

**ST. PAUL'S MAR THOMA CHURCH**  
1002 BARNES BRIDGE RD.  
MESQUITE, TX 75150

Phone: 972 613 9080

PARSONAGE ADDRESS

5906 BLUE OAK DRIVE  
GARLAND, TX 75043  
972 226 0976

**ARTICLES NEEDED!**

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

**WE'RE ON THE  
WEB!**

**WWW.STPAULSMTC.ORG**

PRESIDENT  
REV. O. C. KURIAN

VICE PRESIDENT  
MR. RAJU VARGHESE

SECRETARY  
MR. SAJI GEORGE

TREASURER  
MR. KOSHY THOMAS

ACCOUNTANT  
MR. MATHEWKUTTY GEEVARGHESE

LAY LEADERS  
MR. RAJANKUNJU CHIRAYIL  
MR. JUSTIN MATHEW

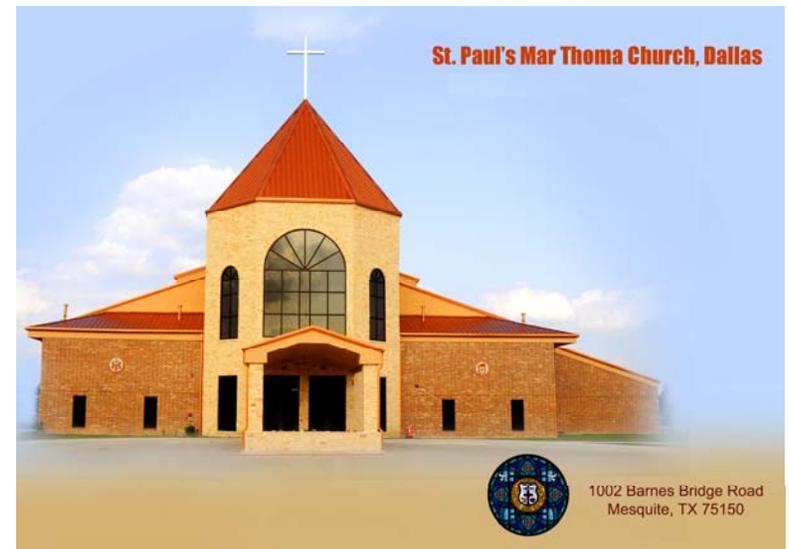


*Published by Sub-committee for Communications of St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church, Dallas*

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

# THE EPISTLE

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION**



**October 2014**



**MESSAGE FROM VICAR**



*Dearly Beloved in Christ,*

Greetings in the loving name of our Lord Jesus Christ. The month of October has arrived. It is the Fall Season. The fall of weather from Hot season to hot climate. The trees are colorful and get ready to adjust with the cold Winter. All the leaves fall down and for few months it will be without any leaves. This reminds us the need of preparation to face tomorrow. Rather than worrying too much about the given situations we need to be prepared to live tomorrow.

Sundays in the month of October, Each Sunday is set apart for different organizations.

October 5th Sunday is Voluntary Evangelists Day. This reminds of witness of the People Of God. Each Marthomite is bestowed with the responsibility to bear testimony for Christ along with their appointed job.

October 12th is Day for Mentally And Physically Challenged And Palliative Patients. This day reminds us that Church has a responsibility to have a special concern for the Physically and Mentally weak.

October 19th is Youth Sunday. Thought for the day is Eternal Life. The experience of Eternal Life makes life meaningful and life abundant. The Youths should be able to communicate this experience to the world.

October 26th is Family Sunday. Family is one of the oldest institution of the society and is as old as humanity itself. Family is the basic unit of the Church and Society. The inter relationship with family members and the very atmosphere of the family has far reaching consequences in the life of its members. Children born and brought up in a family will grow up with what they see and experience in their family.

God designs every family He must be at the center of each human family. Unity within the family crumbles when God is taken away from the family and from the different spheres of life. Every family finds the end and meaning of family life by living in communion with God through prayer, and the study of the word of God.

Family rests on relationships as well. A group of people living under the same roof will not comprise a family. The Family set up becomes real when members relate to each other and they play different roles as determined and given to them by God.

Dr. Gee Varghese Mar Theodosius, in his book, Churching the Diaspora Disciplining the Family, says, "Relationships are the cradle in to Which each child is born. It is relationships that give dignity and respect for each person in the family and also for the person to play different roles. Love is the binding factor." All relationships are God given, there fore they are divine. They are to be maintained as it is in relationships that human life grows and carries out its purpose.

Pray to God that we all may have a healthy family life and a Blessed Generation.

Rev.O.C.Kurian.  
 Email: [revockurian@hotmail.com](mailto:revockurian@hotmail.com)  
 Ph: 469-964-7494

*Lectionary/Worship Information*

<b>Sunday, October 5, 2014</b> Witness of the People of God (Voluntary Evangelists Day)	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Amos.7:10-17	<b>Epistle:</b> 1 Thes. 4:1-8
<b>Lesson 2:</b> 1 Pet.2:1-10	<b>Gospel:</b> Luke 10:30-37
<b>Sunday, October 12, 2014</b> Accept the difference of God's Creation / Day for mentally and physically challenged and palliative	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Isa. 42:16-20	<b>Epistle:</b> 2 Cor. 12:1-10
<b>Lesson 2:</b> Acts 3:1-10	<b>Gospel:</b> John 5:1-9
<b>Sunday, October 19, 2014</b> Spirituality of Youth in the modern age Youth Sunday	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Gen. 41:37-43	<b>Epistle:</b> 1 Tim. 4:7-16
<b>Lesson 2:</b> Phil. 3:1-16	<b>Gospel:</b> Luke 10:25-28
<b>Sunday, October 26, 2014</b> Faith that has to be formulated in family. Family Sunday	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Josh. 24:14-22	<b>Epistle:</b> Eph. 3:14-21
<b>Lesson 2:</b> Titus 2:1-8	<b>Gospel:</b> Luke 19:1-10

## BIRTHDAYS

1-Oct	Philip Samuel	Manna	18-Oct	Jim K Jacob	Ebenezer
1-Oct	Thomaskutty Thomas	Agape	19-Oct	Jojoy Koshy	Manna
3-Oct	Suja J Thomas	Agape	20-Oct	Ammini Kuruvilla	Agape
4-Oct	Mollykutty Koshy	Manna	21-Oct	Lillykutty Mathew	Manna
4-Oct	Teena Thomas	Ebenezer	22-Oct	Alice Simon	Agape
5-Oct	Aby Thomas	Ebenezer	22-Oct	Angela Abraham	Ebenezer
5-Oct	Idiculla Mathew	Agape	22-Oct	Anney Thomas	Manna
5-Oct	James Mepurath	Manna	22-Oct	Varghese K. Mathew	Shalom
7-Oct	Ashlen Abraham	Ebenezer	24-Oct	Anne George	Manna
7-Oct	Daliya Edison	Manna	25-Oct	Niya Mariam George	Emmanuel
7-Oct	Saramma Abraham	Ebenezer	25-Oct	Joy Jacob	Shalom
8-Oct	Mary Thomas	Shalom	26-Oct	Anney Abey	Emmanuel
10-Oct	Dimple Roby Chelagiri	Emmanuel	26-Oct	Jonathan Mathew	Manna
10-Oct	Jotham Babu Simon	Agape	26-Oct	Thomas Varghese	Emmanuel
10-Oct	Asher John Edison	Manna	27-Oct	Elizabeth Abraham	Agape
13-Oct	Sunny K John	Manna	27-Oct	Jacob Abraham	Agape
14-Oct	Nathan Abraham	Agape	27-Oct	Lydia Philip	Manna
14-Oct	Kevin Cherian	Manna	27-Oct	Ethan Philip	Agape
15-Oct	Susan John	Agape	28-Oct	Alwin Mathew	Shalom
17-Oct	Jerril Raju	Manna	28-Oct	Sarah M. George	Agape
			29-Oct	Joshua Skariah	Agape

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

8-Oct	Mr. & Mrs. Toby Philip	Ebenezer
11-Oct	Mr. & Mrs. Rajith K M	Agape
16-Oct	Mr. & Mrs. Baby Mathai	Agape
22-Oct	Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Thomas	Ebenezer
22-Oct	Mr. & Mrs. Mathai Abraham	Ebenezer
25-Oct	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph George	Agape

## Supernatural Blessings

*-By Mariam Chacko*

In the book of Ecclesiastes (Ch. 11:1) the author, presumably, King Solomon says that “cast thy bread upon the water, for thou shalt find it after many days.” When we ponder about it, it sounds like a puzzle. In my younger days, I felt that way. After studying the Bible carefully while growing up, God gave me more wisdom to understand His words.

God’s Law of Financial Harvests, (i.e. sowing and reaping) are not seasonal. If we plant year round, we will receive year round. Of course it is not automatic. There is a waiting period. If we apply this fact to the above topic, we will continually cast our bread on the water, eventually it will come on every wave. Most people are happy to receive rather than giving. They stand on the beach and saying, “I wonder where my prosperity is? As soon as it comes in, I’ll start giving.” God’s economy will not work in that way. He said, “give, it will be given to you again.” The way you measure it, it shall be measure back to you.” (Luke 6:38). If we are giving doubt, unbelief, and fear, that’s what we are getting back. If we are giving nothing, then nothing is coming back.

We are holding the seeds of our own future in our hands. Step out in faith and use them to put the supernatural cycle of blessing in motion. We have to plant one good seed at a time and subsequently the rest. Eventually, we will enjoy a Good Harvest, every single day.

## *Youth Chaplain's Message*

### **CORPORAL WORSHIP**

12 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. Romans 12:1

What's our attitude in regard to our worship and church service? It has been ongoing discussion that we need to change and incorporate and leave out things that are old. We are so influenced by the present form of worship where things are limited and catered to the few and run by a few. Have we ever thought the benefits traditional worship and ever pondered when, how and why new intellectuals challenged corporal traditional worship. I do agree that praise and worship, bible study groups, college and university bible study groups are very important they are the buffer zones encouraging students to move on in their faith. We need to know that traditional mindset of gathering is now challenged in new sociological set up under free mind and worship privacy and space. Today's new concept of the capsule form of worship, instant salvation and abridged bible and liturgy are attempting to satisfy the new worshippers. Our faith understanding should empower to have a matured outlook towards our attitude towards worship. Some of the questions we ask do we need to be formal or can it not be casual.

**The Discipline of Corporal Worship-** Attending worship and being part of a family called the church is important for better family relations and praying together holds the family together. It's through worship, we come know each other, share each other's pain and feel the presence of God. Jesus worshipped with his family and friends kept all the tradition attended small prayer groups and followed it. Jesus did have his friends and mission group, but never broke away from the main stream or tradition as taught, he went to Jerusalem and followed the traditions and set patterns. He did challenge when things were not interpreted right manner or when humanity was negated. We need to understand that there is a difference between church and groups. The ordered form of worship and symbols are used to identify and commemorate the Church's journey with Christ. **Replacement theory for church gathering** or attending church should more than to "punch ones ticket "

**The Blessings of Corporal Worship-** To understand worship, we need to define it, some may say we are glorifying God and it could be anywhere and everywhere and that's what true Christians are called for. With the onset of individualism and lesser concern for others rather than on mission day or mission trip or outreach leaving your own home in disorder with no time to spare with church elder parents and dear ones we stretch our hands to help others, we all have is banner Christian outreach. We fail to understand family Church worship is more than language, its more than a multigenerational gathering of strong faith experiences expressed in

breaking of bread and sharing of the cup, corporal Chanting and kiss of peace. It's all reflected in our objectivity of our worship, for he knows our inner thoughts and when we move away from it for new theological interpretations or identifying with some groups or fearing of not being accepted in groups or to be left out, me and you need to think twice before you replace your worshipping community. Its a great blessing to be owned and loved and overseen and guided under ordained priest for spiritual edification and growth. To walk away under the pretext that I am not being fed or taken care for own spiritual gratification other than God ordained and purchased Body of Christ called the Church. We are walking away from the Spiritual experience of a community, we negate their God Given Experiences, synchronization of our faith new trends should be cautious for once imbibed may unknowingly become part of our faith. It's our responsibility to teach our Children and youth the importance of Corporal Worship and why it's called CHURCH AND NOT A GROUP AND THERE IS NO REPLACEMENT FOR CORPORAL WORSHIP

GEORGEACHEN

## *Organizational Activities*

### **Church**

Family Sunday, 10/26

### **Sevika Sangham & Parish Mission**

National Conference – Thursday – Sunday, 10/02 – 10/05

Bake Sale – Sunday, 10/12

### **Young Couple Fellowship**

Kick off Meeting at– Sunday, 10/05

### **Youth Fellowship**

Youth Fellowship Sunday – 10/12

### **Senior Citizens**

National Conference in Detroit, Michigan – 10/16 – 10/18

### **Prayer Fellowships**

Shalom Prayer Fellowship: Sunday, 10/05 @ the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mathew (*Valsan*) & Alice.