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**ARTICLES NEEDED!**

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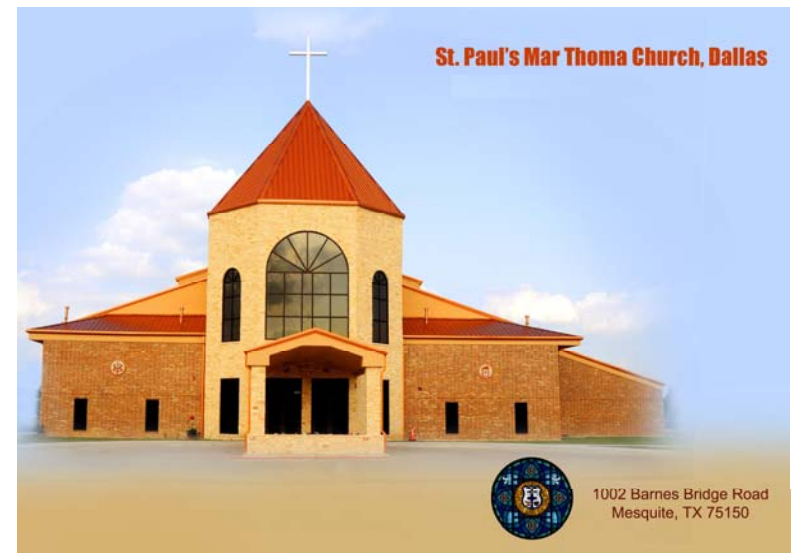


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**St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church**  
1002 Barnes Bridge Rd.  
Mesquite, TX 75150

# THE EPISTLE

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION**



**May 2014**



*Lectionary/Worship Information*

<p><b>Sunday, May 4, 2014</b>                  Invitation to Christ's Hospitality                  (2nd Sunday after Easter)</p>	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Gen.18:1-10	<b>Epistle:</b> Heb.13:1-8
<b>Lesson 2:</b> Rom.12:9-16	<b>Gospel:</b> John.21:1-14
<p><b>Sunday, May 11, 2014</b>                  Communion with Risen Christ in daily life                  (3rd Sunday after Easter)</p>	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Exo.40:34-38	<b>Epistle:</b> Phil.3:8-16
<b>Lesson 2:</b> 2 Tim.2:1-13	<b>Gospel:</b> Luke.24:13-33
<p><b>Sunday, May 18, 2014</b>                  Christ the Way, Truth and Life                  (4th Sunday after Easter)</p>	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Exo.14:10-20	<b>Lesson 3:</b> 1 John.1:1-10
<b>Lesson 2:</b> Acts.16:19-34	<b>Gospel:</b> John.14:1-7
<p><b>Sunday, May 25, 2014</b>                  DSMC Sunday                  Mission as sharing Christ</p>	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Micah.4:1-7	<b>Lesson 4:</b> Phil.4:4-9
<b>Lesson 2:</b> 1 John.5:1-12	<b>Gospel:</b> Luke.24:36-49

## *Organizational Activities*

### **Church**

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 5S on Saturday, 05/17

### **Sevika Sangham**

Sevika Sangham bake sale on Sunday, 05/04.

### **Sunday School**

Diocesan Exam on Sunday, 05/04.

Annual Competition on Saturday, 05/10.

### **Yuvajana Sakhyam**

Yuvajana Sakhyam Cottage Fellowship at the residence of Mr. & Mrs.  
Sibu Joseph & Thara Joseph on Saturday, 05/10 at 6:30 pm.

Yuvajana Sakhyam prayer meeting at church on Sunday, 05/18.

## *Prayer*

### **Manna Prayer Fellowship**

Residence of Mr. & Mrs. James Mepurathu & Leelamma on  
Sunday, 05/04 at 6:00 pm.

## **MESSAGE FROM VICAR**



*Dearly Beloved in Christ,*

Resurrection is the basis and the basic teaching of Christianity. The resurrection of Jesus made The Way of Jesus to sustain and to grow even after His Crucifixion. Jesus was crucified by the Jewish authorities to make an end to the work of Jesus. But he was resurrected on the third day and he is still alive.

The resurrection of Jesus has freed humanity from the fear of death. Christianity is founded on the fact that Jesus Christ died and rose again from the dead. As Jesus rose again from the dead, He triumphed over Sin, Death and Devil. Apostle Paul in his letter, 1 Corinthians:15:26 says "The last enemy to be destroyed is death" Verses 54-57 says "When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true, "Death has been swallowed up in victory. "Where, O Death, is your victory? Where O death is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ"

The resurrection of Jesus gives an assurance that death is not the end of life. We will have a life after death through resurrection. In 1 Corinthian 15: 16-19 " For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sin. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

Bible invites the followers of Christ to have a resurrection experience and to be a witness to it. The resurrection of Christ becomes real to us only when we undergo the experience of being risen with Christ. In Collossian:3:1 and 2, Apostle Paul says, " If you have been risen with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

The real proof of the resurrection today is not the empty tomb or the post-resurrection appearances, but the living testimony of the Christians.

Let us walk with the Man of Nazareth who walked and talked with his two disciples after his resurrection on the way to Emmaus to face the realities of our future life

Wish you all an abundant life through the Resurrection experience.

Rev.O.C.Kurian.

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**Bible Quiz**  
**-By Mariam Chacko**

1. How God has taken pity on us and given us a Robe of Righteousness?
2. For whose sake, the ground was cursed?
3. Was there any punishment to the woman for being first in the transgression?
4. Why did Adam name his wife Eve?
5. What is the meaning of the name Cain?
6. Will God receive us in any other way than the way he has appointed?
7. What did John the Baptist say about Jesus?
8. Did God in mercy mitigate Cain's punishment?
9. Is there a day of reckoning coming?
10. What was the purpose of Jesus coming to this world?

**Answers:**

1. Isa. 61:10
2. Gen 3:17
3. Yes, personal suffering
4. Gen. 3:20
5. Gen. 4:1-2 (got or obtained)
6. John 14:6
7. John 1:29
8. Gen. 4:15
9. Heb. 9:27
10. John 3:16-17

<b>WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES</b>		
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4-May	Mr. & Mrs. James Mepurath	Sunnyvale
9-May	Mr. & Mrs. Varghese Alexander	Fate
9-May	Mr. & Mrs. George P.C.	Mesquite
17-May	Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Kurien	Mesquite
17-May	Mr. & Mrs. Mathewkutty Geevarghese	Mesquite
18-May	Mr. & Mrs. Saji P. George	Sunnyvale
18-May	Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Johnkutty	Mesquite
22-May	Mr. & Mrs. Jiju Thomas	Mesquite
23-May	Mr. & Mrs. Thomaskutty Thomas	Garland
23-May	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mathew(Valsan)	Mesquite
25-May	Mr. & Mrs. Rubin Thomas	
28-May	Mr. & Mrs. John Thomas	Garland
30-May	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Thomas	Garland

## BIRTHDAYS

1-May	Rev. Biju P Simon	Garland	21-May	Liana Cherian	Garland
2-May	Asha Abraham	Mesquite	22-May	Abraham N.V.	Mesquite
2-May	Alwin Thomas	Garland	22-May	Princey Varghese	Garland
2-May	Julie Vincent	Mesquite	23-May	Dr. Vinu Ipe	Garland
03-May	Shibu Chacko	Garland	24-May	Sam Koshy	Garland
4-May	Nisha Jacob	Garland	24-May	Susheela Thomas	Mesquite
5-May	Stanley Varghese	Garland	25-May	Anupa Zachariah	Garland
7-May	Leelamma Mammen	Rockwall	25-May	Hanna M.John	Garland
8-May	Janse John	Mesquite	25-May	Alex Koshy	Garland
8-May	John Thomas	Garland	26-May	Chacko T. Oommen	Garland
8-May	M.M.Mathai	Sunnyvale	27-May	Salomi Chacko	Garland
10-May	George C.George	McKinney	27-May	Thomas George	Rockwall
10-May	P.V.George	Sunnyvale	28-May	Babu Mathew	Rockwall
12-May	Phil Mathew	Sunnyvale	28-May	Gemini Mathew	Sunnyvale
12-May	Amalea Edison	Garland	28-May	Mini John	Mesquite
13-May	Ancil Mathew	Sunnyvale	28-May	Philipose M.V.	Dallas
13-May	Vinod Cherian	Garland	28-May	Arun Joel Alex	
13-May	Tiny Thomas	Mesquite	29-May	Mathew Kurien	Mesquite
13-May	John Yohannan	Mesquite	29-May	Aadish Rajith	
15-May	Allen Mathew	Garland	30-May	Abraham Koshy	Mesquite
15-May	Janet Philip	Rockwall	30-May	Podiyamma Johnkutty	Mesquite
15-May	Melvin Idikulla	Garland	30-May	Rajankunju C. George	Sunnyvale
15-May	Miriam Easo	Mesquite	30-May	Sherly K Jacob	Mesquite
16-May	Abraham Mepurath	Mesquite	30-May	Susan Sunny	Sunnyvale
16-May	Asha Thomas	Garland	30-May	Raji Alex	
18-May	Thomas Koshy	Mesquite	31-May	Babu John	Mesquite
19-May	Mathai Abraham	Mesquite	31-May	Laly Abraham	Mesquite
20-May	Jezy R. Chacko	Rowlett	31-May	Philip P.S.	Rockwall
20-May	Kurien Easo	Sunnyvale	31-May	Bincy Toby	Mesquite
20-May	Susamma Varghese	Garland	31-May	Alex Abraham	
20-May	Soma Philip	Sunnyvale			
21-May	Leelamma Jacob	Garland			

## Youth Chaplain's Message

### THE MIND – THE SEAT OF BATTLEFIELD

The complex setting of any personality is one's mind. Even though we say that seat of all emotions is heart and we comply heart to feel the way we want after we feed the mind with positive or negative emotions.

**Emotional Battle- In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? Luke- 24:5.,** Disciples of Jesus went through this battle to believe or not what women said after they came back and told about empty tomb. Searching for alive among dead was the mind set of disciples. The fear of being lost, lack of identity and sense of displaced community forced many of them to go in search of different avenues and few remained within closed doors (mind) fear generated by their lack of faith.

**Social conformation-**Peter and other few went back to their old business for they wanted to be accepted and to be part of confirmed social patterns. **For every negation is an affirmation and every affirmation is a negation.** Many a time **cognizance** battle is for social affirmation. What we wear, eat and drink is always analyzed by our brain and finally sealed with emotions. For many worship is more of a gratification feeding our emotions or an alternate way to appease our battle of guilt. We end up following patterns that gives us false sense of security or fear being alienated if not followed.

Have we ever thought why we do things that world wants to do

**For personal Recognition and love**  
**A sense of Victory (pride)**  
**A sense of Individualism (I not we)**  
**A false sense of Restoration**

#### **Unchurched Diaspora Community -**

Knowingly or unknowing we have infused the above sense of self-gratification into our righteous religiosity when we come to worship not in awe but to set patterns of worship or to create a trend to worship more pleasing to our emotions but fail to deal with the real problem of reality we all go through.

Certain ideologies and practices are accepted into religious realm without any scrutiny. We are many time like disciples who took the road to Emmaus after being with Jesus and his teachings left him and walked a different way of spirituality being influenced by social settings. **We call ourselves to be a Diaspora community and so was the people of Israel for long time, we need to understand the factors and implications that shook the community in journey. The sense to understand the signs and implication**

of accepting everything without reading it under the umbrella of faith may prove to be a challenge to the church. When Easter egg and Easter Bunny paved way into western churches did church study the implications and practices that were part of fertility month and symbol of fertility? To make faith appealing we need not trade it

**De churched to Church**

*When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Luke 24:30*

It was when Jesus started to walk with them in their journey of faith and opened their mind and heart with the word of God and Table fellowship they realized their mistake. It's the duty of the church to understand the factors that DECHURCHED people and younger generations. Jesus walked them through the Word of God Repeated and reaffirmed the faith and its fulfillment, For Jesus it was fellowship of restoration and assurance through Ordinary Bread when Jesus broke it and gave it to his disciples it opened their eyes. He shared his testimony, tradition and resurrection.

Are we able to share?

**Obliged always  
Yours in Christ  
Rev. George Jacob and family**

**Upcoming Events for Youth**

Dallas Area Youth Meeting @ MTC Farmers Branch on 25th Friday 7pm

Southwest Regional Youth Fellowship Tournament July 25th-27th  
Hosted -St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church Dallas

Regular Bible Studies @ Respective Churches

**“അമ്മ” (Mother’s Day)**

പുഴയ്ക്കു പോലെ പാറി പരന്നങ്ങു പണ്ടങ്ങോ നടന്നതാം പെൺകുട്ടി കൗമാരപ്രായമോ പിന്നിട്ടതറിയില്ല പിന്നെയോ സ്ത്രീ എന്ന വാക്കിനുമുമ്പായ സ്ത്രീയുടെ ജീവിതം ധന്യമായ തീരുവാൻ അമ്മയായ തീരണം. ജീവിതത്തോണിയിൽ അതരം രണ്ടാകിലും അരിമോ ഏറെയല്ലോ അളക്കുവാനാവില്ല അമ്മ തൻ ജീവിതം അമ്മയായ തീരുമ്പോൾ മാത്രമാണറിയുക എങ്ങനെ വർത്തിക്കും അമ്മ തൻ സ്നേഹത്തെ ഏറിയ ഭാരങ്ങൾ പേറുന്ന മനസ്സായ നിലക്കാരെ ചലിക്കുന്ന യന്ത്രമാണമ്മ അലിയുന്ന മനസ്സിന്റെ ഉടമയാണമ്മ ജാഗ്രതയേറിയ കാവൽക്കാരിയാണമ്മ അമ്മ തൻ ഉള്ളിലും ജലിക്കുമേ കോപം പെട്ടന്നങ്ങനെയും അമ്മയേൽ മാരി പോൽ മക്കളോ മരന്നിടും അമ്മ തൻ കോപത്തെ മാറോടണച്ചൊരു ചുംബനമേകുമ്പോൾ മക്കളെ വളർത്തുവാൻ ഏറെ കൊതിച്ചവർ തന്നുടെ ജീവിതം പലപ്പോഴും മറക്കുന്നു മക്കളോ തന്നോളമാകുമ്പോഴുമ്മയേക്കാ ജീവിതം ധന്യമായെന്നൊരു തോന്നലും മനസ്സിനു വേദന ഏറുമ്പോഴൊക്കെയും മുട്ടിപ്പോൽ നിന്നങ്ങു രഹസ്യമായ കേഴുന്നു പരസ്യമായ പങ്കിടുവാനാവാത്ത വേദന ദൈവത്തിൻ കരങ്ങളിലർപ്പിക്കുമമ്മമാർ മക്കൾക്കായ് കർമ്മീർ തുകുമ്പോഴൊക്കെയും ദൈവത്തിൻ ഹൃദയമോ കനിവാൽ നിറപ്പിടും നൽകിടും ഫലമേറും മക്കളെ അമ്മയ്ക്ക് ജീവിതത്തോണിയിൽ ഓളങ്ങളേറുമ്പോൾ പ്രാർത്ഥന പങ്കായമാക്കിടും അമ്മമാർ അമരത്തിരിക്കും ദൈവത്തിൻ സ്നേഹമോ മുങ്ങാതെ എത്തിക്കും തോണിയെ അക്കരെ സ്ത്രീയുടെ ജീവിതം ധന്യമായ തീരുവാൻ അമ്മയായ തീരണം. ജീവിതത്തോണിയിൽ

-Lizy Philip