Apostolic Exarchate for the Syro-Malabar Catholics in Canada

Bulletin







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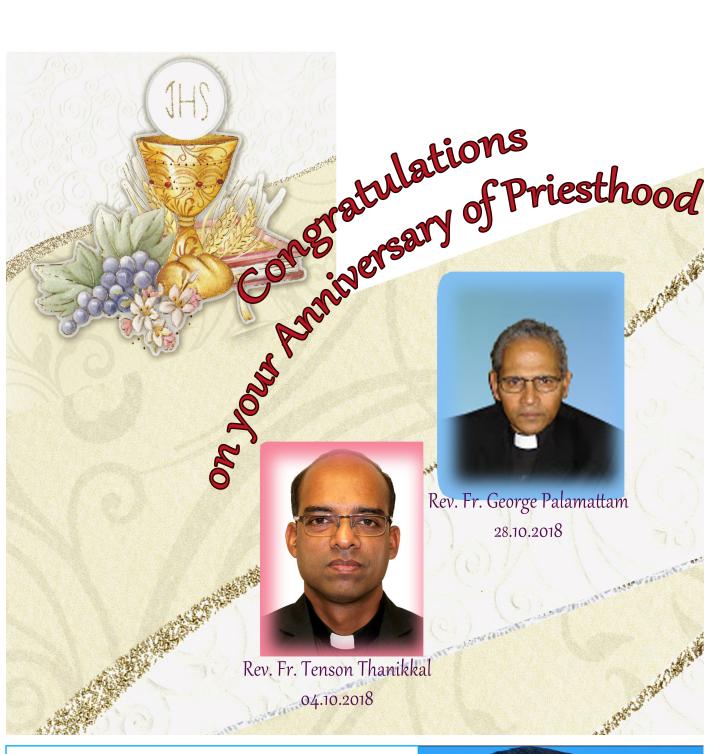




BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 2018

01/09	Marriage at Kanjirathanam
02/09	Holy Mass at Mannarkad
03/09	Return to Canada
04/09	Back to Canada
06/09	Curia Meeting
07/09	College of Consultors' Body Meeting
	PM: Flight to Calgary
08/09	First Holy Communion at Calgary
09/09	Parish Feast at Calgary
	PM: To Edmonton
10/09	AM: Baptism at Edmonton
	PM: Parish meeting at Edmonton
11/09	AM: Return to Toronto
	PM: Social Service Executive Meeting
12/09	AM: Monthly Recollection
	PM: CCB Inter - Faith Tele Conference
15/09	Social Service General Body Meeting
16/09	Holy Mass at Oshawa
17/09	Holy Mass at CMC Convent
22/09	Acts 4:12, Contemporary Christian Music Program
24-28/09	Plenary Assembly of CCCB
30/09	Holy Mass at Peterborough



We extend a hearty
Welcome to Rev. Fr. Jojo
Changanamthundathil
who has come to serve in the
Exarchate and wish him every
success in his ministry.





APOSTOLIC EXARCHATE FOR THE SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLICS IN CANADA

For The Glory of God

Circular 19 September 2018

Prot. No. 57/2018

The Third Anniversary of the Exarchate

By the providence of God, the Exarchate has successfully completed three years of its existence with clear Vision and Mission. We are marching forward in our faith journey with the moto: "For the Glory of God". In this journey our three phased Mission was to Form, to Fortify and to Evangelise the people of God and provide them with all possible pastoral care. Based on the promise of Christ: "Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Mt. 6:33), despite of the initial struggle, we are slowly building up the Exarchate from scratch.

With the Episcopal Ordination and the official inauguration of the Exarchate on 19 September 2015, our faith journey began with the first Mission to identify the scattered faithful across Canada and 'Form' Christ-centred, Church oriented and Socially committed parish communities. In the beginning we had only 3 missions with regular Sunday Mass from among 18 Mass centers. With the abundant blessings from God and your generous support, as of 19 September 2018, we have Formed 50 worshipping communities - 12 parishes and 38 missions - in 9 Provinces of Canada. Presently, 25 priests and 11 Sisters, in different capacities, are serving approximately 20,000 Syro-Malabar faithful and thousands of Catholics and non-Catholics, irrespective of liturgical rites, creed and nationality. When the Exarchate was erected there was no church of our own. But today, by the providence of God and tireless efforts of priests and faithful, we have four churches. We wish to render effective pastoral care to all age groups - from kids to elderly people. With this objective, we have established 20 functional Associations/Departments. They are coordinated by Exarchate Directors with the help of respective Regional Directors in East and West Regions. Understanding the relevance of future priests, we have given prime importance for vocation promotion. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our Vocation Bureau, currently, there are six seminarians preparing to become future priests for the Exarchate

In this occasion let's raise our hearts to God for His ineffable gifts. I am thankful to God for gifting our Exarchate with passionate Priests and Sisters. With extreme sense of gratitude and appreciation I remember all our faithful and pray for all your intentions. I am confident that your active leadership, enthusiastic involvement and strong support helped our Exarchate to grow and achieve its goal to a great extend.

Finally, it is my firm confidence that the work we did together in the last three years is a solid bedrock on which we can continue building our future Syro-Malabar Church in Canada. Even though there are a few challenges ahead of us, we would overcome them and work "For the Glory of God" with the unfailing providence of our Lord Jesus Christ and unwavering support of our beloved people of God. I request you to pray for the Exarchate and rededicate for its cause. Let's pray together as if everything comes from God and work together as everything comes from us!

Cordially yours in Christ,

+Bp. Jose Kalluvelil

Apostolic Exarch of the Syro-Malabar Catholics in Canada

CURIA NEWS

Visit of Archbishop Cyril Vasil SJ

Archbishop Cyril Vasil SJ, the Secretary to the Congregation for the Eastern Churches, visited our Bishop's House and the Cathedral on September 13. It was an informal, friendly visit. First, he visited the Bishop's House where he had the Lunch and then proceeded to the Cathedral. He visited the Exarchate offices and the Cathedral Church and had a meeting with the staff of the Exarchate. Bishop Jose Kalluvelil extended to him a warm welcome and handed over to him the petition to elevate the Exarchate to the Eparchial status. Archbishop Cyril expressed his high appreciation of the Syro-Malabar Church, which he has personally experienced as professor of the Oriental Institute, Rome and as Secretary of the Congregation for the Eastern Churches and promised that he will, from his part, do everything possible to the fulfillment of our dream of elevating the Exarchate to an Eparchy.

Annual Retreat & Seminar

The Annual Retreat for the priests and religious sisters will be held from October 01-04 at St. Alphonsa Cathedral, Mississauga. His Excellency Most Rev. Luigi Bonazzi, Apostolic Nuncio to Canada is the preacher. It will be followed by the one-day Seminar for priests on October 05. Please pray for the success of these events.

Appointments

Fr. George Joseph (Jojo) Changanamthundathil, Secretary to the Exarch & Pastor of St. Alphonsa Syro-Malabar Parish, Cambridge, w.e.f. September 18, 2018.

Pastoral Council Meeting

The next Pastoral Council Meeting is scheduled on October 06 from 10 am to 04 pm at St. Alphonsa Cathedral, Mississauga. This will be the last meeting of the present Pastoral Council. All the Pastoral Council members, please attend this important meeting.



NEWS FROM DEPARTMENTS

THE FAMILY APOSTOLATE

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES

SCHEDULE FOR 2018

November 2018	10, 11, 12	Sat, Sun & Mon
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The classes will begin at 9.00 a.m. and conclude at 6.00 p.m. every day.

Venue: St. Alphonsa Cathedral, 6630 Turner Valley Rd., Mississauga.

It is important that the participants attend all the sessions, for getting the certificate.

For further details contact: Rev. Sr. Prasanna Thattil CHF. Cell No.: 416-602-7646

Rev. Sr. Prasanna Thattil CHF Director

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CATECHESIS

ACADEMIC YEAR INAUGURATION

The new academic year got off to a prayerful and flamboyant start in most of the parishes of the Exarchate. In St. John Paul II Parish, Regina and in Infant Jesus Parish, Barrie, the new academic year started on September 2. As of now, there are 38 students registered and 12 on the staff in Regina and the new principal is Mrs. Jancy Mathew. In Barrie, there are 15 students and 2 on the staff with Mrs. Sofy Renish as the Principal. On September 9, which was announced to be the official commencing day, there was inauguration of the academic year in St. Alphonsa Cathedral, Mississauga where there are almost 600 students and 53 on the staff, in St. Joseph Parish, Hamilton where there are 58 students registered and 24 on the staff, in St. Mary Parish, London where there are 143 students registered and 24 on the staff with a new Principal Mr. Emmanuel Chimminikattu, in St. Mother Theresa Parish, Ottawa where there are 62 registered students and 11 on the staff, in St. Thomas Parish, Scarborough, where there are 448 students registered and 44 on the staff with Sr. Jyothy Thomas A O as the new Principal, in St. Joseph Parish, Montreal where there are 87 students registered and 17 on the staff, in St. Alphonsa Forane Church, Edmonton, in St. Thomas Parish, Fort McMurray where there are 35 students registered and 6 on the staff, in St. Alphonsa Parish, Vancouver where there are 134 students registered and 16 on the staff, in St. Alphonsa Parish, Victoria where there are 17 students and 5 on the staff, in St. Jude Parish, Winnipeg where there are 47 students registered and 12 on the staff and in Christ the King Parish, Saskatoon where there are 41 students registered and 15 on the staff.

On the same day, there was inauguration of academic year in the newly formed parish in Oshawa.

As of now, there are 95 students registered and 27 on the staff with Sr. Jessy George A O as the Principal.

The director was present for the inauguration in St. Joseph Parish, Hamilton. The director gave the sermon during the Holy Mass stressing the relevance of Faith Formation and the role of parents in imparting faith to the children.

On September 16, there was inauguration held at St. Mother Theresa Parish, Niagara where there are 27 students registered and 9 on the staff and in St. Mother Theresa Parish, Calgary where there are 112 students registered and 9 on the staff.

On September 23, there was inauguration of the new academic year in St. Mary's Knanaya Parish, Toronto where there are 100 students registered and 22 on the staff. The director was present for the inauguration. The director celebrated the Holy Mass and delivered the sermon stressing the relevance of Faith Formation and the role of parents in imparting faith to the children. After the Holy Mass, there was official inauguration by lighting the Kuthuvilakku. The Director then gave the inauguration talk. It was followed by teachers taking the oath which was administered by the Pastor Fr. Pathros Champakkara.

With the inauguration of Catechetical academic year on September 30 at St. Alphonsa Parish, Cambridge faith formation would have begun in the possible parishes this year. We have formal faith formation taking place in 20 parishes / mission centers across Canada. There are around 350 staff members and 2500 students taking regular faith formation in our parishes / mission centers.



TEACHERS' TRAINING BY FR. JIMMY POOCHAKKAT

With almost a year of planning ahead, the training for catechetical teachers of the parishes scheduled for September took place very successfully and to the utmost appreciation of all the participants. Gratitude to Fr. Jimmy on behalf of the entire Exarchate.

The training got off to an inspiring start with the sessions for the teachers from St. Thomas Parish, Scarborough and St. Joseph Parish, Oshawa on September 15, Saturday. There were 61 participants, 40 from Scarborough and 21 from Oshawa. With expertise in the field added to number of years of experience, Fr. Jimmy was able to put across the various concepts of faith formation very convincingly and with a great sense of reciprocity. Catechists have to equip

themselves with strategies and methods that convince youngsters to be with Christ and for Christ, like sharing stories from real life and individual experiences to make it more acceptable to them. Sharing his perspectives on upgrading the delivery of Catechesis, Fr. Poochakkatt suggested that Catechists also must see the church as a whole and have a clearer understanding of the Church's teachings and know what the students should take home each day. Along with delivering desirable messages, they have to identify platforms and provide opportunities to connect with and practice what they learned. The sessions which started at 8.30 am with the Holy Mass got concluded at 4.30 pm.

On September 16, Sunday the training session was held at the Alphonsa Cathedral for the staff of Cathedral, Cambridge and St. Mary's Knanaya churches. The sessions started with Holy Mass celebrated for the teachers by Fr. Jimmy himself. There were altogether 59 participants; 41 from the Cathedral, 12 from St. Mary's Knanaya and 6 from Cambridge. After the mass, the staff of Cathedral proceeded with their Catechism classes meanwhile the session was taken for the other staff. At 11.30 everyone joined for the session. It got over by around 4.30pm. Everyone appreciated Fr. Jimmy for the resourceful input they received.

On Wednesday 19th, the training session was held for the staff of London parish. There were 20 participants for the programme. Everyone appreciated Fr. Jimmy for the meaningful and resourceful sessions.

The training session for the staff of Hamilton and Niagara took place on 22nd Saturday. Fifteen teachers from Hamilton and four teachers from St. Mother Teresa Syro-Malabar Church, Niagara attended the seminar. It was conducted to educate catechist on resources available and encourage them to develop an understanding of nature and purpose of catechesis. The seminar was very informative and well appreciated by all the participants.

On the 23rd Sunday, the training session was held for the staff of Ottawa, Montreal and Belleville. There were 9, 8 and 3 participants from these parishes respectively. The seminar was both informative and motivational, evaluated the participants.

The training for the Western Region happened in two phases. It was held in St. Alphonsa Forane Church from 25th to the 27th. There were 22 participants for this training, most of who were from Edmonton parish itself. It was held from 28th to 30th in St. Mother Theresa Parish, Calgary. Everyone who participated really appreciated the resourcefulness of the entire training sessions.





BROADCAST FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH APOSTOLATE

There was a detailed meeting if the Director and the Asst. Directors on September 3 in the Bishop's house. The main agenda was to plan the future action plans for SMYM. The following are some of the decisions arrived at.

Syro Malabar Youth Movement (SMYM) is surging ahead with a definite plan in this youth year. The idea is to bring the young adults back to the community. The current scenario is that a very few of them after grade 12 turn back to the community either for mass or for other community activities. The plan is to contact the young adults who have completed Catechism grade 12 from 2013 to 2018. The National Team is geared to organize a one day get together for the young adults towards the end of December. The mobilization process is on towards this and the day of gathering will be consisting of activities which are both fun filled and oriented towards establishing a firm relation between the young adults and the community.

It is also planned to have a team visit to the parishes / centers where units of SMYM have already been formed. The national leaders will take turn in conducting sessions for the SMYM members who are from grade 8 to grade 12. Planning is on for the choice of themes and personnel for each Sunday commencing from October 28.

SMYM is joining hands with the Exarchate Social Service Department, especially in getting connected with the international students who have come over to Canada mainly for studies. The Director is a member of the International Students wing of the Social Service Department which is led by Mr. Joyce. In Peterborough there are many students especially in Fleming College. A mass center is already opened there in the Peter in Chains Cathedral. It is planned to have a mass for the students there on the last Sunday of every month. A welcoming ceremony for the new comers in Peterborough is planned after the Mass on September 30. A team of leaders have already been chosen for that community. On October 7, a new mass center will be started for the students in Sudbury. The future action plan will be sorted out after the mass on October 7.



PARISH NEWS ST. ALPHONSA CATHEDRAL, MISSISSAUGA



He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" which means "Be opened". Mark 7:34

anointing fire catholic ministry, canada presents "Ephphatha"

THANKS GIVING WEEKEND RETREAT

Prayers and Blessings His Excellency Bishop Mar. Jose Kalluvelil.



Convention Led By Rev. Fr. Samson Mathew (Sehion retreat center, Attappadi)



Prayers and Blessings

Rev. Fr. Xavier Khan Vattayil. (Founder and director of Anointing fire catholic ministries.) Rev. Msgr. Sebastian Arikat. (Pastor, St.Alphonsa Cathedral) Rev.Fr.Saji Thomas, CMI. (Associate pastor, St.Alphonsa Cathedral)

Please CLICK the link below for FREE Registration https://ephphatha.herokuapp.com/

DATE & TIME

6th October, 9.15 am - 5 pm 7th October, 4 pm - 9 pm 8th October, 9.15 am - 4 pm **HOLY MASS**

PRAISE & WORSHIP
SPIRITUAL TALKS
HEALING ADORATION

VENUE:

St.Alphonsa Syro Malabar Catholic Cathedral, 6630 Turner Valley Rd, Mississauga, ON L5N 2P1

For more information please contact

Jomon Joseph: 647 909 0930, Suresh Jacob: 647 608 4639 Sijo Cherian: 647 762 2429, Tomy Abraham: 647 856 2014

There will be separate sessions for children and youth from JK onwards. Lunch will be served.

ST. JOSEPH SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLIC PARISH - HAMILTON

Parish Picnic - 2018

We had our parish picnic on Saturday, September 15, 2018 from 10 am to 8 pm at Confederation Park Hamilton. This year more than 200 people actively participated in the picnic. The aim of the picnic was community building. The young and the old enjoyed the day. The special dishes were Kappa and Fish Curry, hot dog sandwiches, Appam and Curry - all enjoyed the home-made delicious food. The games were well organized. All participated in the bible quiz and the auction. We had lot of fun and all enjoyed the picnic.



St. Joseph Syro-Malabar Church, Hamilton organised one day seminar for catechesis teachers on September 22, 2018 at Sacred Heart Parish Hall. The Seminar started with Holy Qurbana by vicar, Fr. John Mylamvelil and sessions were led by catechesis commission secretary, Fr. Jimmy Poochakkatt. Fifteen teachers from Hamilton and four teachers from St. Mother Teresa Syro-Malabar Church, Niagara attended the seminar. It was conducted to educate catechist on resources available and encourage them to develop an understanding of nature and purpose of catechesis. The seminar was very informative and well appreciated by all the participants.





ST. MOTHER THERESA CHURCH, NIAGARA

നയാഗ്ര സീറോ മലബാർ കത്തോലിക്ക ദൈവാലയത്തിൽ തിരുന്നാൾ ആഘോഷിച്ചു.

നയാഗ്ര സീറോ മലബാർ കത്തോലിക്ക ദൈവാലയത്തിൽ ഇടവക മധ്യസ്ഥയായ വിശുദ്ദ മദർ തെരേസയുടെ തിരുനാൾ സെന്റ് പാട്രിക് കാത്തലിക് പള്ളിയിൽ ഭക്തിപുരസരം ആഘോഷിച്ചു. സെപ്റ്റംബർ രണ്ടിന് വൈകിട്ട് നാലിന് കൊടിയേറ്റു നടത്തു. തുടർന്ന് പ്ര സുദേത്തിമാരെ വാഴിച്ചു. സെപ്റ്റംബർ ഒൻപതിനു തിരുന്നാൾ ദിവസം വൈകുന്നേരം 3.30 നു ഭക്തിനിർഭരമായ തിരുനാൾ ദിവ്യബലി നടന്നു. ഫാ. മാർട്ടിൻ മുഖ്യകാർമികത്വം വഹിച്ചു. വികാരി ഫാ. ജോൺ മൈലംവേലി, ഫാ. അജി എന്നിവർ സഹകാർമിക

വൈകിട്ട് അഞ്ചിന് നയാഗ്രതരംഗത്തിന്റെ ചെണ്ടമേളത്തിന്റെ അകമ്പടിയോടു കൂടി ന യാഗ്രഫാൾസിന്റെ മുഖ്യതെരുവീഥിയായ വിക്ടോറിയ അവന്യൂവിൽക്കൂടി വിശുദ്ധ മദ ർതെരേസയുടെ തിരുസ്വരൂപം വഹിച്ചുള്ള പ്രദിക്ഷണം പ്രദേശവാസികൾക്ക് വേറിട്ട അ നുഭവമായിരുന്നു. നൈറ്റ് ഓഫ് കൊളംബസിന്റെ സർനൈറ്റുമാരായ ജോർജ് കാപ്പുകാട്ട്, എൽഡ്രിഡ് ജോൺ, ലാൽ ചങ്ങംകരിലിഫിൻ എന്നിവരുടെ ഓണർഗാർഡ് വേറിട്ട അനുഭ വമായിരുന്നു. തുടർന്നു സ്നേഹവിരുന്നും നടന്നു. അഞ്ഞൂറോളം ആളുകൾ തിരുന്നാളിൽ പങ്കെടുത്തു. ഒൻപതുവയസുകാരി മരിയ റോസ് മദർതെരേസയുടെ വേഷമണിഞ്ഞ് പ്രദ ക്ഷിണത്തിലണിനിരന്നത് കൗതുകമുണർത്തി. തിരുന്നാളിന്റെ വൻവിജയത്തിന് കൈക്കാര ൻമാരായ ബൈജു പകലോമറ്റം, ഡെന്നീ കണ്ണൂക്കാടൻ, അക്കൗണ്ടന്റ് ഷെജി ജോസഫ് എ ന്നിവരോടൊപ്പം തന്നെ കമ്മറ്റി അംഗങ്ങളായ ബിനു, എൽഡ്രിഡ്, നിബിൻ, മഞ്ജു, നിമ്മി, പ്രസാദ്, കവിത, ബിമിൻസ്, ലിഫിൻ, ലിജേഷ്, അനൂപ് എന്നിവരുടെ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾക്ക് വികാരി ഫാ. ജോൺ മൈലംവേലി നന്ദിരേഖപ്പെടുത്തി.





ST. JOSEPH MISSION, OSHWA

CATECHISM YEAR 2018-2019

On Sunday the September 8, St. Joseph Syro Malabar Catholic Church, Oshawa opened the doors to the new Catechetical year 2018-2019 and welcomed around 80 children to 'grow deeper in faith and grow connected'. The evening began with Father Jacob's encouraging and loving words as he welcomed all children along with their parents and teachers. He emphasized the importance and need for building a strong spiritual foundation and leading the younger generation throughout towards the journey of Christian faith. 'For those, who are led by the spirit of God are the children of GOD' ~ Romans 8:14. Followed by Father Jacob's introductory prayer, the children invoked the presence of Holy Spirit by singing a devotional song. Children were welcomed by giving candies and prayer cards, after which they followed their teachers to their respective classes.

Later, the children entered the church in a procession and offered flowers at the altar as a symbol of self-dedication and pray fully participated in Holy Mass.





Bp. Jose Kalluvelil was welcomed to St. Joseph Mission, Durham Region, Oshwa on September 16, 2018.



ST. THOMAS PARISH, SCARBOROUGH

Catechism Inauguration at St. Thomas Syro-Malabar





Sunday school Catechesis initiated

Classes of Sunday school Catechesis for the fifteenth academic year in our parish was initiated on Sunday, September 9 with a special prayer and blessing by Fr. Jacob Edakalathur. While the choir was chanting hymns invoking the presence of the Holy Spirit, representatives of students, teachers and parents joined in lighting a traditional oil lamp along with the Director Fr. Jacob, Asst. Director Fr. Daris, and Principal Sr. Jyothy in a gesture symbolic of displacing darkness and paving way for brightness in the lives of our youngsters through Catechesis. More than 300 students are attending classes this year, after initiating a new Sunday school program for those who are in the Durham region.

UNCONDITIONAL TRUST IN GOD AND UNWAVERING COMMITMENT ARE KEYS TO CATECHESIS - FR. JIMMY POOCHAKKATT

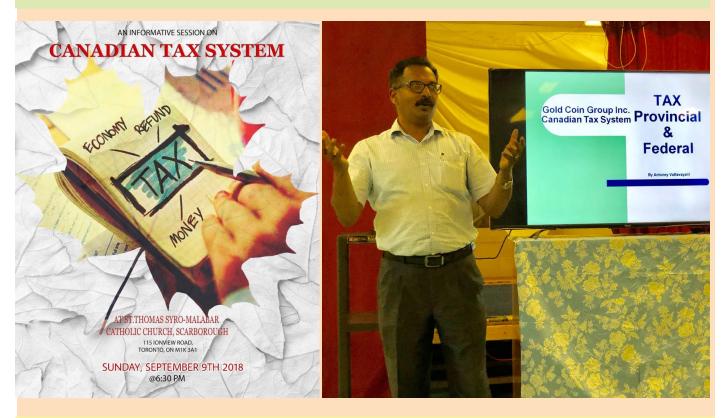
An unconditional trust in God and unwavering commitment to His ways are prime values that drive Catechists in their mission to lead the baptized to the maturity and wholeness of the Christian life. This was one of the key messages of Fr. Jimmy Poochakkatt, Secretary to the Syro Malabar Synodal Commission for Catechesis to more than 50 Catechists of the St. Thomas Parish in Toronto and the newly formed St. Joseph Mission in Durham Region who interacted with him on September 15.

Catechists have to equip themselves with strategies and methods that convince youngsters to be with Christ and for Christ, like sharing stories from real life and individual experiences to make it more acceptable to them. Sharing his perspectives on upgrading the delivery of Catechesis, Fr. Poochakkatt suggested that Catechists also must see the church as a whole and have a clearer understanding of the Church's teachings and know what the students should take home each day. Along with delivering desireable messages, they have to identify platforms and provide opportunities to connect with and practice what they learned.

Fr. Jacob, the Pastor welcomed Fr. Jimmy and the Catechists. Sr. Jeslin, Asst.Director of Catechesis from the Exarchate, Sr. Jyothy and Sr. Jessy engaged the group.



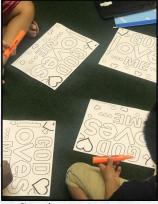
A class for international students was held on September 09, 2018 on the topic of Canadian Tax System



We had a class by Fr. Kurian Puramadathil, on Sunday September 23, 2018 after our 5:00 pm Holy Mass. The session will be held by Rev. Fr. Dr. Kurain Puramadathil and the topics of discussion are "A psycho spiritual approach to address the stress of Immigrants" & "Empowering new Immigrants for coping with cultural struggles"







Friday Prayer Service

Sep.14,2018









Friday Prayer Service

Sep.14,2018





YouCam





Friday Prayer Service

Sep.14,2018





YouCam

We have started a separate session during our Friday Service for kids and young adults of our Parish.

MOTHER TERESA SYRO MALABAR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY CALGARY

Parish Feast & other Celebrations

The month of September started as a busy month for the parishioners as they started to prepare for the feast of their patroness Mother Teresa. As for the Syro Malabar Catholic Community of Calgary, it is also their greatest annual event and parish festival when they gather together to seek the blessings of God through the intercession of Saint Mother Teresa and St. Thomas the apostle of India. Although the feast of Mother Teresa falls on September 5, it was scheduled on September 7,8, and 9 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday). On the first day, there was Holy Mass and adoration. First Holy Communion and confirmation ceremony also were to follow on the second day, and it coincided with the nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Most Rev. Bishop Jose Kalluvelil blessed the children who received holy Communion as they shared the body and blood – the very life – of Christ the Saviour. Later the Bishop performed the confirmation rituals by laying hands on their head and anointing them with holy oils. It was the fruitful culmination of months long training and preparations by the catechism teachers. A series of large family events and parties followed on the next few days and the parishioners gathered together to celebrate the event. There was also Ezhuthiniruthu led by Bishop and other priests where they initiated and blessed the kids who are preparing to start formal schooling. The day was also marked with Holy Arrow procession. The main day of the parish feast was on Sunday 9 September and it started with ceremonial welcome to the Bishop and a solemn sung Holy Mass followed in which Bishop Jose was the chief celebrant. Many priests from neighboring parishes were invited to attend the function. There was also a procession to St. Francis School grounds. The community donated generously towards the Syro Malabar Synod's fund raising for the Kerala flood victim's rehabilitation fund conducted on the feast day. Refreshments and dinner for the invited guests followed. Fr. Sajo thanked all parishioners for conducting the parish feast in a simple and grand manner. He thanked the various church ministries and committees: Trustees, Parish councilors, Family units' presidents, Decorations, Choir, Knight of Columbus, Mathrujoythi, Youth, Priests, etc.

Mathrujyothi has started a chain prayer for buying a church building for the community. The mothers in the community started praying one after another for God's blessings in actualizing the ever-cherishing dream of the community to have church building of its own.

Prayer Mission and Holy Mass Dedication for Families

Prayer Mission and Holy Mass Dedication for Families program started in Calgary, and according to the program, every Sunday's Holy Mass is dedicated to the special intentions of 10 Families each from the parish. The community unite together to pray for these families. The family members are contacted earlier to schedule their day. These families also are supposed to do the offertory for the Mass and they receive a special blessing during the celebration.

Other Activities

Catechism classes restarted after the vacation, and this year there is also an addition of Kindergarten classes for the preschoolers.

Oruma is an annual stage show of the community conducted every year and Oruma 2018 is going to be held on October 13 at SAIT Orpheus theater. Program rehearsals and ticket sales have started.

Family Units' prayer meeting restarted after the two months' interval. Each of the seven family units meet monthly and pray together and Fr Sajo blesses the family and the house where the meeting is hosted. Two families who were affected by fire were given a sum of about \$2500 each collected from the community as a consolation and a mark of sympathy in their tragedy. The community members also supported the families by giving away many household accessories and furniture.

ST. ALPHONSA CHURCH, VANCOUVER





STAND WITH KERALA



St. Alphonsa Syro Malabar Catholic Church Vancouver in association with Kerala Cultural Association of British Columbia (KCABC) hosted a Mega Food Sale on 8th September at Bear creek Park, Surrey to raise awareness and donations for the flood relief work in Kerala. We had a good turn up and could collect good amount besides the church collection.

ANGEL ARMY

Jesus youth full-timer Miss Rhea Jose led the angel army session at Bernadette parish hall and 35 kids attended the faith kindling programme.



CATECHETICAL ACADEMIC YEAR INAUGURATION

Catechetical academic year 2018-19 was inaugurated on September 9th. Representing the community Pastor, Sunday School HM, one Parent and two students lighted the Lamb before the inaugural Mass. There were 142 students registered and 13 teachers come forward to volunteer in this year.

BISHOP'S DIARY AUGUST 2018

01/08	Reached Kerala
03/08	AM: Visited Mar Jacob Manathodathu at Major Arch Bishop's House Ernakulam
	PM: Visited Mar Mathew Arackal at Bishop's House Kanjirappally
	Met Br. Belbin Jolly at Mary Matha Minor Seminary Kanjirappally
02/08	Blessed an Engagement Ceremony at Ettumanoor
04/08	Presided over the Memorial Holy Mass for the father of Mr. Sabu George
05-8/08	Visited the Seminarians: Br. Jobins Devasia at Mount Mary
	College Manathavady, Br. Akash Babu at St. Alphonsa Minor Seminary
	Thamarasserry, Br. Denz Martin at St. Mary's Minor Seminary Palakkad
	and Br. Joyal Joseph at St. Joseph's Pontifical Seminary Aluva, who are
	studying for the Exarchate, in Kerala.
09/08	Blessed a Marriage at Palakkad
11/08	Participated in the Silver Jubilee celebration at Mannarkkad
15/08	Blessed an Engagement Ceremony at Kanjirathanam
23 - 26/08	Participated in the Combined Mission meeting at Kakkanad
28/08	Participated in the Syro-Malabar Permanent Bishops' Synod at Kakkanad

