



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

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2020 Motto

'Let us rise up and build'

'നാം എഴുന്നേറ്റ് പണിയുക'

Nehemiah 2:18

Season of Lent

Women's Sunday - March 08

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Pilgrim

MARCH 2020

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Editorial

Strength in His love ...

Have you found the life hurdles to be overwhelming? How have you faced them? Barriers are a reality that everyone faces at some point or other, regardless of who the person is. They might rise like a tempest or tumult and sink our very courage, and there is every chance that we become discouraged or depressed. Though the troubles fortify themselves with indestructible walls like that of Jericho or impermeable boundary like the erstwhile iron curtain, the Lord of Hosts is there to annihilate those barriers and give us victory.

Let them give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for mankind, for He breaks down the gates of bronze and cuts through bars of iron. (Psalm 107: 15-16)

It is consoling to note that we don't have to face it alone. Isaiah 41:10 says, 'so do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand'. As we pass through different stages of our pilgrimage, we realize that the path is not smooth. Christina Rossetti in her poem, "Up-Hill" asks, 'Does the road wind up-hill all the way? She also finds the answer, 'Yes, to the very end.' There may be many barriers like mountains, chasms and uneven paths which might trigger a breach of trust we have in our Lord. The unfailing love He has for us is the key word that can boost our morale. "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus". (1 Thessalonians 5:18) That will help us to put more trust in Him who took the pain to give himself up at the cross.

During this Lenten, let the thought of His supreme, singular sacrifice work as a catalyst in us and help us grow trusting him more, thereby having a life of confidence and success.

Samuel Anselm Samuel
Editor

Achen's Message



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Why do you observe fasting? What is fasting? "Even now" declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart fasting and weeping and mourning" Joel 2:12. We fast with all our heart. This means that we must submit ourselves completely to God. Why do we fast for 40 days? The number 40 is very important in the Bible. For example, it rained for 40 days during the days of Noah. Moses waited for 40 days on Mount Sinai. The Israelites spent 40 years in the wilderness. After all, Jesus took 40 days of fasting. Here we find a silence and a wait. It was the waiting for the words of God, It was the silence for the words of God. The silence of forgetting one's own body.

In Matthew 16 :24 Jesus says, "if any man desires to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me". Dieting is a part of fasting. But the most important thing is to deny oneself. It is in such waiting that we can hear the voice of God. Isaiah 58: 6-7 teaches us that true fasting is to feed the hungry and help the poor. So this year, as we celebrate fasting, we must make the decision to use the money that we have, for finding food to help those in need. If not, fasting becomes a ritual. No one should think that they can please God by rituals. As God has blessed us abundantly in this land with all the material benefits, it is our duty to give priority for praying and studying the word of God. When we prioritize, the word of God becomes a blessing for us and everyone around us. May God enable you to do so.

Sunday school anniversary was blessed. Such programs are appropriate for enhancing the talents of young children in our church. Congratulations to the Sunday School Director, teachers and parents.

Ash Wednesday worship and Holy communion service has made it possible for us to think about how to stay in true fasting. The Lenten prayer is continued every Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the evening.

We are celebrating March 8th as Women's Fellowship Sunday. We have Matins service on March 29th. Our youth will lead the worship. We are planning to do the family night on April 3rd. Please pray for our up coming programs.

May God bless you in this Lenten season

Yours in Christ

Rev. Anish M George Padickamannil

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BIRTHDAYS

02	Thankamma Mathew	17	George Mathew
02	Hans Thomas Varghese	18	Vaiga Thampy
02	Jayden Hans Thomas	18	Neil Joseph Mathews
03	Raimole Joseph	20	Vilayil I. Kurian
04	Jeena Joseph	20	Mathew George
05	Joseph Thomas	22	Elzy George
08	Abigail Cherian	23	K. P. Alexander
11	Sidhant Mathews	25	Marylin M. Verghis
11	Neil Jinoj Titus	25	Emily A. Verghis
12	Joshy Ani Mathew	27	Bryan Philip Joseph
12	Jewel Mariam Toms	28	Mona Anna Abraham
13	Vivek Philip	30	Susan Alex
16	Jeevan Fenn Varughese	31	Rakesh Thampi
16	Lenora Grace Sam Daniel	31	Shruti Balakrishna

ANNIVERSARIES

11	Oommen Cherian & Mariamma Cherian
30	Sam Daniel P & Selva Daniel



March 01 1 st Sunday in Lent	The Forgiving Christ		
	Old Testament	Genesis 4:8-16	English Service
	Psalm	25	Read by
	Epistle	Romans 5: 6-11	Vinod Maliyekkal & Family
	Gospel	Mark 2: 1-12	
March 08 2 nd Sunday in Lent Women's Sunday	Women as Change Makers		
	Old Testament	Numbers 27: 1-11	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	119: 57-64	Read by
	Epistle	Acts 16: 11-15	Women's Fellowship
	Gospel	John 4: 27-30	
March 17 3 rd Sunday in Lent	The Accepting Christ		
	Old Testament	His 2: 14-23	English Service
	Psalm	87	Read by
	Epistle	Philemon 1-21	Vimal Joy & Family
	Gospel	Matthew 15: 21-28	
March 22 3 rd Sunday before Easter	The Liberating Christ		
	Old Testament	Exodus 3: 1-13	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	82	Read by
	Epistle	Galatians 5: 1-12	Rijo & family
	Gospel	Luke 13: 10-17	
March 29 2 nd Sunday before Easter Matins service	Cross and The Restoring Christ		
	Old Testament	Job 42: 10-17	English Service
	Psalm	126	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 2: 1-10	Youth Fellowship
	Gospel	Mark10: 46-52	

Sunday School Anniversary





Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship

The Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship won't be held during the Lenten season. Please attend the Lenten prayer at 7:30 pm instead.

Monthly Fasting Prayer

Fasting prayer for the month will be held on Saturday, March 07, 2020 at 10:00 am in the sanctuary. Please come and be blessed.

Bible Study - "The Coming of Jesus Christ"

To accommodate all members, the Bible study is taking place on every Wednesday from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm and on every Sunday from 9:30 am to 10:15 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.



Lenten Prayer

There will be prayer in the sanctuary on every Wednesday at 7:30 pm during the season of Lent starting March 4, 2020. Please plan to attend.

Board Meeting – March 8, 2020

A meeting of the board members will be held at the board room on Sunday March 8, 2020 at 2:00 pm.

Women's Fellowship Sunday – March 8, 2020

March 8, 2020 will be observed as Women's Fellowship Sunday.

Church Family Night - April 03, 2020

Church Family Night will be held on Friday, April 3, 2020 at 6:00 PM (doors open at 5:30 PM). This event will take place at The Dreams Convention Centre, 75 Hedgedale Road, Brampton, ON., L6T 5P3. There will be an entrance fee of \$15.00 per person but it will be free for children under the age of 5. Please do not miss this great opportunity to witness the many hidden talents of our members. For tickets and more information please contact Santhosh Cherian, Director of Men's Fellowship, Varghese V John, Director of Public Relations, or Joshua Moothedom, Director of Youth Fellowship. Thanks to Sanju Ben Cherian and Hans Thomas Varghese for coordinating this event.

Cottage Prayer

Gilead area prayer will be at the residence of Christy and Elizabeth (Shirley) Abraham on Saturday, March 7, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Please plan to attend.

Jordan area prayer will be held at our Church Hall on Friday, March 13, 2020 at 7:00 pm. This prayer meeting has been arranged by Hans & Beena Thomas. Please plan to attend.

Upcoming Events

- Palm Sunday April 05, 2020
- Maundy Thursday April 09, 2020
- Good Friday April 10, 2020
- Easter Sunday April 12, 2020

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

The Executive Committee Members of the CSI Church, Toronto

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