



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

Volume 22 Issue 12

DECEMBER 2022



2022 Motto

“No More Silence..”

“മിണ്ടാതെയിരിക്കരുത്..”

Acts 18: 9

Carol Service - Dec 17

Christmas Day - Dec 25

New Year's Eve - Dec 31

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Pilgrim

DECEMBER 2022

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chief Editor

Rev. Binu Philip

Editor

Reshma George

Publication Team

Geogy Thomas
Aji Sam Mathews
Rishvi Narayan

Address

CSI Parsonage
1311 Kipling Avenue
Etobicoke M9B 3N8 ON
(416) 231- 1717

Articles/ Feedback

May be sent to
pilgrimcsi.to@gmail.com

Editorial

The Promise and Pursuit of Peace!

At the outset I want to sincerely thank Binu Achen, Church Secretary Danichayen, and all who were instrumental in selecting the new editorial team. I know I speak for all on the team when I say that we were each drawn by a desire to serve the Church in some way and I hope that this platform will be a meaningful avenue of service for us and of blessing for the Church.

As we find ourselves at the threshold of another Christmas season, I'm sure at least some of us are amazed at how quickly the year flew by. For most of us Christmas means familiar things; get-togethers with friends and family, Christmas traditions and festivities. It is also one of the busiest times of the year where homes, stores and even Churches are bustling with people and activities, and it's easy to get a bit overwhelmed with it all! It is in a way ironic that the angels heralding the birth of Jesus proclaimed, "Peace on earth" to the Shepherds, and yet our world today is a place of panic and striving, not of peace. This is true of us Christians too, as we often let the stresses of our daily lives and circumstances drag us down with it.

For perspective, let's always remind ourselves that there was nothing of luxury or grandeur in the stable on the night that Jesus was born; just a young mother and her special baby lying in a manger in humble surroundings. And yet in the simplicity of that setting was the profound culmination of generations of prophecies of the Messiah who is Immanuel, God with us! Therefore, I encourage each one of us to find some time amid the hurly-burly of this Christmas season to quieten ourselves and pursue peace, reflecting on the Lord's humble birth and the everlasting promise of His Peace. Let's choose serenity over stress, calm over conflict, and not allow anything to take away our peace!

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and an amazing New Year!

Reshma George

Editor

Achen's Message



Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We are in a season of Advent and preparing ourselves to celebrate yet another Christmas. That means we are in the last month of 2022. Let us praise and thank God for His blessings and guidance throughout this year.

As we are preparing for Christmas celebrations let us try to understand the real meaning of Christmas. Often, we understand Christmas in terms of gifts, a Christmas tree, Christmas decorations and lights, greeting cards, cakes, and meals together with friends and family. We seldom pause to think of a person who doesn't have the luxury of having three meals a day, or a family to be part of. We also forget that while we celebrate many of our fellow beings are in pain and sorrow.

Christmas can be a season of great joy, as it is a time when we remember that God shared His great gift of love for all of humanity. It can be a time of healing and renewed strength. God sent His Son, Jesus, to be born into the world. His birth brought great joy to the world. Shepherds, wise men, and angels all shared the excitement of knowing about this great event. They knew this was not an ordinary baby, as the prophets had foretold of His coming hundreds of years before. The star stopped over Bethlehem to point the way for those who were looking for this special child.

Yes! Jesus was a special baby. God sent His only begotten son to this hard and cruel world to save us from the bondage of sin. Jesus is the reason for Christmas. So let us go back to the real reason of Christmas and stand firm with Him and be led to do what He really wants us to do. Let us open our eyes and ears to see and hear what Jesus wishes us to see and hear. There we can see the pain of our brothers and sisters, and we can hear the cries of the helpless around us, and be prompted to respond. So this Christmas let us not be caught up in luxuries, rather let us approach this season with humility and do what we can for the betterment of humanity.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and Blessed New Year.

May God bless you all

In His Service Yours

Binu Achen



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 – “Book of Hebrews”

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 book of Hebrews. It also provides an opportunity for members to connect with and understand each other while continuing to build personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. Binu Achen will be leading the Bible studies. Please plan to attend the Bible study through Zoom.



Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be on Sunday, December 11, 2022, at 8:00 pm .

CSI North American Council Sunday

Sunday, December 11, 2022, will be observed as CSI North American Council Sunday.

A Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols

Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols, titled “BRING US HOPE”, will be on Saturday, December 17, 2022 at 6:00pm as 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 to be a part of this special celebration of our Saviour’s birth. For more information, please contact Chris George, Director of Music Ministry.

Christmas Day Service

Christmas day Holy Communion Service will begin at 10:00 am on December 25, 2022.

Watchnight Service

Watchnight service will begin at 10:30 pm on December 31, 2022, with prayer and testimonies followed by Covenant and Holy Communion Service. More details to follow.

If you wish to be included in the parish e-mail list to receive special notices, please send your e-mail ID to the Secretary at secretary@csichurchtoronto.org

<p>December 4 Bible Sunday</p> <p>2nd Sunday in Advent</p>	Word of God: Double edged sword		
	Old Testament	Jeremiah 36: 1-10	English Service
	Psalms	119: 89-96	Read by
	Epistle	Hebrews 4: 11-13	Jithin Thomas Ninan and family
	Gospel	Luke 1: 5-17	
<p>December 11 CSI North American Council Sunday</p> <p>3rd Sunday in Advent</p>	Blessed in Diaspora		
	Old Testament	Genesis 12: 1-8	Malayalam Service
	Psalms	126	Read by
	Epistle	Revelations 21: 1-4	Council Members: Christy Abraham, Susan Joseph & Joy Chemmanoor
	Gospel	John 5: 1-9	
<p>December 18</p> <p>4th Sunday in Advent</p>	Preparation: The Lord is coming		
	Old Testament	Micah 4: 1-5	English Service
	Psalms	98	Read by
	Epistle	1 John 4: 7-21	Shijo Perumannoor John & family
	Gospel	John 4: 21-37	
<p>December 25 Christmas</p>	Grace upon grace		
	Old Testament	Deuteronomy 6: 1-9	Malayalam Service
	Psalms	20	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 2: 4-9	Shoby Jacob Sunny & family
	Gospel	Mathew 2: 18-23	

<p>December 31 Year-ending</p>	Come the Lord is Good		
	Old Testament	Nahum 1: 1-5	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	34: 1-10	Read by
	Epistle	1 Peter 2:1-10	Ajay Thomas & family
	Gospel	John 7 : 37-39	
<p>January 1 New Year's Day</p>	God's continuing covenant with all		
	Old Testament	Genesis: 9: 8-17	English Service
	Psalm	145	Read by
	Epistle	Galatians 4: 21-31	Geogy V Thomas & family
	Gospel	Luke 2: 15-21	





BIRTHDAYS

01	Sajin Alexander	11	Leyma Ann Koshy
01	Ruby Mathews	12	Navin Abraham
02	Sanju Cherian	12	Joana Grace Varguise
04	Rachelamma Thomas	12	Christina Mariam Johnson
04	Sheeba Ghosh	13	David Thomas
04	Anoop James	13	Esther Susan Jeffin
05	Maria Gajraj	14	Sharon Lazar Sajan
05	Sony John Saju	14	Rebecca Mathew
05	Selma John	15	C. Mathew Thomas
06	Dan Philip Binu	16	Tojan Joseph Abraham
06	Anaya Cherian	20	Elizabeth Shirley Abraham
06	Jeferson Sam	20	Jisha Mary Alexander
06	Jithin Thomas Ninan	21	George Philip
06	Sanoj George	24	Rhea Grace Varguise
07	Daniel Thomas	25	Beston Abraham Mathew
07	A. Sally Thomas	28	Daniel Koshy
08	Shalini Mary George Enoch	29	Rennie Philips Joseph
08	Sherin Leya Oommen	30	Sandhra Elizabeth Eapen
09	Toms Jacob	31	P. Matthew Verghis
09	Ajil Thayyil Mathew	31	Liz Varughese
11	Vinu Jacob		



ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Jain Daniel and Jiby Jacob
- 17 Abhilash Raj & Smitha Abhilash
- 18 Milly Johnson & Reji Johnson
- 20 Jeffin Mohan Cherian & Reebu Mariam Jeffin
- 21 Danny Alamshah & Priya Abraham
- 26 Ajay Thomas & Chinnu Elizabeth Mathew
- 28 Tania Miriam Jacob & Vimal Philip
- 28 Dona Deena Varghese & Shijo Perumannoor John
- 29 Samuel Anselm Samuel & Shini Samuel
- 29 Geogy Thomas Valavuchirackal & Lintu George
- 29 Sandeep Mathew Varghese & Sinu Susan Mathew
- 29 Tom Karottaparambil John & Ancy Mathew
- 29 Alex Oommen & Susan Alex
- 30 Sherin Philip Daniel & Shoby Jacob Sunny
- 30 Akhil Wilson & Neenu Anna Mathew

The Executive Committee Members of CSI Church, Toronto

President	Rev. Binu Philip		
Vice-President / Rector's Warden	Mr. Zac Santhosh Koshy	Secretary / People's Warden	Mr. Daniel Thomas
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Special Events

Carol Service	December 17, 2022
Christmas Service	December 25, 2022
Watch Night Service	December 31, 2022
New Year's Day Service	January 1, 2023



The flyer features a light purple background with decorative illustrations of pine branches and red berries in the corners. At the top center is the CSI Church Toronto logo, which includes a circular emblem with a cross and the text 'CSI CHURCH TORONTO'. Below the logo, the text reads 'A CHRISTMAS SERVICE of Lessons and Carols' in a serif font. The main title 'BRING US HOPE' is prominently displayed in a large, bold, purple serif font. Underneath is a purple line drawing of a church with a steeple. The text 'JOIN US' is centered above the date 'DEC | 17 | 6PM'. The address '1315 KIPLING AVENUE, TORONTO, M9B 3N7' and phone number '647 994 8238' are listed below. At the bottom center is a small crest featuring a shield with a cross and a crown above it.

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