Pilate for Jesus' body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and placed it in his new tomb cut out of the rock and rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb. (Matthew 27:57-60)
2. It was Peter. He followed Jesus at a distance up to the courtyard of the high priest and sat with the guards to see the outcome. (Matthew 26:57-58)
3. Prophet Jeremiah. This is the prophecy "They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price set on him by the people of Israel and they used them to buy the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me." (Matthew 27:9-10)
4. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph and mother of Zebedee's sons. (Matthew 27:55-56)
5. The lie that is circulated is, Jesus' disciples came during the night and stole the body while the soldiers were sleeping. The Chief priests and the elders devised this plan and gave the soldiers a large sum of money to tell this story, and is widely circulated among the Jews to this day. (Matthew 28:12-15)

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