



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

# Pilgrim

Volume 20 Issue 8

AUGUST 2020



## 2020 Motto

**'Let us rise up and build'**

**'നാം എഴുന്നേറ്റ് പണിയുക'**

*Nehemiah 2:18*

**Church Re-opening, Phase 1**  
**August 02, 10 AM**

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# Pilgrim

**AUGUST 2020**

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## Editorial

### *The potter and the clay...*

When have you last pondered the question, “Why is my life like this”? Have you ever been in a situation when you felt, “I don’t know how to get out of the predicament I am in.”? Well, you are not alone. It is quite normal for people to translate to this state of mind. “Behold, like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand” is an oft-quoted verse that boosts the confidence of people clinging to these thoughts. “The potter and the clay” image is so powerful to bring about a complete change in everyone’s outlook.

A potter has every right to make a pot in the way he wants. He has the absolute power to amend his work at any point of time. The clay, on the other hand, has no right to question the potter about the rationale behind his work. The potter is also not obligated to clarify any queries. But when we escalate this earthly image, instead of a puny human potter, we see the great potter – a just, loving and holy God, who formed us from dust. It is consoling for the clay to believe that the potter is there, ever shaping and changing it to fit into His perfect plan. When we gained the power of knowing good from evil in the garden of Eden, we gained the freedom to live the way we want. But the loving hands of the potter followed us to mould us into vessels of praise. “But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.” (2 Corinthians 4:7-10)

The potter is our refuge, and His power is our comfort. How much more shall we look at His face and receive grace upon grace to live in this world of worry? May the Holy Spirit enable each one of us to trust the Potter, and to help us yield unconditionally to the wisdom, power and love of this great Potter.

Samuel Anselm Samuel  
Editor

## Achen's Message



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The English word miracle comes from the Latin word *miraculam*, which means something to be wondered at. We can see many miracle stories of Jesus in the Gospels. His mighty works started at Galilee (John 2). But He didn't use his miracles for the progress of his work. The Gospel of Matthew presents about 20 miracles of Jesus. Through these miracles, Matthew emphasizes the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies.

The Gospel of Mark presents about 18 miracles of Jesus. Here we can understand that Jesus did these miracles to restore the people who were excluded from the society. The Gospel of Luke portrays Christ as the healer and saviour. Luke explains about 21 miracles. The Gospel of John describes the mighty works of Jesus as signs. Jesus didn't use miracles for his personality development. Many times, He discouraged the people from discussing his miracles in public.

So it is clear that Jesus Christ used miracles to fulfill the temporal needs of humans, and He was trying to empower the suppressed people. Miracles may or may not happen when the gospel is being preached. Jesus didn't encourage anyone to go behind the miracles (John 4:48). So as a follower of Jesus Christ, miracles are not important in our lives. If miracles happen, you should understand it's the will of God. Please don't go behind miracles.

As you know, we are going to reopen our church on August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020. But only the lay ministers and all those who are helping in worship are allowed to come. Gradually we will increase the number of worshippers. I will inform you later.

I started drive-through visit. Let me know your convenience.

May God bless you all

Rev. Anish M George Padickamanni

6479948238



### BIRTHDAYS

01	Michael Philip Gajraj	17	Anna Kuriem
01	Surya Joseph	17	Andrew Kevin Menon
03	Suby Mathews	18	Nibu Varguise
07	Jacob Mathew Chemparathimoottil	18	Jerish Bradly
07	Trisha Cherian	22	Anu Mariamma Easo. K
08	Jonathan J. Verghis	22	Aaron Pramod
09	Benjamin Chacko	23	Jubin Varghese George
09	Annamma Skariah	23	Liam Varughese
09	Aleena Cherian	23	Jithin Sathyaraj Kanaath
10	Ajay Joseph	28	Mathew Joseph
10	Sean Raymond	29	Leon Sundaresan
13	Sam Daniel. P	29	Jophy Philip
15	Saurabh Itty	30	Gitu Rijo
15	Jinoj Titus	30	Shoby Jacob Sunny

### ANNIVERSARIES

08	P. Mathew & Elizabeth Verghis
15	Jijo Cherian Varughese & Anushka Aley Abraham
16	Rijo George Cherian & Gitu Rijo
17	William Silvanose & Suja Williams
18	Jacob Cherian & Biby Esther Abraham
18	Vinod Maliyekal & Binssy Mathew
26	Benjamin Chacko & Ani Chacko
29	K.P. Alexander & Mary Alexander
31	Ajay Joseph & Surya Joseph



<b>August 02</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Witness of the People of God</b>		
	Old Testament	Daniel 3:12-30	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	15	Read by
	Epistle	Acts 18:24-28	Joseph P Mathews & Family
	Gospel	Luke 10:16-20	
<b>August 09</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Marriage: Celebration of Covenant</b>		
	Old Testament	Genesis 2:18-25	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	127	Read by
	Epistle	Hebrews 13:1-6	Joseph K David & Family
	Gospel	Matthew 19:3-6	
<b>August 16</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Sacrament of Baptism</b>		
	Old Testament	Exodus 14:15-31	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	32	Read by
	Epistle	Titus 3:3-8	Shaji Moothedom & Family
	Gospel	John 3:1-8	
<b>August 23</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Sacrament of Holy Eucharist</b>		
	Old Testament	Genesis 14:17-24	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	104:14-30	Read by
	Epistle	1 Corinthians 10:15-17	Zac Santhosh Koshy & family
	Gospel	Mark 14:12-26	
<b>August 30</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Christian Presence in Multi Faith Society</b>		
	Old Testament	Daniel 1:1-21	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	67	Read by
	Epistle	Acts 10:9-16	John Mathew, Tojan & Tony Koyickal
	Gospel	Matthew 13:31-33	



### Re-opening of Church

Pleased to inform that our church is in the first phase of the reopening, starting Sunday August 2, 2020. This is exciting news for us but with this news, we seek your patience. The sub-committee along with the board have been working hard to prepare for the reopening of our church. The reopening will be in three phases.

#### Phase 1 – Start date: Sunday August 02, 2020

Phase 1 will allow the opening of Sunday Worship for up to a maximum of fifteen people. This number includes priest, lay readers, musicians, and media team (members providing leadership or assistance in the liturgy).

Please join using the Church YouTube channel for the Sunday Worship Service:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF6C8AxfhNgMAVqQBvcMmww>

**Starting Sunday August 02, 2020, the use of Video Conferencing (GoToMeeting) service will stay suspended for Sunday worship.**

#### Phase 2 – Tentative start date: Sunday August 16, 2020

Phase 2 will allow the opening of Sunday Worship for up to a maximum of 50 people plus priest, lay readers, musicians, and media team (members providing leadership or assistance in the liturgy)

#### Phase 3 – Start date: TBA

Phase 3 will allow the opening of Sunday Worship with Holy Eucharist. Details to follow.

Thanks to the sub-committee members, Rev. Anish M George, Zac Santhosh Koshy, Daniel Thomas, Abraham K Varghese, Elsie Verghis, Varghese V John, Chris George, Hans Thomas Varghese, and Dr. Nibu Varguise for their hard work and to all who helped to set up the church for the reopening.

#### New YouTube Channel Link – CSI Church, Toronto

Please note below the CSI Church, Toronto – YouTube Channel Link for Sunday Worship Service

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF6C8AxfhNgMAVqQBvcMmww>

#### Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship

The Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship will take place on every Wednesday from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon in the Church Sanctuary. Please join the fellowship through **Virtual Worship**

#### Bible Study – “The Coming of Jesus Christ”



The Bible study takes place on every Wednesday from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The Bible Study provides an in-depth learning on the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. It also provides an opportunity for members to connect with and understand each other while continuing to build personal relationship with God. Anish Achen is leading the Bible studies. Please plan to attend the Bible study through **Virtual fellowship**.

#### Cottage Prayer

**Shalom area** prayer will be held on Saturday, August 01, 2020 at 7:30 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Alex Oommen and Susan Alex. Please join the virtual fellowship.

**Jordan area** prayer will be held on Saturday, August 08, 2020 at 7:30 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Christopher Gajraj and Rejini Gajraj. Please join the virtual fellowship.



**Gilead area** prayer will be held on Saturday, August 15, 2020 at 7:30 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Rijo Cheriyan and Gitu Rijo. Please join the virtual fellowship.

### **Board Meeting**

The board has decided to meet on every Sunday at 8:30 pm through video conferencing (GoToMeeting) during the restriction period of COVID-19.

### **Half Yearly General Body Meeting**

Please be advised that the Half Yearly General Body Meeting of the Incorporated CSI Church, Toronto will be held on August 16, 2020 immediately after the worship service.

### **Agenda**

- Prayer
- Minutes of the previous meeting
- Matters arising from the minutes
- Work term and visa extension for Rev. Anish M George
- Half yearly financials
- Other matters
- Prayer

**Please plan to join through video conferencing (GoToMeeting) using one of the 3 options below:**

#### **1. Dial-In. Using your Phone (audio only)**

- Canada: +1 (647) 497-9373
- Canada: 1 888 299 1889 (Toll Free)
- Access Code: 885-075-085
- Press # key once you input the access code.

#### **2. Mobile App. Join from your Smartphone/tab (audio & video):**

- **Access Code:** 885-075-085

#### **3. Computer/Laptop (audio & video):**

- Joining through web:
  - <https://www.gotomeet.me/CSChurchToronto>
- Joining through application
  - install the GoToMeeting desktop application and join
  - <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/885075085>

Please put your phone on “**MUTE**” as soon as you join the tele-prayer to avoid disruption

*For technical assistance, please contact:*

- Varghese V John (Shibu) – 647 855 7004
- Santhosh Cherian – 647 885 5773

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](mailto: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
Secretary / People's Warden	Mr. Daniel Thomas	Women's Fellowship Director	Mrs. Preetha Philips
Joint Secretary / Trustee	Mr. Abraham K. Varghese	Men's Fellowship Director	Mr. Santhosh Cherian
Treasurer	Mr. Samuel Anselm Samuel	Youth Fellowship Director	Mr. Joshua Moothedom
Joint Treasurer / Trustee	Mrs. Elizabeth Verghis	Mission Director	Mrs. Elizabeth Mathai
Sunday School Director	Mrs. Rejini Gajraj	Public Relations Director	Mr. Varghese V. John
Choir Director	Mr. Chris George	Social & Entertainment Director	Mr. Jacob P. John

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