



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

Volume 21 Issue 12

DECEMBER 2021



2021 Motto

“Prepare to meet your God”

“നിന്റെ ദൈവത്തെ എതിരേല്പാൻ ഒരുങ്ങിക്കൊൾക”

Amos 4:12b

Christmas Carol Service

- December 11, 6:00 pm

Christmas Service- December 25, 10 am

Watchnight Service

- December 31, 10:30 pm

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Pilgrim

DECEMBER 2021

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Editorial

Have you been guided by the common notion - if you say 'Merry Christmas' or 'Happy Christmas', that might wound the feelings of others? Many are divided in their feelings towards Christmas. People around the world have different beliefs about the origin of Christmas. The word Christmas comes from the Old English term *Cristes maesse*, meaning "Christ's mass." This was the name for the festival service of worship held on December 25 (January 7 in many Eastern Orthodox or Eastern Rite churches) to commemorate the birth of Jesus. (©2021 *Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc.*) Whatever be the date, Christmas lights a star in our hearts, and kindles the joy of salvation.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11).

This is a unique birth that also heralded the mission of Jesus Christ. We've probably heard and seen magnificent things happening in this world. Many are attracted by the pomp and glory of events. Here's an event that took place 2000 years ago. Though many people don't care about the birth of a Saviour, Christmas hasn't lost its luster. The fact of His birth is an accepted reality. This becomes meaningful when our hearts are transformed into mangers waiting to lay the Prince of Peace. The question is whether we follow the world and fill our hearts with the mundane wisdom or give room for the babe to be born. When Christ is born, the glory of the Lord shall fill us, and attract many to the bosom of the Everlasting Father.

Have a blessed Christmas!

Samuel Anselm Samuel
Editor



Achen's Message



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

Once again we have entered an advent season. Jesus came into the world to fulfill the prophecies of the prophets of God. The Bible describes the birth of Christ as the greatest joy for all mankind. That's Christmas. But Satan is trying to make even Christmas wishes into Happy Holidays. Even Christians make their way into it. "Don't say Happy Christmas in this nation", only Malayalee Christians tell me this. Many Christians argue that others do not like it.

But for the last three years, many have wished me a Happy Diwali. Many people said Happy Onam. Many said it was eid wishes. All other castes greet their religious greetings without fear in this country. Only Christians are afraid to tell Happy Christmas. Those who are afraid are afraid of the world. And for fear of the world, he does not hesitate to say all the other wishes except Christmas greetings. Psalms 27: 1 says that The Lord is my light and my salvation, Whom shall I fear? Those who do not trust in God, fear the world. It would be nice if we could test ourselves in this Christmas.

Our Christmas carol service will be held on December 11th. Worship is conducted according to covid protocols. Rev. Joseph Chacko, Vicar of Canadian Marthoma Parish, Markham will be our Chief Guest. There will be a Christmas service on December 25th.

The Watch Night service will be held on December 31st from 11:30 pm.

May God bless us all.

Rev Anish M George Padickamannil

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Church News



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Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship

The Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship will take place on every Thursday 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 Thursday 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 Zoom.

On-line Giving (Interac e-Transfer) - donate@csichurchtoronto.org

Please make ALL your contributions (offertory, missions, membership, donations etc.) to CSI Church Toronto using donate@csichurchtoronto.org.

Board Meeting

The next online board meeting will be on Saturday, December 04, 2021, at 8:30 pm.

Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols – December 11, 2021

Our Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols, titled “**LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS**”, will be on Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 6:00pm. A traditional service of Choral music, Scripture readings and Congregational hymns. The service begins with Advent prophecies of the coming of the Messiah and concluding with the Prologue from Philippians “Imitating Christ’s Humility”. Please join with your family and friends virtually to be part of this special celebration of our Saviour’s birth. For more information, please contact Chris George, Director of Music Ministry.

Christmas Day Service – December 25, 2021

Christmas day service will start at 10:00 am on December 25, 2021.

Watchnight Service - December 31, 2021

Our watchnight service will start at 10:30 pm on December 31, 2021 with prayer and testimonies followed by covenant service. More details to follow.

Cottage Prayer

Shalom area prayer will be held on Saturday, December 04, 2021, at 7:00 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Suby and Ruby Mathews. Please join the **virtual fellowship**.

Jordan area prayer will be held on Friday, December 10, 2021, at 7:00 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Williams Selvanose and Suja Williams. Please join the **virtual fellowship**.

Gilead area prayer will be held on Saturday, December 18, 2021, at 7:30 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Jefferson and Shona Sam. 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 secretary@csichurchtoronto.org



December 05 Bible Sunday 2 nd Sunday in Advent	Word of God: Inspired to Inspire		
	Old Testament	1 Kings.19:1-21	English Service
	Psalm	119:33-40	Read by
	Epistle	Revelation 10:1-11	Abraham P George & Family
	Gospel	Luke 1:39-45	
December 12 3 rd Sunday in Advent	Deliverance from the Bondage of Sin		
	Old Testament	Exodus 14:1-14	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	37:1-12	Read by
	Epistle	Romans 8:1-11	Ajoy Lional & Family
	Gospel	John 8:31-38	
December 19 4 th Sunday in Advent	Maranatha – O Lord Come		
	Old Testament	Deuteronomy 18:15-22	English Service
	Psalm	28	Read by
	Epistle	I Corinthians 16:13-24	Sam Daniel & Family
	Gospel	John.1:1-14	
December 25 Christmas	Christmas		
	Old Testament	Isaiah 9:1-7	English Service
	Psalm	98	Read by
	Epistle	Galatians 4:1-7	Sunday School
	Gospel	Luke 2:1-14	





Celebrations



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BIRTHDAYS

01	Rebecca Thomas	11	Leyma Ann Koshy
01	Sajin Mathew Alexander	12	Joana Grace Varguise
01	Ruby Mathews	12	Navin Abraham
02	Sanju Cherian	12	Christina Mariam Johnson
04	Sheeba Ghosh	13	David Thomas
04	Rachelamma Thomas	13	Esther Susan Jeffin
04	Anoop James	14	Sharon Lazar Sajan
05	Maria Gajraj	15	C. Mathew Thomas
05	Sony John Saju	16	Tojan Joseph Abraham
06	Anaya Sara Cherian	20	Elizabeth Shirley Abraham
06	Jefferson Sam	20	Jisha Mary Alexander
06	Jithin Thomas Ninan	21	George Philip
07	Daniel Thomas	24	Rhea Grace Varguise
07	A. Sally Thomas	28	Daniel Koshy
08	Shalini Mary G. Enoch	29	Rennie Philips Joseph
08	Sherin Leya Oommen	30	Sandhra Elizabeth Eapen
09	Ajil Thayyil Mathew	31	P. Matthew Verghis
09	Toms Jacob	31	Liz Varughese
11	Vinu Jacob		



ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Jiby Jacob & Jain Daniel
- 17 Abhilash Raj & Smitha Titus
- 18 Reji Johnston & Milly Johnston
- 26 Ajay Thomas & Chinnu Elizabeth Mathew
- 28 Shijo Perumannoor John & Dona Deena Varghese
- 28 Vimal Philip & Tania Mariam Jacob
- 29 Samuel Anselm Samuel & Shini Samuel
- 29 Balaji I. Kuruvilla & Rebecca Thomas
- 29 Geogy Thomas V & Lintu George
- 29 Sandeep Mathew Varghese & Sinu Susan Mathew
- 30 Alex Oommen & Susan Alex
- 30 Shoby Jacob Sunny & Sherin Philip Daniel
- 30 Akhil Wilson & Neenu Anna Mathew





Committee



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. Hans Thomas Varghese
Treasurer	Mr. Samuel Anselm Samuel	Youth Fellowship Director	Mr. Nithin Chemmanoor
Joint Treasurer / Trustee	Mr. Tojan Joseph Abraham	Mission Director	Mr. Christopher Moothedom
Sunday School Director	Mrs. Rejini Gajraj	Public Relations Director	Mr. Sanju Cherian
Choir Director	Mr. Chris George	Social & Recreational Director	Mr. Jacob P. John

December 26 Family Sunday	Family as Healing Space		
	Old Testament	Genesis 33:1-11	Malayalam Service
	Psalms	91	Read by Anil Raj Daniel & Family
	Epistle	Ephesians 6:1-9	
December 31 - January 01 11:30 PM Watch Night Service	No More Silence		
	Old Testament	Esther 4:1-14	Malayalam Service
	Psalms	89: 1-18	Read by Church Committee
	Epistle	Acts 18:1-11	
	Gospel	Luke 19:1-10	

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