



EDITORIAI

EPARCHY OF MISSISSAUGA

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BULLETIN

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| Date | Time | Program |
|-------|----------------------|--|
| 02 | 02.30 pm | Episcopal Silver Jubilee of the Archbishop Mar Mathew Moolakatt, at Cathedral, Kottayam |
| 03 | 11.00 am 08.00 pm | Chettiyankunnel Family Executive Meeting (EST)Finance Council meeting |
| 06 | 03.00 pm | Engagement at Karukutty |
| 08-13 | 11.15 am | Monthly Recollection Syro - Malabar Synod at Kakkanad |
| 13 | 06.00 pm | Silver Jubilee of Rev. Fr. Tomy Chittilapilly |
| 17 | 08.00 pm | (EST) SOF Board meeting |
| 20 | 10.00 am | Marriage at Angamaly |
| 27 | 04.15 am | Return from India |
| 27 | 04.25 pm | Arrive at Toronto |
| 31 | 11.00 am | Curia meeting |



ORDINATION DAY

Fr. Benny Thanninilkumthadathil

01

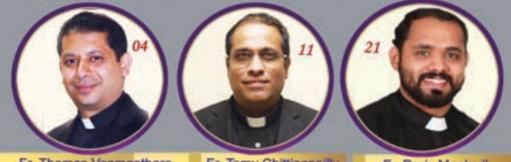


Fr. Thomas Kalariparambil



Fr. Johneykutty Kunnathu

Fr Jose Baiju Chakkery

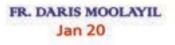


Fr. Thomas Venmanthara

Fr. Tomy Chittinappilly

Fr. Daris Moolayil

02





SR. PRASANNA THATTIL CHF Jan 30

Celebrating with you on this blessed day. May your heavenly patron ever be your guardian and guide.

FESTAL GREETINGS

THE SYRO-MALABAR MAJOR ARCHIEPISCOPAL CURIA

Mount St. Thomas, P.B. No. 3110, P.O. Kakkanad, Kochi – 682 030, Kerala, India Tel: (0484) 2424780, 2425727, 2426235, 2426236. Fax: (0484) 2422727

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR THE ELECTION OF THE NEW MAJOR ARCHBISHOP OF THE SYRO-MALABAR CHURCH

Lord Jesus, we adore you, praise you and glorify you. We acknowledge your providence in constantly guiding our Church, founded by the missionary activity of St. Thomas the Apostle. We thank you for the leadership ministry of all Bishops whom you designated from time to time, especially that of Cardinal George Alencherry.

You told your disciples: "you did not choose me, but I chose you". Following your example, we now pray to you Lord Jesus, who prayed to the heavenly Father before choosing the Apostles. Bless the Synod of Bishops who will gather to elect the new Major Archbishop to lead the Syro-Malabar Church spread all over the world. Gracious Lord, we pray to you to give us the most suitable person to assume the role of service in the line of succession of St. Thomas, the Apostle.

Holy Mother Mary, you who were present in prayer in the upper room, intercede for us before your beloved son to anoint the Synod with the Holy Spirit. St. Thomas, the Apostle, our Father in faith, the Saints and Blesseds of our Church, pray for us!

1 Our Father. 1 Hail Mary 1 Glory be.

This prayer is to be recited after the celebration of the Holy *Qurbana* in all our churches, religious houses and institutions and after the evening prayers in our houses from 10 December 2023 to 13 January 2024

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Sebastian Vaniyapurackal Administrator of the Syro-Malabar Church

THE SYRO-MALABAR MAJOR ARCHIEPISCOPAL CURIA

Mount St. Thomas, P.B. No. 3110, P.O. Kakkanad, Kochi – 682 030, Kerala, India Tel: (0484) 2424780, 2425727, 2426235, 2426236. Fax: (0484) 2422727

സീറോമലബാർസഭയുടെ പുതിയ മേജർ ആർച്ചുബിഷപ്പിന്റെ തെരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പിനൊരുക്കമായുള്ള പ്രാർഥന

സ്നേഹനാഥനായ ഈശോയേ, ഞങ്ങൾ അങ്ങയെ ആരാധിക്കുകയും സ്തുതിക്കുകയും മഹത്വപ്പെടുത്തുകയും മാർതോമാശ്വീഹായുടെ ചെയ്യുന്നു. പ്രേഷിതപ്രവർത്തനത്താൽ സ്ഥാപിതമായ സീറോമലബാർസഭയെ നിരന്തരം വഴിനടത്തുന്ന അങ്ങയുടെ പരിപാലനയെ ഞങ്ങൾ ഏറ്റുപറയുന്നു. ഈ സഭയ്ക്കു നേതൃത്വംനല്കുന്നതിനായി കാലാകാലങ്ങളിൽ നിയോഗിച്ച അങ്ങു എല്ലാ പിതാക്കന്മാരുടെയും പ്രത്യേകമായി, കർദിനാൾ മാർ ജോർജ് ആലഞ്ചേരി പിതാവിന്റെയും നേതൃത്വശുശ്രൂഷകളെയോർത്ത് അങ്ങേക്കു ഞങ്ങൾ നന്ദി പറയുന്നു.

നിങ്ങൾ എന്നെ തെരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുകയല്ല, ഞാൻ നിങ്ങളെ തെരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുക യാണു ചെയ്തത് എന്നു ശിഷ്യന്മാരോട് അങ്ങ് അരുളിചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടല്ലോ. അപ്പ സ്തോല്ന്മാരെ തെരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുന്നതിനുമുമ്പ് ദൈവപിതാവിനോടു പ്രാർഥിച്ച ഈശോയേ, അങ്ങയുടെ മാതൃക അനുകരിച്ചു ഞങ്ങളും ഇപ്പോൾ പ്രാർഥി ക്കുന്നു. ലോകമെമ്പാടുമുള്ള സീറോമലബാർസഭയ്ക്കു നേതൃത്വം നല്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ടി പുതിയ മേജർ ആർച്ചുബിഷപ്പിനെ തെരഞ്ഞെടുക്കാനായി ഒരുമിച്ചുകൂടുന്ന മെത്രാന്മാരുടെ സിനഡുസമ്മേളനത്തെ അനുഗ്രഹിക്കണമേ. മാർതോമാശ്ലീഹാ യുടെ പിൻഗാമിക്കടുത്ത ശുശ്രൂഷാപദവി സ്വീകരിക്കാൻ ഏറ്റവും അനുയോ ജ്യനായ വൃക്തിയെ ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് നൽകണമെന്നു പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

സെഹിയോൻശാലയിൽ ശ്ലീഹന്മാരോടൊപ്പം പ്രാർഥനാനിരതയായിരുന്ന പരിശുദ്ധ അമ്മേ, ഈ സിനഡുസമ്മേളനത്തിൽ പരിശുദ്ധാത്മാവിന്റെ നിറവുണ്ടാ കാൻ വേണ്ടി തിരുക്കുമാരനോടു പ്രാർഥിക്കണമേ. ഞങ്ങളുടെ പിതാവായ മാർ തോമാശ്ലീഹായേ, ഞങ്ങളുടെ സഭയിലെ വിശുദ്ധരേ, വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ടവരേ, ഞങ്ങൾ ക്കു വേണ്ടി മാധ്യസ്ഥ്യം വഹിക്കണമേ. 1 സ്വർഗ. 1 ന. 1 ത്രിത്വ.

ഈ പ്രാർഥന 2023 ഡിസംബർ 10 ഞായർ മുതൽ 2024 ജനുവരി 13 വരെ നമ്മുടെ എല്ലാ ദൈവാലയങ്ങളിലും സന്യാസഭവനങ്ങളിലും സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളിലും വിശുദ്ധ കുർബാനക്കുശേഷവും കുടുംബങ്ങളിൽ സായാഹ്നപ്രാർഥനക്കുശേഷവും ചൊല്ലണമെന്നു അറിയിക്കുന്നു.

സെബാസ്റ്റ്യൻ വാണിയപ്പുരയ്ക്കൽ

സീറോമലബാർസഭയുടെ അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേറ്റർ

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Prot. No. 1208/2023

CIRCULAR

SEBASTIAN VANIYAPURACKAL

the Administrator of the Syro-Malabar Churchto the Archbishops, Bishops, Priests, Consecrated Men and Women and Lay Faithful of the Syro-Malabar Church

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,

As you are aware, Cardinal Mar George Alencherry who has led the Church from May 29, 2011, as the Father and Head of the Syro-Malabar Church, has retired from his position as the Major Archbishop. Holy Father Pope Francis has written a very cordial letter accepting his resignation on November 29, 2023. It has made a special reference to his illustrious ministry as the third Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church. We shall remember with gratitude his very bold, zealous, sincere, and strenuous ministry during the last 12 years.

As per the instruction from the Apostolic See, the intimation of the resignation of Cardinal Mar George Alencherry was conveyed to the faithful and the public at 4.30 pm on December 7, 2023. The intimation of change of Office of Archbishop Mar Andrews Thazhath from the Office of the Administrator of the Archeparchy Ernakulam-Angamaly and the assumption of the same Office by Bishop Mar Bosco Puthur, the Bishop Emeritus of the Eparchy of Melbourne as the Apostolic Administrator was announced at the same time.

It is the prescription of the Canon Law that the Curia Bishop will be the Administrator to guide the Church during the interim period when the See of the Major Archbishop becomes vacant until the assumption of the Office by the new Major Archbishop. Hence I request



the prayers of all for the successful discharge of my ministry which I have undertaken as per the Canon Law.

As per the Canon Law, the Synod of Bishops is to be convoked within two months from the date of the retirement of the Major Archbishop to elect the new Father and Head of the Church. The Decree of convocation of the First Session of the XXXII Synod was already issued on October 8, 2023. As per the decision of the Permanent Synod held in the evening on December 7, 2023, the process of election of the new Major Archbishop will begin in the Synod that will be held from January 8 to 13. The official proclamation of the election and assumption of the Office by the new Major Archbishop will be done immediately after getting the approval of the Holy Father. All are requested to pray so that the most suitable person will be elected to lead the Church at this juncture. A prayer is composed which is sent along with this circular to be recited in all our churches during this time. This has to be recited after the Holy Qurbana in all our churches and religious houses and in all families after their evening prayer, from December 10 to January 13, 2024.

I have also another matter to share at this time. We have reached the end of the celebration of the centenary of the establishment of the Syro-Malabar Hierarchy. It was Pope Pius XI who established the Syro-Malabar Hierarchy on December 21, 1923 by his decree, Romani Pontifices. The growth of the Syro-Malabar Church after the establishment of the Hierarchy with Ernakulam as the Archeparchy and Trichur, Changanacherry, and Kottayam as the Suffragan Eparchies has been phenomenal. Even though the Syro-Malabar Church had pastoral jurisdiction all over India until the 16th century, which underwent restrictions later for four centuries, has now been restored. It should be especially remembered that the two events, the establishment of the Vicariates in 1887 and of the hierarchy in 1923 accelerated the development of our Church. We shall remember with gratitude the blessings the Syro-Malabar Church has received through the establishment of the Hierarchy. Hence, Holy Qurbana is to be celebrated in all the Cathedrals by the respective Bishops on Thursday, December 21, 2023. On the same day, special celebration of the Holy Qurbana will be conducted at the Major Archiepiscopal Curia at Mount St.

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Thomas Kakkanad at 3 pm.

As we read in the letter to the Hebrews, "let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds" (10:24). Let us work together with mutual love, unity, and cooperation for the good of the Church and the society.

I offer the greetings of a happy Christmas to all of you.

Given this from the Major Archiepiscopal Curia of the Syro-Malabar Church at Mount St Thomas, Kakkanad on December 09, 2023.

Yours lovingly in Jesus,



Bishop Sebastian Vaniyapurackal

Administrator of the Syro-Malabar Church

This circular shall be read in all the parish churches, institutions, religious houses, formation centres and the major seminaries of the Syro-Malabar Church during the Holy Qurbana on Sunday, December 10, 2023.







Prot. No. 1208/2023

സർക്കുലർ

സീറോമലബാർസഭയുടെ അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേറ്റർ സെബാസ്റ്റ്യൻ വാണിയപ്പുരയ്ക്കൽ, സഭയിലെ എല്ലാ മെത്രാപ്പോലീത്തമാർക്കും മെത്രാന്മാർക്കും വൈദികർക്കും സമർപ്പിതർക്കും അല്മായ സഹോദരിസഹോദരന്മാർക്കുമായി പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കുന്ന സർക്കുലർ.

മിശിഹായിൽ പ്രിയ സഹോദരിസഹോദരന്മാരേ,

മാർതോമാശ്ലീഹായാൽ സ്ഥാപിതമായ സീറോമലബാർസഭയുടെ പിതാവും തലവനുമെന്ന നിലയിൽ 2011 മെയ് 29 മുതൽ സഭയെ നയിച്ച കർദിനാൾ മാർ ജോർജ് ആലഞ്ചേരി പിതാവ് മേജർ ആർച്ചുബിഷപ് ശുശ്രൂഷാസ്ഥാനത്തുനിന്നു വിരമിച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണല്ലോ. അഭിവന്ദ്യ പിതാവിന്റെ രാജി സ്വീകരിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് 2023 നവംബർ 29നു പരിശുദ്ധ പിതാവു ഫ്രാൻസിസ് മാർപാപ്പ അതീവഹൃദ്യമായ ഒരു കത്ത് എഴുതിയിരുന്നു. ആഗോളസഭയായി വളർന്നിരിക്കുന്ന സീറോമലബാർ സഭയുടെ മൂന്നാമത്തെ മേജർ ആർച്ചുബിഷപ് എന്നനിലയിൽ കർദിനാൾ മാർ ജോർജ് ആലഞ്ചേരി മെത്രാപ്പോലീത്ത ചെയ്ത സ്തുത്യർഹമായ ശുശ്രൂഷകളെ ഈ കത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേകം പരാമർശിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അഭിവന്ദ്യപിതാവു കഴിഞ്ഞ 12 വർഷങ്ങളായി തീക്ഷണവും ശക്തവും ധീരവും സഹനബദ്ധവും ആത്മാർത്ഥവുമായിചെയ്ത നേതൃത്വശുശ്രൂഷകളെ നമുക്കു നന്ദിപൂർവം സ്മരിക്കാം.

വത്തിക്കാനിൽനിന്നു നല്കപ്പെട്ട നിർദേശപ്രകാരം 2023 ഡിസംബർ 7ന് ഇന്ത്യൻ സമയം വൈകുന്നേരം നാലരമണിക്കാണ് കർദിനാൾ മാർ ജോർജ് ആലഞ്ചേരി പിതാവു വിരമിക്കുന്ന വിവരം ഔദ്യോഗികമായി സഭാമക്കളെയും പൊതുസമൂഹത്തെയും അറിയിച്ചത്. ഇതേ സമയത്തുതന്നെ, എറണാകുളം – അങ്കമാലി അതിരൂപതയുടെ അപ്പസ്തോലിക് അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേറ്റർ സ്ഥാനത്തു നിന്ന് ആർച്ചുബിഷപ്പ് മാർ ആൻഡ്രൂസ് താഴത്ത് പിതാവു മാറിയ വിവരവും തൽസ്ഥാ നത്ത് മെൽബൺ രൂപതയുടെ മുൻഅധ്യക്ഷൻ മാർ ബോസ്കോ പുത്തൂർ പിതാവു നിയമിക്കപ്പെട്ട വിവരവും അറിയിക്കപ്പെട്ടു.



മേജർ ആർച്ചുബിഷപ്പിന്റെ സ്ഥാനം ഒഴിവുവരുമ്പോൾ പുതിയ മേജർ ആർച്ചുബിഷപ് സ്ഥാനം ഏറ്റെടുക്കുന്നതുവരെയുള്ള കാലഘട്ടത്തിൽ കൂരിയ മെത്രാനാണ് സഭയുടെ അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേറ്ററായി സഭയ്ക്കു നേതൃത്വംകൊടു ക്കേണ്ടതെന്നു കാനൻ നിയമം അനുശാസിക്കുന്നു. അതിൻപ്രകാരം, ഞാൻ ഏറ്റെടു ത്തിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ ശുശ്രൂഷാനിർവഹണത്തിനു ആവശ്യമായ ദൈവകൃപ ലഭിക്കുന്ന തിനുവേണ്ടി എല്ലാവരുടെയും പ്രാർഥനാസഹായം അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

പുതിയ സഭാതലവനെ തെരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുന്നതിനു മേജർ ആർച്ചുബിഷപ്പു വിരമിച്ച ദിവസം മുതൽ രണ്ടു മാസത്തിനകം മെത്രാൻസിനഡു വിളിച്ചുകൂട്ടണമെന്ന സഭയുടെ കാനൻ നിയമം ഈ സാഹചര്യത്തിൽ ബാധകമാണ്. സീറോമലബാർ മെത്രാൻമാരുടെ മുപ്പത്തിരണ്ടാം സിനഡിന്റെ ഒന്നാം സമ്മേളനം 2024 ജനുവരിയിൽ നടത്തുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി നിയമപ്രകാരമുളള ഔദ്യോഗിക കല്പന കഴിഞ്ഞ ഒക്ടോബർ 8നു നല്കപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. 2023 ഡിസംബർ 7നു വൈകുന്നേരം കൂടിയ പെർമനെന്റ് സിനഡിന്റെ തീരുമാനപ്രകാരം ജനുവരി 8 മുതൽ 13 വരെ നടക്കുന്ന സിനഡു സമ്മേള നത്തിൽത്തന്നെ പുതിയ മേജർ ആർച്ചുബിഷപ്പിന്റെ തെരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പു നടപ ടികൾ ആരംഭിക്കുന്നതാണ്. സിനഡു തെരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുന്ന പുതിയ മേജർ ആർച്ചു ബിഷപ്പിന് പരിശുദ്ധ മാർപാപ്പയുടെ സ്ഥിരീകരണം ലഭിച്ചാലുടൻ ഇതുസം ബന്ധിച്ച ഔദ്യോഗി കപ്രഖ്യാപനവും തുടർന്നു സ്ഥാനാരോഹണവും നടക്കുന്ന താണ്. ഈ കാലഘട്ട ത്തിൽ സീറോമലബാർ സഭയെ നയിക്കാൻ ഏറ്റവും അനുയോജ്യനായ വ്യക്തി ഈ ശുശ്രൂഷാപദവിയിലേക്കുതെരഞ്ഞെടുക്കപ്പെടുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി എല്ലാവരും പ്രാർഥിക്കണമെന്ന് അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു. സഭ മുഴുവനിലും ചൊല്ലുന്നതിനു ഒരു പ്രാർഥന തയ്യാറാക്കി ഈ സർക്കുലറിനൊപ്പം നല്കുന്നു. ഇത് 2023 ഡിസംബർ 10 ഞായർ മുതൽ 2024 ജനുവരി 13 വരെ നമ്മുടെ എല്ലാ ദൈവാലയങ്ങളിലും സന്യാസഭവനങ്ങളിലും സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളിലും വിശുദ്ധ കുർബാനക്കുശേഷവും കുടുംബങ്ങളിൽ സായാഹ്ന പ്രാർഥനക്കുശേഷവും ചൊല്ലണമെന്നു അറിയിക്കുന്നു.

മറ്റൊരു സുപ്രധാനകാര്യംകൂടി അറിയിക്കാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. സീറോ മലബാർസഭയുടെ ഹയരാർക്കിസ്ഥാപനത്തിന്റെ ശതാബ്ദിവർഷസമാപനത്തി ലെത്തിയിരിക്കുകയാണ് നാമിപ്പോൾ. 'റൊമാനി പൊന്തിഫിച്ചെസ്' എന്ന തിരുവെഴുത്തുവഴി 1923 ഡിസംബർ 21ന് പരിശുദ്ധ പിതാവ് പതിനൊന്നാം പീയു സ് മാർപാപ്പയാണ് സീറോമലബാർ ഹയരാർക്കി സ്ഥാപിച്ചത്. എറണാകുളത്തെ അതിരൂപതാപദവിയിലേയ്ക്കുയർത്തുകയും തൃശ്ശൂർ, ചങ്ങനാശ്ശേരി, കോട്ടയം എന്നിവയെ സാമന്തരൂപതകളായി നിശ്ചയിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടു റോമാ മാർപാപ്പ എടുത്ത ഈ തീരുമാനത്തെത്തുടർന്നു സഭയുടെ നാളിതുവരെ യുള്ള വളർച്ച അത്ഭുതാവഹമാണ്. പതിനാറാം നൂറ്റാണ്ടു വരെ ഭാരതംമുഴുവനിലും അജപാലനാധികാരം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന സീറോമലബാർ സഭയ്ക്ക് ഇടക്കാലത്ത് ഇതിനു പരിമിതികൾ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നെങ്കിലും ഇപ്പോൾ ഇതു പുനസ്ഥാപിക്കപ്പെട്ടു. 1887ലെ വികാരിയാത്തുകളുടെ സ്ഥാപനവും 1923ലെ ഹയരാർക്കി സ്ഥാപനവുമാണ് ഈ

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പ്രക്രിയയ്ക്ക് ആക്കാകൂട്ടിയത് എന്നതു പ്രത്യേകം സ്മരണീയമാണ്. ഈ ശതാബ്ദിവർഷത്തിൽ ഹയരാർക്കിസ്ഥാപനത്തിലൂടെ ദൈവാ നമ്മുടെ സഭക്കു നല്കിയ അനുഗ്രഹങ്ങളെ നന്ദിയോടെ ഓർക്കാം. അതിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി 2023 ഡിസംബർ 21 വ്യാഴാഴ്ച സഭയിലെ എല്ലാ കത്തീഡ്രൽ ദൈവാലയങ്ങളിലും രൂപതാധ്യക്ഷ ന്മാരുടെ കാർമികത്വത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേക വിശുദ്ധ കുർബാന അർപ്പിച്ചു പ്രാർഥിക്ക ണമെന്ന് അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു. അന്നേദിവസം ഉച്ചകഴിഞ്ഞ് മൂന്നുമണിക്ക് സഭയുടെ കേന്ദ്രകാര്യാലയമായ കാക്കനാട് മൗണ്ട് സെന്റ് തോമസിലും പ്രത്യേക വിശുദ്ധ കുർബാന അർപ്പിക്കുന്നതാണ്.

ഹെബ്രായലേഖനത്തിൽ നാം വായിക്കുന്നതുപോലെ, 'സ്നേഹത്തോടെ ജീവിക്കുന്നതിനും നല്ല കാര്യങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യുന്നതിനും പരസ്പരം പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കാൻ എങ്ങനെ കഴിയുമെന്നു നമുക്കു പര്യാലോചിക്കാം (10:24). പരസ്പരസ്നേഹത്തോ ടും ഐക്യത്തോടും സഹകരണ മനോഭാവത്തോടുംകൂടി സഭയുടെയും പൊതുസമൂഹത്തിന്റെയും വളർച്ചക്കുവേണ്ടി നമുക്ക് ഒരുമിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിക്കാം. സമാഗതമാകുന്ന ക്രിസ്മസിന്റെ മംഗളങ്ങൾ ഏവർക്കും സ്നേഹപൂർവ്വം ആശംസി ക്കുന്നു. കാക്കനാട് മൗണ്ട് സെന്റ് തോമസിലുള്ള മേജർ ആർക്കി എപ്പിസ്കോ പ്പൽ കാര്യാലയത്തിൽനിന്നു 2023 ഡിസംബർ 9–ാം തിയതി നൽകപ്പെട്ടത്.

ഈശോയിൽ സ്നേഹപൂർവം,

- Var geparded **Bishop Sebastian Vantyspurackal** Administrator of the Syto-Malabar Church

ബിഷപ് സെബാസ്റ്റ്യൻ വാണിയപ്പുരയ്ക്കൽ സീറോമലബാർസഭയുടെ അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേറ്റർ

ഈ സർക്കുലർ 2023 ഡിസംബർ 10 ഞായറാഴ്ച സീറോമലബാർസഭയിലെ എല്ലാ ഇടവക ദൈവാലയങ്ങളിലും സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളിലും സമർപ്പിതഭവനങ്ങളിലും പരിശീലനകേന്ദ്ര ങ്ങളിലും മേജർ സെമിനാരികളിലും വിശുദ്ധ കുർബാന മധ്യേ വായിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.





Prot. No. 172/2023

December 21, 2023

Increment of Allowances for Priests and Religious Sisters

Dear Rev. Fathers, Religious Sisters, beloved Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

Since the establishment of the Apostolic Exarchate for the Syro-Malabar Catholic in Canada in 2015 we have been following the same remuneration structure for our priests and religious sisters. As the cost of living increased considerably in Canada, we recognize the need for reviewing the allowances. I entrusted the Finance Council of our Eparchy to study the modality of increment of Allowance for the priests and sisters. I greatly appreciate the Finance Council Members for their effort to make a detailed review and study on this project to have a reasonable and sustainable increase in the allowances in line with the increase in the cost of living. Comparing the Canadian Cost of Living Index and the Canadian Dioceses, we have come to the decision of increasing the allowances of our priests and religious sisters as follows:

Priest Allowance: 5% increase from the current take-home salary of \$1,800, rounded off to \$100 will be in effect from January 2024. There will be an increase of 2% annually and a tri-annual review hereafter. Net impact of this increase to Eparchy or a parish, compared to the current employer cost will be approximately \$3,000 per person (including payroll/source deduction).

Food allowance for priests: The food costs have increased in the range of 40% from 2015. So, an increase of \$150 in food allowance (from \$250 to \$400) will be effective from January 2024.

Travel allowance for priests: The gas prices have gone well over 75% over a period from 2015. A reasonable increase in the current rates

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is essential based on the high increase in gas price. Hence the travel allowance will be increased to 55 cents per KM for the second office.

Religious Sisters' Allowance:

Currently, the Religious sisters are paid \$5,000 per convent for three sisters or \$1,666 per person. The rent for the convent, the daily cost of living, mileage and vehicle expenses are covered from this amount. So, there will be an increment of \$250 per person with effect from January 2024. This would be an increase from \$5000 to \$5,750 to a convent. A 2% annual increase and a tri annual review will be in effect from January 2024.

Please make necessary arrangement for the implementation of the increase of allowance.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Yours in Christ



Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvelil Eparchy of Mississauga

NB: This is to be read in our parishes, missions and Holy Qurbana centres. Another document is sent to you as a reference letter to know more details of the increment which may help you to give some explanations to the Parish Council, if needed.





12/12/2023

Increment of Salaries and Allowances for Priests, Religious Sisters Background:

As the cost of living increased considerably in Canada, Eparchy recognizes the need for reviewing the allowances and salaries of our Priests, Religious sisters, and Eparchy staff.

KSince the establishment of Exarchate in 2015 the renumeration structure has not changed. So, the Finance Council was entrusted to review and provide options for a reasonable and sustainable increase in salaries in line with the increase in the cost of living.

The Finance council studied different methodologies to find the appropriate level of increase.

Factors considered:

Canadian Cost of living index (CPI):

Cost of living index (CPI) is based on a basket of basic goods and services including food, shelter, household expenses, clothing and footwear, transportation, Health and personal care, education etc. While CPI averaged around 1.5% between 2015 and 2020, during Covid it took a big jump of 10% over two years. Total increase from 2015 to 2022 was 20.8%.

While CPI is a basis for remuneration increases in the general employment sector, it may not be appropriate for our clergy as many of the components are covered separately by the Eparchy (e.g. Food allowances, rent, reimbursement of travel costs).

Comparatives to other Canadian Dioceses

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A comparison of salaries to the priests and sisters at different

Canadian Dioceses show that the salaries vary across the dioceses, some like the Toronto Arch diocese is higher while there are others which are lower and certain others closer to the range of the Eparchy of Mississauga.

Considering all these, an increase of approximately 5% will be appropriate to take care of the increase in cost components applicable.

Methodology for applying the increase:

Priest Allowance: 5% increase from the current take-home salary of \$1,800, rounded off to \$100. There will be an increase of 2% annually and a tri-annual review hereafter. Net impact of this increase to Eparchy or a parish, compared to the current employer cost will be approximately \$3,000 per person. (including payroll/source deduction)

Food allowances for priests: The food costs have increased in the range of 40% from 2015. Jumping too high in the last few years during and after Covid and it directly impacts the necessity of life. Almost all Canadian Diocese are paying \$500 as food allowance. So, an increase of \$150 in food allowance (from \$250 to \$400) will be effective from January 2024.

Travel allowances for priests: The gas prices have gone well over 75% over a period from 2015. A reasonable increase in the current rates is essential based on the high increase in gas prices. Current rates are 40 cents for the first 1000 kms and 35 cents after 1000 kms. Travel allowances are paid only for the second office. Travel allowance directly impacts the priests who drive long distances to provide pastoral services in remote areas. CRA approved mileage for tax purposes is 68 cents per km.

Based on the above, the travel allowance will be increased to 55 cents per Km for the second office.

Religious Sisters' Allowances:

Currently, the Religious sisters are paid \$5,000 per convent for three sisters or \$1,666 per person. The rent for the convent (which ranges between \$2,300 to 2,800), the daily cost of living, mileage and vehicle expenses are covered from this amount.

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We give an increment of \$250 per person, considering the increase in rent as well as the cost of living with effect from 2024. This would be a total 30% increase from \$5000 to

\$5,750.

A 2% annual increase and a tri annual review will be in effect from January 2024.

Cordially yours in Christ,



Fr George Joseph

Finance Officer Eparchy of Mississauga

NB: This document is a reference letter for the priests to know the details of the increment. This may help you to give some explanations to the Parish Council, if needed.



CURIA NEWS

1. Monthly Recollection of Priests and Sisters for the month of January will be conducted on January 8, 2024. The spiritual sharing will be done by Rev. Fr. George Thuruthipally and the adoration by CHF Sisters.

2. Appointments and Relieving

Rev. Fr. George Thuruthipally is appointed to be the Pastor of St. Mother Teresa Syro- Malabar Catholic Parish, Niagara Falls. w. e. f. 15/12/2023 and **Rev. Fr. Tomy Chittinapilly** is relieved.

Rev. Fr. Mathew Areekkattu is appointed to be the Pastor of Lourdes Matha Syro Malabar Catholic Mission, Windsor; Pastor, Christ the King Syro Malabar Catholic Mission, Chatham-Kent w. e. f. 15/12/2023.

Rev. Fr. Shijo Ottaplackal VC is appointed to be the Pastor of St. Antony Syro Malabar Catholic Mission, Victoria, BC, w. e. f. 15/ 12/2023 and **Rev. Fr. Thomas Venmanthara** is relieved.

Rev. Fr. Saji Joseph is appointed to be the Pastor of Sacred Heart Knanaya Catholic Church, London w. e. f. January 1, 2024, and **V. Rev. Fr. Pathros Champakara Peely** is relieved.

V. Rev. Fr. Baiju Chakkery is appointed to be the Pastor of St. John Bosco Syro- Malabar Catholic Mission, Peterborough w. e. f. January 1, 2024.

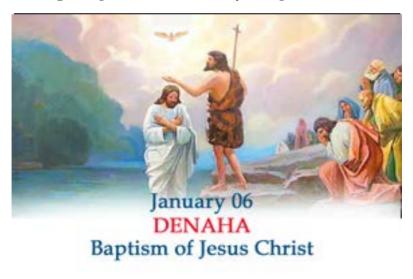
Rev. Fr. Plogen Antony Kannampuzha is appointed to be the Pastor of St. Mariam Thresia Syro- Malabar Catholic Mission, Sarnia w. e. f. January 1, 2024.

Rev. Fr. Joyal Joseph is appointed to be the Associate Pastor of St. Mary's Syro- Malabar Catholic Church, London w. e. f. January 1, 2024, and is relieved from St. Alphonsa Syro-Malabar Catholic Cathedral, Mississauga.

Rev. Fr. Francis Samuvel Akkarapattiakal is appointed to be the Associate Pastor of St. Alphonsa Syro-Malabar Catholic Cathedral, Mississauga w. e. f. January 1, 2024.

Prayerful wishes to the newly appointed priests and Thanks to the priests who are relieved.

3. The Formation of the New Pastoral Council, Parish Councils and Elections/ selections of new Office Bearers of Departments and Associations: The tenure of the present Eparchial Pastoral Council and the Parish Councils will end by April 30, 2024. The new Councils are to be effective from May 1, 2024. The Elections/ Selections necessary in various levels in parishes and missions can be conducted from January to April 2024. The Elections/ selections of new Office Bearers of Departments and Associations can also be done during this period from January to April 2024.





പൗരോഹിത്വ ആദ്ധ്യാത്മികത: വചനവിചിന്തനങ്ങൾ മല്പാൻ മാത്യു വെള്ളാനിക്കൽ

വിവാഹവും ബ്രഹ്മചര്വവും

(തിരുവചനഭാഗം: 1 കോറിന്തോസ് 7,1–40)

വിവാഹജീവിതത്തെയും ബ്രഹ്മചര്യജീവിതത്തെയും സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള പൗലോസ്ശ്ലീഹായുടെ പ്രബോധനങ്ങളാണ് ഈ തിരുവചനഭാഗം അവതരിപ്പിക്കു ന്നത്. ഈ ഭാഗത്തെ താഴെക്കാണുംവിധം വിഭജിക്കാം.

- 1. വിവാഹജീവിതം (7,1-7)
- 2. വിവാഹബന്ധം (7,8–16)
- 3. വിളിയോടു വിശ്വസ്തത (7,17-24)
- 4. ബ്രഹ്മചര്യജീവിതം (7,25–35)
- 5. വിവാഹനിശ്ചയം ചെയ്തവർ (7,36-40)

ഈ ലേഖനഭാഗം അജപാലകർക്കും അജഗണങ്ങൾക്കും നല്കുന്ന സന്ദേശ ങ്ങൾ പഠനവിഷയമാക്കാം.

1. വിവാഹജീവിതം

"ഇനി നിങ്ങൾ എഴുതിച്ചോദിച്ച കാര്യങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി പ്രതിപാദിക്കാം. സ്ത്രീയെ സ്പർശിക്കാതിരിക്കുകയാണ് പുരുഷനു നല്ലത്. എന്നാൽ, വ്യഭിചാരം ചെയ്യാൻ പ്രലോഭനങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാകാമെന്നതുകൊണ്ട് പുരുഷനു ഭാര്യയും സ്ത്രീക്കു ഭർത്താവും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കട്ടെ. ഭർത്താവ് ഭാര്യയോടുള്ള ദാമ്പത്യധർമം നിറവേറ്റണം; അതുപോലെതന്നെ ഭാര്യയും. ഭാര്യയുടെ ശരീരത്തിന്മേൽ അവൾക്കല്ല അധികാരം, ഭർത്താവിനാണ്; അതുപോലെതന്നെ, ഭർത്താവിന്റെ ശരീരത്തിന്മേൽ അവനല്ല, ഭാര്യയ്ക്കാണ് അധികാരം. പ്രാർഥനാജീവിതത്തിനായി ഇരുവരും തീരുമാനിക്കുന്ന കുറേക്കാലത്തേക്കല്ലാതെ പരസ്പരം നൽകേണ്ട അവകാശങ്ങൾ നിഷേധിക്കരുത്. അതിനുശേഷം ഒന്നിച്ചുചേരുകയും വേണം. അല്ലാത്തപക്ഷം, നിങ്ങളുടെ സംയമനക്കുറവുനിമിത്തം പിശാച് നിങ്ങളെ പ്രലോഭിപ്പിക്കും" (7,1-5).

വിവാഹം പാടില്ല; വിവാഹിതരാണെങ്കിൽത്തന്നെ ലൈംഗികബന്ധങ്ങൾ ഒഴി വാക്കണം എന്നെല്ലാമുള്ള നിലപാടുകൾ സ്വീകരിച്ചവർ കോറിന്തോസിലുണ്ടായി രുന്നു. അവർക്കു ശ്ലീഹാ വ്യക്തമായ പ്രബോധനങ്ങൾ നല്കുകയാണ്. വിവാഹം ആവശ്യമാണ്. പുരുഷനു തന്റെ ഭാര്യയും സ്ത്രീക്കു തന്റെ ഭർത്താവും ഉണ്ടായിരി ക്കട്ടെ എന്നതാണ് ക്രൈസ്തവനിലപാട്. സ്ത്രീപുരുഷന്മാർ വിവാഹിതരാകുക എന്നത് മനുഷ്യരെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള ദൈവികപദ്ധതിയാണ്. വിവാഹിതരായിരിക്കു കയോ അവിവാഹിതരായിരിക്കുകയോ ചെയ്യുന്നത് ദൈവത്തിൽനിന്നു കിട്ടുന്ന ദാന മായി കാണണമെന്നും പൗലോസ്ശ്ലീഹാ ഉദ്ബാധിപ്പിക്കുന്നു (7,7). ഏകഭാര്യ, ഏക ഭർത്താവ് എന്നതാണ് ക്രൈസ്തവനിലപാടെന്നും ശ്ലീഹാ ഇവിടെ വ്യക്തമാക്കു ന്നു.

തുടർന്ന് ഭാര്യയും ഭർത്താവും പരസ്പരമുള്ള ദാമ്പത്യധർമ്മം നിറവേറ്റണം എന്ന പഠനം നല്കുന്നു. ശാരീരിക ലൈംഗികബന്ധമാണ് ഇവിടെ ദാമ്പത്യധർമ്മം എന്നതുകൊണ്ട് അർത്ഥമാക്കുന്നത്. ദാമ്പത്യധർമ്മം നിറവേറ്റുക എന്നത് ഭർത്താ വിനും ഭാര്യയ്ക്കും ഒരുപോലെയുള്ള കടമയാണ്. ഭാര്യാഭർത്താക്കന്മാർക്ക് സന്തം ശരീരത്തിന്മേൽ അധികാരമില്ല. ജീവിതപങ്കാളിക്കാണ് മറ്റേയാളുടെ 'ശരീരത്തി ന്മേൽ' അധികാരം. ലൈംഗികബന്ധം വേണമോ വേണ്ടയോ എന്ന് ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരാൾക്ക് ഏകപക്ഷീയമായി തീരുമാനിക്കാൻ അധികാരമില്ല. അതു തീരുമാനി ക്കേണ്ടത് അതിനധികാരമുള്ള ജീവിതപങ്കാളിയാണ്. ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ ഭർത്താവിനും ഭാര്യയ്ക്കും തുല്യതയാണുള്ളത്. പരസ്പരമുള്ള ദാമ്പത്യധർമ്മത്തിൽനിന്നും മാറിനില്ക്കുന്നത് നാലു നിബന്ധനകൾ പാലിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുവേണം. 1. പ്രാർത്ഥനാ ജീവിതത്തിനായി; 2. പരസ്പരം തീരുമാനിച്ച്; 3. കുറേക്കാലത്തേക്ക്; 4. വീണ്ടും ഒരുമിച്ചു ചേരണം. ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള വ്യക്തമായ നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ അജപാലകർ വിവാ ഹിതർക്കു നല്കണം

2. വിവാഹബന്ധം

"അവിവാഹിതരോടും വിധവകളോടും ഞാൻ പറയുന്നു, എന്നെപ്പോലെ ആയിരിക്കുന്നതാണ് അവർക്കു നല്ലത്. എന്നാൽ, സംയമനം സാധ്യമല്ലാത്തവർ വിവാഹം ചെയ്യട്ടെ. വികാരംകൊണ്ടു ദഹിക്കുന്നതിനെക്കാൾ വിവാഹിതരാകുന്നതാണ് നല്ലത്. വിവാഹിതരോടു ഞാൻ കൽപിക്കുന്നു, ഞാനല്ല, കർത്താവുതന്നെ കൽപിക്കുന്നു, ഭാര്യ വേർപിരിയരുത്. ഭർത്താവിൽനിന്നു അഥവാ, വേർപിരിയുന്നെങ്കിൽ, അവിവാഹിതയെപ്പോലെ ജീവിക്കണം; അല്ലെങ്കിൽ, ഭർത്താവുമായി രമ്യതപ്പെടണം; ഭർത്താവ് ഭാര്യയെ ഉപേക്ഷിക്കരുത്. ശേഷമുള്ളവരോടു കർത്താവല്ല, ഞാൻതന്നെ പറയുന്നു, ഏതെങ്കിലും സഹോദരന് അവിശ്വാസിനിയായ ഭാര്യ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുകയും അവൾ അവനോടൊത്തു ജീവിക്കാൻ സമ്മതിക്കുകയും ചെയ്താൽ അവൻ അവളെ ഉപേക്ഷിക്കരുത്. ഏതെങ്കിലും സ്ത്രീക്ക് അവിശ്വാസിയായ ഭർത്താവ് ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുകയും അവൻ അവളോടൊത്തു ജീവിക്കാൻ സമ്മതിക്കുകയും ചെയ്താൽ അവൾ അവനെ ഉപേക്ഷിക്കരുത്.എന്നെന്നാൽ, അവിശ്വാസിയായ ഭർത്താവ് ഭാര്യ മുഖേനയും അവിശ്വാസിനിയായ ഭാര്യ ഭർത്താവു മുഖേനയും വിശുദ്ധീകരിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ നിങ്ങളുടെ മക്കൾ അശുദ്ധരാകുമായിരുന്നു. എന്നാൽ, ഈ സ്ഥിതിയിൽ അവർ വിശുദ്ധരത്രേ" (7,8-14).

ഭർത്താവും ഭാര്യയും ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികളായിരിക്കുന്ന സാഹചര്യത്തിൽ ശ്ലീഹാ വൃക്തമായ ദൈവിക കല്പന നല്കുന്നു: ഭാര്യ ഭർത്താവിൽനിന്ന് വേർപിരിയ രുത്; ഭർത്താവ് ഭാര്യയെ ഉപേക്ഷിക്കുകയുമരുത്. വിവാഹബന്ധം വേർപിരിയാതെ തുടരണം എന്നത് അലംഘ്യമായ ദൈവികകല്പനയാണ്. അഥവാ ഏതെങ്കിലും കാരണത്താൽ വേർപിരിയേണ്ടി വന്നാൽ പുനർവിവാഹം ചെയ്യാൻ അനുവാദമി

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ല്ല. അവിവാഹിതരെപ്പോലെ കഴിയണം. ഭാര്യയെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുമാത്രമാണ് ഇവിടെ ഇപ്രകാരം പറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നതെങ്കിലും ഭർത്താവിന്റെ കാര്യത്തിലും നിയമം ഇതു തന്നെയാണ്. പരസംഗം ഹേതുവായി വേർപിരിയാൻ അനുവദിക്കുന്ന ഈശോ യുടെ വാക്കുകൾ (മത്താ 5,32; 19,9) പൗലോസ്ശ്ലീഹാ ഇവിടെ പരിഗണിക്കുന്നില്ല. വിവാഹസംബന്ധമായ പൂർണമായ ഒരു പഠനമല്ല, കോറിന്തോസിലെ പ്രത്യേക സാഹചര്യങ്ങളിലുള്ള നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളാണ് ശ്ലീഹാ ഇവിടെ നല്കുന്നത്.

ജീവിതപങ്കാളികളിൽ ഒരാൾ ക്രിസ്തീയവിശ്വാസം സ്വീകരിക്കാത്ത ആളായി വരാവുന്ന സാഹചര്യമാണ് തുടർന്നു പരാമർശിക്കുന്നത് (7,12–16). 'കർത്താവല്ല, ഞാൻതന്നെ പറയുന്നു' എന്ന പ്രസ്താവന സൂചിപ്പിക്കുന്നത് ഇതു ശ്ലീഹായുടെ വൃക്തിപരമായ പ്രബോധനമാണെന്നാണ്. കോറിന്തോസുകാരിൽ പലരും വിശ്വാസം സ്വീകരിക്കുന്നതിനുമുമ്പേ വിവാഹിതരായിരുന്നു. ഭർത്താവും ഭാര്യയും വിശ്വാസം സ്വീകരിക്കാതെ ഒരാൾ അവിശ്വാസിയായി തുടരുമ്പോഴും അവരുടെ വിവാഹം നിലനില്ക്കുന്നു. ഇത്തരം സാഹചര്യത്തിലും വിവാഹബന്ധം വേർപെടരുത് എന്നാണ് ശ്ലീഹായുടെ പ്രബോധനം. അതേസമയം, അവിശ്വാസിയായ ജീവിതപ കാളി വിശ്വാസിയായ പങ്കാളിയെ സ്വയം ഉപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ ഇപ്രകാരം ഉപേ ക്ഷിക്കപ്പെട്ട വൃക്തിയ്ക്ക് ആ വിവാഹബന്ധം നിലനില്ക്കുന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ട് ആ വിവാഹബന്ധം പിരിയാവുന്നതാണ്. പൗലോസ്ശ്ലീഹായുടെ ഈ പ്രബോ ധനം വിവാഹബന്ധത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം അജപാലകർക്ക് മാർഗദർശക മാകണം.

3. വിളിയോടു വിശ്വസ്തത

"ദൈവത്തിന്റെ നിയോഗവും വിളിയും അനുസരിച്ച് ഓരോരുത്തരും ജീവിതം നയിക്കാട്ട – ഇതാണ് എല്ലാ സഭകളോടും ഞാൻ കൽപിക്കുന്നത്. ആരെങ്കിലും ദൈവവിളി സ്വീകരിക്കുമ്പോൾ പരിച്ഛേദനം ചെയ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതിന്റെ അടയാളങ്ങൾ മാറ്റാൻ ശ്രമിക്കേണ്ടാ. ആരെങ്കിലും വിളി സ്വീകരിക്കുമ്പോൾ പരിച്ഛേദനം ചെയ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടില്ലെങ്കിൽ പിന്നെ പരിച്ഛേദനം ചെയ്യേണ്ടതില്ല. പരിച്ഛേദിതനോ അപരിച്ഛേദിതനോ എന്നു നോക്കേണ്ട; ദൈവകൽപനകൾ പാലിക്കുക എന്നതാണു സർവപ്രധാനം. വിളിക്കപ്പെട്ടപ്പോഴുള്ള അവസ്ഥയിൽത്തന്നെ ഓരോരുത്തരും തുടർന്നുകൊള്ളട്ടെ. ദൈവം നിന്നെ വിളിച്ചപ്പോൾ നീ അടിമയായിരുന്നുവോ? സാരമില്ല. സ്വതന്ത്രനാകാൻ സാധ്യതയുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊള്ളുക. എന്തെന്നാൽ, അടിമയായിരിക്കുമ്പോൾ കർത്താവിന്റെ വിളി ലഭിച്ചവൻ കർത്താവിനാൽ സ്വതന്ത്രനാക്കപ്പെട്ടവനാണ്. അതുപോലെതന്നെ, സ്വതന്ത്രനായിരിക്കുമ്പോൾ വിളി ലഭിച്ചവൻ മിശിഹായുടെ അടിമയുമാണ്. നിങ്ങൾ വിലയ്ക്കു വാങ്ങപ്പെട്ടവരാണ്; നിങ്ങൾ മനുഷ്യരുടെ അടിമകളായിത്തീരരുത്. അതുകൊണ്ട് സഹോദരരേ, ഏത് അവസ്ഥയിൽ നിങ്ങൾ വിളിക്കപ്പെട്ടുവോ ആ അവസ്ഥയിൽ ദൈവത്തോടൊത്തു നിലനിൽക്കുവിൻ" (7,17–24).



ക്രിസ്ത്യാനിയായതിന്റെ പേരിൽ ഒരാളുടെ ജീവിതസാഹചര്യങ്ങൾ മാറ്റിമറി ക്കുന്നത് യുക്തമല്ല. സമൂഹത്തിലും സമുദായത്തിലും നിലനില്ക്കുന്ന ക്രമങ്ങൾ മാറ്റിമറിയ്ക്കാതെ ക്രിസ്തീയമായ കാഴ്ചപ്പാടിൽ പുനർനിർവചിക്കുകയാണ് ആവ ശ്യം. യഹൂദരും വിജാതീയരും, അടിമകളും സ്വതന്ത്രരും തുടങ്ങിയ സാമൂഹിക തരംതിരിവുകൾ പൂർണമായും ഇല്ലായ്മ ചെയ്യുകയല്ല ക്രിസ്തീയവിശ്വാസത്തിലൂടെ നടക്കുന്നത്. അവയ്ക്കെല്ലാം പുതിയ അർത്ഥം കൈവരികയാണ്. ക്രിസ്ത്യാനിയാ കുന്നതോടെ വിവാഹമോചനങ്ങൾ പാടില്ല എന്നതുപോലെതന്നെ സാമൂഹികസം വിധാനങ്ങൾക്കും മാറ്റം വരുത്തരുത് എന്ന് ശ്ലീഹാ ഉദ്ബോധിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. സമൂഹ ത്തിൽ സമൂല പരിവർത്തനം വരുത്തിയല്ല, സമൂഹസംവിധാനങ്ങളിലേക്ക് പ്രശ്ന രഹിതമായി ഉൾച്ചേർന്നാണ് സഭാംഗങ്ങൾ ജീവിക്കേണ്ടത്. അതേസമയം തങ്ങ ളുടെ ജോലിക്കും സാമൂഹിക നിലകൾക്കും ക്രൈസ്തവമായ അർത്ഥം കണ്ടെ ത്താൻ വിശ്വാസികൾക്കു കഴിയണം.

ക്രിസ്തീയജീവിതം ഒരു ദൈവവിളിയാണ്. മിശിഹായിൽ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നവ രുടെ സമൂഹത്തിലേക്കുള്ള ദൈവത്തിന്റെ വിളി. അതു മനസ്സിലാക്കി വിശ്വാസ ത്തിനു സാക്ഷ്യം നല്കാൻ ഓരോരുത്തർക്കും കഴിയണം. യഹൂദനോ വിജാതീ യനോ എന്നത് ഒരു പ്രശ്നമാക്കേണ്ടതില്ല. ദൈവകല്പനകൾ പാലിക്കുക എന്ന താണ് പ്രധാനം. അന്നത്തെ സാമൂഹിക വ്യവസ്ഥിതിയിൽ അടിമകളെ സംബ ന്ധിച്ചും ഇതു പ്രസക്തമാണ്. സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യത്തിലേക്കാണ് ക്രൈസ്തവർ വിളിക്കപ്പെ ട്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്. എന്നാൽ ഇതു വെറും സാമൂഹികമായ സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യമല്ല. മിശിഹായി ലുള്ള സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യമാണ്. എല്ലാ ക്രൈസ്തവരും മിശിഹായുടെ രക്തം വിലയായി ക്കൊടുത്ത് വിലയ്ക്കു വാങ്ങപ്പെട്ടവരാണ്. മിശിഹായുടെ സുവിശേഷശുശ്രൂഷ യ്ക്കായി നിയോഗിക്കപ്പെട്ടവരുമാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഏതു സാമൂഹിക അവസ്ഥയി ലായാലും മിശിഹായുടെ സുവിശേഷശുശ്രൂഷ നിർവഹിക്കുന്നതാണു പ്രധാനം. ഇതേപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള ബോധവൽക്കരണം അജപാലകർ അജഗണങ്ങൾക്കു നല്കണം.

4. ബ്രഹ്മചര്യജീവിതം

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"എന്തന്നാൽ, ഈ ലോകത്തിൻെ രൂപഭാവങ്ങൾ മാറിമറിഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. നിങ്ങൾക്ക് ഉത്കണ്ഠയുണ്ടാകരുതെന്നു ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. അവിവാഹിതൻ കർത്താവിനെ എങ്ങനെ സംപ്രീതനാക്കാമെന്നു ചിന്തിച്ച് കർത്താവിൻെ കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ തത്പനോകുന്നു. വിവാഹിതൻ സ്വഭാര്യയെ എങ്ങനെ പ്രീതിപ്പെടുത്താമെന്നു ചിന്തിച്ച് ലൗകികകാര്യങ്ങളിൽ തത്പനോകുന്നു. അവന്റെ താത്പര്യങ്ങൾ വിഭജിക്കപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. അവിവാഹിതയായ സ്ത്രീയും കന്യകയും ആത്മാവിലും ശരീരത്തിലും വിശുദ്ധി പാലിക്കാനായി കർത്താവിന്റെ കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ തത്പരരാണ്. വിവാഹിതയായ സ്ത്രീയാകെട്ട, ഭർത്താവിനെ എങ്ങനെ സന്തോഷിപ്പിക്കാമെന്നു ചിന്തിച്ച് ലൗകികകാര്യങ്ങളിൽ തത്പരയാകുന്നു. ഞാൻ ഇതു പറയുന്നത് നിങ്ങളുടെ നന്മയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടിയാണ്; നിങ്ങളുടെ സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യത്തെ തടയാനല്ല; പ്രത്യൂത, നിങ്ങൾക്ക് ഉചിതമായ ജീവിതക്രമവും കർത്താവിനെ ഏകാഗ്രമായി ശുശ്രൂഷിക്കാൻ അവസരവും ഉണ്ടാകാൻ വേണ്ടിയാണ് (7,31-35). അവിവാഹിതരെപ്പറ്റി എന്നു തുടങ്ങുന്ന ഈ ഭാഗം കന്യകകളെക്കുറിച്ചാണ് പ്രധാ നമായും പറയുന്നത്. ഗ്രീക്കുമൂലത്തിൽ 'പർത്തേനോയി' എന്ന വാക്ക് ഇവിടെ ആറു പ്രാവശ്യം ഉപയോഗിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇതിൽ അഞ്ചും സ്ത്രീകളെയാണ് ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ത്. പ്രത്യേക ദൈവകല്പനകളൊന്നും കന്യകകളെപ്പറ്റി തനിക്കു ലഭിച്ചിട്ടില്ല എന്ന് ആദ്യം തന്നെ പൗലോസ്ശ്ലീഹാ വ്യക്തമാക്കുന്നു (7,25). ശ്ലീഹാ തന്റെ ജീവിതാനുഭവത്തിന്റെ വെളിച്ചത്തിൽ തന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം പറയുകയാണിവിടെ: 'വിശ്വസ്തനായിരിക്കാൻ കർത്താ വിൽനിന്ന് കരുണ ലഭിച്ചവൻ' എന്നതിൽനിന്ന് പൗലോസ്ശ്ലീഹാ അവിവാഹിതനായി ദൈവ ശുശ്രൂഷ ചെയ്തിരുന്ന പശ്ചാത്തലത്തിലാണ് സംസാരിക്കുന്നത് എന്നു ചിന്തിക്കാവുന്ന താണ്. വിവാഹത്തിനുമുമ്പ് വിവാഹവാഗ്ദാനം കഴിഞ്ഞിരുന്നവരെയോ, സാമൂഹികാചാ പ്രേകാരം വിവാഹനിശ്ചയം ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളവരെയോ മുന്നിൽ കണ്ടുകൊണ്ടാവാം ശ്ലീഹാ ഈ പഠനം നല്കുന്നത്.

ബ്രഹ്മചര്യത്തിന് അനുകൂലമായ രണ്ടു വാദഗതികൾ പൗലോസ്ശ്ലീഹാ ഇവിടെ അവ തരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. ആദ്യത്തേത്, യുഗാന്തത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച ചിന്തയുടെ വെളിച്ചത്തിലാണ് (7,26-31). കർത്താവിന്റെ രണ്ടാമാഗമനം ഉടൻ സംഭവിക്കുമെന്നും, അതിനുമുമ്പ് പീഡന ങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നും ആദിമസഭ വിശ്വസിച്ചിരുന്നു. ചെറിയ കാലത്തേക്കുമാത്രം ഒരു ജീവിതമുള്ളപ്പോൾ ഇപ്പോൾ ആയിരിക്കുന്ന രീതിയിൽ തുടരുകയാണ് കൂടുതൽ നന്ന്. വിവാഹിതർക്കു കൂടുതൽ വ്യഗ്രതയും ക്ലേശങ്ങളുമുണ്ടാകും. രണ്ടാമത്തേത്, അവർക്കു ലൗകിക വൃഗ്രതകൾ ഒഴിവാക്കാം എന്നതാണ്. വിവാഹിതർക്ക് കുടുംബത്തിന്റെ കാര്യ ത്തിൽ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടതുകൊണ്ട്, കർത്താവിന്റെ ശുശ്രൂഷയിൽ പൂർണമായും മുഴുകാൻ കഴിയുകയില്ല. അവിവാഹിതർക്കാകട്ടെ മുഴുവൻ സമയവും, പൂർണസമർപ്പണത്തോടെ കർതൃശുശ്രൂഷ ചെയ്യാൻ കഴിയും. ബ്രഹ്മചരുജീവിതത്തിനും കന്യാത്വജീവിതത്തിനും കൃപ ലഭിച്ചവരെ അജപാലകർ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കണം.

5. വിവാഹനിശ്ചയം ചെയ്തവർ

"ഒരുവനു തന്റെ കന്യകയോട് സംയമനത്തോടുകൂടി പെരുമാറാൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ലെന്നു തോന്നിയാൽ, അവൾ യൗവ്വനത്തിന്റെ വസന്തം പിന്നിട്ടവളെങ്കിലും, അനിവാര്യമെങ്കിൽ അവന്റെ ഹിതംപോലെ പ്രവർത്തിക്കട്ടെ. അവർ വിവാഹം കഴിക്കട്ടെ; അതു പാപമല്ല. എന്നാൽ, ആത്മസംയമനം പാലിക്കാൻ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടില്ലാത്ത ആരെങ്കിലും തന്റെ കന്യകയെ കന്യകയായിത്തന്നെ സൂക്ഷിക്കാൻ ദൃഢനിശ്ചയം ചെയ്യുന്നെങ്കിൽ അവൻെറ പ്രവൃത്തി ഉത്തമമാണ്. തൻെറ കന്യകയെ വിവാഹം ചെയ്യുന്നവൻ ഉചിതമായി പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നു. എന്നാൽ, വിവാഹം ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുന്നവൻ കൂടുതൽ ശ്ലാഘനീയനാണ്" (7,36-38).

കോറിന്തോസിൽ നിലനിന്നിരുന്ന ഒരു പ്രത്യേക സാഹചര്യ പശ്ചാത്തലത്തി ലാണ് പൗലോസ്ശ്ലീഹായുടെ ഈ ഉപദേശം മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടത്. വിവാഹിതരോ വിവാഹനിശ്ചയം ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നവരോ ആയ ചിലരുടെ കാര്യമാണ് ഇവിടെ പരാ മർശിക്കുന്നത്. വിവാഹബന്ധത്തിലാണെങ്കിലും അവിവാഹിതരെപ്പോലെ ശാരീ



രിക ലൈംഗിക ബന്ധങ്ങളില്ലാതെ ജീവിക്കാൻ ആഗ്രഹിച്ചിരുന്നവർ അവിടെ ഉണ്ടാ യിരുന്നിരിക്കാം. അവരുടെ ചോദ്യത്തിന് അതു നല്ലതാണെന്ന മറുപടിയാണ് ശ്ലീഹാ നല്കുന്നത്. അപ്രകാരം സംയമനം പാലിക്കാൻ സാധ്യമല്ലെങ്കിൽ സാധാരണഗതി യിലുള്ള വൈവാഹികബന്ധം പുലർത്തിക്കൊണ്ടു ജീവിക്കണമെന്നും പൗലോ സ്ശ്ലീഹാ അവരെ ഉപദേശിക്കുന്നു.

അതേസമയം, പുനർവിവാഹത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ശ്ലീഹായുടെ അഭിപ്രായം വൈധവ്യജീവിതത്തിന് മുൻഗണന കൊടുത്തുകൊണ്ടാണ്. തീർച്ചയായും വീണ്ടും വിവാഹം കഴിക്കാനുള്ള സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യത്തെ ശ്ലീഹാ തടയുന്നില്ല. അപ്രകാരം ചെയ്യു നെങ്കിൽ അത് ക്രിസ്തീയ നിയമാനുസ്യതമായിരിക്കണമെന്ന് നിർബന്ധമായി ശ്ലീഹാ പറയുന്നുണ്ട്. വിവാഹം ക്രൈസ്തവരെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഒരു കൂദാ ശയാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് കൂദാശാപരമായ സ്വഭാവം കാത്തുസൂക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് പുനർവിവാഹം നടത്തുന്നതിന് ശ്ലീഹാ എതിരല്ല. അതേസമയം വൈധവ്യജീവിതം നയിക്കുന്നത് കൂടുതൽ സൗഭാഗ്യകരമെന്ന് പൗലോസ്ശ്ലീഹാ പറയുന്നു. വൈവാ ഹികജീവിതത്തിന്റെ അഭേദ്യതയുടെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തിന് ശ്ലീഹാ പ്രാധാന്യം നല്കുന്നു. വൈവാഹികജീവിതത്തെക്കുറിച്ചും കുടുംബജീവിതത്തെക്കുറിച്ചും വ്യക്തമായ കാഴ്ച പ്പാടുകൾ അജപാലകർ അജഗണങ്ങൾക്കു നല്കണം.

ജീവിതസൂചിക

1. വിവാഹിതർക്ക് വിവാഹജീവിതത്തെക്കുറിച്ച് വ്യക്തമായ നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ ഞാൻ നല്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

 വിവാഹബന്ധത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള സഭയുടെ നിലപാടുകൾ ജനങ്ങളെ ഞാൻ പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

3. മിശിഹായുടെ സുവിശേഷശുശ്രൂഷ നിർവഹിക്കാനുള്ള ക്രൈസ്തവവിളി യെപ്പറ്റി അജഗണങ്ങളെ ഞാൻ ബോധവൽക്കരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

4. ബ്രഹ്മചര്യജീവിതത്തിനും കന്യാത്വജീവിതത്തിനും കൃപ ലഭിച്ചവരെ ഞാൻ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

5. വൈവാഹികജീവിതത്തെക്കുറിച്ചും കുടുംബജീവിതത്തെക്കുറിച്ചും വ്യക്ത മായ കാഴ്ചപ്പാടുകൾ ഞാൻ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു നല്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?



NEWS FROM DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF CATECHESIS

First Term Examination

The First Term Examination of the Catechetical Academic Year 2023- 2024 will be conducted on Jan 14, 2024. Question Papers will be prepared and distributed from the Eparchial Catechetical Department. Project Topics for grades 9-12 were distributed in December. Question Papers and project topics were prepared by the Catechists from various parishes and reviewed by the Examination board. Eparchy of Mississauga, Department of Catechesis appreciates the sincere efforts and extends sincere gratitude to everyone who has dedicated their time to preparing and reviewing the question papers.

All the best to all the students!

Upcoming events

Jan 14, 2024- First Term Examination

Jan 20,024- Diploma Course in Theology

WISHING YOU ALL A happy & blessed new year





Monthly Prayer

Nurses Ministry conducted monthly prayer meeting on Dec 12, 2023, with all regions across Canada.

Daily online Zoom Prayer

Nurses from all over Canada continue to pray online for all the nurses and the whole world every day at 3 pm.

Prayer Meetings

All regions joined the monthly prayer meeting every Monday from 8.30 pm to 10.30 pm. Every first Monday, the international resource team gives the word of God.

Monthly Regional events

All regions continue to gather for monthly prayer meetings.

Special Events

Nurse Ministry prayerfully conducted the chain Bible reading of New Testament from Dec 14 - Dec 15, 2023 and was blessed by Bp.Mar Jose Kalluvelil.

Regional Events

Mississauga region continues to participate in adoration every Tuesday to Friday from 10:30AM to 12:30 PM

Niagara Region had monthly meeting on Dec 13, 2023 and new office bearers were selected.

Saskatoon region had conducted whole Bible reading within Saskatoon region Nov 29 to Dec4th 2023.



Hamilton region had their monthly meeting on Dec 14, 2023. During this meeting, nurses ministry recognized Fr.Tomy Chittinapilly on his 25th sacerdotal anniversary.



DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY APOSTOLATE

REPORT ON MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE December 9-11 2023

Eparchy of Mississauga conducted online Marriage Preparation Course (MPC) under the able guidance and leadership of Fr. Thomas Venmathara and blessings of Mar Jose Kalluvelil, Bishop of Mississauga. The course was conducted over a period of three days (December 9, 10 and 11 th 2023). The course was one of its kind as it was completely online. There were 96 participants who participated in the online streaming of the course.

The course covered important aspects of Sacrament of Matrimony ranging from Sacramentality of marriage, aspects of male and female psychology and its influence in marriage, importance of prayer life, family budgeting, sexual morality, Canon law, parenting, communication in marriage life, Syro-Malabar Marriage Rite.

The course was conducted through Zoom online portal. A test was conducted at the end of each day based on the topics covered during the day using Google Forms. Feedback was collected on the last day to analyse the strengths and shortcomings of the course. Overall feedback response received was reported to be excellent. There were a few suggestions put forward by the participants which would be considered and included while planning the future courses.

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DEPARTMENT OF DIVINE ACADEMY OF MUSIC

Christmas Concert 2023!

Our 2023 Christmas Concert was held on Saturday, December 9th, 2023 at 6 PM at Kannampuzha Hall. It was a beautiful evening of live Christmas music performed by some of our capable students in multiple ensemble configurations and the presence of the parishioners enriched the occasion.





NEWS FROM PARISHES

MISSISSAUGA FORANE

ST. ALPHONSA CATHEDRAL MISSISSAUGA

Auth Taking Ceremony of SMYM National!

Oath taking of New Executive Members of SMYM National Senior and Junior Teams. The official oath taking of SMYM National Teams was conducted on December 1st 2023 and the new team was blessed by Fr. Augustine. Senior SMYM Team members include: Daniel Mampilly, Joel Alex, Roshan Kokkat, Angelin Rose Benny, Paul Joseph, Angeline Joseph, and Preethi Abraham. SMYM Junior includes: Noah Vince, Noah Thomas, Alvin Joseph, Thomas Manathara, Aleena Kunnappilly and Revin Rohn.



Blessings of Infant Jesus

Before starting Carol's of the different family units, the Infant Jesus was blessed. The blessed Infant Jesus was given to each Family unit before they began their carol rounds.



Warm Welcome to the newly ordained priest!

The newly ordained priest Rev. Fr. Francis Samuel Akkarapattiakal was given a warm welcome to our parish 03 December. Rev. Father



was the main celebrant of Holy Qurbana at 8:30 am and 10:30 am. He was cordially welcomed by our trustees Mr. Santhosh Jacob and Mrs. Indu Thomas by giving bouqueton behalf of all the parishioners.



Youth Day

We celebrated Sunday, December 3rd as Youth Day at our parish, a day dedicated exclusively to the youth. The youth from our parish joined the 8.30 am Holy Qurbana and had a special prayer dedicated to our vibrant and dynamic youth community. The offertory collected on this particular Sunday was dedicated to supporting the SMYM ministries of our Eparchy. Rev. Francis Akkarapattiakal, the new priest of our Eparchy was the main celebrant.



Feast of Immaculate Conception

We celebrated the Feast of Immaculate Conception on December 8th, 2023. There was Holy Qurbana at 9.15 am & 7.30 pm.

Catholic Congress



An introductory meeting of the Catholic Congress Canada was conducted at Kannampuzha Hall on December 10th at 10.00 AM and 1.00 PM after the Holy Qurbana.

Altar Servers Class

The Altar Servers class took place on December 16th from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm.Fr. Augustine was the resource person and 41 altar servers attended the training program. Sr.Sincy and Mr. Joys Joseph conducted the practice session.

Celebration of Centenary

Pope Pius XI established the Syro-Malabar Hierarchy on December 21, 1923, by the decree, Romani Pontifices. To commemorate the celebration of the centenary of the establishment of the Syro-Malabar Hierarchy, Holy Qurbana was offered at the Cathedral at 7.30 pm on Thursday, December 21st, 2023. Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvelil was the celebrant.



Ordination day of our Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvelil

The St. Alphonsa parishioners celebrated the 39th sacerdothal ordination day of our Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvelil on December 18th 2023 at 7:30 pm mass at the Cathedral. Mar Jose Kalluvelil, Fr.Augustine (Vicar), Fr. Harold and Fr. George were the co-celebrants. Fr. Augustine and trustees gave their wishes to the Bishop by presenting a bouquet. A celebratory cake was cut and given to the parishioners.



Christmas Preparation & Adoration

There was a special talk by Fr. Bijil Chakkiath MSFS, to prepare for Christmas. The talk started at 6.00 pm followed by Holy Qurbana & Adoration. The parishioners gathered together for spiritual preparation and to thank the Lord on this special day.



Friday Fire Gathering

It was the second week of some serious competition at FFG on December 22nd. The young warriors had a great evening of fun, prizes and competitions.

Eucharistic Adoration

As informed previously, we started the Holy Eucharistic Adoration from 10.00 AM to 7.00 PM from Tuesday to Friday and from 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM on Saturdays and Sundays. Thank you to everyone for joining the Eucharistic Adoration and praying for our parish, families and the Eparchy.

Bible Reading

St. Alphonsa Cathedral hosted LECTIO DIVINA, a continuous Scripture reading from Genesis to Revelation. The dedication, commitment and effort of the people who participated in LECTIO DIVINA were much appreciated. The divine pilgrimage in the Word of God was concluded by our beloved Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvelil through Bible reading, enriching messages and final blessings. This wonderful venture was successful only through the leadership of Rev. Fr. Augustine, Sr. Mercy and the monitors and the dedication of the participants.



Eucharistic Ministers - Installation Ceremony

The installation ceremony of the Eucharistic Ministers was conducted on December 24th 2023. On Sunday before the 8:30 am Holy Qurbana



Christmas Liturgical Services

The Christmas celebration at our parish was remarkable this year. Five Liturgical Serviceswere offered at different times and the parishioners attended the Holy Qurbana beseeching the blessings of Infant Jesus. SMYM International created a beautiful crib taking great efforts.



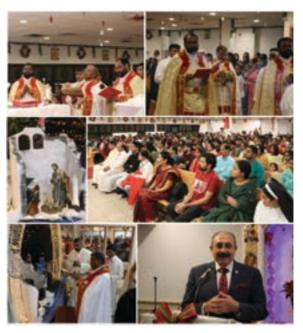
On December 24th, Christmas Eve, there was Christmas Liturgical Services (English) at 7pm.



After the Holy Qurbana, Nativity Scene was presented at Kannampuzha Hall& SMYM presented a Christmas gift tree at St. Alphonsa Hall.



Christmas Liturgical Services (Mal) was at 10:30 pm and Bishop Jose Kalluvelil was the celebrant. SMYM presented а Christmas Gift Tree at St. Alphonsa Hall after the Holy Ourbana. Christmas Liturgical (Mal) Services at Mission Brampton Centre was at 12.30 am on December 25. There were two Holy Qurbana at the Cathedral on December 25 at 8.30 am and 10.30 am.



Mr. Sheref Sabawy MPP of Mississauga-Erin Mills addressed our parish community after the Christmas Qurbana to convey the Christmas message of Doug Ford, Primier of Ontario.

Feast of Holy Infants

The parish celebrated the feast of Holy Infants on December 28th, 2023, in the Holy Qurbanas at 9:15 am and 7:30pm.Very Rev. Fr. Pathros Champakkara, Vicar General was the main celebrant. Fr. Augustine and Fr. Harold were the co-celebrants. After the Holy Qurbana, there was a special prayer and blessings for the kids. More than 80





children attended the church services. Sweets were blessed and distributed by Rev. Fr. Pathros Champakkara. There was a photo session of the kids at the end.

Transfer of Fr. Joyal Joseph

The Associate Pastor of St. Alphonsa Cathedral, Mississauga, Fr. Joyal Joseph will be transferring to St. Mary's Syro Malabar Catholic Church, London as Associate Pastor on January 4th, 2024. We express our sincere gratitude to Joyal Achan for his great ministry at our parish and wish all the blessings and success in his future ministries for the Lord.

Catechism Department

High School Session

"Hear, my child, your father's instruction, and do not reject your mother's teaching; for they are a fair garland for your head and pendants



for your neck." - Proverbs 1:8-9

Just as in November, we were blessed to have a special session for high students led by Sindhu Michael and Dylan Michael on December 17, 2023.

We would like to sincerely thank Sindhu and Dylan, as well as all those who attended the session, for their participation, leadership, and commitment to the spiritual and moral growth of the youth of our parish. Our youth in high school grades were inspired and rejuvenated by the session! We look forward to watching all of you grow in the love of Jesus Christ and supporting you in your spiritual journey!

Parenting Session

"My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed." - Psalm 139:15-16.

Due to the immensely positive feedback that we gained from our previous High School Parenting Session held in November, we were both delighted and blessed to organize another session on December 17, 2023, for the parents of children from Grade 5 to 8 and above. The event took place in Kannampuzha Hall after the 8:30 AM and 11:45 AM Holy Qurbana.

We would like to thank Sindhu Michael, who shared wonderful advice and ideas, and all of the parents who attended the event! We are ever grateful for the commitment and love that you express for the proper growth of our youth in the light of our Lord!

We also sincerely hope that you not only learn how to better support your children but also take to heart that being a parent is a blessing from God and that your efforts are already bearing fruits and will continue to do so! May the Holy Spirit guide you always in your role as parents!

Teachers' Meeting & Christmas Gathering

On December 30, 2023, the Catechism staff got together to celebrate

Christmas, the birth of our Saviour, in good spirits! We shared in the joy and love of such an important day, and we were blessed to be able to conclude the 2023 year in an exciting and meaningful way!

To all Catechism staff, we look forward to seeing and working with you in 2024, and we wish you a most wonderful, safe,



and healthy New Year! May God continue to instill His Love in you and guide you in your vocation so that you may share your skills, wisdom, and joy as His followers with each other and your students!



A Christmas Message from the Catechism Department

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" - Luke 2:14

As the final bulletin of 2023, we would now like to take this moment to thank everyone-priests, Catechism staff, students, parents, and all other contributors, including those who work on this bulletinfor their continued love, support, and commitment to our parish.

We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful Community of the Faithful, who do their utmost to fulfill their roles and responsibilities as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. We appreciate all of the hard work that is put into supporting everyone from the St. Alphonsa Syro Malabar Cathedral, and we sincerely hope that we all take great pride in our identity as Syro Malabar Christians, as parents and teachers, and as those who are called to spread the Good News to all the ends of the Earth!

We would also like to wish everyone a most loving, enjoyable, and meaningful Christmas and New Year! May we celebrate the birth of our Lord, our God, with open hearts, and may we share the love!

May God continue to bless and guide us with the Holy Spirit in 2024!

Holy Childhood Association Christmas Celebration 2023

HCA along with CML and Jesus Kids had their second Activity Day on December 10th, 2023. There were Christmas Celebrations, Talk on Advent and Carol Singing on the same day. Nativity Skit was organized and was enacted by the HCA kids and the leaders. The skit walked the children through events related to the birth of Jesus and helped imprint them in their minds. All the children were dressed in Christmas colours and had an opportunity to decorate the Christmas tree. Kids participated in the Carol singing with great enthusiasm.

CML - CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

"Radiant Revelry: A Joyful Christmas Celebration at St. Alphonsa Cathedral"



As the calendar pages turned and the winter winds brought a chill to the air, there was an unforgettable gathering of children at our Cathedral. The echoes of hymns and the warmth of fellowship signaled the approach of the most enchanting time of the year - Christmas. The Kannampuzha Hall has transformed into a haven of joy, as the members and animators of "Cherupushpha Mission League" of the Syro-Malabar Church geared up for a spectacular Christmas celebration.

A Tapestry of Traditions and Faith

The celebration kicked off with a heartwarming prayer by Giana Gibi. The resonance of prayers filled the sacred space, fostering an



atmosphere of spiritual unity and reflection. Catechism Principal Rev. Sr. Prasanna delivered a beautiful message to all the children gathered for the event. The presidential address, by Aaldrian Pynadath delivered with grace and sincerity, unfolded as the centerpiece of the gathering. The address resonated with the spiritual essence of Christmas, emphasizing the importance of community, service, and devotion



during the season of love.Following the president's inspiring words, the secretary, Raphael Rohntook the stage to present a comprehensive report. The report was more than a mere compilation of facts; it was a testament to the collective efforts and commitment of the Cherupushpha Mission League members.

Quiz Extravaganza

The atmosphere buzzed with intellectual fervor as the Cherupushpha Mission League members gathered for an exhilarating Quiz Extravaganza during their Christmas celebration. Divided into spirited teams, the participants showcased not only their knowledge of the Gospel of Luke but also their understanding of the rich traditions that accompany the season. The questions, meticulously curated to challenge and inspire, delved into the historical, cultural, and spiritual aspects of Christmas. The Quiz Extravaganza emerged not just as a test of knowledge but as a celebration of the Cherupushpha Mission League's commitment to intellectual engagement.

Carol Singing Competitions

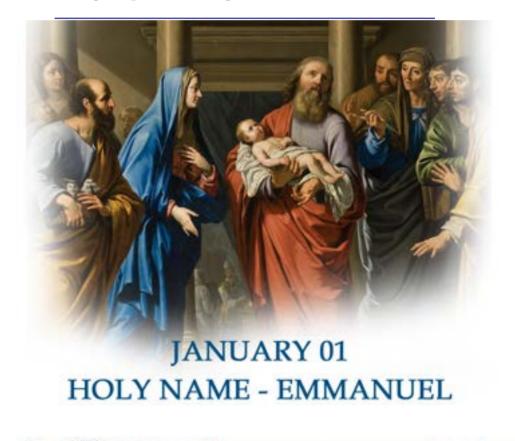
The Cherupushpha Mission League's Christmas celebration reached new heights as the Kannampuzha Hall became a stage for a breathtaking display of vocal talent and a festive atmosphere. Grouped into choruses that embraced the diversity of their members, each team poured their hearts into the Carol Singing Competitions. The competition was not just about hitting the right notes; it was a manifestation of the League's dedication to spreading the message of Christmas through song and shared joy. The Carol Singing Competitions became a testament to the Cherupushpha Mission League's commitment to using the power of music to create a festive symphony that resonated with the true essence of Christmas - love, unity, and jubilation.



A Blessing to Cherish

In the glow of twinkling lights and the warmth of shared laughter, the Christmas celebration at our cathedral stood as a testament to the enduring spirit of unity and love within the CML community. The surprise entry of Santa with a sack of chocolates among the children doubled the joy. The joy that filled the cathedral was not confined to a single day but lingered, a blessing to cherish and carry into the coming year.

As we bid farewell to this year's Christmas celebration, let the echoes of carols and the radiance of the Nativity scene linger in our hearts, serving as a beacon of hope and inspiration for the days ahead. May the joy we shared within these hallowed walls resonate far beyond, illuminating the path for a brighter, more harmonious future.



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ST. ALPHONSA PARISH, CAMBRIDGE

Christmas Serenading

Christmas serenading was held in each ward, and droves of enthusiastic carolers sang and danced to the beat of drums and



tambourines to welcome the arrival of the newborn King. People from all walks of life, kids, youth, adults, and seniors all gathered to give praise to God for the ultimate gift, contributing to the ecstatic atmosphere. Treats were shared by various families, adding a sweet note to the memories shared.

Commissioning of New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion



Commissioning of New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

After having successfully completed the training programme and requirements, three more of our parishioners: Mr. Sabu Jose, Mrs. Maymol Johnson, and Mrs. Stella Maris Jacob were commissioned as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in the Syro-Malabar Catholic Eparchy of Mississauga. The new extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion received the blessings from our pastor Rev. Fr. Boby Joy. Congratulations to the new Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion as they step into the new role!

Christmas Vigil Holy Qurbana

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"Let all the angels of God worship Him." (Hebrews 1:6)

The Solemn Celebration of the Holy Qurbana of the Nativity of Our Lord was celebrated on December 24, 2023, at St. Matthew's Centre, Kitchener. The Church was jam-packed with devotees, as the church rang with the melodious singing of the choir and the faithful. The children's choir also beautifully performed Christmas carols following the Holy Qurbana as the faithful paid homage to the Infant Jesus.

Many thanks to all who worked for the success of this great celebration, especially the choir, parish council members, volunteers, the altar servers, and our pastor, Rev. Fr. Boby! Thank you everyone! We appreciate the kindness of the pastor at St. Matthew's Centre for offering a place for the Christmas Vigil Holy Qurbana! We thank, praise, and glorify God's name for the countless blessings our parish has received when it comes to finding a place to offer Holy Qurbana on special occasions due to unavailability of present venue-







13th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination

'He made them, the vicars of his love.' (St. Ambrose)

St. Alphonsa Parish, Cambridge, gives thanks to God as our pastor, Rev. Fr. Boby Muttathuvalayil celebrates 13 years of priestly service to God. May God Almighty continue to shower His blessings on Fr. Boby for being a wonderful shepherd, following in Christ's footsteps, with many more years to come! Congratulations Fr. Boby!





News from the Catechism Department

Secret Santa

Sunday December 17, 2023 was a day full of joy and excitement here at St. Alphonsa Parish's Catechesis. The children participated in a 'Secret Santa'



activity, and gifts exchanged, spurring an atmosphere of gratefulness,

and reminding each other of God's greatest gift to humanity -Iesus Christ. Carols were sung, dances were danced, and Christmas riddles were solved, but above all, the kids understood why we celebrate Christmas, that is, the realization that God loved us so much that he sent his only begotten Son to pay the price for our sins.



ST JOSEPH PARISH HAMILTON

Christmas Celebrations

Our community celebrated the Christmas Eve Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Hamilton.



Christmas Carols 2023

The festivities for the Christmas season were conducted in full swing throughout the parish with family units having get togethers and carol singing.



St. Mary Family Unit

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St. Thomas Family Unit



St. Chavara Family Unit

St. Antony Family Unit



St. Alphonsa Family Unit

Felicitation of Fr. Francis Akkarapattiackal

St Joseph Parish welcomed the Fr.Franics Akkarapattiackal who is the first priest to be ordained from the Syro Malabar Community in Canada. The SMYM group felicitated him and had a free wheeling conversation with him afterwards.

Christmas Cake Sale

The Church Building Committee organised a cake sale to boost the awareness among parish members about the initiative and as a fund raiser. It was huge success!



Spreading the Christmas Cheer with Hamilton Diocese

Fr. Tomy and Trustees visited Hamilton Bishop House and handed over the Christmas hampers on behalf of our parish to Bishop Douglas Crosby and Bishop Wayne Lobsinger.

Gifts were also presented to Fr Charlie of Sacred Heart Parish where the Syro Malabar Community of Hamilton celebrates Mass.



Nativity Show by Pious Association of Children

Our children put on a fantastic show depicting the Nativity scene.



Bible Verse Competition

The Pious Association of Children organised a Bible

verse competition wherein each student memorised a Bible verse each day of the week. The verses were written and collected and 5 surprise winners were drawn by Fr. Akkarapattiackal.



Christmas and New Year Celebrations

Jingle Bells Ecumenical Carols Competition

Our talented choir won the 1st prize in the prestigious Jingle Bells Ecumenical Carols Competition winning \$2,500!



Teach 2 Build

SMYM continues their innovative ideas such as Teach to Build fundraiser campaign.

Clothes and Food Donation Drive

The Pious Children's Association is conducting clothes and food drive from 17th December to 14th January. The proceeds will go to the Sisters of the Poor of Jesus.





Warm Welcome to the New Pastor

The Parishioners of the Infant Jesus Mission, Barrie joyfully welcomed their new pastor, Rev. Fr. Harold Jose Ambattupadavil, on December 3, 2023. Rev. Fr. Augustine Kallumkatharayil, Pastor of St. Alphonsa Syro- Malabar Catholic Cathedral, and Rev. Fr. George Thuruthipally, Pastor of St. Mother Theresa mission, Niagara, participated in the welcome ceremony conducted by the trustees and parishioners. Rev. Fr. Augustine and Fr. George also distributed the prize to Shaun Bobby who is the Winner of the Eparchial Assembly Quiz 2023.



Christmas Celebration and the Parish feast of the Infant Jesus at Barrie

Barrie Parishioners celebrated Christmas and the Parish Feast of the Infant Jesus on 25th of December 2023. The celebration unfolded in a spirit of joy and reverence. The event commenced with a Solemn Rosary, solemnized by CMC Sisters at 3.30 pm followed by Presudenthi Vazhcha and Roopam Ezhunnallikal by the parish priest, Fr. Harold Jose.

The Holy Qurbana offered by His Excellency Mar Jose Kalluvelil, concelebrated by Fr. Harold Jose and Fr. Rajeev Pallickassery. Soon after the Holy Qurbana there was a prayer of Ladeenju and Solemn Procession, where the Thirunal Presudenthies and other parish mem-

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bers embarked on the procession inside the church, led by Rev. Fr. Augustine Kallumkatharayil, Pastor of St. Alphonsa Syro- Malabar Catholic Cathedral, Mississauga. This symbolic journey was a testament to the unity and faith of the parish community.



Cultural programs were organized in the parish hall at 7.00 pm. Most of the parishioners were present and enjoyed all the programs organized by our kids, youth (JY) and parents. Transitioning to the Parish Night, the atmosphere was set with a prayer song performed by



our young parishioners. Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvelil, Fr. Harold Jose, Fr Augustine, and Fr Joyal shared words of wisdom, imparting spiritual guidance to the congregation.

The cultural segment of the evening featured various dances and songs, showcasing the diverse talents of the parishioners. The festivities created a vibrant tapestry of cultural activities that resonated with the joy of the season. Fr. Rajeev won all the hearts with his beautiful rendition of "Paithalam Yesuve" song at the cultural activities. We were also blessed with the presence of CMC & CHF Sisters from Mississauga parish for the parish night. As the night progressed, the ceremonies culminated with Snehavirnnu, fostering a sense of community and togetherness among the parishioners. The event, enriched with prayer, cultural expressions, and communal dining, truly embodied the spirit of Christmas and the essence of parish life.





SCARBOROUGH FORANE

ST. THOMAS FORANE PARISH, SCARBOROUGH

Christmas Vibes

Draped in tradition and faith, Christmas festivities unfurled within our parish. The resonance of Christmas Music echoed through hallowed halls, uniting the community in celebration of the birth of our Savior in a humble manger. This year, a full house of children joyously participated in the special Mass, at 8.30 p.m., accompanied by a Children's Choir vocalizing age-old hymns, creating an atmosphere brimming with festive warmth and cheer. Ornate nativity scene and intricately adorned church surroundings served as visual reminders of the sacredness, fostering unity and togetherness among parishioners.

Prior to the Christmas Mass, C a t e c h e s i s students from various Pious Associations brought the Nativity to life in Marthoma Hall,



drawing a sizeable crowd of parishioners.

Mission Quiz

Our parish proudly acknowledged several members who won prizes at both the Eparchial and Forane levels in the 'Mission Quiz' on October 28th, paving the way for the First Eparchial Assembly. Winners recognized on Christmas night included Simy Sam Cheeran (First Prize - Adults), Binoy Sasthampadavil (Second Prize -



Adults), Aadhil Joshy and Annmariya Joshy (Second Prize G4-7), Alan Damy (Second Prize G8-12), Ann Christi Sasthampadavil Binoy and Keroob Joseph Rajeev (Third place G8-12), and Judith Joshy (First Prize - Youth). Aaron Joshy also secured a prize at the Forane level for G8-12. Congratulations to all participants and the winners. A special gift was presented on the Christmas night by the Vicar to all winners participated in the quiz.

Parent - Teacher Meeting - New Executive Council formed

The annual general body meeting of the Parents and Teachers Council convened on Dec 3rd in Marthoma Hall after the 9 am Holy Mass, witnessed a substantial turnout. A new executive council was elected for 2023-2024, focusing on measures to support Catechesis. The agenda covered guidelines for Catechism evaluation, annual awards, recognition of outstanding students, the annual fundraiser for Catechism, and class-wise meetings with parents. Cino Joy Naduvilekoot, Rani Dhanraj, and Jisha Biju were elected President, Vice President, and Joint Secretary, respectively. Shraddha Tony from the Teachers' side assumed the role of Secretary.

New Executive council with the following members - Cino Joy Naduvilekoot Shruti Jobin, Jaison George, Alphonsa Varghese, Jisha Biju, Joshy Pazhukathara, Rani George, Rajeev Jose (all parents), Mathew Manathara, Anjana Chirayath (Youth Catechist), Honey Sebastian, Shraddha Tony, and Biju Kannampuzha, (all Teachers) and Joshy Chinnathoppil (Vice-Principal), Sr. Jyothy AO (Vice-Principal), Jaison Joseph, Parish Catech. Commiittee Convenor and, Jose Varghese (Principal) assumed office.

Crib Competition

Our annual crib competition was organized in family units. From the many beautiful cribs presented, the judges picked

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those made by Rajeev Jose and Rajesh Thomas as the best Cribs. Cribs were judged based on theme, originality, innovation and creativity. Congratulations to all participants who took part in showing their creative skills to preserve one of our long-standing Christmas traditions.

Carol Singing

The Christmas Carol singing competition took place on Friday, December 22nd, at Marthoma Hall and was organized around family units. The St. Sebastian's unit presented outstanding efforts, to secure the top position, closely followed by the St. Thomas Family unit, which claimed the second-best spot. Congratulations to all participants for bringing vibrancy to this age-old Christmas tradition.

Nativity Presentation

The Nativity presentation, organized by our parish children, took place on Sunday, December 24th, on Christmas Eve at 8 pm. The children skillfully portrayed the birth of Jesus, providing a beautiful reflection on the essence of Christmas. More than 50 students actively participated in this heartwarming Nativity presentation.

New Altar Servers Meeting

A meeting for new altar servers took place on December 16 in the church basement hall, featuring a presentation by Senior leader Tinu Jose. During this session, our newly ordained priest, Fr. Francis Akkarapattiakkal, dedicated time to address the altar servers' team.

Bible Reading - Christ in Action

A weeklong Bible recital drive was organized virtually, in connection with Christmas, running from December 17th to 24th. Sessions started daily at 6 am and continued to 10 pm and on Sundays from 12 pm to 10 pm. This initiative aimed to encourage Bible reading among our



parishioners, fostering a deeper connection as they prepared to welcome baby Jesus into their homes and hearts.

CATECHESIS - CHRISTMAS IN CAMPUS

Students and teachers from the Catechesis program came together to celebrate Christmas on December 17, fostering a sense of festive spirit. The Ionview Campus witnessed students displaying their talents during their scheduled class time, while Junior Grades took the stage at Marthoma Hall to display their skills in various forms such as Christmas memories, carols, and skits.

In a bid to cherish diverse Christmas traditions and family values, a competition was organized, encouraging students to encapsulate these elements in video format. The winners of this competition will be announced in January.

Adding to the festive cheer, our students Ann Christy Binoy and Sanjana Theres Santosh presented video messages on themes assigned to them, as part of the Eparchial Media Missions' Christmas reflections series titled 'Feliz Navidad,' spanning 25 days. Their participation highlights the active engagement of our students in broader Faith formation initiatives.

Sports Academy - Christmas Celebrations

The Syro Malabar Sports Academy organized an event to



appreciate Rev. Fr. Francis Akkarapattiakal on his blessed holy ordination.

As a keepsake, a soccer ball bearing signatures of all the students of the academy was presented to Fr. Francis. A cake was cut to share the joy and pride of the members in recognizing the first-ever Canadian called to the priesthood in the Eparchy of Mississauga. Fr. Francis had an interactive session with kids, explaining how important it is to integrate and keep Jesus and Christian values in the sports journey ahead.

Sports Academy members and parents celebrated Christmas along with our respected priests and sisters of the parish. The event became an opportunity to reaffirm and proclaim the importance of keeping the birth of Jesus Christ, our savior, as the prime focus of our Christmas celebration in this changing and challenging world. The kids were entertained with Christmas Carol singing, and their favorite Santa Claus addressed them on how important it is to celebrate the birth of Jesus, which should be prioritized over everything else during the season. Christmas cards imprinted with nativity pictures and messages carrying the true spirit of Christmas were distributed to kids by parish priests. The event concluded with Christmas cake cutting and snacks.

The Syro Malabar Sports Academy witnessed enormous growth, with kids gradually starting to master basic sports skills and working in teams rooted in Christian values.

Pious Associations

Mission League: The Little Flower Mission League is dedicated to fostering a profound love for God and humanity, embodying this commitment through acts of love, the extension of grace, imparting truth, and empowering individuals for mission work. The Sacred unity was inaugurated on the feast of St. Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower.

A collaborative meeting of CML, Holy Childhood, and Jesus Kids was convened with Fr. Jijimon SJ, Sr. Jessy AO, along with animators Sherin Santhosh, Arun Siji, and Betzy Valsan. Monthly events have been scheduled on the last Sunday of each month, specifically designated for JK, HC, and CML activities.

In December, themed around Christmas, children were encouraged to unleash their creativity through art and craft, centering on the theme "My Gift to Jesus." A delightful array of submissions, including poems, Christmas cards, short prayers, drawings, and paper ornaments, adorned the basement rooms from December 23rd.

A Captivating Nativity Skit was Performed on December 24th.

9January's agenda will feature a Christmas celebration, spotlighting the Nativity skit alongside cultural programs for an hour. Subsequent months, February, March, and April will be dedicated to promoting virtues such as Kindness, Charity, and Saints, respectively. A dedicated page in 'Daffodils' will highlight the creative works of students.

Jubilee of Wedding

Parishioners congratulated couples who celebrated their milestone anniversaries of wedding on December 30. A special Mass was offered for them, following which the Jubilarians were felicitated by the Parish Priests, Sisters and Trustees of the Parish. Biju Davies and Joicy Biju Kannampuzha, Nigi Vadassery Paily, and Sindhu Paul, Joe Kittan and Reshma Porathur Kittan (all Silver Jubilee), Jose Varghese and Suja Jose (Pearl Jubilee) and Thomas Cherian and Rosamma Thomas Manathara (Golden Jubilee were honoured during the event.



ST. JOSEPH PARISH, OSHAWA

One-Year Celebration of the Church

On December 23, 2023, St. Joseph Syro-Malabar Church joyously celebrated its one-year anniversary. The day commenced with a heartfelt Thanksgiving Holy Mass presided over by Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvelil. Additionally, we fondly recalled the Church Blessing that occurred last year on December 24, followed by a Christmas Mass offered by Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvelil. The festivities included a short meeting, message by the Bishop enchanting carol singing by catechism students, family

units and church senior and junior choir, and a delightful small tea party. We express our gratitude to all parishioners who contributed to the success of these celebrations, marking significant milestones in the life of our cherished St. Joseph Syro-Malabar Church.



ETIN 2024

Christmas Day Celebration

On December 24, the joyous occasion of Christmas Day was marked with a Holy Mass at 11 PM, celebrated by Fr. Tenson Paul. The Mass was a beautiful expression of the Christmas spirit and the significance of the day. Following the Mass, parishioners were treated to a delightful carol singing session by the junior and senior choirs, enhancing the festive atmosphere. There was a small tea after the



midnight Mass, where the warmth of fellowship and joy continued to fill the air. Additionally, the youth of the parish arranged a Christmas Gift Tree, creating a festive ambiance and spreading the spirit of giving during this special season.

Appreciations were extended to the dedicated members of Pithruvedi for their exceptional efforts in decorating the church, creating the stunning Christmas star, and assembling the crib. Their artistic contributions added to the festive ambiance, making our celebration even more special.

Carol Nights

In the spirit of Christmas, our parish experienced enchanting Nights Carol on December 9 and 16, hosted by various family units. The heartwarming melodies echoed as many parishioners and Fr. Tenson joined in the celebration. joyous Adding to the festive ambiance, Santa danced and distributed sweets.

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bringing smiles to everyone. Children, dressed as Mary and St. Joseph, added a special touch to the festivities. This cherished tradition not only enriches our celebrations but also provides a wonderful opportunity for the growth and joy of our parish's children. We express our gratitude to all who participated, making these Carol Nights a memorable and harmonious celebration of the season.

Pithruvedi Cake Sale - A Sweet Success

The Pithruvedi organized a delightful cake sale, featuring rich Christmas plum cakes. We extend our thanks to Pithruvedi for this sweet initiative and to all who supported the sale. Your participation contributed to the success of this flavorful event, adding a touch of sweetness to our Christmas celebrations.

24 Hour Adoration

For the month of December, the 24-hour adoration was held on December 2nd, Saturday and we appreciate the active participation of our parishioners. Looking ahead, mark your calendars for the next adoration session in December, scheduled for January 6th.

Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council Meeting, held on December 10 immediately after the Holy Mass, was a productive session where members gathered to discuss and address crucial matters for the well-being and functioning of our parish community. We appreciate the active participation of all Parish Council members, whose commitment is instrumental to the success of these discussions.

SMYM Meeting

Following the Holy Mass on 17th December, the youth of our church actively participated in the SMYM meeting. The engaged and vibrant gathering allowed the youth to come together, fostering a sense of community and shared purpose. We appreciate the commitment of our young parishioners to actively contribute to the life and growth of our church. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the success of this SMYM meeting.



Winter Driving Info Session

Our Winter Driving Info Session, held on December 10 after the Holy Mass and led by driving instructor Mr. Rajeev Devassy, was a great success. Attendees gained valuable insights and tips to navigate safely during the winter season. We appreciate everyone who participated and thank Rajeev Devassy for sharing his expertise with our parish community. Stay safe on the roads this winter!

Upcoming Mass Schedule

Sunday: 5 PM-Additional Holy Mass





ST. MOTHER THERESA PARISH, OTTAWA

Mission Quiz

There were almost 40 participants from our Parish for the mission quiz conducted in October 2023.In the Youth Category Giselle Joseph obtained second place and Joseph Alappat obtained third place at the Eparchy level. Ciel was the third place winner in the grade 4-7 category. At the Forane level, the Youth standings were maintained however Aiden Mathews won the third place for the Grade 04-7 category.



Giselle Joseph

Joseph Alappat

Ciel Cyril

Aiden Jijo

Newcomer Desk

The Parish has established a newcomer's desk to welcome the new members to the Parish. The desk provides a scope of collecting forms to register new parishioners and to take down details for any items a newcomer might need. A donor list is also provided in case families would like to donate items. The idea is to continuously have this desk set - up after mass and provide information.

Eparchial Assembly

Our beloved Parish Priest, Fr Benny, went to Mississauga from Nov 09th -18 to be part of the Eparchial Assembly. There were three attendees including Fr Benny and one volunteer - Mr Joseph Alapatt. Fr Benny was also present for the ordination of deacon Francis on 18ty Nov 2023.

Holyween & Konthamasam Celebrations

Holyween celebrations was conducted on October 31, Tuesday along with the end of *Konthamasam Celebrations *. Parents were encouraged to bring children to the church dressing up as their favorite saints.



World Youth Day

World youth day was celebrated on Nov 26th where the youth members organized the readings and the choir. Both International and National Youth attended. There was an info session organized for the international youth, presented by local lawyer Binny Joseph regarding legal aspects of immigration in Q & A Format and any questions the youth may have. This was followed by a fun trivia session organized by the National Youth.

Every fourth Sunday there will be an input session on various topics by experts for the international students as well as for the new families in Canada.



Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus council at St Mother Teresa Parish, Ottawa undertook a membership drive amongst parishioners. Grand Knight Seppi SP welcomed District Deputy Bro. Mike Goulet, Ontario State online Membership director Bro. Dem Magmanlac and Membership director Bro. Vincent D'Souza. A small presentation ensued regarding the history of the Knights and benefits of being a member. The Knights had also been busy with a Christmas fundraising drive to procure grocery hampers for eligible parishioners. A fruit cake sale was also conducted to raise cash for the council. A resounding success, all cakes were sold out in minutes.

SMYM Youth Activity

The SMYM youth were actively involved in the Christmas Tree and Crib making effort at the Mission House. In December they initiated a food drive for the hungry where proceeds were to be given to a food cupboard.

Another fun activity at the mission house was the Gingerbread making where all the SMYM national youth gathered together to try out their creations.

Mathruvedi Fundraising campaign

On Christmas Eve, Mathruvedhi executive members presented the

cheque to Fr Benny. The team represented by President - Sheeja Niju, Vice President - Priya Jacob and Treasurer - Roshini Subin, handed over the proceeds from fundraising after the Christmas Mass.

Christmas Mass and Carol Singing

As we were expecting a large number of Parishioners for Christmas Eve mass, the venue was changed to St Ignatius church in downtown Ottawa. Fr Benny celebrated the mass and gave a splendid





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homily and inaugurated the carol singing performed by Catechism Students. The mass was followed by a small reception with coffee and cake, down in the basement. The National youth also found this opportunity to reconvene as many were studying in different cities and returned home only for the Christmas Holidays. The Youth had also organised a Gift Tree for the parishioners which was both entertaining as well as a fund raising activity.



EDMONTON FOR ANE

ST. ALPHONSA PARISH, EDMONTON

SEMINAR ON EMOTIONAL WELL BEING

A Seminar on Emotional Well Being and Mental Health was taken

place on 29 October 2023. It was organized by the Catholic Congress. The sessions were led by Kulsan Gill and Sonia Rajeev from South Asian Network for Addiction and Mental Health. Fr. Jerlin Kadaplackal conveyed the welcome to the speakers. The session on the mental health helped a lot to know about the importance of Mental Health.



HOLYWEEN CELEBRATIONS

The Holyween celebrations took place on 31 October 2023. The celebrations was organized by the SMYM. The programme started with the Holy Mass at 6.30. Followed by the H. Mass there were different games organized for the children. The Saints Fancy dress competition were also conducted.

Pizza were served to all. The programme got wrapped up by the distribution of prizes to the winners.



MISSION SUNDAY

The Mission Sunday Celebrations took place on 5 November 2023 Sunday. The SMYM organized games for children to raise fund for the missions. The mission Sunday celebrations were also an opportunity to teach the children about the need of Mission and helping the missions.

DIVINE GRACE RETREAT

The Divine Grace Retreat of the month of November was taken

place on 10 and 11 of November 2023. The retreat was led by Rev. Fr. Jison Paul Vengassery. Many parishners participated and it was a grace filled moment. Pithruvedi of the



parish took leadership in organizing the retreat.

CLASS FOR CATECHISM TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

On Sunday, 12 November Rev. Fr. Jison Paul Vengassery conducted motivation classes for the catechism teachers and students. It was so much helpful to know about the shurch teachings on sourcel matters

the church teachings on several matters.

INAUGURATION OF FUNDRAISING

The inauguration of the fundraising for the new church was done by Rev. Fr. Jacob Edakalathur. Many Parishners donated in the first day of the fundraising. Let the dream of a new church become true.

GRAND PARENTS DAY

The grand parents day was



celebrated on 25 November. It was an occasion of joy for the grand parents. The programme began at 9.00 am by Holy Mass and the



celebrant was Fr. Jerlin Kadaplackal. After the Holy Mass the grand parents were served breakfast. Many games were conducted and gifts were distributed to the winners. The programme got wrapped up by 1.00 pm with Lunch. The coordinators of this programme were PITHRUVEDHI, MATHRUVEDHI AND SMYM. It was a time to honor the grand parents of our parish.

HAPPY ORDINATION DAY DEAR FR. JERLIN

Our parish celebrated our dear Assistant Vicar Rev. Fr. Jerlin Kadaplackal's 3rd priestly ordination anniversary on December 3rd Sunday, 2023. Our trustee's representing the parish greeted the Assistant Vicar with flowers. Dear Father Jerlin, you are a heavenly blessing to our community and Catholic Church! May God bless you always!



DIVINE GRACE RETREAT

The divine Grace Retreat took place on 08 and 09 December. It was led by Bro. George Patteril. These days were so much grace filled and the preacher spoke on the importance of the family and the faith in the family life. May Lord bless all the families to be witness of Christ.





CHRISTMAS CAROLS

The Christmas Carols took place in every family units. The carols was a time of celebration and piety. It was organized by each family unit and everyone cooperated very well. The visit of Infant Jesus to every home was a time of blessing and proclamation of peace.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION

The Confession in preparation to Christmas took place on 19,20 and 21 of December. It was a time of renewal and it helped the people to prepare well for the Christmas.

HAPPY ORDINATION DAY DEAR FR. JACOB

Our parish celebrated our dear Vicar Rev. Fr. Jacob Edakalathur's 39th priestly ordination anniversary on December 24, 2023. Father was greeted with flowers, and wishes on December 24th Holy mass. Dear Father you are a blessing to our community and Catholic Church! May heavenly Father blesses you abundantly!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

We celebrated two Christmas masses on Dec 24th evening at 8:00 PM and 11:00 PM. Holy Qurbana at 8:00 pm was celebrated by Vicar Fr. Jacob Edakalathur and 11:00 pm mass was celebrated by Assistant Vicar Fr. Jerlin Kadaplackal. After the 8:00 PM Christmas mass, our Catechism students sang carol songs. The Mathruvedhi hosted a Christmas Gift Giveaway. SMYM did the crib and other decorations for the church. And, there was another mass celebrated on December 25th, at 9:00 am. Light refreshment was organized at the end of all masses.





BUON NATALE

Catechism Department organized, Buon Natale a 25-day Christmas greetings message for our parish. Our catechism students reflected on different topics from December 1st to 25th and delivered it to the parishioners. This was a wonderful experience and reflective process for out students. Thanks to our dear Principal, Santhosh Pottokaran for this new initiative. And well-done dear Students!

CHRISBELLS 2023

Edmonton Ecumenical Christmas celebration 'Chrisbells 2023' was celebrated on December 26th. Our church actively participated in the program as over 100 families joined from our parish alone for the celebration. Our catechism students did a dance performance for the program.





Saskatoon, Lloydminster, Northbattleford

All saints day was celebrated in due solemnity in Saskatoon and other two Mission stations.



Youth day was kept on 26th November . We had a solemn Holy Mass arranged by the Youth of the Parish. After the Mass there was a fellowship gathering and sharing.





We had solemn Jubilee celebration of the wedding of Baby Lukose and Salamma (30 Years) and also Regi and Ligi (25 years) on 10th December 2023

SMYM Saskatoon Organized a Christmas Party and Get-together for the youth of the Locality on 16th December 2023 from 3.00 pm to 7.30 pm. The cultural programmes of the SMYM added colour to the Programme.

The Knights of Columbus organised a Cake Sale Programme on Sunday 17th December, in view of fund raising. Also, the SMYM organised a Lucky Draw for their fund raising

Christmas Carol Started on 15th December . We have Five days allotted for the Christmas Carol.





Catechism Department Updates

The catechism classes are going well in our Parish. On the first Sunday of December, each classes selected Christmas friends (Secret Santa) with in their classes and gifts were exchanged on 17th December. Majority of our students submitted their drawings/posters for the Knights of Columbus Christmas Poster Contest. The winners of the contest are not yet announced, waiting for the result.

Nurses Ministry Updates

On November 29th nurse's ministry held a core committee meeting at 8:30. Most of coordinators attended the meeting. Our spiritual director father Daris addressed the meeting. Father Daris explained about the eparchial assembly experience held on November 9-12th. Mrs. Sheeba Pius discussed about the international nurse's ministry meeting in Dubai. On December 13th nurses' ministry held chain rosary. On December 14 from 6am to December 15 till 3pm Canada nurse's ministry held bible reading for New Testament. The Regina region selected time slot on December 16th at 8am -9am, It began with a blessing with our bishop and final blessings was given by our spiritual director father Daris. On the 20th of December Canada nurse's ministry held a meeting with all the coordinators. Later at 3pm



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Prayer to talk about the great call that was held on June, was discussed. On December 17 Regina nurse's ministry conducted a meeting with father Daris. The main agenda of the meeting is to elect new leaders to the core committee. We elected the new service team of Regina.

Installation of New Extra Ordinary Holy Communion Minister

On 17th December 2023, Sunday during Holy Mass, Jemon Joseph was installed as new Extraordinary Holy Communion Minister. He completed his course and received appointment from Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvelil.

Parish Christmas Night & Dinner 2023

Under the guidance and leadership of our Vicar, Fr. Daris, our Christmas celebration was delightful! We extend sincere thanks to Fr. Daris for his unwavering efforts in bringing us all together.

Our Invited Guest were Rev. Fr. Vasyl from St. Athanasius Ukrainian Church, Fr. Oliver Inchody and Fr. Francis who joined accepting our



invitation as judges for the Carol singing competition.We sincerely appreciate the dedication and effort of all the members who invested their time in the Carol singing; you were the shining stars of the event.

Likewise, our heartfelt appreciation goes to all the children, performers, parents, and instructors for their relentless dedication. Without you, this event wouldn't have been possible.

HOLY MASS AT MOOSJEAW MISSION

Christmas & New Year Celebration

St. Mary's Syro-Malabar mission celebration Holy Mass at Moose jaw on 3rd December. Fr. Tomy Mandapathil MST celebrated the Solemn Holy Mass. around 50 people participated. They had a wonderful socialization with parishioners after Holy Mass. On 26th December Tuesday Christmas & New Year Mass was celebrated by Fr. Daris Cherian.

We had around 75 Participants for the Holy Mass and followed by Christmas Dinner Dec 3rd 2023

Sunday Holy Mass

Christmas & New Year Holy Mass: December 26th Tuesday





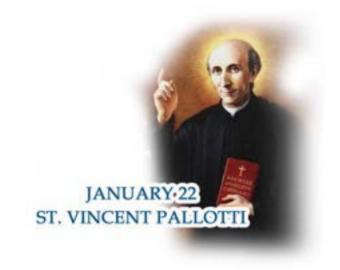
HOLY MASS AT INFANT JESUS MISSION YORKTON.

Holy Mass was celebrated on December 2nd, 2023, Saturday by Rev. Fr. Daris Cherian, this was the first time after the pandemic, we restarted the Holy Mass at Yorkton. This was an occasion for all the new commers to come together and to have socialization after the Holy Mass. We decided to have our next Holy Mass on January 1st, 2024.

Holy Mass on December 2nd 2023



Carol Singing by Infant Jesus Mission - Yorkton





ST. ALPHONSA PARISH VANCOUVER

My Church App

St. Alphonsa Syro Malabar Parishintroduced "My Church" app as a comprehensive tool for enhancing engagement with the church community. The app can be accessed through the parish *websitehttps* ://stalphonsabc.org/mychurchapp, offering parishioners a user-friendly interface to track contributions and update their profile.We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Vincy William for the creation of this app.

Catechetical/PiousDepartments - Christmas activities

Christmas Messages

The Catechism department extended an invitation to students to craft brief videos conveying Christmas messages for community sharing. These videos, shared

with the parent's group in December, added to the festive atmosphere, with students actively participating and joyfully emphasizing the true meaning of Christmas through their heartfelt messages.





Advent calendar

To celebrate the Season of Annunciation, an Advent calendar was prepared by Pious Association for the students to take part in daily activities designated for each day.

Christmas Celebration

The Catechism department, in collaboration with the Pious Association and PTA, had a festive Christmas celebration on December

17. The event was filled with joyous festivities, caroling, and enjoyable moments, with the special appearance of Santa adding to the merriment.

Food Drive

During the season of Advent, the Catechism department organized a food drive. Students were motivated to make a sacrifice by either forgoing one of their favorite activities or completing a chore at home and contribute a food item to the food drive.

Caroling @ Care Home

Students in grades 8-12 from the Catechism program





engaged in Christmas caroling at Clayton Heights Care Home on December 23. It was a humbling experience to sing to the residents of the nursing home, bringing joy and cheer to their lives.

Christmas Caroling

Throughout the month of December, caroling sessions were organized at the family unit level, bringing a warm and festive atmosphere to each household. Families came together to share the joy



of the season through melodious tunes spreading festive cheer in celebration of the holiday spirit.

Parish Calendar

On December 10, 2023, Fr. Thomas Venmanthara officially published the Parish calendar for 2024. The inaugural copies were





presented to committee members Binoy Paul, John Sebastian, and SanithaLoyd.

Christmas Eve Mass

Solemn Holy Qurbana was celebrated on Dec 24. Parishioners participated in procession and received blessings from infant Jesus.

Chitravarnam Ticket Sales launch

Chitravarnam ticket sales were officially launched after the Christmas eve mass in the presence of platinum sponsors - Johnson & Lucy Group and Noaisys Immigration

SMYM National Youth Meeting

SMYM - National Core Team held a meeting on December 17, 2023, and formulated an annual plan outlining the activities scheduled for the Year 2024.

International Youth Activities

Christmas carols in Vancouver were conducted with active participation and support from international youth









BISHOP'S DIARY

DECEMBER 2023

| 02 | 04.30 pm | Celebrated Thanksgiving Holy Qurbana at Cathedral |
|----|----------|---|
| 03 | 01.30 pm | Celebrated Holy Qurbana at Cathedral |
| 04 | 11.15 am | Participated in the Monthly Recollection |
| | 08.00 pm | Presided over Finance Council Meeting |
| 06 | 06.00 pm | Participated in DALO Meeting |
| | 07.30 pm | Participated in DAM Meeting |
| 07 | 10.00 am | Participated Zoom Meeting with Most Rev. Gary Gordon, |
| | 03.00 pm | Bishop of Victoria Presided over the Curia Meeting |
| 09 | 04.00 pm | Gave Class in the Marriage Preparation Course |
| | 06.00 pm | Participated in the Christmas Celebration of Divine |
| | | Academy of Music (DAM), Cathedral |
| | 08.00 pm | Presided over in the Extraordinary Ministers Training Programme |
| 10 | 12.00 pm | Celebrated Holy Qurbana in connection with Christmas at |
| | | St. Don Bosco Syro-Malabar Mission, Peterborough |
| 11 | 07.00 am | Gave Blessing at the concluding ceremony of Bible reading |
| | | at Calgary |
| | 08.00 am | Celebrated Holy Qurbana at CMC Convent, Mississauga |
| | 09.00 pm | Presided over the Special Curia Meeting |
| 12 | 11.30 am | Presided over the Collage of Consultors Body Meeting |
| | 08.00 pm | Presided over the SOF Board Meeting |
| | 03.00 pm | Presided over the Presbyterium |
| 13 | 11.00 am | Presided over the Curia Meeting |
| | | |

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| | 01.00 pm 03.00 am | (EST) Participated in the Eastern Catholic Bishops online Meeting Presided over the Presbyteral Council Meeting |
|----|----------------------|--|
| 16 | 11.30 am | Presided over the Pastor Council Participated in the Online |
| | 03.00 pm | Christmas celebration conducted by DAL |
| 17 | 12.00 pm | Celebrated Holy Qurbana in connection with Christmas at |
| | 1 | St. Augustine's SM Mission, Sudbury |
| 18 | 08.00 am | Celebrated Holy Qurbana at CHF Convent, Mississauga |
| | 07.30 pm | Celebrated Holy Qurbana in connection with 39th the |
| _ | | Sacerdotal Ordination Anniversary at Cathedral |
| 19 | 08.00 am | Celebrated Holy Qurbana at AO Convent, Scarborough |
| 20 | 11.00 am | Presided over the Curia Meeting |
| 21 | 01.00 pm | Gave Blessing at the concluding ceremony of Bible reading |
| | | of the Nurse's Ministry |
| | 07.30 pm | Celebrated Thanksgiving Holy Qurbana in connection with |
| | | the concluding Centenary Ceremony of the establishment of |
| | | the Syro- Malabar Hierarchy |
| 23 | 11.00 am | Requiem Holy Qurbana at Cathedral |
| | 05.00 pm | Celebrated Holy Qurbana in connection with the First |
| _ | | Anniversary of the Blessing of St. Joseph's Church, Oshawa |
| 24 | 10.00 pm | Celebrated Holy Qurbana in connection with Christmas and |
| | | Participated in the Christmas celebration at Cathedral |
| 25 | 04.00 pm | Celebrated Holy Qurbana in connection with Christmas and |
| | | Parish Feast of the Infant Jesus Church, Barrie |
| 27 | 08.30 pm | Traveled to India |
| 30 | 09.00 am | Gave Massage in the Ordination ceremony of Dn. Simon, |
| | | St. Raphael's Cathedral, Palakkad |
| 31 | 11.00 pm | Celebrated Holy Qurbana in connection with the Year |
| | | ending celebration at Christ the King Church, Dhoni |



2024 ജനുവരി – പിറവി – ദനഹാ കാലങ്ങൾ

| 1 | തിങ്കൾ | ഫിലി 2:5-11 , യോഹ 5:19-23 |
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| 2 | പൊവ | On D(6010 3:1-6; 0:000n 1:19-28. |
| 3 | ബുധൻ | 1 1/0(000 4:12-19; 2/0000 5:1- 12. |
| 4 | 01/050 | 00020 3:21-26; ലുക്കാ 3:1-9. |
| 5 | വെള്ളി | ശ്രീഹ 1:12-14 (1:1-14); ലൂക്കാ 1:39-45 |
| 6 | fmau | ദനഹാത്തിരുനാൾ |
| | | AUD 19:16-25; 08900/0P 2:28-32; |
| | | 2 (5)020 16-10; 200200 11-11. |
| 7 | amound | എ നേഹാ ഒന്നാം ഞായർ |
| | | AUO 33:10-23; OTVADO 3:14-20; |
| | | 2 10(000 16-21 000010 145-51 |
| 8 | തിങ്കൾ | 2 ය.සංවර්ධ 12:1-10; නැගහාට 4:1-11. |
| 9 | pocha | 00020 1:13-17; Blj:d00 4:14-22. |
| 10 | ണുധൻ | 2 തിരമാ 3:10-17; ലുക്കാ 4:23-30. |
| 11 | 011,040 | ഫിലി 1:12-18; യോഹ 3:22-30. |
| 12 | വെള്ളി | ശ്ലീഹ 12:1-11; മത്താ 14:1-12. |
| 13 | laon | 00020 9:30-33; 010000 10:31-39. |
| 14 | 60000 | ക ദനഹാ രണ്ടാം ഞായർ |
| | | alg0 3.9-16; (al80 18:1-14; |
| | | ROUNT 1:4-8; 0000-0 8:21-30. |
| 15 | തിങ്കൾ | ana 1:15-23; 0000an 3:31-36. |
| 16 | poleg | 1 030040 3:1-10; 20004000 1:21-28. |
| 17 | ണ്യുധൻ | വെളി 19:5-10; യോഹ 2:1-12. |
| 18 | 011050 | 1 കോറി 6:12-20; യോഹ 2:13-25. |
| 19 | വെള്ളി | 01000 1:11-24; 010000 21:15-19. |
| 20 | fmou | 2 කාර්ගයා 2:1-5; යඟගා 10:24-33. |
| 21 | ണായർ | ക ദനഹാ മൂന്നാം ഞായർ |
| | | min 311-8; agus 418-16; |
| | | ഫിലി 3:4-16; മർക്കോ 3:7-19. |
| 22 | തിങ്കൾ | @130 1.20-25; @0000 9.9-13. |
| 23 | DCLEG | 0000000 5:13-20; 000000 1:29-34. |
| 24 | ണ്യുധൻ | 1 പദ്യതാ 4:1-11; ഖുക്കാ 7:36-50. |
| 25 | 011,390 | 3 0100a0 1:1-8; ED:000 15:1-10. |
| 26 | വെള്ളി | വെളി 4:1-11; ലുക്കാ 8:4-15. |
| 27 | fmou | 00020 10:5-13; @dd.eeo0 1:40-45. |
| 28 | ണായർ | ക അഹാ നാലാം ഞായർ |
| | | ഉത്പ 29:1-14; 2 രാജാ 17:24-28; |
| | | BAD(61)0 6:1-12; 0000AD 4:1-26. |
| 29 | തിങ്കൾ | 2 (4)07 5:17-21; (00:040 4:27-30, 39-42. |
| 30 | Inclea | 1 നെസ 1:2-6; യോഹ 8:37-47. |
| 31 | ണുധൻ | 1 കോറി 7:29-35; ലുക്കാ 10:38-42. |
| | | |



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