

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

2/1	Justin Mathew	2/12	Mathew T. Chacko
2/3	Maxwel George	2/13	Kevin Abraham Ringu
2/3	Ponnamma V. Thomas	2/21	Babu Abraham
2/4	Sofia Balbuena	2/21	Joseph N. Mathai
2/7	Daniel P. George	2/21	Julia Aley Mathai
2/7	John S. G. Karachepone	2/23	Aleena Sara Kurian
2/7	Rincy Mathew	2/23	Roshan John George
2/10	V. C. Cherian	2/25	Abraham Mattackal
2/11	Eapen George	2/25	Manju Susan Abraham
2/11	Manoj Varkey	2/25	V. Z. Chandapillai
2/11	Anu Samuel	2/28	Priyanka Ann Johnson

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2/4	Shery Abraham & Anely Rachel George
2/7	Koshy Philip & Anu Susan Philip
2/8	Ashish Zachariah & Bincy M. Zachariah
2/11	Jiby Thomas & Manju Abraham
2/11	George Varghese & Thankamma Varghese
2/18	Rajesh John Mathew & Aleena S. Edward
2/20	Thomas J. Mathews & Ann Mathews
2/22	Elvis John & Miriam D. John
2/26	Mathew T Chacko & Annamma Chacko
2/27	Cibey Cherian & Sherly Cherian
2/27	K.S George & Anu George

OFFICE BEARERS

Vicar	Rev. John Oommen	626-963-0432
Vice President	Mr. Joseph Simon	562-860-3041
Secretary	Mr. Jonas Chacko	909-664-2378
Treasurer	Mr. Joseph Varghese	626-914-6931
Accountant	Mr. Prince Daniel	626-335-0835

Lent: A Time for Transformation

Lord, as we begin this holy season of Lent, Grant us the grace of conversion and transformation so that we may strengthen all of the relationships in our lives. Help us to look at the barriers that keep us from right relationships rooted in Gospel living.

Help us to look at our personal habits and the clutter in our personal lives that keep us from You. Let us also take time to examine our mental and spiritual clutter.

Give us the strength to fast from business that characterizes our culture, so we slow down and take time for You in prayer.

By Your grace, may our lives become more deeply rooted in prayer, self-sacrifice and a willingness to share and receive from others, in order that your Kingdom of God might more fully flourish in our midst.

Help us to ask ourselves,
How is God calling me to be this Lent?
What is God calling me to do this Lent?

We ask you this, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



SEVIKA SANGHAM ONE DAY RETREAT



MTCLA @ ECUMENICAL PROGRAM

Lighted to Lighten



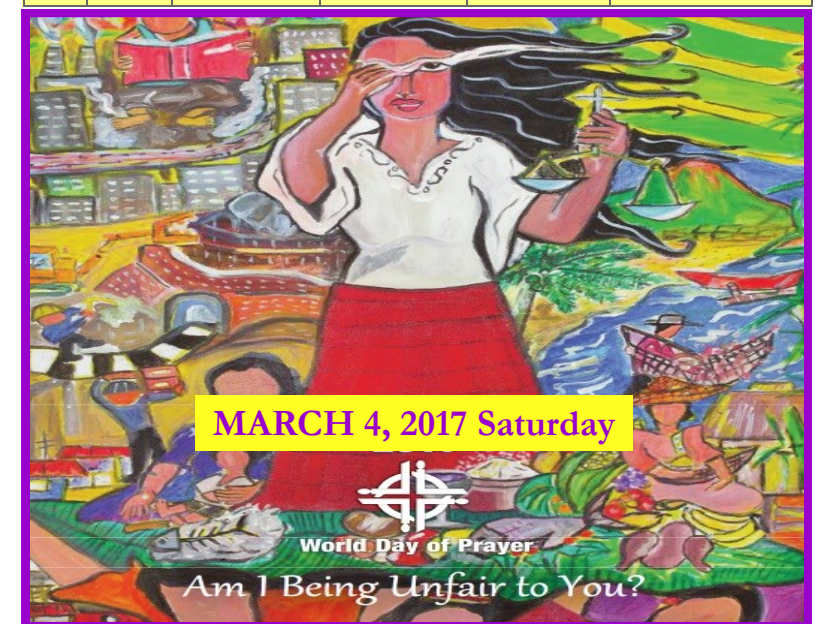
FEBRUARY 2017 ISSUE

THE BEACON

NEWSLETTER OF THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES

WORSHIP SCHEDULE & LECTIONARY

Feb	Time	Service	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel	Theme
5	10:30am	Holy Qurbana MALAYALAM	Isa. 42:1-9 Acts. 8:1-13	Jam. 5: 13-18 Mark.7 :31-37	Compassionate Healing
12	10:30am	Holy Qurbana ENGLISH	Isa. 65:17-25 Heb. 4:1-13	Col. 1:15-24 Mark. 2:23-28	Sabbath: Leading to the Perfection of Creation
19	9:30am	Holy Qurbana MALAYALAM	Gen. 6: 1-13 Rom. 5:12-21	Rom. 7:14-25 Mat. 7:15-23	Fall as the violation of the Purpose Creation
26	10:30am	Holy Qurbana ENGLISH	Isa. 44:21-28 1 Tim. 1:12-17	Rom 11:13-24 John 2:1-11	Lent: Time of Transformation



MARCH 4, 2017 Saturday



World Day of Prayer

Am I Being Unfair to You?

www.lamarthoma.org

EVENT CALENDAR

Wednesday 2/1 @ 7.00 pm Edavaka Mission Bible Study
Mr. Jacob John 7622 Rio Del Sol Place, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Saturday 2/4 @ 10.00 am At Church
Sevika Sangham Meeting



Feb 5, 2017 Sunday

MEDICAL MISSION SUNDAY



Saturday 2/8 @ 8.30 pm WR MTVEA Tele Prayer
Conference No: (712) - 432 - 1500 Access Code No: 638599#



Sunday 2/12 @ 9.30 am At Church

Lent Preparation for Kids

Sunday 2/12 Young Family Fellowship

At Church after Worship Service



Feb 12 - 19, 2017 122th MARAMON CONVENTION



Wednesday 2/15 @ 7.00pm At Church
Edavaka Mission Bible Study

Feb 18, 2017 Saturday WR MTVEA Conference

8:00 am Registration

9:45 am Conference Begins

6:00 pm WR CHOIR FEST

Feb 19, 2017 Sunday

9:30 am Holy Communion in Malayalam

11:30 am Conference Concluding Session

Feb 26, 2017 Sunday

Beginning of Great Lent (Pethurtha)



Feb 26, 2017 Sunday BIBLE QUIZ

WELCOME
we're happy you're here
Dr. (Mrs.) ASHNY & Dr. BONEY M. NINAN
(Kid: Sophia)
2851 Bedford Lane, Apt # 56,
Chino Hills, CA 91709 **Tel: 630 - 398 - 1030**



Dearly beloved in Christ,

We are entering into a special season of the Church calendar - LENT: A Time of Transformation. Through **Joel 2:13**, *"Rend your heart and not your garments,"* the prophet gives admonition to the Israelites after a terrible invasion of locusts which ravaged Judah. The prophet Joel says this invasion is a symbol of the coming of the day of the Lord and His judgment against His disobedient people. Jewish fasting involved wearing sackcloth and sitting in ashes, rending one's garments in a wailing lament. That's why the prophet calls the people to repent, to turn to the Lord with fasting and weeping. Because God was not interested in the people's external focus on wearing sackcloth and sitting in ashes. He was concerned with the people rending their diseased and disobedient hearts. To rend is to tear violently. **Lent is a time of preparation for the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

God wants you to rend from your heart all those things that block you from loving Him more deeply, more intimately. Psalmists pray in **Psalm 51:1-2** *"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin."* Imagine God as a heart surgeon holding your heart in His hand which is full of infection and pus. God wants you to take a lance to all those areas of your heart that are infected. He wants you to cut away all those things that keep you from loving the way He loves. **Lent is a time of transformation, to become more like Jesus with each passing day as you move toward Easter and Christ's glorious resurrection.**

And the Psalmists continues to pray *"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me."* **Psalm 51:10-12.** As we travel with Jesus during these days of Lent meditating on Jesus ministry, passion and suffering, let us ask Jesus to transform my heart to be more like His. **Isaiah 58:11-12** says, *"The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings."* So lets :

1. Ask Jesus to show you what's wrong with your heart.
2. Ask Jesus to show you the remedy.
3. Ask Jesus for the grace to apply the remedy.

These three steps involve prayer, lots of prayer. They require humility, an openness to accept what Christ shows you & a willingness to take the actions that will bring a total transformation to your life. The goal is to arrive at Easter better than when you started, with a heart more like Jesus' heart. *"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."* **Luke 9:2** It's we who have to decide & become fruitful. We have to ask ourselves that am I becoming Pharoah who was a symbol of

life annihilation or becoming **the symbol of reverence for life** like the Midwives Shiphrah and Puah. Jesus Christ is happy to show you the one thing that is holding you back in becoming more like Him. We have to ask His help to transform & renew us. Jesus wants to bless you and use you in ways that no eyes have seen nor ears heard. Just we have to invite Him and journey with Him. *"Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation."* **2 Corinthians 6:2** Use the opportunity God giving to you.

Vicar's Message



God bless you and let the Lenten journey bear great fruit in your heart, in your marriage, and in your community life.

Yours in Christ's service,

John Oommen Achen

MAR THOMA CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES SUNDAY SCHOOL

invites you all to



For Nursery, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade it will be an ORAL QUIZ

Nursery and Kindergarten	- Chapter 1
1 st and 2 nd grade	- Chapters 1 to 3

From 3rd Grade & above, it will be a WRITTEN QUIZ

3 rd & 4 th Grade	- Chapters 1 to 5
5 th & 6 th Grade	- Chapters 1 to 10
7 th & 8 th Grade	- Chapters 1 to 15
9 th & 10 th Grade and Adults	- Chapters 1 to 21

When : 2017 February 26 after Worship Service

Where: Mar Thoma Church of Los Angeles, Glendora, CA

Coordinators: Mrs. Jenny Siby & Mrs. Beena Eapen