



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

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NOVEMBER 2020



2020 Motto

'Let us rise up and build'

'നാം എഴുന്നേറ്റ് പണിയുക'

Nehemiah 2:18

November 01 - Sunday School Sunday

November 15 - Youth Sunday

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Editorial

Open your eyes....

Have you ever made elaborate preparations for some very important event in your life? How prepared would you be if you knew something drastic is going to happen? When the first news about the COVID-19 came in, many people frantically tried to hoard masks, sanitizers etc. People generally believe in the scientific data that emanates from the research labs because they are mostly tangible. Most of the people are very meticulous and do what ever possible to keep themselves safe. Still there are some who wouldn't heed to any warnings. They become a risk to themselves and to others at large. Well, here's a warning and an exhortation from the heavenly lab: *"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."* (Matthew 24: 42,44)

The imminent reality of the coming of our Lord is often taken lightly, or as part of fantasy. There are a few who behave like the five prudent virgins who had a reserve supply of oil. But many are foolish not to have a reserve supply to keep their lamps burning till the end. Many people don't care about it as they fail to understand that the Holy Bible is the living Word of God and not a human craftsmanship. Moreover, some people even try to interpret it in strange ways to feed their heinous minds. They belittle or twist the reality and call it the way of life or modernism. It would be devastating to identify ourselves with the foolish virgins who think they would be able to make it. It is imperative that we keep our minds clear about the coming of our Lord and about His eternal salvation. *"Lift up your eyes to the heavens, look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies. But my salvation will last forever, my righteousness will never fail."* (Isaiah 51:6)
Let's be ready!

Samuel Anselm Samuel
Editor

Achen's Message



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We celebrate "Sunday school Sunday" every year in the month of November. The Sunday school movement was started in 1780s by Robert Raikes; an English philanthropist.

This movement began among slum children to educate those kids who were working and were unable to go to school. Through the Sunday school; Raikes developed a good character in the children by teaching them Biblical stories. This movement gained momentum in Britain and then spread to the U.S.A, and later spread across the world.

What does the Bible say about Sunday school? In Deut 4:10, the scripture commands that the Israelites teach the Torah as well as other Godly instructions to their children to establish relationship between God and His people. Deut 11 also commands that parents teach these things to their children and lead holy life before them. These verses teach us that we must seek God in each and every moment of our life. So, as parents, we must lead a faithful and holy life to become a role model for our children.

We need to understand that our children are watching us. Even our movements are noticed. If our God is to be their God, they must understand that we dwell in our God. There is a way to understand what is being said. But living by example is the best. So the life of the parents must first be transformed.

We were able to observe Choir Sunday from our limited circumstances. Congratulations to all the choir members, the director, Mr. Chris George and Choir Master, Mr. Daniel Thomas.

Last week, our Harvest Festival was held in the most beautiful way. In the name of the church we would like to thank everyone who participated in the silent auction, live auction & thanksgiving service. Especially I appreciate the church committee members who worked behind it, the P R team led by Mr. Varghese V John, the treasurer, Mr. Samuel Anselm Samuel & the vice president Mr. Zac Santhosh Koshy.

We are entering another Advent season. Everyone is entering this season in a different situation. Let us pray and strengthen one another in the midst of the plague of COVID-19.

May God bless you all

Rev. Anish M George Padickamannil

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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/live>

On-line Giving (Interac e-Transfer)

Please make your offering through on-line giving at csichurchtoronto@outlook.com

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 will take 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 will be leading the Bible studies.

Please plan to attend the Bible study through **Virtual fellowship**.

Board Meeting

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

World Children’s Sunday - November 01, 2020

Sunday, November 01, 2020 will be observed as World Children’s Sunday. Our Sunday School Children and teachers will take part in the lay ministry.

Youth Sunday – November 15, 2020

Sunday, November 15, 2020 will be observed as Youth Sunday

Thanksgiving & Harvest Festival

Thanksgiving & Harvest Festival was held on October 25, 2020 and November 01, 2020. With gratitude, we acknowledge the good participation of our members. Special thanks to Varghese V John, Samuel Anselm Samuel, Zac Santhosh Koshy and all those who helped in the smooth running of the event, and Achen and Kochamma for their prayer and support. Praise God for His presence and guidance through the entire planning of the function and the countless blessings we enjoy every day in our life.

Cottage Prayer

Shalom area prayer will be held on Saturday, November 07, 2020 at 7:30 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Bobby Cherian and Jithela Yohannan. Please join the virtual fellowship.

Jordan area prayer will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2020 at 7:00 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Joseph P. Mathews and Sonia Mathews. Please join the virtual fellowship.

Gilead area prayer will be held on Friday, November 21, 2020 at 7:30 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Abraham K. Varghese and Shalini Mary G. Enoch. Please join the virtual fellowship.

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

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|--|--|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| November 01 Sunday school Sunday | Be a Good Soldier of Christ | | |
| | Old Testament | Judges 6:11-16 | English Service |
| | Psalm | 91 | Read by |
| | Epistle | 2 Timothy 2:1-8 | Sunday School |
| | Gospel | Matthew 20:20-28 | |
| November 08 23 rd Sunday after Pentecost | Unity Sunday Treasures in Clay Jars | | |
| | Old Testament | Micah 6:1-8 | Malayalam Service |
| | Psalm | 106:1-12 | Read by |
| | Epistle | 2 Corinthians 4:7-15 | Jophy Jacob Philip & Family |
| | Gospel | Mark 4:26-29 | |
| November 15 Youth Sunday | Spirituality of the Youth in the Contemporary World | | |
| | Old Testament | Genesis 41:37-43 | English Service |
| | Psalm | 111 | Read by |
| | Epistle | Philippians 3:1-16 | Youth Fellowship |
| | Gospel | Matthew 19:16-22 | |
| November 22 25 th Sunday after Pentecost | Taking Risk for the Reign of God. | | |
| | Old Testament | Esther 8:1-17 | Malayalam Service |
| | Psalm | 12 | Read by |
| | Epistle | Philippians 2:25-30 | Williams Silvanose & Family |
| | Gospel | Matthew 10:37-42 | |
| November 29 1 st Sunday in Advent | Joyful Expectation of Christ's Coming | | |
| | Old Testament | Jeremiah 33:10-16 | Malayalam Service |
| | Psalm | 61:11-20 | Read by |
| | Epistle | 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13 | Anilraj & Family |
| | Gospel | Luke 1:39-45 | |



BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|---------------------|
| 02 | Steeptomol S.S | 17 | Tomcy Thomas |
| 03 | Ani Chacko | 18 | Jared Chacko |
| 03 | Bijino A.S | 19 | Chris George |
| 04 | Christina Fredrick | 20 | Biby Esther Abraham |
| 06 | Asher Mathew Jacob | 25 | Surekha Jacob |
| 08 | Vivek Joseph | 26 | Prem Narayan |
| 08 | Alby Williams | 26 | Milly Johnson |
| 08 | Benony A.S | 27 | Mary Jacob |
| 09 | Nikhil Joseph | 27 | Shona Sam |
| 10 | Jithela Yohannan | 27 | Leanne Chacko |
| 10 | Paul Samuel | 29 | Matthew Gajraj |
| 13 | Reji Johnson | 29 | Sonijya Raj |
| 14 | Ashley Lionel Ajay | 30 | Aneasow P. Anish |
| 14 | Mathew Abraham | 30 | Smitha Titus |
| 15 | Elizabeth Kuruvilla | 30 | Susan Mathew |
| 16 | Balaji I. Kuruvilla | | |



ANNIVERSARIES

- 11 Sanal N. David & Mithul Nimmy Manuel
- 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
- 30 C. Mathew Thomas & Rebeccamma Thomas

Report after reading the Gospel of Matthew

Saurang Puthenkulangara

This essay will be talking about my opinions and takeaways from the book of Matthew. The book of Matthew has 28 chapters, of which more than half consist of parables and stories of Jesus healing the sick and disabled. Parables are lessons that are taught through the form of a story. Jesus told many parables and traveled to many lands throughout the book of Matthew. Some of the most striking verses to me were from Matthew chapter 6 and 7. Some of them are Matthew 6:24-25, Matthew 7:3-5 and Matthew 7:6-7.

Matthew 6:24-25 states, "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You can not serve both God and money." This verse says that you can only love God or only money. This is especially interesting because this can be seen in our world today. Many icons and celebrities who are rich always have a hard time when it comes to happiness because they always have problems. "Mo money mo problems", said The Notorious B.I.G. This led me to the assumption that love of money is a multiplier of problems. More love of money, the bigger the problems in life.

Matthew 7:3-5 states, "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye." This verse speaks clearly about hypocrisy and shows how foolish the hypocrites are. The hypocrite in this story is seen as not only as hypocrite but also as a fool which further states that hypocritical behavior is not acceptable behavior.

Matthew 7:6-7 says "Do not give dogs what is sacred. Do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and then turn and tear you to pieces". What I understood from this verse is that you should not spend time on things you can't do or control. The dogs and pigs represent problems that occur in everyone's life that we cannot control or do anything to stop. The only thing to do would be to move on and not look back.

In conclusion, the book of Matthew was very focused on teaching life lessons and preaching about morals and good values. After I finished reading all these verses, I came to a startling find. My parents and many other parents say the same things to their children. When I asked where they were taught these lessons from, they said that they were told of them by their parents when they were kids. This means that the values and lessons taught in the Bible are 100 percent applicable and useful in the real world. This concludes my essay on the book of Matthew.

The Executive Committee Members of the CSI Church, Toronto

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
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