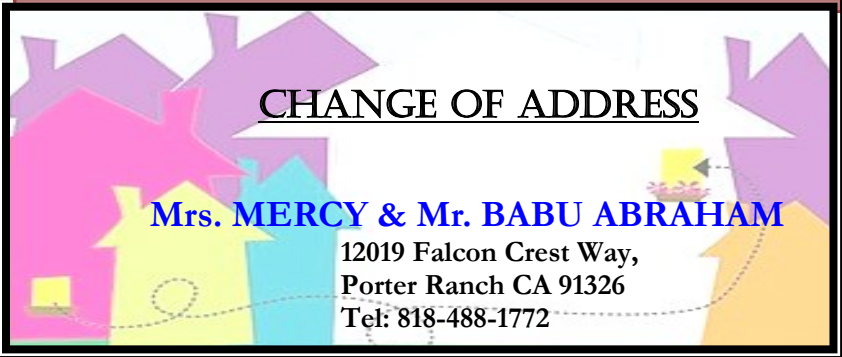


| CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR 2016 | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Date | Event |
| Sat, Dec 5th | South Area House to House Caroling |
| Sat, Dec 12th | East Area House to House Caroling |
| Sun, Dec 13th | North Area House to House Caroling |
| Sat, Dec 19th | Christmas Carol Service at 4:00pm at Church |
| Fri, Dec 25th | Christmas Service Holy Communion at 9:30 am |
| Thu, Dec 31st | Watch Night Service, Holy Communion at 10:00pm |



WELCOME

- Mr. JIBU KURIAN & Mrs. SMITHA RACHEL JOHN**
(Kids: Adeline & Aleena)
 2951 Sienna Heights #2024, Henderson NV 89052
 Tel: 702-385-2200
- Mr. MATHEW KURIAN & Mrs. RANI KURIAN**
(Kids: Grace, Ethan, & Samuel)
 3959 Blue Wave Dr., Las Vegas NV 89115
 Tel: 210-485-4760



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mrs. MERCY & Mr. BABU ABRAHAM
 12019 Falcon Crest Way,
 Porter Ranch CA 91326
 Tel: 818-488-1772




**Talk on
 “SECOND
 COMING OF
 CHRIST”**

Sevika Sanghom One Day Retreat
 Nov 21, 2015

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Vicar’s Message



2015’s last month is December
a time to look back and see what all work pending, what all unattended duties to be finished, what all resolutions still remain unfulfilled,
a time to be grateful for the ways we were lead the past months,
a time to dedicate for living a better life than before ...

As December passes, New Year 2016 will be embracing us. Why wait for a month time to take new resolutions when a new month is at our disposal? Nutritionists remind us that we must have the minimum daily requirements of vitamins and minerals if we are to be physically healthy. December is a month which reminds us of the **UNCONDITIONAL SUBMISSION** of Mother Mary, Joseph and many others to the will of God to fulfill His plan of salvation. Let’s plan a little different this time. Let us resolve to start a good diet for our health that too from the month of celebration, the month of submission, the month to revitalize, month of check-list, etc. The psalmists David in **Psalms 105: 1 – 4** proposes tips to be fit and healthy. Physical fitness depends on spiritual health, so let’s see what suggestions David wants us to do...

The first requirement is **PRAISE**. *“Oh give thanks to the Lord ... Sing to Him, Sing psalms to Him”* (vv. 1, 2). Praise means giving thanks for all that God is, all that He does and all that He shares with us. Praise is rejoicing in the presence of the Lord because of who He is and because we are His children. Praise is powerful!!! When we do that, the praise will flow not only from our lips but also from our heart. The Lord delights to give *“the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness”* (Isa. 61: 3). Yes, *“it is good to sing praises to our God”* – at all times (Ps. 147: 1) Why? The reason for praise is **JESUS CHRIST**

“Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, To His feet your tribute bring; Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore His praises sing”. – Lyte

“Call upon His name” (v. 1). **PRAYER** is the second requirement. We might have often read the signboards warning us: EMPLOYEES ONLY, DO NOT ENTER, AUTHORIZED VEHICLES ONLY, NO TRESPASSING, etc. Feels embarrassed, when told that you are not welcome, you are barred. Isn’t it? It makes me grateful that God sets no restriction on who may come to Him. Those who come to God encounter no “Keep Out” signs. Through prayer, God the Father allows us immediate and unlimited access to Him because His Son Jesus Christ has opened the way to all of us (Eph. 2: 18; Matt. 11: 28; John 6; 37; 7: 37). What a privilege we enjoy: unrestricted fellowship, helpline **24* 7** online... yea, *“God’s throne is always accessible to His children”*. Celebrate and enjoy the opportunity.

The third requirement is well evident in the vv. 1 -3, *“Make known His deeds among the peoples... Talk of all His wondrous works. Glory in His holy name”*, yea, it is **WITNESSING**. If we only praise and pray but don’t present the Lord to other people, our lives will become narrow, shallow and selfish. We need to tell others that He is the Savior. Hope you remember the story of an old man walking on a beach. Encountering hundreds of starfish, washed ashore because of high tides, dying under the heat of the burning sun, he started throwing them back into the sea. A passerby asked, *‘What are you doing?’* The old man replied, *‘Saving their lives’*. *‘You can’t possibly save all these starfish’* retorted the passerby. *‘Right,’* replied the old man, *‘but it makes a big difference to each one I do save.’* Luke 15 reminds us how heaven rejoiced when I the sinner was saved. This reminds me my duty – join the ranks of those who reach other souls with the rescuing grace of Jesus. Yea, “When you’ve been rescued, you’ll want to rescue others.”

The final requirement is **SEEKING** His face. *“Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His face evermore!”* (v. 4). In other words, live in the light of God’s countenance. Live with the smile of God upon your life and seek to please Him alone. Remember the material and spiritual blessings we enjoy is the gift from God and He is the true owner of all we possess (1 Chron. 29: 11). Even our bodies do not belong to us (1 Cor. 6: 19 – 20). So, let’s never take our Father for granted, but use wisely and gratefully all that He has given us.

Let December 2015 be a month of preparation as we enter the Advent season. Let the celebrations, carols, rituals, etc., be such that they ensure the real presence of Christ, and everyone should experience peace and joy of Christmas.

May the joy of redemption shine through us this Christmas, and throughout the days ahead.

With prayerful regards,

John Oommen Achen

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| 12/2 | Joel J Mathew | 12/19 | Thomas K. George |
| 12/2 | Varghese Mathew | 12/20 | Jerome Mammen |
| 12/3 | Hannah Johnkutty | 12/20 | Susanna Sarah Varghese |
| 12/4 | Dr. Ashwathi Ann George | 12/21 | Ancy George |
| 12/7 | Sosamma Jacob | 12/21 | Pramod J. Varghese |
| 12/8 | Manju Abraham | 12/21 | Smitha Anil Issac |
| 12/8 | Noel Geinu Varghese | 12/21 | Thomas Joe Kurian |
| 12/9 | Meera N. John | 12/23 | Avni Ann Mandloi |
| 12/9 | N. J. Mathai | 12/23 | Neil Jacob Mandloi |
| 12/10 | Kuruvilla Abraham | 12/23 | Sabu P. Varghese |
| 12/12 | Annamma Varghese | 12/25 | Jacob A. Mathew |
| 12/12 | Rachel Mathew | 12/25 | Smitha Susan John |
| 12/14 | Preeti Mathew | 12/28 | Isabella Mary Zachariah |
| 12/16 | Joseph Cherian | 12/30 | Dr. Joseph Eipe |
| 12/17 | Remya Paramban | 12/30 | Tiana Susan Abraham |
| | | 12/31 | Annamma C. John |

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|-------|--|
| 12/14 | Varsha & Vin Thomas |
| 12/15 | Susannamma & Alexander Philip |
| 12/26 | Dr. Elsy & Abraham O. Mathew |
| 12/27 | Annie & Joseph Varghese |
| 12/27 | Annie & Thomas Mammen |
| 12/28 | Preeti & John Sunil George Karachepone |
| 12/28 | Bindu & Geinu Varghese |
| 12/29 | Mariamamma & Rajan Mathew |
| 12/29 | Ponnamma & Samuel P. Thomas |

OFFICE BEARERS

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Vicar | Rev. John Oommen | 626-963-0432 |
| Vice President | Mr. Thomas Mammen | 909-596-9715 |
| Secretary | Mr. Jonas Chacko | 909-664-2378 |
| Treasurer | Mr. Joseph Varghese | 626-914-6931 |
| Accountant | Mr. Prince Daniel | 626-335-0835 |

Annual Convention 2015



2015 World Sunday School Day



Teachers Retreat

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE 2015

Saturday Dec 19th, 2015 at 4:00 pm

Venue:
Mar Thoma Church of Los Angeles
134 S Vista Bonita Avenue
Glendora CA 91741

Featuring:
Carol service, Choir, Kids program, & Food

ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 2015

Saturday, Dec 26th 2015 at 4:30 pm

Venue:
North Hollywood High School,
5231 Colfax Ave., N. Hollywood, CA 91601
(Parking entrance from Magnolia Blvd)

Lighted to Lighten



DECEMBER 2015 ISSUE

THE BEACON

NEWSLETTER OF THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES

WORSHIP SCHEDULE & LECTIONARY

| Dec | Time | Service | Lessons | Epistle / Gospel | Theme |
|-----|----------|---------------------------|---|---|--|
| 6 | 10:30 am | Holy Qurbana MALAYALAM | 1 Kin 19: 1-21 Rev 10: 1-11 GENERAL | Gal 1: 11-17 Luke 1: 57-66 BODY | Birth of John the Baptist MEETING |
| 13 | 10:00 am | Holy Qurbana ENGLISH | Isaiah 40:1-11 Acts 20: 17-25 | Phili. 4: 4-9 Matthew 1: 18-23 | Annunciation to Joseph |
| 20 | 10:30 am | Holy Qurbana MALAYALAM | Isaiah 11: 1-10 1 John 5: 1-12 | Romans 1: 8-16 John 1: 1-14 | Our Lord Comes |
| 25 | 9:30 am | Holy Qurbana ENGLISH | Micah 5: 1-9 Colo 1: 15-20 CHRISTMAS | 1 Tim. 1: 14-17 Luke 2: 1-20 DAY | Yaldo - Feast of Nativity : A New Dawn |
| 27 | 10:30 am | Holy Qurbana ENGLISH | Zech 14: 1-5 Acts 1: 6-11 | 1 Thess 4: 13-18 John 14:1-7 | Our Lord is Coming Again |
| 31 | 10:00pm | Holy Qurbana MALAYALAM | 1 Sam 7: 5-17 Heb 13: 7-21 WATCH | 1 Peter 5: 6-11 Luke 13: 6-9 NIGHT | Lord our Helper & Redeemer SERVICE |

May the spirit of
Christmas
bring you peace.
The gladness
of Christmas give you
hope.

AND
The warmth of Christmas
grant u love.

Happy Christmas.

www.lamarthoma.org