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

# THE EPISTLE

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION**



**March 2015**





## BIRTHDAYS

1-Mar	Tony Easo	Sunnyvale	15-Mar	Mary John	Mesquite
3-Mar	Sonia Alexander	Fate	16-Mar	Rachel Philip	Rockwall
3-Mar	Shibu Chacko	Garland	17-Mar	Anil Mathew	Sunnyvale
4-Mar	Nisha Mary Koshy	Garland	18-Mar	Joseph George	Garland
6-Mar	Binu Tharian	Mesquite	20-Mar	Leena G. Panicker	Mesquite
7-Mar	Shiju Mathew	Garland	21-Mar	Anjali M. Varghese	Sunnyvale
8-Mar	Grace Varghese	Rockwall	21-Mar	Geevarghese Mathew	Garland
8-Mar	Saramma Mathewkutty	Garland	21-Mar	Justin Mathew	Rowlett
9-Mar	Alice Raju	Sunnyvale	21-Mar	Mathews Idiculla	Garland
9-Mar	Viju Varghese	Sunnyvale	23-Mar	Stanly Johns George	Rockwall
9-Mar	Shibu Mathai	Garland	23-Mar	Stephy Abraham	Garland
10-Mar	Blessy Jacob	Garland	24-Mar	Ligi Babu	Garland
10-Mar	Gracey John	Garland	24-Mar	Abraham Thomas	Mesquite
11-Mar	Minnie Mathew	Plano	25-Mar	Jamie K. Jacob	Mesquite
11-Mar	Smitha Stanley	Rockwall	26-Mar	Daniel Raju	Mesquite
11-Mar	Alice George	Garland	26-Mar	David Raju	Mesquite
12-Mar	Thomas Mathew	Plano	27-Mar	Alvin Manu Varghese	Garland
12-Mar	Sarah Lilly Philip	Rockwall	30-Mar	Christine Koshy	Sunnyvale
13-Mar	Crystal Rajan	Sunnyvale	30-Mar	Sheena P John	Garland
15-Mar	Ajith Cherian	Garland			

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. Raju Mathew	Rowlett
3-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. Sunil K. Abraham	Garland
5-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. Chandy Jacob	Mesquite
9-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. John Oommen	Garland
15-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. Phil Mathew	Sunnyvale
30-Mar	Mr. & Mrs. Bassy Philip	Grand Prairie

## MESSAGE FROM VICAR



*Dearly Beloved in Christ,*

Loving Greetings in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, in whose honor we keep great Lent. Great Lent is the days set apart by the Eastern Churches for spiritual renewal. Usually Mar Thoma Church arranges the Maramon Convention to finish on the Sunday on which the Lent begins. At the Convention people gather to hear the Word of God.

For eight days it is the festival of the Word of God. Hearing and the contemplation of the Word of God leads to repentance and renewal in Christian life. By keeping Lent a believer has to be lead forward in the way of sanctification and reconciliation. True Christian Life meant right relationship with God and a good relationship in the Community life. Christian Religion itself is a way of relationship.

The Scripture portions especially the gospel portions on Sundays of the lent days except the first and the Hosanna Sunday are the portions Jesus healing the sick with incurable diseases.

The first Sunday of the Lent the Gospel portion is John 2:1-11. Jesus transforms water in to wine at the marriage of Cana, which denotes the transformation of the creation. Encounter with Christ transforms lives to higher qualitative level.

The second Sunday the gospel portion is Matthew 8:1-4. Jesus touches the untouchable, 'A man with leprosy came and knelt before Jesus and said, " If you are willing you can cleanse me'. In those days leprosy was considered as incurable and contagious. A leper was considered to be unclean. So he had to announce unclean while he walk on the ways. Jesus healed him by an affectionate touch.

The Gospel for third Sunday is Luke 5:17-26. Life restoring faith. Four men came to Jesus carrying a paralytic and brought down near him from the roof through the tiles due to the crowd. When Jesus saw their faith , he said, "Friend your sins are forgiven." and told to him to get up and take his mat and go home. Immediately he stood up and went home with the mat on which he was lying for years, amazing everyone stood around.

Fourth Sunday gospel portion is Mark 7:24-30. Prayer without ceasing. Jesus healed the daughter of the Syro Phoenician woman, Who was demon possessed, because of the mothers persuading prayer.

Fifth Sunday, Luke:13:10-17.The true worship that liberates. Jesus healed a crippled woman for eighteen years.

The sixth Sunday gospel portion is Luke 18:35-43. Jesus healed the blind beggar, sat on the side of the Jericho- Jerusalem road. he cried for sight, which Jesus granted him, in gratitude he followed Jesus.

In all the five Sundays of the seven week in the Lent the Gospel portions are of Jesus healing. This gives us a great and important message that if you draw near to God in the lent days God of Mercy and Grace will heal us in body, mind and spirit. It is our faith and obedience that leads to a wholeness of life.

From the middle of the Lent is from 13th of March, the parish is arranging Sandhya Namaskaram (evening prayers). Request to inform those who wish to have prayers at their homes,

Let us dedicate more time for prayers and meditation to draw nearer to God in this Lent days.  
With prayers for blessings.

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

**READ BIBLE IN A YEAR!**

<http://www.oneyearbibleonline.com>

*Lectionary/Worship Information*

<b>Sunday, March 1, 2015</b> Life Saving Faith (3rd Sunday in Lent)	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> 2 Kings 4:1-7	<b>Epistle:</b> Heb 11:1-12
<b>Lesson 2:</b> Acts 5:12-16	<b>Gospel:</b> Luke 5:17-26
<b>Sunday, March 8, 2015</b> Persistence in Prayer (4th Sunday in Lent)	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> 2 Kings. 20:1-10	<b>Epistle:</b> Jud. 1:17-23
<b>Lesson 2:</b> 1 Thes. 5:12-22	<b>Gospel:</b> Mark 7:24-30
<b>Sunday, March 15, 2015</b> True Worship that Liberates (5th Sunday in Lent)	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Exo. 3:11-18	<b>Epistle:</b> Acts 16:25-34
<b>Lesson 2:</b> Rev. 14:1-7	<b>Gospel:</b> Luke. 13:10-17
<b>Sunday, March 22, 2015</b> A new Vision of the Messianic Age (36th Sunday)	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Deu. 18:15-22	<b>Epistle:</b> 2 Cor. 1:3-11
<b>Lesson 2:</b> 1 Pet. 4:12-19	<b>Gospel:</b> Luke 18:35-43
<b>Sunday, March 29, 2015</b> Hosanna: New King in the Temple (Theological Seminary Day)	
<b>Lesson 1:</b> Isa. 56:1-8	<b>Epistle:</b> 2 Cor. 6:11-17
<b>Lesson 2:</b> 1 Cor. 3:16-23	<b>Gospel:</b> Mat. 21:1-17