



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

Volume 21 Issue 1

JANUARY 2021



Happy New Year 2021

2021 Motto

“Prepare to meet your God”

“നിന്റെ ദൈവത്തെ എതിരേല്പാൻ ഒരുങ്ങിക്കൊൾക”

Amos 4:12b

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New Year's Retreat
January 1, 2, 3 @8 pm

Pilgrim

JANUARY 2021

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Editorial

Get ready!

Has 2020 been a blessing for your family? 2020 has indeed left us speechless! The whole world has witnessed a paradigm shift in the realm of faith life. The worship gatherings at churches decreased, giving way to the personal, house gatherings connected online. The church life that we once held so dear was curtailed to help us ponder over our personal, faith lives.

But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. (John 4:23)

As we crave to have our normal worship service reinstated in the churches, the Word of God admonishes us to purify ourselves and be prepared to meet our God. The declaration of the Lord, "and yet you did not return to me" resonates through out. Time is running out! Procrastination will not help. How prepared are we?

Prepare to meet your Lord!

Twenty-twenty rang in cold
Hopes and dreams were fully blast
Steeped in COVID bound to last
Rise up, build shall make us bold

Social distance plans arrest
Quarantine to fight the cause
Masks and circles like the tawse
Locks and closures buy you rest

Vaccines flew to make you laud
Promise exit, hopes bloom
Word of God so gently boom
Be prepared to meet your Lord!
(Samuel Anselm Samuel)

Wish you all a blessed, prosperous, and Happy New Year.

Samuel Anselm Samuel
Editor

Achen's Message



Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Last year was a year full of crises caused by Corona all over the world. But I think, a look back at the fast-moving world is possible. It was a year of great recognition. It was the year when people renewed old relationships. We were able to see and experience our surroundings. God has blessed us for that. Now we are going to welcome the New year 2021.

As we look forward to the New Year, who do we really need to welcome?

Amos 4:12 says **prepare to meet your God.**

This is our New year motto. The nation of Israel, overwhelmed by the blessings God had given them, forgot God. They stayed away from the Word of God during hard work to make money. They saw prayer as a means to an end. They prayed only when they were facing difficulties. As generations passed, they turned to idolatry. God gave warnings through the prophets. Warnings were given through famine, earthquake, and disease. As a part of that, they were asked to get ready to meet their God, as prophesied by Amos.

In the year 2020, God is warning us about the disease called Corona. Today we are like the people in the days of the prophet Amos. So, we must prepare for God's coming through the warning God has given us. To do that, we must first turn to God's Word. Many began reading the Bible according to the message on January 1st, last year. There are those who have read continuously from Genesis to Revelation and completed. There are people who are still reading. I say again. All of you should read the Bible as a whole. It transforms us. May God bless us for that.

Our carol service and Christmas worship services were very well conducted. This year we were able to refresh our memories of old Carol days with the song that was sung virtually. Thanks to the PR team and Director Varghese V. John for helping us all these days. The church would also like to thank Choir Master Daniel Thomas & Choir Director Chris George. On behalf of the Church, we would also like to thank our Area Bishop, Rt. Rev. Jenny Andison, for accepting our invitation and giving us a powerful Christmas message.

You should all attend the meditation which will be held from January 1 to 3. Let us start the new year with divine meditation by embracing the warnings given by God through the difficulties we faced during last year. The meditation starts at 8 pm every day. Rev San Ninan Vicar, All Saints Church valley cottage, USA, Rev Sunil Mathew Vicar, Canadian Marthoma church, and Rev Dr Bhanu Samuel, CSI Church Chicago are the retreat leaders. Everyone is requested to pray and attend.

May God bless you all

Happy New Year

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>

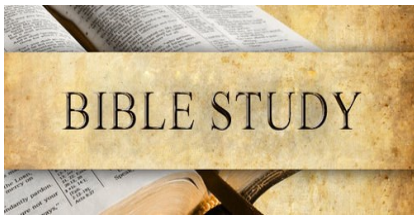
On-line Giving (Interac e-Transfer)

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.

New Year Retreat – January 1, 2 & 3, 2021

New Year Retreat will be held on January 1, 2, & 3, 2021 at 8:00PM. Please join this virtual retreat using our Church GoToMeet account: <https://www.gotomeet.me/CSIChurchToronto>

Retreat Leaders	Day	Date	Time
Rev. San Ninan Vicar, All Saints Church Valley Cottage, USA	Friday	01-Jan-21	8:00 PM
Rev. Sunil Mathew Vicar, Canadian Marthoma Church, CANADA.	Saturday	02-Jan-21	8:00 PM
Rev. Dr. Bhanu Samuel Vicar, CSI Church, USA	Sunday	03-Jan-21	8:00 PM

Cottage Prayer

Jordan area prayer will be held on Saturday, January 09, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Elizabeth (Daisy) Mathai and Chris & Rejini Gajraj. Please join the virtual fellowship.

Gilead area prayer will be held on Saturday, January 16, 2021 at 7:30 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Shibu & Shiny Paul Pulikaparambil. 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

January 03 2 nd Sunday after Christmas	Revelation for Liberation		
	Old Testament	Isaiah 61: 1-11	English Service
	Psalm	76	Read by
	Epistle	Revelation 5: 1-10	Santhosh Cherian & Family
	Gospel	Luke 4: 16-21	
January 10 1 st Sunday after Epiphany	Live Worthy of Your Calling		
	Old Testament	Proverbs 20: 1-11	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	14	Read by
	Epistle	Romans 6: 12-21	Shijo John & Family
	Gospel	Matthew 7: 16-23	
January 17 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany	One Lord, One Baptism		
	Old Testament	Numbers 11: 23-30	English Service
	Psalm	23	Read by
	Epistle	1 Corinthians 10: 1- 4	Shobi Jacob Sunny & Family
	Gospel	John 10: 7-18	
January 24 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany	Unity for Justice and Peace (Ecumenical Sunday)		
	Old Testament	Ezekiel 37: 15-28	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	4	Read by
	Epistle	Phil. 4: 8-20	John Cherian Mathew
	Gospel	Matthew 5: 21 - 26	
January 31 9 th Sunday before Easter	The Goodness of Creation		
	Old Testament	Genesis 1: 24- 31	English Service
	Psalm	104: 1- 13	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 1:3-14	Youth Fellowship
	Gospel	Matthew 6: 9- 13	



BIRTHDAYS

04	Ninu Ann Varghese	20	Angelin Freeda Paul
04	Ryan Eipe Thampi	22	Aji V. Mathews
05	Sonia Mathews	23	Abraham P. George
06	Daniel Phil	24	Sneha Elizabeth Sunny
06	Kingson Jacob	25	Reeni Philip
06	Mary	25	Tanisha John
07	Sharon Lowrence Idaraji	28	Ryan Mathews
09	Joy Abraham	28	Aparna Sabu
10	Aezekiel Mathews	29	Neha Chemmanoor
10	Riddhi Ghosh	29	Megan Thomas
12	Binssy Mathew	30	Ezra Sam
17	Juby George Thomas	31	Selvarajan Thampy Puthenkulangara



ANNIVERSARIES

- 01 David Thomas & Rachelamma Thomas
- 02 Nittu Mathew Jacob & Anu Mariamma Easo
- 03 Manoj Joseph Kurien & Asha Joy
- 03 Santosh Cherian & Jenny Varghese
- 04 Bobby P. Cherian & Jithela Yohannan
- 05 Mathew Joseph & Mary Joseph
- 07 Jophy Philip & Smitha Victor Sam
- 08 Michael Govada & Neashini Govada
- 09 Paul Daniel Frederick Asokan & Angelin Freeda Paul
- 12 Kingson Jacob & Juby George Thomas
- 13 Joy & Mini Chemmanoor
- 16 Sudeep & Sarah Oommen
- 21 Raj Hariharan & Sonijya Raj
- 21 Jacob P. John & Mary Jacob
- 23 Jithin Sathyaraj Kanaath & Minu Samraj
- 26 Shibu Paul Pulikaparambil & Shiny Paul
- 27 Joseph Thomas & Raimole Joseph

Report after reading Gospel of Matthew

David Joseph

During this summer, I was given a task to read the book of Matthew by Chris Achachan, and I began skimming through the book but I found this as a humbling experience. This is because as I kept reading, I learned to read in-between the lines and find deeper meaning within the verses. This was especially apparent during the many teachings early on in the book, which I had to stop and think about what more could this passage be referring to. To my surprise, there were a lot of instances where I couldn't come up with an explanation and that troubled me because I wasn't able to see the full truth behind it.

One thing that I picked up on was by how many parables there were throughout the book. Then I was curious to the reason why Jesus even used parables to convey messages. Jesus used parables to convey his messages because of the type of audience he had, ordinary people who at the time period most likely were not educated instead focusing on work and using parables about their daily life is a more effective way to connect with them.

One of the parables that stood out to me was the one about the lost sheep, where even if a single sheep strays away, the shepherd will leave ninety-nine of the sheep behind in search for the lost one. This parable stood out to me because of how it showed God's willingness to search for you and save each and every one of us even if you stray away from him.

One thing I was taken aback by was reading the calling of Matthew. Jesus saw Matthew and simply said to follow him, and without any hesitation Matthew began following him. During that time period tax collectors were considered to be sinners, then when the Pharisees inquired about this Jesus replied that a doctor is needed for the sick, not for the healthy. In other words, Jesus was saying he was calling the people who were suffering and needed help not the ones who were fine. This reassures that everyone has been called for a place in the Kingdom of God even if you lead a sinful life.

Another important thing I learned was about the Lord's prayer, which all of us pray on a daily basis. In this prayer, Jesus gives us an example of how a prayer should be by summarizing your requests and showing thankfulness into a quick prayer. This prayer also addresses God as a father and not as a divine being.

After this reading experience I have come to the conclusion that the book of Matthew is an important part of the Bible that is deeply rooted in our daily lives.

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




CSI CHURCH
 TORONTO

2021 MOTTO
 കുറിവാക്യം

“ PREPARE TO MEET YOUR GOD.
 AMOS 4:12

“ നിന്റെ ദൈവത്തെ എതിരേല്പാൻ
ഒരുങ്ങിക്കൊള്ളുക.
 ആമോസ് 4:12

REV. ANISH M. GEORGE
 VICAR

