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ARTICLES NEEDED!

If you would like to submit any articles in English or Malayalam,
please send it to: Jacobkab@hotmail.com

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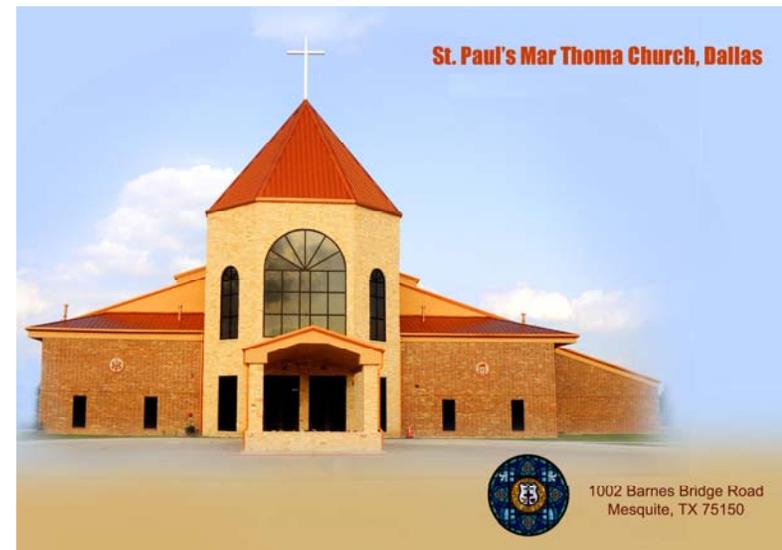


Published by Sub-committee for Communications of St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church, Dallas

St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church
1002 Barnes Bridge Rd.
Mesquite, TX 75150

THE EPISTLE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



September 2010





MESSAGE FROM VICAR

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

In the month of September we observe the first three Sundays as education day, sevika sangam day, and senior citizens day, respectively. Teachers, mothers, and the elder generation are the three main groups in the society whose service is most valuable.

The teachers are those who lead the younger generation from darkness to light and from falsehood to truth. God is the source of wisdom and the teachers are in the process of transmitting divine knowledge to the society. Jesus Christ is the greatest of all teachers in the world. His teaching was with authority and it fascinated the crowd. Jesus got authority because:

- i) He had deep relationship with God the father
- ii) He was the incarnated word of God
- iii) He learned from the nature and taught through parables.
- iv) He reinterpreted the scripture according to the new context.
- v) His life was same as his teaching

Let us learn from Jesus and follow him so that we will get rest and peace (Mat 11:28).

Women are primarily mothers and they are placed by God for children at God's place. Kids get God's care and love through mothers. Women are equal to men in God's creation and are called to be the co-workers of God to witness the kingdom of God. Let us respect mothers.

Senior citizens are the elder generation who gave their life for their children and for the society to build a new society. Their life experiences are a great wealth for younger generation. It is God's commandment that respect our parents to get long life and goodness on the earth. Today the old aged people have many problems including health concerns. They want to be loved, respected, listened, and protected by their children and grand children. But today we live in a busy world where the elder people are neglected. Today's culture is using everything and throwing away the useless. Elder people are very often considered as useless. Many of the elder people spend their last days of life in nursing homes and destitute homes where they feel emotional emptiness due to the lack of relationships. Our life is a debt to many people. Let us praise God for all those who became the cause of our life and who labored for our life. Let us love and respect such people. Let us learn from them and follow them in God's path. May God bless us, keep us in his grace and guide in his wisdom.

Yours in Christ Service
Noble Achen
revnobleap@yahoo.com

Prayer Meetings

AGAPE

LEADER: JOHN OOMMEN

TBD

EBENEZER

LEADER: JOHN K. MATHEW

TBD

EMMANUEL

LEADER: GEORGE MAMMEN

TBD

MANNA

LEADER: ANNIE THOMAS

TBD

SHALOM

LEADER: ABRAHAM KOSHY

TBD

പി.പി ചെറിയാൻ

ഡാളസ്: മാർത്തോമാ സഭയുടെ നവീകരണത്തിന്റെ 175 ാം വാർഷികത്തിൽ മലങ്കര മർത്തോമാ സഭയ്ക്ക് ഔദ്യോഗിക പതാക. ലോകത്തിന്റെ അഞ്ചു വൻ കരകളിലും പടർന്ന് പന്തലിച്ച് ദൈവവചനത്തിൽ അധിഷ്ഠിതമായി നിലനില്ക്കുന്ന മലങ്കര മാർത്തോമാ സഭയുടെ എല്ലാ ഇടവക ദേവാലയങ്ങളിലും ഇനീമുതൽ പഴയ പതാകയുടെ സ്ഥാനത്ത് പുതിയ പതാക പാറിപറക്കും.

വിശുദ്ധിയുടെയും, സമാധാനത്തിന്റെയും പ്രതീകമായ തൂവെള്ള നിറമുള്ള പതാകയിൽ സഭയുടെ നിറമായ പർപ്പിളിൽ "ലൈറ്റഡ് റൂ ലൈറ്റൻഡ്" എന്ന ആപ്തവാക്യം ഇംഗ്ലീഷിൽ ആലേഖനം ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. പ്രകാശനായ പ്രകാശിതൻ എന്ന് അർത്ഥം വരുന്ന ആപ്തവാക്യത്തിലൂടെ സമസ്ത ലോകത്തിനും ദൈവം പ്രകാശം പരത്താൻ വരുന്ന പ്രാർത്ഥനയാണുള്ളത്.

സഭാ നവീകരണത്തിന്റെ ഒരു വർഷക്കാലം നീണ്ടു നിൽക്കുന്ന പരിപാടികളിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തി എല്ലാ ഇടവകകളിലും ഈ പതാക ഉയർത്തും. പതാകയുടെ ഔദ്യോഗിക പ്രകാശനം മാർത്തോമാ സഭാ പരമാദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ ഡോ.ജോസഫ് മാർത്തോമാ ഇന്ത്യയുടെ സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യദിനമായ ആഗസ്റ്റ് 15 ന് മാരാമൺ മാർത്തോമാ പള്ളിയിൽ നിർവഹിച്ചു. നൂറുകണക്കിന് സഭാ വിശ്വാസികളും, പട്ടക്കാരും, ബിഷപ്പുമാരുമായ ഐസക് മാർ ഫിലിക്സിനോസും, ജോസഫ് മാർ ബർണബാസും പങ്കെടുത്തു.

St. Paul Family

സെൻറ് പോളും ചെറുകുടുംബം പാവങ്ങളും നിൻ മക്കൾ ഞങ്ങൾ നന്ദിയോടെ തിരുമുൻപിൽ സമർപ്പിക്കുന്നു പൂർണ്ണമായ് നാഥാ

പ്രതികൂല കാറ്റുകൾ ആഞ്ഞടിച്ചിടുമ്പോൾ പതറാതെ പറക്കുവാൻ പ്രാപ്തരാക്കണേ വീഴ്ചയിൽ താഴാതെ, പാപത്തിൽ വീഴാതെ എന്നെന്നും ഞങ്ങളെ കാക്കണേ നാഥാ

കുടുംബങ്ങൾ ഒന്നൊന്നായ് ഏറി വന്നു സ്ഥലം പോരാ അടിയങ്ങൾക്കാരാധിപ്പാൻ ആഗ്രഹിച്ചേഴകൾ വലിയോരാലായം സമർപ്പിച്ചാവശ്യം തിരുമുൻപിൽ നാഥാ

ഇതുവരെ ചൊരിഞ്ഞ നിൻ കൃപകളെ - ഓർക്കുമ്പോൾ നിറയുന്നു ഞങ്ങളിൻ ഹൃദയങ്ങൾ നന്ദിയാൽ നനയുന്നു നന്മനങ്ങൾ ആനന്ദബാഷ്പത്താൽ

കുറവുകൾ കണക്കിടാതടിയങ്ങളിൻ പ്രാർത്ഥന കേട്ട നിൻ വൻകൃപയ്ക്കായ് നന്ദിയോടെ സ്തോത്രയാഗങ്ങൾ എന്നും അർപ്പിച്ചിടുന്നു ഞങ്ങൾ നാഥാ

സെൻറ് പോളും ചെറുകുടുംബം പാവങ്ങളും നിൻ മക്കൾ ഞങ്ങൾ നന്ദിയോടെ തിരുമുൻപിൽ സമർപ്പിക്കുന്നു പൂർണ്ണമായ് നാഥാ

ചിരകാല സ്വപ്നമാം പുതിയ ദേവാലയം പണിതുയർന്നതും നിൻ കൃപ മാത്രമേ സാക്ഷികളായ് ഈ സമൂഹേ ജീവിപ്പാൻ അടിയങ്ങൾക്കേകുക നിൻ കൃപ നാഥാ

- By Lizy Philip

Destruction of Family Life

The bible gives us a great vision of family life and teaches about it's meaning, purpose, and importance. But today destruction of family life happens everywhere. The three changes happening today are the main reasons of this destruction. The family is removed from the center of the spirituality and put at the center of materialism.

- 1) Those who are called to be the mutual partners in life become victims of competition.
- 2) The rationality of existing economic structure is accepted today rather than the values of the kingdom of God.
- 3) These are the basic changes happening all over the world. We can see more changes happening in our family structure which cause destruction of family life.

1) Hierarchical structure was changed to individual freedom

As a result of this, the parents lost control over their children. Friends and peer groups have more influence than parents. Children may have tendency to grow in freedom without responsibility. Also children are tempted to go to violence, suicide, addiction of alcohol and drugs, etc. They become more lazy and fail to keep consistent relationships.

2) Influence of Media

Science and modern technology provides more facilities for luxurious life. TV, computer, and cell phone control every aspect of human life. Many of the children and youth are addicted to immoral and unhealthy websites. Sex and violence influence the children through TV programs. Electronic media propagates consumerism and materialism. Children loose reading habit, ability of imagination, power of concentration, and response towards social issues. They neglect social relationships and live in their own world. Physical and mental problems increase.

3) Influence of materialism

Today human desires increase and we try to acquire more money to satisfy our needs. The values that influence the society today are:

- i) Competition
 - ii) Success
 - iii) Acquiring and
 - iv) Pleasure seeking.
- But instead of them we have to promote values such as:
- i) Efficiency
 - ii) Honesty
 - iii) Giving and
 - iv) Self sacrifice

The concept of real richness is to be changed. The rich person is not the one who acquire more wealth, but is the one who is satisfied with the minimum needs.

4) Absence of good models and human values.

Today, parents, teachers, spiritual leaders, and political leaders are not models to be imitated for the new generation. Film stars, sports stars, and others who do not have moral

values become models for youth and children. The human values are to be caught than being taught.

5) Absence of true spirituality

Today, false spirituality prevails and the ordinary believers are being exploited by it. To-day, for many people, spirituality has become a means to satisfy their greed and desires. Today's false prophets preach the gospel of prosperity neglecting the cross and self sacrifice of Jesus. For some other people, spirituality is some rituals without inner experiences and transformation in life. The real spirituality gives us an understanding about human life, family, society, and God. Human beings are basically children of God. Family is the basic unit of society and small heaven on the earth. Real spirituality is becoming a blessing for others rather than being blessed for ourselves.

Note: This Study will be continued in the next issue.

Marriage Announcement

Kezia Cherian, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. P. P. Cherian was recently married. St. Paul's family wishes her a happy married life.

Baptism

Annette Ann Alex, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Alex Koshy was baptized on June 26, 2010 and became a member of the church.

Alex Sam Koshy, son of Mr. & Mrs. Sam Koshy was baptized on July 17, 2010 and became a member of the church.

Birth Announcements

St. Paul's Family congratulates the following families on the new addition to the family:

1. Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Johnkutty welcomed a newborn daughter named Anna.
2. Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Koshy welcomed a newborn son named Nathen.
3. Mr. & Mrs. Beji Pappachan welcomed a newborn daughter named Neena.
4. Mr. & Mrs. Stanly George welcomed a newborn daughter named Nekha Elina George.

Yuvajana Sakhyam Membership Renewal

Yuvajana Sakhyam is renewing the membership for this year. The registration fee is \$5 per person.

The last date for submitting the membership application is September 1, 2010
Please contact Achen / Secretary for details and membership form.

Southwest Regional Yuvajana Sakhyam Conference

September 11, 2010

Sehion Marthoma church, Dallas

Yuvajana Sakhyam members who are interested in participating in the Southwest regional group song competition may need to register their name with Ligi Skariah, or Secretary.

Laity Duties

	Worship Service Assistant	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Prayer
Sept 5 <i>Manna</i>				
Sept 12 <i>Agape</i>				
Sept 19 <i>Shalom</i>				
Sept 26 <i>Ebenezer</i>				

Lectionary/Worship Information

Sunday, September 5, 2010 - (Holy Qurbana - English)

Jesus the Great Teacher - Education Day
(15th Sunday after Pentecost)

Lesson 1: Prov.4:1-19

Epistle: Col. 1:24-29

Lesson 2: Acts.22:1-15

Gospel: Mat.11:25-30

Sunday, September 12, 2010 - (Holy Qurbana - Malayalam)

Women - Called to witness and to Serve
Sevika Sangham Day

Lesson 1: Prov. 31: 10-31

Epistle: 2 Tim. 1:1-8

Lesson 2: Acts. 16:11-15

Gospel: Luke. 10:25-30

Sunday, September 19, 2010 - (Holy Qurbana—English)

Honor the Elder Generation - Senior Citizens Day
(17th Sunday after Pentecost)

Lesson 1: Gen. 47:1-12

Epistle: Eph.6:1-9

Lesson 2: 1 Tim. 5:1-10

Gospel: Mark. 7:6-16

Sunday, September 26, 2010 - (Holy Qurbana - Malayalam)

Imitate Christ (18th Sunday after Pentecost)

Lesson 1: 1 Sam. 24:1-15

Epistle: Eph. 6:10-18

Lesson 2: 1 Thes. 4:1-12

Gospel: Mat. 5:38-48

Regional Sunday School Competitions

Venue: St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church, Dallas

Date: Saturday, September 25, 2010

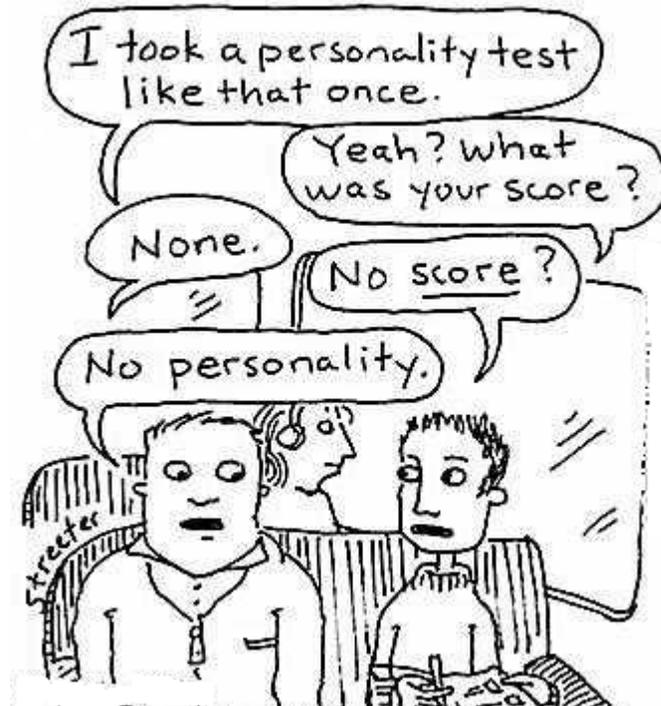
Center Sevika Sangam Meeting

Venue: Carrollton Mar Thoma Church, Dallas

Date: Saturday, September 4, 2010

Youth Chaplain's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



How do you feel about yourself? Are you confident? Or do you sometimes feel overly self-conscious? How do you define your personality?

The process of personality development is a most complex experience that affects the direction of one's growth and progress physically, socially, mentally and spiritually. Thus, it is very important to develop a clearer understanding of who you truly are in relation to God, community and the world.

The way people feel about themselves and others is reflected in their chosen "life position". In the famous psychological theory, Transactional Analysis, four life positions or personality states are considered:

1. I'm OK – You're Ok: Basically, this is the position of trust that all individuals possess initially in life. This is the optimal position that enables one to develop a positive personality.
2. I'm OK – You're Not OK: This is often considered to be a paranoid position and it is suggested that evolves as a reaction to feelings of I'm Not OK. Thus, it is very hard for such people to be objective about themselves or others.
3. I'm Not OK- You're OK: This is sometimes understood to be the most commonly found among individuals. The people who adopt this position are constantly feeling unworthy. The constant need to please others often leads to a productive but unhappy life. Because of the constant pressure, this position may sometimes lead to depression.

4. I'm Not Ok –You're Not OK: This is the helpless position and is often adopted by rejected children. These people have a hopeless outlook on life and live only on a day-to-day basis.

Thus, it is absolutely essential that we understand ourselves, our life position and work to achieve a psycho-social balance in every aspect of our life, if we are to be effective Christian witnesses.

Throughout the Scripture, we find numerous instances of how Christ raised the weak, hopeless and needy to a life position of "I'm OK – You're OK". For example, in the gospel of St. John 5:6-9, it reads: "When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, 'Do you want to be made well?'. 'Sir' the invalid replied, 'I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.'" In the very depths of his hopelessness, Christ came to Him and made a way for him to be restored to the full potential and purpose for which He gave him life.

We may have or may be going through various and painful experiences that have directed us along a path which is not necessarily the will of God. However, be strong and understand that Christ is near and is calling you to "Get up!" and walk the path of "I'm Ok – You're OK" in order to greater fulfill His purposes for your life.

May God Almighty strengthen us all become his witnesses in all things!
Your brother in Christ,

Jaisen Achen
C- 214-604-6678
revjathomas@yahoo.com

Church Organizational Activities

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Regular classes at 8.45am.

SEVIKA SANGHAM:

TBD

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP:

Tuesdays - Bible Study with Rev. Jaisen Thomas

Thursdays - Prayer Call

Fridays - Prayer Fellowship -

YUVAJANA SAKHYAM:

TBD

PARISH MISSION:

Fridays at 7pm - Bible Study/Prayer fellowships at the Church.

Sundays at 9-9:30am - Intercessory Prayer

CHOIR:

Sundays - Practice sessions after Holy Qurbana.

BIRTHDAYS

1-Sep	Reema Thomas	Mesquite
7-Sep	Fiona Cherian	Garland
11-Sep	Richie Philip	Grand Prarie
12-Sep	Nancy Varghese	Garland
13-Sep	Kurian Baby	Rockwall
13-Sep	Lizy John	Mesquite
15-Sep	Leah Susan Binu	Mesquite
15-Sep	Mariamamma Sam	Sunnyvale
16-Sep	Elizabeth Ipe	Garland
16-Sep	Happy George	Mesquite
16-Sep	Jessey John	Mesquite
16-Sep	Joseph Abraham	Mesquite
17-Sep	Biju Varghese	Dallas
20-Sep	Philip Vattachakkal	Mesquite
21-Sep	Grace Mathew	Mesquite
24-Sep	Mercy Abraham	Garland
25-Sep	Asha A. Varghese	Mesquite

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

8-Sep	Mr. & Mr.s Aby Thomas	Mesquite
14-Sep	Mr. & Mrs. Johnkutty Mathai	Mesquite
14-Sep	Dr. & Mrs. Mohan Philip	Rockwall
17-Sep	Mr. & Mrs. Biju Varghese	Dallas
17-Sep	Mr. & Mrs. Stanly J George	Mesquite
28-Sep	Mr. & Mrs. Philip Thomas	Mesquite