



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

# Pilgrim

Volume 23 Issue 1

JANUARY 2023



### 2023 Motto

**“A new command I give you: Love one another as I have loved you”**

നിങ്ങൾ തമ്മിൽ തമ്മിൽ സ്നേഹിക്കണം എന്നു പുതിയൊരു കല്പന ഞാൻ നിങ്ങൾക്ക് തരുന്നു

*John 13:34*

**New Year Service - Jan 1**

**Sunday School Exam - Jan 29**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Achen's message.... 3
- Church News..... 4
- Bible Portions ..... 5
- Celebrations ..... 7

# Pilgrim

**JANUARY 2023**

**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 greatest of it all is love!*

New Year greetings to one and all!

I'm sure most of us are approaching 2023 with mixed feelings influenced by what our experiences were in 2022. For those who received great blessings in the past year stepping into the new year can seem like a 'fingers-crossed' moment with hopes that God will grow these blessings. For those who experienced struggles in 2022 I expect there is a sense of urgency to see a turn for the better in 2023. Regardless of our past experiences we should challenge ourselves to always have hope, and not apprehension for the future. If we truly have faith then we must believe that our tomorrows are secure in the hands of a mighty God who has the best plans for us above anything we could imagine for ourselves. If we have that firm faith then we can count on the promise in Romans 8:28 that, 'All things work together for good to them that love God, and who are the called according to His purpose'.

In addition to having faith and hope, I want to also challenge us to have love in the way Jesus commanded us to love in John 13:34 which is also the church's motto for 2023. In 1 Corinthians 13:13 the Bible instructs us that the greatest of it all is love. We don't typically give this much thought as love seems like a simple, familiar and very natural thing for most of us. However, if we ask ourselves whether our love for others is selfless as Jesus' was, then I'm sure we can admit we have a lot to work on. So I encourage us all to add to our list of resolutions and plans for the new year a challenge to ourselves to live out the church's motto for 2023 in our daily lives.

Reshma George

Editor

## Achen's Message



Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

“O taste and see that the Lord is good” Psalm 34:8

As 2023 dawns, I acknowledge all the instances in the previous year where we could taste the sweetness and goodness of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Let us not forget to thank God for all the blessings we have received, no matter how good or bad. So, in this New Year let us pray and wait to see the unfolding of God's plan for us. Trust him, as He will hold you at your weakest, will see you at your darkest and will love you at your worst times. Let the New Year be a year of peace, selfless love, and mutual respect. Let us also be equipped by the Lord Almighty to be channels of the same where we are placed. Let us also remember and thank God for the lives of our beloved ones who departed last year.

We live in times of spiritual degradation. The boom of scientific developments, technology and our busy schedules are some of the main reasons that keep us from being dedicated to God's ways. This leads to stunted spiritual growth which is a real curse in our lives and times today. Spiritual renewal is the most urgent need of our time. “A revived church is the only hope for a dying world”, said Andrew Murray. So as a church let us consider this New Year as an opportunity for us to return to our Christian legacy, strongly holding on to our Christian values and kindle the blaze of our spiritual life.

I believe that true spiritual revival is actively visible in three realms:

1. Spiritual revival as identifying with the sufferings and pain of our needy fellow beings.
2. Spiritual revival as keeping ourselves holy from all the filthiness of the world
3. Spiritual revival as not something to be shown occasionally; rather it should be always experienced by everyone who interacts with us.

So as a church, both as families and individuals, let us prepare to revive our spiritual life. All our church organizations must be revitalized in order to accomplish a holistic revival of the church. I especially insist that the Sunday School and Youth Fellowship as the future of our church must carry the torch of revival. Let us all pray for one another and work together to realize this vision.

Let us witness a revival of true spirituality in our lives in 2023.

Wish you all a blessed New Year.

Yours In His Service

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 study. Please plan to attend the Bible study through Zoom.



### **Board Meeting**

The next board meeting will be on Sunday, January 15, 2023, at 8:00 pm.

### **Sunday School Examination – January 29, 2023**

Sunday School annual examination will take place on January 29, 2023. For more information, please contact Rejini Gajraj, Director of Sunday School.

### **Sunday School Anniversary & Talent Show – February 12, 2023**

Sunday School Anniversary & Talent Show will be held on February 12, 2023 immediately after the divine worship service. For more information, please contact Rejini Gajraj, Director of Sunday School.

### **Annual General Body Meeting – February 26, 2023**

Annual General Body Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 26, 2023 immediately after the divine worship service. Please plan to attend this very important meeting of our church.

### **Cottage Prayer**

Jordan area prayer will be held on Friday, January 06, 2023 at 7:00 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Elizabeth (Daisy) Mathai. Please join the virtual fellowship.

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](mailto:secretary@csichurchtoronto.org)

<b>January 1</b> New Year	<b>God's continuing Covenant with All</b>		
	Old Testament	Genesis 9: 8-17	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	145	Read by
	Epistle	Galatians 4: 21-31	Geogy V Thomas & family
	Gospel	Luke 2: 15-21	
<b>January 8</b> 2nd Sunday after Christmas	<b>God's Revelation to All</b>		
	Old Testament	Isaiah 60: 1-7	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	98	Read by
	Epistle	Hebrews 1:1-12	Jophy Philip & family
	Gospel	Matthew 8: 5-13	
<b>January 15</b> 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	<b>Called to Unity</b>		
	Old Testament	Ezekiel 37: 15-23	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	133	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 4: 1-6	Manoj Kurien & Family
	Gospel	John 15: 1-12	
<b>January 22</b> Ecumenical Sunday 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	<b>Unity in Faith and Action</b>		
	Old Testament	Joshua 3: 9-17	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	53	Read by
	Epistle	Acts 9: 20-25	Joy Chemmannoor & Family
	Gospel	Mark 1: 21-34	

		True Piety	
<b>January 29</b>  4th Sunday after Epiphany	Old Testament	Micah 6: 1-8	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	42	
	Epistle	James 1: 19-27	Jacob John & family
	Gospel	Matthew 6: 1-8	



**BIRTHDAYS**

04	Ninu Ann Varghese	24	Sneha Elizabeth Sunny
04	Ryan	25	Reeni Philip
04	Jis Maria George	25	Tanisha John
05	Sonia Mathews	26	Rijo Mathew
06	Daniel	28	Ryan Mathews
06	Mary Mridul Mathew	28	Aparna Sabu
06	Kingson Jacob	29	Neha Chemmanoor
06	Ruben Thomas Paul	29	Megan Thomas
06	Zachriah Philip	29	Abiel Thomas Nainan
07	Sharon Lawrence Idaraji	30	Ezra Sam
09	Joy Abraham	30	Nainan P. Thomas
09	Jency Jose	31	Selvarajan Thampy Puthenkulangara
10	Aezekiel. V Aji		
10	Riddhi Ghosh		
12	Binssy Mathew		
12	Thalvina Varkey		
14	Tom Karottaparambil John		
17	Juby George Thomas		
20	Angelin Freeda Paul		
22	Aji. V Mathews		
23	Abraham P. George		





### ANNIVERSARIES

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





**The Executive Committee Members of CSI Church, Toronto**

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