



AHMADI MAR THOMA PARISH, KUWAIT

Established 1984

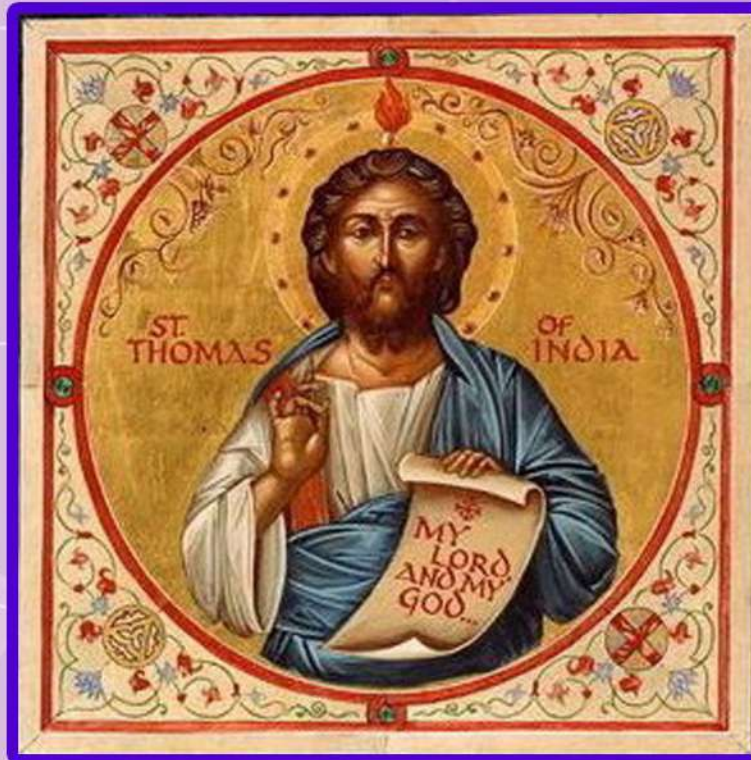


The Parish Voice

July 2020

(A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF AHMADI MAR THOMA PARISH)

"So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for work of service, so that the body of Christ maybe built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ".
(Ephesians 4: 11-13)



മലങ്കരയുടെ ഔദ്യോഗിക മാസിക



Vicar's Message

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ !

Today the world is going through the reckless rampage of **Covid-19**. The problems created by this pandemic are unfathomable and its losses are irrevocable. At this moment, around 5 lakhs of people have lost their lives, more than 10 million people are infected and the entire world is halted by a virus which is invisible to the human eyes. Let us appreciate, remember with thanks, and pray for the frontline health workers, government officials, volunteers who are toiling day and night to end this pandemic and bring back wellness and normalcy. Many of the people with whom I had talked during the lockdown are in anxieties or in loneliness. The anxieties and struggles that we are going through now should open our eyes to realize the daily experience of fear, pain, poverty, and death threads of the thousands of our brothers and sisters around us. Though we do not know what the future holds, we must always put our hope in God, who is sovereign and in control over everything that comes our way. Let us cling to the word of God, pour out our hearts to Him, and pray without ceasing, for all those who are affected by the pandemic. The psalmist reminds us and strengthen us, asking, ***"Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God."*** (Psalms 42:5)

..Thomas said to Him "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28). The Mar Thoma Church, along with many other churches, observes July 03rd as St. Thomas Day. We all know that the name of our Church "Mar Thoma" means St. Thomas. The term "church" came from the word "ecclesia" which means "a called out community for a mission". The word "apostle" means "the one who is sent". Apostle Thomas was the one who took the Great Commission of his Lord (Matt28:18-20) seriously, and decided to move beyond the boundaries of Roman Empire with the light of the Gospel. It is widely believed that St. Thomas came to Kerala in AD. 52. And it is also believed that in Kerala, he preached the Gospel, did miracles and he organized seven Christian communities (*ezhara pallikal*). The motto of our church is that we are "Lighted to Lighten" the world. The vision of our Church fathers is that "every Marthomite is a Missionary". As we uphold the great tradition of St. Thomas let us accept and proclaim Jesus Christ as our Lord and God, as Apostle Thomas proclaimed.

The **Navathi** (90th Birthday) celebrations of our beloved Metropolitan His Grace The Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Thirumeni has been inaugurated by the Hon. Prime Minister of India, Sri. Narendra Modi on the 27th of June. In the words of our beloved Valiya Metropoolitan "Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma is noble in hereditary, rich in self acquired abilities, well versed in relations, able and talented in construction. Let us thank God for the life and leadership of our beloved Metropolitan and also pray for his good health. Ahmadi Mar Thoma Parish once again expresses our warm wishes and prayers to Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan on his **Navathi** celebrations

Dear members of Ahmadi Parish, the continued suspension of Holy Communion and other worship services from the last week of February, due to Covid-19, has seriously affected the financial stability of our Parish. As I have mentioned earlier, the receipt book and contribution list of each prayer group has been given to the prayer group secretary. If anybody would like to pay their dues or willing to contribute in the form offertory / special offertories or special donations kindly contact your prayer group secretary. Also kindly inform Achen or Office bearers, or your PG secretary if any of our Parish members are in any kind of needs.

May the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the comforting presence of the Holy Spirit be with all of us, strengthen us and keep us safe from this pandemic.

With prayerful regards, Yours in Christ's service...
Sam Thomas Achen.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

"May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans" (Psalms 20:4)

BETHANIA	D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile	CARMEL	D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	17-JUL	57/387	ANDREW JOHN THOMAS	66906725		02-JUL	55/381	ANNA BINDU PHILIPS	66709603
	18-JUL	21/233	LAINA SARA VARUGHESE	66322786		02-JUL	90/494	REENA JOHN	65821523
	19-JUL	36/319	GEORGE K. MATHEW	66024570		02-JUL	299/897	SUBIN JOSEPH MATHEWS	94425752
	20-JUL	159/638	ANITA ANIYANKUNJU	66526115		03-JUL	23/251	CHRISTO PHILIP	97450676
	20-JUL	80/464	KUNJU KOSHY VAIDYAN T.K.	97537451		05-JUL	201/740	KAROLYNNE ROSE SABIN	97617283
	26-JUL	328/938	JOHNZ GEO SHAJI	65940403		06-JUL	266/844	JOHANNA AMMU VARGHESE	69928725
	27-JUL	80/464	LEELAMMA KUNJU KOSHY	97537451		09-JUL	315/919	TIJO RAJAN	96795613
	27-JUL	14/202	MONI MATHEWS	99124076		10-JUL	92/496	JOHN VARUGHESE	50216868
BETHEL	D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile	JERUSALEM	D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	01-JUL	360/971	BIJI MATHEW	51377187		11-JUL	330/941	AJAL JOHN	95564868
	02-JUL	361/972	ANISH THOMAS	97393519		14-JUL	151/624	AARADNA SARA ABRAHAM	99843191
	04-JUL	287/879	JINCY JOSE	98858974		14-JUL	130/582	SANTHRA ALEYA GEORGE	99437319
	04-JUL	173/677	PREETHY SUSAN SAM	66348184		15-JUL	216/760	BIJI ELIZABETH EAPEN	65605584
	12-JUL	346/957	K. G. JERRY	99316676		15-JUL	364/975	MILAN MATHEW	55863860
	14-JUL	22/234	SHINY SAM THATTAKKATTU	97963491		24-JUL	98/513	ALISHA BABU NINAN	51513541
	27-JUL	119/563	JOY MATHEW	99187407		25-JUL	193/722	ANOOP GEORGE	67681232
	27-JUL	338/949	JUSTIN IDICULLA RAJAN	60369638		26-JUL	252/820	SANJU JOHN	67084719
BETHLEHEM	D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile	HEBRON	27-JUL	257/830	NATHANIA ELSA SAM	97830840
	15-JUL	66/414	HANOK VARKEY PRADEEP	51158504		27-JUL	107/536	REBA PHILOPOSE (Dr)	97327880
	08-JUL	293/887	BINCY GEORGE	55454581		28-JUL	135/592	GLORY ALICE MATHAI	99428453
	16-JUL	248/810	ELSHA MARIA ABY	97418383		D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	18-JUL	248/810	MERIN ANNAM CHACKO	97418383		01-JUL	47/358	ABRAHAM MATHEW	94467355
	22-JUL	279/865	JOSHUA TOMS JACOB	94987462		06-JUL	164/647	SERAH TESSY VARGHESE	99926732
	23-JUL	293/887	GEORGE MATHEW	97635993		10-JUL	382/993	SANOB P. JOHN	51593478
	25-JUL	232/784	ANGELO VARGHESE JOHN	97425955		16-JUL	335/946	AJI ABRAHAM	66262987
	26-JUL	383/994	JENCY JACOB	55202959		20-JUL	246/808	AAN SHARON VARGHESE	67770146
BETHSAIDA	D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile	GETHSEMANE	23-JUL	25/258	JENCY T KOSHY	99330656
	04-JUL	104/529	JOSHY BABU	97266984		28-JUL	348/959	SHIBU DANIEL VARGHESE	97278451
	07-JUL	63/409	ANIL K. MATHEW	99132488		30-JUL	30/279	KURUVILA P KOSHY	97581682
	09-JUL	292/885	SINI VARGHESE	69644299		28-JUL	18/216	JOHN VARGHESE	66892730
	11-JUL	32/292	RACHEL MANOJ	67049329		29-JUL	218/763	ANINA TYNO PHILIP	97747205
	17-JUL	94/501	AXA MARIYAM ANISH	51455300		D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	20-JUL	332/943	JESWIN BIJU JOHN	60325380		01-JUL	363/974	JESVIN MATHEWS DAVID	96988487
	24-JUL	304/907	JUVANA MATHEW	55748393		02-JUL	345/956	NOAH JEEVAN JOY	51768382
	25-JUL	15/205	RAHUL MATHEW JOHN	97207227		03-JUL	283/873	TALIA SARA DILIP	97511023
IMMANUEL	D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile	GETHSEMANE	04-JUL	87/485	ABRAHAM M. GEORGE	97653300
	04-JUL	100/517	SERINA GEORGE	99116927		10-JUL	48/360	Ethan Oommen Shiby	51122419
	09-JUL	149/621	NIGEL THOMAS ANU	94451627		11-JUL	327/937	LIJO RAJAN KADAVIL	97659332
	11-JUL	26/268	ABEL ABRAHAM MATHEW	66590323		18-JUL	327/937	JOANA ELIZABETH LIJO	97659332
EBENEZER	D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile		19-JUL	172/673	SHAJI SKARIA	60778121
	04-JUL	153/626	SONA BINU	65678023		27-JUL	48/360	Shiby Nainan Mathew	51122419
	26-JUL	219/764	ANGEL BIJU	51248800		30-JUL	81/465	BINU THOMAS	97205670
GETHSEMANE	D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile		26-JUL	162/643	MELVY M MATHEWS	67679361
						D/B	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
						13-JUL	238/796	SHYAM VARGHESE	50669681



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. It was for this peace that you were called in one body. And be thankful" (Colossians 3:15)

BETHEL	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile	HEBRON	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	10-JUL	66/414	PRADEEP VARKEY THOMAS	51158504		04-JUL	87/485	ABRAHAM M. GEORGE	97653300
BETHLEHEM	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile	IMMANUEL	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	07-JUL	196/733	SAJI K.THOMAS	69950167		21-JUL	20/232	TIJU GEORGE	60634049
BETHSAIDA	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile	JERUSALEM	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	04-JUL	350/961	JOSEPH MATHAI	55781129		01-JUL	225/776	LIJU PHILIP	55986831
CARMEL	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile	EBNEZER	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	01-JUL	389/1000	BINOY VARGHESE GEORGE	51047524		13-JUL	185/707	JAMES JOHN	66418523
	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile	GETHESEMANE	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	10-JUL	202/741	PRAVEEN MATHEW MAMMEN	60042534		31-JUL	145/609	VARGHESE THOMAS	50295775
	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile		D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	12-JUL	92/496	JOHN VARUGHESE	50216868					
	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile		D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	16-JUL	252/820	SANJU JOHN	67084719					
	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile		D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	12-JUL	92/496	JOHN VARUGHESE	50216868					
	D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile		D/M	Mem# New/Old	Name of Member	Mobile
	16-JUL	252/820	SANJU JOHN	67084719					



പട്ടയ ശുശ്രൂഷയിൽ
15-ാം വർഷത്തിലേക്ക് പ്രവേശിക്കുന്ന
സാം തോമസ് അച്ചൻ
അഹമ്മദി മാർത്തോമ്മാ ഊടവകയുടെ
പ്രാർത്ഥനാശംസകൾ



SACRAMENTS

In the May and June issues of Parish Voice we have discussed about the Dominical Sacraments – Baptism and Holy Communion respectively. And in continuation of the Study of Sacraments, in this issue, we will be discussing about **Holy Ordination** and **Holy Matrimony**.

HOLY ORDINATION

The act of ordination is the apostolic heritage of the church and it is done by the laying on of hands and prayer. In the Mar Thoma Church we believe in the priesthood of all believers. (1 Peter 2:9) The royal priesthood has been given to the whole church.

The baptismal service is the ordination to this royal priesthood. The members of the community of faith who have the call for the **full time ministry** are separated through the service of ordination after much screening, prayer and preparation.

In the ministry of the church there is continuity and a discontinuity from the Jewish faith. The church has inherited a lot of functions from her Jewish predecessor. The major difference between the Jewish system of Priesthood and the Christian office of priesthood, the former is hereditary but the latter is more **representatively** and **charismatic**. The ministry of the church is traditionally carried out through three main offices:

1. Deacon (Semsana/Semmash), 2. Priest (Kassessa), 3. Bishop (Episcopa)

In the early church **Diaconate** was a permanent office. (Acts 6:2-3) In the Mar Thoma church, it is now the first step to priesthood. When the Deacons are separated from the brotherhood for the ministry, the church prays for the special charisma of the Holy Spirit.

In the same way when the Deacons are elevated to the office of Priesthood the church again prays for special anointing of the Holy Spirit. They are called to become **stewards of the mystery**. They are appointed to the **ministry of the Word and Sacraments**. The ordained ministry is for the people of God in the community of faith. Two elements are essential to the ordained ministry:

1. The Call and commitment, 2. The setting apart by the community.

The call is from God and it is the work of the Holy Spirit. The setting apart is done by the church. The ordained person is thus authorized to perform certain functions within the discipline of the church. The Ordination service is always done within the Holy Qurbana.

The important symbols used in the ordination service are:

1. Cutting of hair in the shape of a Cross, 2. Putting Sosappa on the head of the candidate

The Bishop in addition to the functions of a Deacon and a Priest does the function of an overseer (episcopa) Bishop. He acts as the Supervisor of the entire church. Bishop, Metran (the Noble leader, a worthy leader), Episcopa (Supervisor) are parallel terms.

An Episcopa is one who is called to be the custodian and teacher of true faith. The Metropolitan in the Mar Thoma Church is *primus inter pares* (first among equals) and represents the church in ecclesial matters as administrative head.

All these offices are leadership positions. The style of leadership is that of servant leader. Jesus in his public ministry demonstrated this model and the world looks up to such man/woman of God for counsel and direction.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Bible Readings:

1) Marriage; within the tradition - Numbers 36.8, 2) To build a generation in faith - Deuteronomy 6: 1-3, 3) Marriage; mutual submission in Christ - Ephesians 5.21-26, 4) Marriage; lasting union in Christ - Matthew 19:1-9, 5) Marriage; to be honored - Hebrews 13:4, 6) Marriage; acceptable to the lord - 1 Cor. 7.39.

Family is the basic unit of human community. God brings together a man and a woman to become husband and wife in the institution of marriage. The family is the miniature of the Kingdom of God. It is a little church. The **marriage is the sign and sacrament of the kingdom of God**. The relation with the family is covenant based. It is joining the community of generation formation. The family is made possible by God.

Marriage is administered to those who are specially called, committed and set apart for it. It is being solemnized in the church, in the context of the community of the faithful. A special liturgy is used for the occasion. The Order of service is rich in symbols and chants. The paradigm for family there is **the relationship between Christ and the Church**. Christ is symbolized as the divine bridegroom and the church as his bride. The wedding liturgy has two parts:

1) The Liturgy of the Blessing of the Rings (service of betrothal or engagement)

2) The Liturgy of the Blessing of the Crown (marriage proper)

In the sacrament of marriage according to the Mar Thoma rite, the celebrant on behalf of the church blesses the rings and adorns the couple. During the service the bride and the bridegroom are crowned as the royal couple to live a victorious life with Christ. The hands of the Bridegroom and the Bride are united and the Gospel (the Word of God) is read over it. The union is sealed not with the human words but with the Word of God".

Marriage is not just a contract between man and woman, but an everlasting covenant between them. It is a solemn affirmation before God and an opportunity to receive His grace for a solid Christian family life. The relationship ends only with death. In marriage, man and woman share the joy and pain of life. The solidarity of the family depends on the faithfulness of the married couple. We need strong and healthy families in the building up of a great Nation and in the building up of the whole human civilization.

The cultural symbols which are adopted into the marriage liturgy are also significant. The tying of **minnu or thali (mangalya sutra)** with an engraved sign of the cross around the neck of the bride by the bridegroom is a solemn act and then she is adorned with a very beautiful **manthrakodi or pudava (a beautiful sari)**. It is not the externalities that make the marriage work, the healthy transactions of two good human beings dedicated to God and to each other in the bond of marriage. The local parish churches should help and encourage the newly weds to find their rightful place in the community and allow them to capture the vision to share in the mission of the church.

(Source: TOWARDS THE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DAY: AN OUTLINE OF THE MAR THOMA CATECHISM)

Glimpses from Online Prayer Meetings



Glimpses from Online Organization Meetings



KCMTYS Center Meeting

Ahmadi Mar Thoma Sevika Sangham, Kuwait

ONLINE BAKING CLASS

JUNE 09 Tuesday | 6.30 - 9.30 pm

President
Rev. Sam Thomas

Class Lead By
Samod Tom Chacko

zoom
Video Conferencing

No Registration Fees. Link Will Be Followed.
(For more details please contact president or sevika sangham secretary)

All are welcome

OBITUARY

Mrs. Rosamma Mani, 81 Years, Malana Karottu House, Kuravilangadu, Kottayam, mother of Mrs. Gincy Mathew and Mother-in-Law of Mr. Mathew Abraham, Reg# 035(New)/306(Old), Immanuel Prayer Group, has taken to her heavenly abode on 19/06/2020.

Ahmadi MTC express heartfelt condolence to the bereaved family on the demise of their beloved Mother. May God give them comfort and peace that they seek.

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Prayerful wishes to
Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius Episcopa,
on his installation as Suffragan Metropolitan
on 12th July
at Poolatheen Chapel, Thiruvalla.





*“Humble yourself, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.
Cast all your anxiety on him because he care for you”. (1Peter 5:6-7)*

REV. SAM THOMS

THOMAS KOSHY

JOHN VARUGHESE

SHAJI C. THOMAS

OOMMEN M.E.

GINCE JACOB

BIJUMON MATHEW

Vicar

Vice President

Edavaka Secretary

Trustee Finance

Trustee Accounts

Lay Ministrant

Lay Ministrant

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