



ST. JOHN'S MAR THOMA CHURCH, MICHIGAN

**Newsletter
Issue 4,
10/3/21**



8/29/21-Episcopal Visit



8/14/21- STJMTC Picnic

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14: 6



Greetings in the name of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. It's a blessing to address you all again through STJMTC news letter. A blessed and eventful quarter passed us by and let us be greatful to our almighty for His abundant mercies upon us His children. As the theme says "Receiving Jesus Christ" lets receive and welcome Him wholeheartedly in every walks of our life .



9/11/21- STJMTC Cultural Fest



9/18-9/19- Convention



9/12/21- Sevika Sangham Day

Vicar's message



Dear all,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I am very happy to address you once again through our newsletter. Our Convention was a blessing to our families. As the Bible says, if we seek and search the Word of God, we will find the knowledge of God. Appreciating our officials, committee members and conveners for organizing the Convention, and thanking all for your participation. It could have been better if more people especially our youths, children and our friends (those we can have access) were participated. We receive Jesus Christ through the Word of God.

When things get busy, it's very easy for us to jump out of bed and get straight to work. A consequence is that it becomes more difficult to spend time in God's Word and in prayer, thus ultimately rejecting Jesus Christ. Receiving Jesus Christ needs answers:

Why?

"Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me." (John 15:4)

He is the source of our life and our very existence. A branch can grow and bear fruit only as a part of the tree. Without tree, a branch is merely a show piece. Therefore, ask ourselves, "By comparison, of all of the things we seek in life, how passionate are we for Receiving Him in our life? So if someone call us useless or we ourselves think so; think again! If we think life is boring and exhausted; think again! Everything is against us; think again. Are we receiving Jesus Christ – the source- in our day to day life?

How?

"Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5)

We can receive Jesus Christ as our Saviour, mentor, teacher, Lord and all in all. That's good and nothing to blame. Instead, what about receiving him to know his mind and transform our minds and thoughts? If we find ourselves being too busy to spend time hearing what God has for us in Scripture, then we must act. We must rearrange, reprioritize, delegate, or say "Yes" to our life in relationship with Jesus.

Praising God for our officials of the parish and various organisations and leaders. Praying for all our members. Hope to see you soon. May God bless us all that we may start or continue to receive Christ through the Word of God. Please don't miss the time and opportunity for the same.

Regards,

Ajith Achen and family



Receiving Jesus Christ



Dearly beloved in Christ,

We are getting close to another advent season, the time to reflect on the incomparable love demonstrated by God through the birth of baby Jesus. As we are entering the last quarter of this year, it is leaving behind streams of tears shed by mothers, siblings, and lovers in many parts of the world who lost their dear ones in pandemic and other violent incidents. Divisive tendencies, xenophobia and hatred are rising in distressing rate. Let us be mindful and don't allow the negative forces to take over our political conscience or religious standing. No Christian can hate the other for any reason or treat differently based on class, ethnicity, or gender; they can only nurture and protect others.

Looking back into the paths we walked as a community, we have countless blessings to thank the Almighty and have irrevocable losses of a few of our valued members. We uphold the families who are going through the difficulties during this pandemic in prayers that the heavenly father would comfort and empower them to face the harsh realities of life. We need to evaluate every aspect of our personal and community life and act proactively as we are heading to the advent season.

The time of searching for hope during hopelessness is here. The time of yearning for divine intervention and anticipating new beginnings has arrived. We must prepare our hearts and minds for a season of renewal and restoration that can only be found in the person of Christ. Jesus Christ and His cross is probably God's final invitation and at the same time warning to put an end to our reckless journey and to come back to the enriching and life-giving relationship with God. The time of preparation for receiving Christ can be observed with all its ritualistic details to satisfy our own corrupted self. But we need to enter it to regain our dry and passive relationship with God, to reconcile our broken relationships, and to reinvent the plan of our life in the light of God's will. If we believe that there is God who loves and redeems, we also need to believe that He is the righteous judge. May these coming months open before us opportunity to study His word and bear fruits that please God through the transformation of our mind. Let us not be directed by our own instincts and knowledge but by His spirit that will result in the abundance of life for all.

May the good Lord bless us all with His abundant blessings.

In the Lord's ministry

Shijy Alex



From the Secretary

Another Meaningful and busiest quarter has passed by. Let us thank God for the manifold blessings we have received as individuals, families and community. Our Diocesan Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoexnos Thirumeni visited our parish on August 29th and conducted Holy Qurbana service. As a parish we express our deepest gratitude to Thirumeni for your service and kind support to our parish. Thanks to Rev. Ajith K Thomas, Rev. Varghese Thomas, Rev. Philip Varughese, Rev. Dr. Itty Mathews and Rev. Jeshwin John for their support and guidance for the last months.

By the grace of God we had our Church Picnic, Annual convention, Cultural fest, and First fruit auction done Successfully, Special Thanks to Rev. Fr. Paul Challisery for leading our convention this year.

In this edition our theme is Receiving Jesus Christ

How to receive Christ:

1. God Loves You!

The Bible says, "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life" The problem is that . .

2. All of us have done, said or thought things that are wrong.

This is called sin, and our sins have separated us from God. The Bible says "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." God is perfect and holy and our sins separate us from God forever. The Bible says "The wages of sin is death." The good news is that about 2,000 years ago,

3. God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ to die for our sins.

Jesus is the Son of God. He lived a sinless life and then died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. "God demonstrates His own love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us." Jesus rose from the dead and now He lives in heaven with God His Father. He offers us the gift of eternal life -- of living forever with Him in heaven if we accept Him as our Lord and Savior. Jesus said "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except by me."

October 24th Sunday we are celebrating as a Family Sunday / Tithe.

We are planning to do our Christmas Carol service on Saturday December 18th at Evanswood Church. English and Malayalam Choirs will sing Christmas songs and Our Sunday school kids will present beautiful creations.

December 25th morning we will have Holy Communion service at our church and 31st night we will have watch night service. We are humbly requesting your prayerful participation.

Thank you

John Varughese

Secretary



Lectionary

October

3 Sunday Voluntary Evangelist's Day - Carriers of the Gospel C.H. 363
(19th Sunday after Pentecost)
Gen. 12:1-9 2 Tim. 4:1-6 Ps. 42
Rom. 1:8-16 St.Mat. 28:16-20 Rev. 14:6-7

10 Sunday Christian Approach to the Differently Abled C.H. 269
(20th Sunday after Pentecost)
2 Sam. 9:1-12 2 Cor. 12:1-10 Exo. 4:10-17
Acts. 3:1-10 St.Mat. 15:29-31 Acts. 9:32-35

17 Sunday Youth Sunday - Youth: Search for a Meaningful Life C.H. 362
(21st Sunday after Pentecost)
Dan. 1:1-17 1 Tim. 4:12-16 Gen. 39:1-23
Eph. 6:10-18 St. Mark. 10:17-22 1 Tim. 6:11-14

24 Sunday Christian Family Dedication Sunday - Family: Replica of C.H. 321
the Kingdom of God
(22nd Sunday after Pentecost)
1 Sam. 1:21-28 Eph. 3:14-21 Ps. 128
Col. 3:18-25 St.Luke. 2:41-52 Gal. 6:1-10

31 Sunday *Koodosh Eetho* - Sanctification of the Church C.H. 166
Beginning of Liturgical Year
Jonah 3:1-10 1 Pet. 1:13-19 Neh. 1:1-11
Heb. 9:11-23 St.Mat. 21:12-17 Acts. 7:44-53

November

7 Sunday *Hudos Eetho* - Renewal of the Church C.H. 396
World Sunday School Day
Children: Inheritors of the Kingdom of God
Gen. 21:1-7 Eph. 6:1-9 Deutro. 28:1-6
2 Tim. 3:13-17 St.Luke. 18:15-17 1 Pet. 2:1-6

14 Sunday Annunciation to Zachariah - Festival of Unity of the C.H. 215 Communion of Churches in India (CCI) CSI-CNI-MTC
1 Chro. 24:1-19 2 Cor. 4:7-15 Mica 6:1-18
Rev. 7:9-17 St.Luke. 1:5-23 Rev. 8:1-5

21 Sunday *Suboro* - Annunciation to Virgin Mary C.H. 39
1 Sam. 2:1-11 Eph. 1:3-10 1 Thes. 3:6-13
Gal. 4:1-7 St.Luke. 1:26-38 25 Acts. 16:11-15

28 Sunday Visitation of Virgin Mary to Elizabeth C.H. 299
"Sharing the Good News"
Gen. 18:1-15 Rom. 10:9-17 Ps. 146
1 Thes. 3:6-13 St.Luke. 1:39-45 Gal. 3:15-22



December

5 Sunday Birth of John the Baptist - Bible Sunday
C.H. 67 "Word of God: Lamp to the Feet, Light to the Path"
Mal 3:1-6 Gal. 1:11-17 Ps. 119:105-120
Heb. 4:12-16 St.Luke. 1:57-66 Rev. 1:1-7

12 Sunday Annunciation to Joseph C.H. 98
Isa. 7:10-17 Rom. 4:13-22
Acts. 3:19-26 St.Mat. 1:18-23

19 Sunday Sunday before Christmas - Our Lord is Coming C.H. 99
Isa. 11:1-10 Heb. 1:1-12 Isa. 53:1-12
Rev. 19:1-10 St.John. 1:1-14 Eph. 2:11-22

26 Sunday C.H. 398
The Glorious Coming of our Lord
Jer. 3:6-22 1 Thes. 4:13-18 Zech. 13:1-9
Acts. 1:6-11 St.Mat. 24:42-51 Rev. 22:10-20

Birthday & Wedding Anniversaries

OCTOBER

10/3	Alisa Susan Abraham
10/3	Sibin Cherian Mathew (son)
10/5	Samma Abraham (mother)
10/7	Isaac Jacob Kurian (son)
10/9	Gladson Scaria (son)
10/10	Jibu George Abraham (son)
10/12	Irene Sara John (daughter)
10/13	Jyothi Varghese
10/14	Thomas Thomas Kovoov
10/19	Abraham Abraham
10/19	Mary Mathew (wife)
10/19	Priya Mathews (wife)
10/23	David Sam Varghese (son)
10/24	Lincy Thomas (wife)
10/24	Poovakulathu Jorge Abraham (Raju)
10/24	Shaiju Manaloor Eapen
10/25	Aby Mathews (son)
10/27	Biju Thomas

NOVEMBER

11/5	Mariamamma Abraham (w/o PJ Abraham)
11/6	Elizabeth Thomas (wife)
11/6	Kevin Tom George
11/8	Nirmal Mathews
11/10	Chacko Thundil Varghese
11/14	Binu Mathew Jacob
11/15	Abraham Maniparambil Eapen
11/18	Bincy Joshwa (wife)
11/24	George Chacko
11/25	Susan T. Kovoov (wife)
11/28	Sosamma Sakhariah (mother)
11/29	Krista Eapen (daughter)

DECEMBER

12/1	Merril Mathew (son)
12/8	Sunitha Varughese (wife)
12/9	Aleyamma Thomas (wife)
12/11	Sanu T. Thomas
12/12	Annamma Chacko (wife)
12/12	Joshua John Mathai (son)
12/18	George Koshy Vilanilam
12/23	Christina Annette Sam (daughter)
12/27	Biju Varughese
12/29	Sajani Steephenn (wife)
12/31	Philip Mathew



From the Trustees...

Dear parish members, we hope this letter finds you and your family safe, in good health, and enduring these unsettling days of quarantine with faith and hope. We encourage all our members to attend our Sunday service and activities. We also encourage all our members for their continued support on our financial needs, Zelle/Chase pay ID for the church is TREAS@STJMTC.ORG.

We need to have our own church in the near future, and we shall keep this in our prayers. We look forward to your generous support for the upcoming Family Sunday/ Tithe and Christmas. Before end of the year, please submit your dues.

Our sincere thanks to everyone in the name of God. May the Lord bless and keep each of you and your loved ones during this challenging and historic time

Please free to contact one of us to if you need assistance

Nirmal Mathews Phone: 586-662-5247

Anil Sam Phone: 586-601-4075

