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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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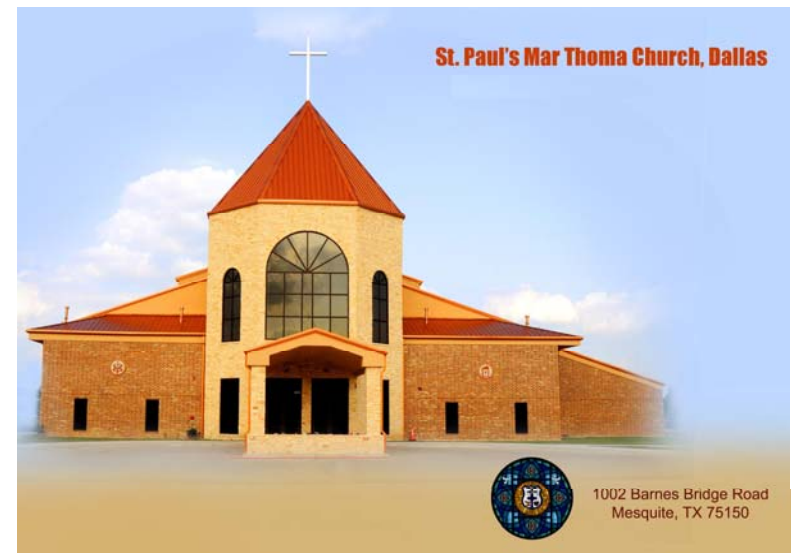


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St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church
1002 Barnes Bridge Rd.
Mesquite, TX 75150

THE EPISTLE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



September 2011





MESSAGE FROM VICAR

In month of September, as the Church we remember three main groups of the population.

1. Students.

1st Sunday is Education Day which is set apart to meditate up on education and to pray for all the students. Our children and youth have entered into a new academic year. God is the source of wisdom and education is our birth right. Education is a process of learning through experiences and practicing in life what we learnt. It is a continuing process and we are in this process till the death. Education is meant for Personality Development which includes Physical, Mental, Emotional and Spiritual intelligence. It means Live for Survival, Learn for Vision, Love for Passion and Leave a Legacy according to the Conscience respectively. Education is a social process in which students, parents, teachers and the society are involved.

2. Women.

2nd Sunday is Sevika Sangam Day and it is set apart to think about the role of women in family, Church and society. Women are mothers who nurture the generations. Mothers are at the place of God for the children. They can nurture the children in faith and human values. Women are equally important as men in God's purpose of creation and they have an important role in the ministry of the Church. Mar Thoma Suvishesha Sevika Sangam was formed in 1919 to enable the women of the Church to participate in Christian mission. We see many women characters in Bible as the role models for our life. There are so many women who influenced the history of the World as rulers of nations, writers and Christian workers.

3. Senior Citizens.

3rd Sunday is set apart as Senior Citizens Day. Today the old aged people increase in number due to the decrease in the birth rate and due to the medical inventions. Old age is a time of diseases, loneliness and alienation. The old age people need care, love, support and respect from others. It is one of the ten commandments to respect the parents to get blessings from God. The old age people should accept the realities of the present context and live with hope and self confidence. They should also live in fellowship and should do service for those who are in same condition. Also this is the time to engage more in Christian ministry and in the Church activities.

May God strengthen us to live a life according to His plan and purpose. As the Church and the parish, let us be a caring, bearing and sharing community. Also let us be a worshipping, witnessing and serving community.

Yours In Christ's service,

A.P.Noble achen.

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Bible Quiz By Mariam Chacko

- 1) What miracle did Prophet Isaiah on the Sundial to confirm that King Hezekiah would be healed?
- 2) What astonishing miracle happened to Daniel's friends in the Court of King Nebuchadnezzar?
- 3) What miracle took place at Prophet Isaiah's tomb?
- 4) How did Prophet Elisha restore a man's axe that fell in the water?
- 5) What happened to Aaron's Rod kept in the Tabernacle?
- 6) How did Korah, Dathan, and Abiram die?
- 7) What were the two signs God had given to Moses to show that he was the chosen leader for the children of Israel?
- 8) What do we learn from the Bible about the end of Enoch?
- 9) What was the supernatural end of Prophet Elijah?
- 10) What celestial wonder took place when Joshua defeated the Amorites?

Answers:

- (1) 2 Kings 20:8-11
- (2) Daniel 3: 13-27
- (3) 2 Kings 13:20-21
- (4) 2 Kings 6:5-7
- (5) Num 17:8
- (6) Num 16:1-33
- (7) Exo 4:1-7
- (8) Gen 5:24
- (9) 1 Kings 2:11
- (10) Josh 10:12-14

Welcome to the new family

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Lectionary/Worship Information

Sunday, September 4, 2011 - (Holy Qurbana - English) Education Day Education for Personality Development	
Lesson 1: Prov. 8:1-14	Epistle: Col. 2:1-7
Lesson 2: James 3:13-18	Gospel: Mark 1:21-28
Sunday, September 11, 2011 - (Holy Qurbana - Malayalam) Sevika Sangam Day Evangelism: Collective Responsibility of Women	
Lesson 1: Prov, 31:10-31	Epistle: 2 Tim 1:1-5
Lesson 2: Acts: 16:6-15	Gospel: John 20:11-18
Sunday, September 18, 2011 - (Holy Qurbana—English) Senior Citizen Day Take Care of the Aged	
Lesson 1: Isa. 40:21-31	Epistle: 1 John 3:1-10
Lesson 2: 1 Tim. 5:1-10	Gospel: Luke 2:25-38
Sunday, September 25, 2011 - (Holy Qurbana - Malayalam) 16th Sunday after the Pentecost Baptism: Union with the body of Christ	
Lesson 1: Exo. 14:15-31	Epistle: Rom. 6:1-11
Lesson 2: 2 Titus. 3:3-8	Gospel: John 3:1-8

Condolences

Mr. John Philip Mepurathu, Sunnyvale (56 years) passed away on 14th Aug. and Funeral service was conducted on 20th Aug. 2011. St. Pauls Mar Thoma Parish conveys its condolence to the grieving family.

Mr. George John, our own Johnkutty uncle, who was 58 years old passed away. Funeral service was conducted on 3rd Sept. 2011. Our sincere condolences to the family. Let's uphold the family in our prayers.

Youth Chaplain's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



“I’m the angel food cake angel. I bring you peace, hope and comfort food.”

“I have no one to help me...” (St. John 5:7). Have you caught yourself saying this? Is hope a reality in your life?

It sometimes seems that when our struggles and trials in life become so great that instead of growing in faith we begin to lose hope. Yet, hope is the very essence of our Christian faith and life. It is this faith that we profess when we proclaim that God sent his only begotten Son Jesus Christ, who died, resurrected, ascended into heaven and will come again to receive His Church. It is this faith in Jesus Christ that must eclipse the darkness of our pain and anxieties. When we lose hope we may go through a process of self-loathing and see our problems as bigger than our God.

In St. John 5:1-10, Jesus meets a man who had been an invalid for 38 years! When Jesus speaks to him, his words reveal that he had lost hope in others, in himself and in everything. In fact, his lack of hope and faith blinded him to see Jesus as God who stood before him. Yet, Jesus demonstrated His power and healed the man by making him to walk and forgiving his sins. That is, what seemed like an insurmountable burden of 38 years was lifted in a matter of seconds! When we are at our lowest state and are losing hope remember that Christ is nearby and is willing to comfort and restore! Trust in Jesus Christ and grow in faith so that our problems do not become greater than our God. He is more than sufficient!

I'd like to share a story of hope I read earlier this week:

“About 20 years ago there was a house near the entrance of our subdivision that kept their Christmas lights burning long after the season was past. They burned through January. Even through the first of February those outside lights burned every night. Finally, about the middle of February I became a bit critical and said, “If I were too lazy to take my Christmas lights down, I think I'd at least turn them off at night”. But about the middle of March there was a sign outside of their

