



# KOINONIA

NOV - DEC 2024

Issue 6

ENGLISH, MALAYALAM



A bi-monthly newsletter of the

## Madras Mar Thoma Syrian Church

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Price ₹1

# FETE & SALE 2024





## MESSAGE



### **Embracing Jesus' Heart for Children and the Marginalized**

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

As we approach the first Sunday of the month, which is also World Sunday School Day, I am reminded of Jesus' profound love and care for children. In Mark 10:13-16, we witness a beautiful interaction that reveals the heart of our Savior. The disciples, caught in societal norms, attempted to prevent children from coming to Jesus. However, our Lord's response was both clear and powerful: "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belong the kingdom of God." This passage exemplifies Jesus' unwavering commitment to children, highlighting their intrinsic value in the kingdom and emphasizing our calling to nurture and educate them in faith.

This November holds special significance for our parish as several children will be participating in their first Holy Communion. This sacred milestone is a profound moment in their faith journey, symbolizing their acceptance into the community of believers and their deeper commitment to following Christ. As we gather to celebrate this important occasion, let us reflect on the joy of welcoming these young hearts to the Table of the Lord. May we, as a church, continue to support and guide them in their spiritual growth, echoing Jesus' invitation to the little children.

Additionally, we are blessed to have our Diocesan Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Gregorios Mar Stephanos Episcopa, visiting during this time, further enriching our community's experience. His Lordship's presence will inspire us all as we gather in worship, reflecting on the importance of our faith and the love that binds us together.

In the second week of November, we will also celebrate Ecumenical Week, culminating in a joint convention and the Holy Qurbana with members of Anna Nagar Jerusalem Mar Thoma Church and the members from the Holy Trinity CSI (Church of South India) Chennai. This week offers us a beautiful opportunity to come together as one body in Christ, embracing our shared faith while

celebrating our diverse traditions. Let us rejoice in our unity and witness to the love of Christ in our community.

As we move towards the Christmas season, we turn our focus to the birth of our Savior, an event profoundly tied to the marginalized. Jesus' entrance into the world was not marked by grandeur or privilege; rather, it was in the humble setting of a manger, surrounded by the least of society - shepherds, who were often considered outcasts. This choice by God speaks volumes about His heart for the marginalized and His desire to bring hope to the downtrodden. Mary and Joseph, without a place to call home, exemplified the struggles faced by many today. They remind us that God chooses the humble, the lowly, and those in need to fulfill His purposes.

On the first Saturday of December, we will celebrate our Christmas Carol Service of our parish. We are also fortunate enough to host the mega event "Pulkoottil Pookkalam," conducted by the Department of Sacred Music and Communication of our Church along with the parishes of Chennai Centre on 15th December 2024. This evening promises to be a joyous occasion, with performances by the DSMC choir and various other groups. It will be a wonderful opportunity for our parish to come together, share in the joy of the season, and proclaim the message of hope that Christmas brings.

This Christmas, as we celebrate the gift of Christ, let us not forget the marginalized among us. Let us follow in Jesus' footsteps by extending our arms to those who feel forgotten or overlooked. In our outreach and service, we can embody the message of the Gospel, demonstrating that every person is valued and loved by God.

As we prepare our hearts for both World Sunday School Day and the upcoming events of November and December, may we embrace the teachings of Jesus - celebrating His love for children and His compassion for the marginalized. Together, let us create an environment where all feel welcomed and cherished, embodying the grace that Jesus has shown us.

In Christ's Love,

**Rev. Vinoy Daniel**

Vicar

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1. Mr. JITHU KOSHY NINAN</b><br/>4/19, Mapleton,<br/>4th Cross Street,<br/>Karpagam Gardens,<br/>Adyar, Chennai 600020.<br/>Prayer Group: Nungambakkam</p>                                    | <p><b>2. Mr. JOE GEORGE</b><br/>Old No. 42,<br/>Outer Circular Road,<br/>Kilpauk Garden Colony,<br/>Kilpauk, Chennai 600010.<br/>Prayer Group: Kilpauk</p>  |
| <p><b>3. Mrs. VALSA MATHEW</b><br/>No. 27, 2nd Cross Street,<br/>2nd Main Road,<br/>Navarathna Gardens,<br/>Ekkaduthangal, Chennai 600032.<br/>Mobile: 8637688683<br/>Prayer Group: Aminjikarai</p> | <p><b>4. Mr. VIKRAM MATHEW NINAN</b><br/>1A Vana, 4(9), Nawab Habibullah<br/>Avenue Cross Street,<br/>(Off Anderson Road),<br/>Nungambakkam,<br/>Chennai 600006.<br/>Prayer Group: Nungambakkam</p> |



## BAPTISM

- | Name  | Prayer Group | Date of Baptism    |
|---|--------------|--------------------|
| <b>1. Rayan Joseph Mathew</b><br>(S/o Yeshvin Oommen Mathew & Maria Joseph) | Chetpet      | September 7, 2024  |
| <b>2. Isaiah Cherian Mathew</b><br>(S/o S/o Mathew K. Mathew & Sara Mathew) | Aminjikarai  | September 21, 2024 |



## PROGRAMMES



1. Sunday School : Every Sunday after the 1st Service
2. Yuvajana Sakhyam : Every Sunday after the 1st Service
3. Monthly Meeting of  
Sevika Sangham : Every 4th Saturday at 4:30 p.m.
4. Edavka Mission : Every Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.
5. Fasting Prayer : Every Friday at 10:00 a.m.
6. Choir Practice : Every Saturday at 6:30 p.m.
7. Elder's Fellowship : Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday  
at 4:30 p.m. (Church)
8. Sevika Sangham  
Bible Study : Every Friday from  
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Online)







## WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

November 2024 : **Choolaimedu**

December 2024 : **Kilpauk**



## WORSHIP TIMINGS

### NOVEMBER 2024

- 03-11-2024 7:30 A.M. Divine Service in English (Sunday School)  
9:30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 10-11-2024 7:30 A.M. Divine Service in English (Yuvajana Sakhyam)  
(MT-CSI Joint Communion)  
9:30 A.M. Divine Service in Malayalam
- 17-11-2024 8:00 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam  
(Diocesan Bishop Visit)
- 23-11-2024 8:30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam (Senior Citizens)
- 24-11-2024 7:30 A.M. Holy Communion in English  
9:30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam

### DECEMBER 2024

- 01-12-2024 7:30 A.M. Divine Service in English (Yuvajana Sakhyam)  
9:30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 08-12-2024 7:30 A.M. Holy Communion in English  
9:30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 15-12-2024 7:30 A.M. Divine Service in English (Sunday School)  
9:30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 21-12-2024 8:30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam  
(Sabha Dinam & Senior Citizens')
- 22-12-2024 7:30 A.M. Holy Communion in English  
9:30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 25-12-2024 5:30 A.M. Holy Communion in English  
7:30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 29-12-2024 7:30 A.M. Divine Service in English (Sevika Sangham)  
9:30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 31-12-2024 10:00 P.M. Watch Night Service and  
Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 01-01-2025 8:00 A.M. Holy Communion in English



## LECTIONARY

### NOVEMBER 2024



Date	Lessons	Epistle	Gospel
<b>03 Sunday</b>	<b><i>Kudosh Eetho: Sanctification of the Church; Beginning of the Liturgical Year; World Sunday School Day: Jesus Christ who embraces children</i></b>		
	Gen. 17:1-8 I Jn. 2:7-14	Eph. 6:1-4	St. Mark. 10:13-16
<b>10 Sunday</b>	<b><i>Hudos Eetho: Renewal of the Church; Festival of Unity of CSI, CNI, and Mar Thoma Church: Unity of the Churches - For the witness of the Kingdom of God</i></b>		
	Josh. 4:1-8 I Cor. 12:12-27	Eph. 4:1-7	St. John 17:20-23
<b>17 Sunday</b>	<b><i>Annunciation to Zechariah: God who fulfils promises</i></b>		
	I Chr. 24:1-19 Heb. 6:9-12	Rom. 10:9-15	St. Luke 1:5-23
<b>24 Sunday</b>	<b><i>Annunciation to Virgin Mary: Virgin Mary - The model of dedication for the people of God; Diaspora Sunday</i></b>		
	I Sam. 2:1-11 Gal. 4:1-7	Rom. 12:1-2	St. Luke 1:26-38

### DECEMBER 2024

Date	Lessons	Epistle	Gospel
<b>01 Sunday</b>	<b><i>Beginning of 25 Days Lent; Meeting of Virgin Mary and Elizabeth - Mutual acceptance of two partners in God's salvation plan; Bible Sunday</i></b>		
	Exod. 7:1-7 Acts 9:26-31	Rom. 15:5-9	St. Luke 1:39-45
<b>08 Sunday</b>	<b><i>Birth of John the Baptist: the child set apart for the divine plan and the family that nurtures him accordingly</i></b>		
	Mal. 3:1-4 Acts 16:1-5	II Tim. 1:3-10	St. Luke 1:57-66
<b>15 Sunday</b>	<b><i>Annunciation to Joseph: Joseph - the Model of discipleship for the People of God</i></b>		
	Isa. 7:10-17 I Thess. 5:12-22	II Pet. 1:5-11	St. Matt. 1:18-23
<b>22 Sunday</b>	<b><i>Arrival of the Saviour of the World</i></b>		
	Isa. 11:1-10 Acts 3:19-26	Heb. 1:1-12	St. John 1:9-18
<b>29 Sunday</b>	<b><i>God who led us till now</i></b>		
	I Sam. 7:1-12 Rom. 8:31-39	II Thess. 2:13-15	St. Matt. 11:25-30

**NEW BIBLE QUIZ SERIES - 17**  
**(1 Samuel 6 - 10)**



1. How long was the ark of the Lord in the country of the Philistines?  
ഫെലിസ്ത്യരുടെ ദേശത്ത് കർത്താവിന്റെ പെട്ടകം എത്ര കാലത്തോളം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു?

2. In whose field did the cart carrying the ark stop?  
പെട്ടകം വഹിക്കുന്ന വണ്ടി ആരുടെ വയലിലാണ് നിർത്തിയത്?

3. Who was consecrated to have charge of the ark of the Lord at Kiriath-jearim?  
കിരിയത്ത്-യെയാരീമിൽ കർത്താവിന്റെ പെട്ടകത്തിന്റെ ചുമതല ഏൽപ്പിക്കാൻ ആരാണ് സമർപ്പിക്കപ്പെട്ടത്?

4. Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called it what?  
ശമുവേൽ ഒരു കല്ല് എടുത്ത് മിസ്പെക്കും ശേനിക്കും ഇടയിൽ സ്ഥാപിച്ച് ,അതിനെ എന്താണ് വിളിച്ചത്?

5. Who was Samuel's firstborn son?  
ശമുവേലിന്റെ ആദ്യജാതൻ ആരായിരുന്നു?

6. Who did the people reject when they asked for a king?  
രാജാവിനെ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടപ്പോൾ ജനങ്ങൾ ആരെയാണ് തള്ളിയത്?

7. What hill country did Saul pass through while looking for the donkeys?  
കഴുകുകളെ തേടി ശൌൽ ഏതു മലനാട്ടിലൂടെയാണ് കടന്നുപോയത്?

8. As Saul and his servant went up the hill to the city, who did they meet?  
ശൌലും അവന്റെ ഭൃത്യനും മലകയറി നഗരത്തിലേക്ക് പോകുമ്പോൾ ആരെയാണ് കണ്ടുമുട്ടിയത്?

9. How many men would Saul meet by Rachel's tomb?  
റാഹേലിന്റെ ശവകുടീരത്തിനരികിൽ വെച്ച് ശൌൽ എത്ര പുരുഷന്മാരെ കണ്ടുമുട്ടും?

10. Where did the Lord tell the people that Saul had hidden himself ?  
ശൌൽ എവിടെ ഒളിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നാണ് കർത്താവ് ജനങ്ങളോട് പറഞ്ഞത്?



**ANSWERS TO NEW BIBLE QUIZ SERIES - 16**

- 1. 1 Samuel 1:1 - Ephraim  
1 ശമുവേൽ 1:1 എഫ്രയീം
- 2. 1 Samuel 1:12 - Eli the priest  
1 ശമുവേൽ 1:12 പുരോഹിതനായ ഏലി
- 3. 1 Samuel 2:12-17  
1 ശമുവേൽ 2:12-17
- 4. 1 Samuel 2:19 - A little robe  
1 ശമുവേൽ 2:19 ഒരു ചെറിയ അങ്കി
- 5. 1 Samuel 3:3 - Samuel lay down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was.  
1 ശമുവേൽ 3:3 ദൈവത്തിൻ്റെ പെട്ടകം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന കർത്താവിൻ്റെ ആലയത്തിൽ ശമുവേൽ കിടന്നു.
- 6. 1 Samuel 4:5 - When the ark of the covenant of the Lord came into the camp, all Israel gave a mighty shout, so that the earth resounded.  
1 ശമുവേൽ 4:5 യഹോവയുടെ നിയമപെട്ടകം പാളയത്തിൽ എത്തിയപ്പോള് ഭൂമി കലുങ്ങുവണ്ണം യിസ്രായേലിലൊക്കെ ഉച്ചത്തിൽ ആര് പ്പിട്ടു.
- 7. 1 Samuel 4:10 - Thirty thousand foot soldiers  
1 ശമുവേൽ 4:10 മുപ്പതിനായിരം കാലാശ്
- 8. 1 Samuel 4:18  
1 ശമുവേൽ 4:18
- 9. 1 Samuel 4:19-21 - The wife of Phinehas  
1 ശമുവേൽ 4:19-21 ഫീനെഹാസിന്റെ ഭാര്യ
- 10. 1 Samuel 5:2-5  
1 ശമുവേൽ 5:2-5

**Programmes for November - December 2024**

- 3rd November - World Sunday School Day
- 8th - 10th November - Mar Thoma - CSI Malayalam Congregation  
Joint Council Convention Schedule as below:
  - 8th November - CSI Holy Trinity Church @ 6:30 p.m.
  - 9th November - Madras Mar Thoma Syrian Church, Chetpet @ 6.30 p.m.
  - 10th November - Holy Communion Service of the Joint Council at Jerusalem Mar Thoma Church, Anna Nagar @ 9.00 a.m.
- 17th November - Diocesan Bishop Visit & 'First Holy Communion' Service
- 7th December - Parish Carol Service
- 15th December - DSMC Pulkoovil Pookalam  
at Madras Mar Thoma Syrian Church, Chetpet @ 5:30 p.m.
- 21st December - Mar Thoma Sabha Dinam - Holy Qurbana
- 25th December - Christmas Holy Qurbana Services
- 31st December - Watch Night Holy Qurbana Service (Malayalam)
- 1st January - New Year Holy Qurbana Service (English)



## PRAYER MEETINGS



### NOVEMBER 02, 2024 (SATURDAY)

#### AMINJIKARAI

**Mr. RAJAN C.J.**

7/25, Marai Malai Adigal Street, Razak Garden,  
Arumbakkam, Chennai 600106. Mobile: 9444373540

### NOVEMBER 03, 2024

#### AMINJIKARAI

**Mr. VIJU KOSHY**

5-C, VGN Coasta, SH-49,  
Muthukkadu,  
Chennai 603112.  
Mobile: 9282417697

#### CHETPET

**Mr. JOHN VARGHESE**

2-B, Solitaire Apts ,  
16/12 Kuppuswamy Rd,  
(Off Mayor Ramanathan Salai),  
Chetpet, Chennai 600031.  
Mobile: 9840957747

### NOVEMBER 10, 2024

#### AMINJIKARAI

**Mr. THOMAS C.J.**

9, Ground Floor, Rathnapuri 5th St,  
Koyambedu, Chennai 600107.  
Mobile: 9790743183

#### AYANAVARAM

**Mrs. SARAMMA GEORGE**

Jyothis Bhavan, 13/11, St. Marys Rd,  
Sembium, Chennai 600011  
Mobile: 9445476970

#### CHETPET

**Mr. THOMAS GEORGE**

81, Appasamy Street,  
Chetpet, Chennai 600031.  
Mobile: 9940696409

#### KILPAUK

**Mr. GEORGE THOMAS**

No. 7, First Floor, New Avadi Road,  
Kilpauk, Chennai 600010.  
Mobile: 9840029047

#### KODAMBAKKAM

**Mr. TIJU TITUS V.**

54/4, First Floor, Titus Square,  
Palayakaran Street,  
Kodambakkam, Chennai 600024.  
Mobile: 9789868954

#### NUNGAMBAKKAM

**Mrs. ELLIAMMA THOMAS**

@ MMTS Church, Chetpet  
Mobile: 9841045940

#### ROYAPETTAH

**Mr. JOHN ABRAHAM**

9, Manasarovar Apartment 5,  
Khader Nawaz Khan Road,  
Chennai 600006.  
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#### VIRUGAMBAKKAM

**Mr. P.A. GEORGE**

T1, Golden Enclave,  
S.S.R. Pankajam Road,  
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## NOVEMBER 17, 2024

### AMINJIKARAI

**Mrs. MERCY JACOB**

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Maduravoyal,  
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### AYANAVARAM

**Mr. JOHN VARGHESE**

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4th Cross Street,  
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## NOVEMBER 24, 2024

### AMINJIKARAI

**Mr. THOMAS K.V.**

Plot No. 297, Samson Saroja Street,  
Golden George Nagar,  
(Near Tamil Methodist Church),  
Padi Kuppam, Mogappair,  
Chennai 600107.  
Mobile: 9444338006

### AYANAVARAM

**Mr. REGIE MATHEW**

*Prayer at the residence*

*of Mr. Sisumani*

10, Ground Floor,  
Micetich Colony, Madhavaram,  
Chennai 600060.  
Mobile: 9381724125

### KILPAUK

**Mrs. SAROJ ANNA GEORGE**

@ MMTS Church, Chetpet  
Mobile: 9962147471

### NUNGAMBAKKAM

**Mr. THOMAS GEORGE P. (Suresh)**

A1, Malliga Ceebros,  
34, Pycrofts Garden Road,  
Chennai 600006.  
Mobile: 9962448241

## DECEMBER 01, 2024

### AMINJIKARAI

**Mr. RAJAN PHILIP**

No. 269A, Ammai Ammal Street,  
Ayyavoo Naidu Colony,  
Aminjikarai, Chennai 600029.  
Mobile: 8122111436

### AYANAVARAM

**Mrs. MARIAMMA IYAKUTTY**

4, United India Nagar,  
1st Cross Street, Ayanavaram,  
Chennai 600023.  
Mobile: 9884056163

### CHETPET

**Mr. JOSHI ABRAHAM**

Flat No. 2, Rail View Apartments,  
36 A, Pachaiyappa's College Hostel Road,  
Chennai 600023.  
Mobile: 9940031109

**DECEMBER 08, 2024****CHETPET****Mr. ROY PHILOPOSE**

67, Appasamy Street,

Chetpet,

Chennai 600031.

Mobile : 7667792375

**NUNGAMBAKKAM****Mr. JACOB VERGHESE (Ashok)**

R-3, Tuscany Apartments,

22 College Road, Nungambakam,

Chennai 600034.

Mobile: 9791092763

**DECEMBER 22, 2024****KILPAUK****Mrs. JAI ALEXANDER**

12/23, Millers Road, Kilpauk Chetpet, Chennai 600031.

Mobile: 9380952308

**THE MAR THOMA CHURCH EMBLEM**

**1. Motto:** 'Lighted to Lighten' The role of the church is to spread the good news of the gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Every believer and member of the Mar Thoma Church, wherever they are, is filled with the light of Christianity so that they may lighten others.

**2. Cross:** A proclamation that God himself came in the form of a human (purusha) being and atoned for all mankind on the cross with three nails. Christ is the center of our Church. His redemption is freely available by faith in Him.

**3. Wheel (Chakra):** Wheel represents cycles of Life, denotes man's attempts to find life. The 'Wheel of Life' is placed at the heart of the cross to declare the fact that the life finds its salvation in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. The members of this church are obligated both spiritually and culturally to carry the Cross to the Indian nation. The wheel of life is complete and closed for all those who follow the teachings of Christ.

**4. Lamp:** Each member of the Mar Thoma Church is a lighted lamp required to shine the light of salvation to others in their daily life. Every Marthomite is a Missionary, was the cry of Late Abraham Mar Thoma.

**5. Lotus:** Lotus is a very attractive sacred flower that grows in the swamps and dirty backwaters of India, it symbolizes the fact that we live in a dirty sinful world. But as the lotus flowers and stands above the dirty water, our life should radiate God's glory and rise above the surroundings, filling it with fragrance as does a lotus. A reminder that all of us are sacred and to be holy in our daily lives.



# I am Adam

## - The First Man's Story: Reimagined

- Mr. K.B. Abi Joseph,  
Aynavaram Prayer Group

*I am Adam, the first man, sculpted from the very dust of the earth by the divine hands of God. Such a unique creation, I was brought to life by the breath of the Almighty. This life-giving breath still remains the essence of every living being.*

*I resided in the Garden of Eden. Yet, in those days, my understanding of emotions was limited. Could I say I was happy? I had never known sadness, so how could I truly understand happiness?*

*One day, God observed me and said, "It is not good for man to be alone." Confused, I replied, "What do you mean? I've never known what's considered 'good' since I've never witnessed anything 'bad'." Deep inside, however, I believed that the Creator always knew what was best for me.*

*In His infinite wisdom, God created Eve to be my companion. The first time I saw her, I introduced myself saying, "Madam, I am Adam." God's appearances were rare, and I couldn't wait for a formal introduction. Together, we shared many joyful moments in the garden, until that fateful encounter with the serpent.*

*In a world where wonders danced in the wind and colors painted the skies more vibrantly than any artist could imagine, there was a moment that changed everything. It was on this fateful day that the Divine, in a form beyond comprehension, manifested before us. "Everything in this paradise is yours," the voice rumbled like thunder, soft yet commanding, "Consume, rejoice, and live harmoniously. Yet there is one decree – that tree," the Divine motioned towards a unique tree, its fruit shimmering in shades unknown to us, "its fruit is forbidden."*

*For eons, it seemed, we relished in the splendors of the garden, feeling the embrace of nature and the freedom of innocence. But then, one day, Eve approached with a secret glint in her eyes and a forbidden fruit in her hand. My heart raced, a newfound emotion. "Eve, why?" I gasped, a tightness gripping my chest.*

*She whispered excitedly, "There's a reason the Divine warned us away.*

*This, Adam, is the Fruit of Wisdom. A serpent, ancient and knowing, unveiled its mysteries to me. By consuming it, we can transcend, becoming creators, gods even, crafting worlds of our own."*

*My beliefs wavered. We had everything, yet this one temptation had breached our sanctuary. After much turmoil, I bit into the fruit, feeling knowledge pour into me like a torrential flood. Suddenly, we became painfully aware of our vulnerabilities, our exposed selves, and our transgressions.*

*Then, the once comforting presence of the Divine now felt daunting. "Adam, where are you?" the voice echoed, a melancholic tone hidden beneath.*

*Beneath the dense foliage, my voice trembled, "I felt exposed... so I hid."*

*A sigh, as old as time itself, filled the air. "Who made you aware? Have you eaten from the forbidden tree?"*

*With heavy heart, I admitted, "Eve shared the fruit with me." The blame shifted, like quicksand beneath our feet, from me to Eve, and from Eve to the cunning serpent.*

*The weight of our actions bore down upon us. We were cast out, bearing the mark of our sins. I toiled tirelessly, and Eve bore children amidst great agony. The legacy of our choice, the balance between wisdom and innocence, became the mantle our descendants would bear.*

*As age took hold of me, a profound longing for redemption consumed my soul. I yearned for a beacon of hope, a guide to lead us back to grace. And as I stood at the precipice of life and the eternity beyond, I held firm to a belief - one day, a redeemer would come, showing the path to redemption and reconciliation.*

- Adam



You may send your suggestions/inserts for future issues of Koinonia with your Name, Address, Prayer Group & Contact Number to: [chetpetvicar@gmail.com](mailto:chetpetvicar@gmail.com)



# Christmas

- Mrs. Omama Varghese,  
Nungambakkam Prayer Group

Christmas is the reason  
 For the freshness of the season  
 The sweet and precious reminder  
 That Immanuel, "God with us forever."  
 The message of goodness for the human race  
 Really invigorates one and all, like bright sunny days!  
 We don't have to trudge along the paths of struggle alone,  
 There is a strong pillar of hand holding us, who are all forlorn:  
 And carrying and bearing all our toils and burdens  
 When you surrender your life to him and gain a life of abundance;  
 Joy to the world, the Lord has come  
 Keeps resonating to all, during this season of fun.  
 This message is endless and timeless  
 To all who feel they are forsaken and helpless.  
 Young Mary heard the news and burst into a soulful song  
 "All generations will call me blessed", for ever so long:  
 On the night of the birth, infant Jesus slept  
 Surrounded by cattle, and with no royal attendants blessed.  
 Christmas is an opportunity to introspect and give thanks for  
 the countless blessings, graces and more:  
 Exchanging gifts with friends and loved ones as you please  
 Is in remembrance of the great gift God gave us in Jesus, with such graceful ease.  
 True meaning of Christmas doesn't depend on the number of gifts under the tree  
 Nor does it on the variety of food and drinks on the table given free;  
 Christmas reaffirms the universal truth and information  
 That we are loved and feel joyful and hopeful with this proclamation!  
 Christmas is the season when kids excitedly await  
 The presence of the pot-bellied, rosy cheeked, jolly man with a dancing gait!  
 He brings presents of all kinds for kids far and wide  
 With a bright smile and happily enjoying his joyful ride!  
 While the soulful carols are sung in full throated voice  
 The whole world is drowned in the euphoria of the christmassy noise!  
 Hence Christmas is celebrated and accepted worldwide  
 Irrespective of class, creed, color and ofcourse, with no divide!

## THREE WISE MEN

KID'S  
CORNER

*At the time when Jesus was born, there was a very mean king who ruled the land. The name of the King was Herod.*

*Three wise men were travelling on their camels at the time when Jesus was born. One night, the wise men noticed a very strange and bright star in the sky. The wise men knew that this star meant that the "One who would save the world, the King of the Jews," had been born.*

*The three wise men called a meeting with all the other important people and asked them where this special baby had been born. The people answered, "In Bethlehem." The people knew this because they heard that one day a very special person would come from Bethlehem and take care of all the people on this planet.*

*Then the King called the wise men to a secret meeting to find out exactly where they saw the star. Then, the King told them, "Go and find this special child. As soon as you find the child, tell me so that I can go and worship him."*

*The three wise men left to find the baby after they had spoken to King Herod. At night they followed the big star in the east. The three wise men followed the big bright star until it hung right over the very place where Jesus was.*

*When they arrived, the three wise men were very excited and happy to see the special baby. They found Jesus lying in mother Mary's arms and bowed down and worshipped him.*

*The three wise men presented the gifts they had brought for Jesus. The gifts were gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These were very magnificent and expensive gifts that one would give to a King, not to a baby. Mother Mary thanked the three wise men for bringing the gifts for the baby, and the three wise men went to find a place where they could sleep.*

*As the three wise men slept, they each had a similar dream. They dreamt that they were not to go back and tell King Herod where they found the special baby, Jesus. The King didn't want to find Jesus to worship him but wanted to*



kill the baby as he was jealous that this baby would someday be better than him.

The three wise men decided that they would not tell King anything about what they had seen. So, they went another way so that the King would not know the place where they had come from.

After the three wise men had left, an Angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," said the Angel, "take the baby Jesus and Mary and run away to Egypt. Stay in Egypt until I come to you again because the King is going to search for Jesus to kill him."

Joseph immediately woke Mary and gently picked up Jesus so he wouldn't wake from his sleep. They left in the middle of the night only for Egypt. They had no other option.

Joseph, Mary and the baby were safe in Egypt. After King Herod died, an Angel appeared to Joseph and told him he could now go to a place called Nazareth, where Jesus grew up.



## ANPIN SPARSHAM

*Palliative & Elderly Care*



A unit of Madras Mar Thoma Syrian Church, Chetpet

is organizing a

### FREE MEDICAL CAMP

(FOR ALL MMTSC MEMBERS)

on Saturday 23rd November, 2024

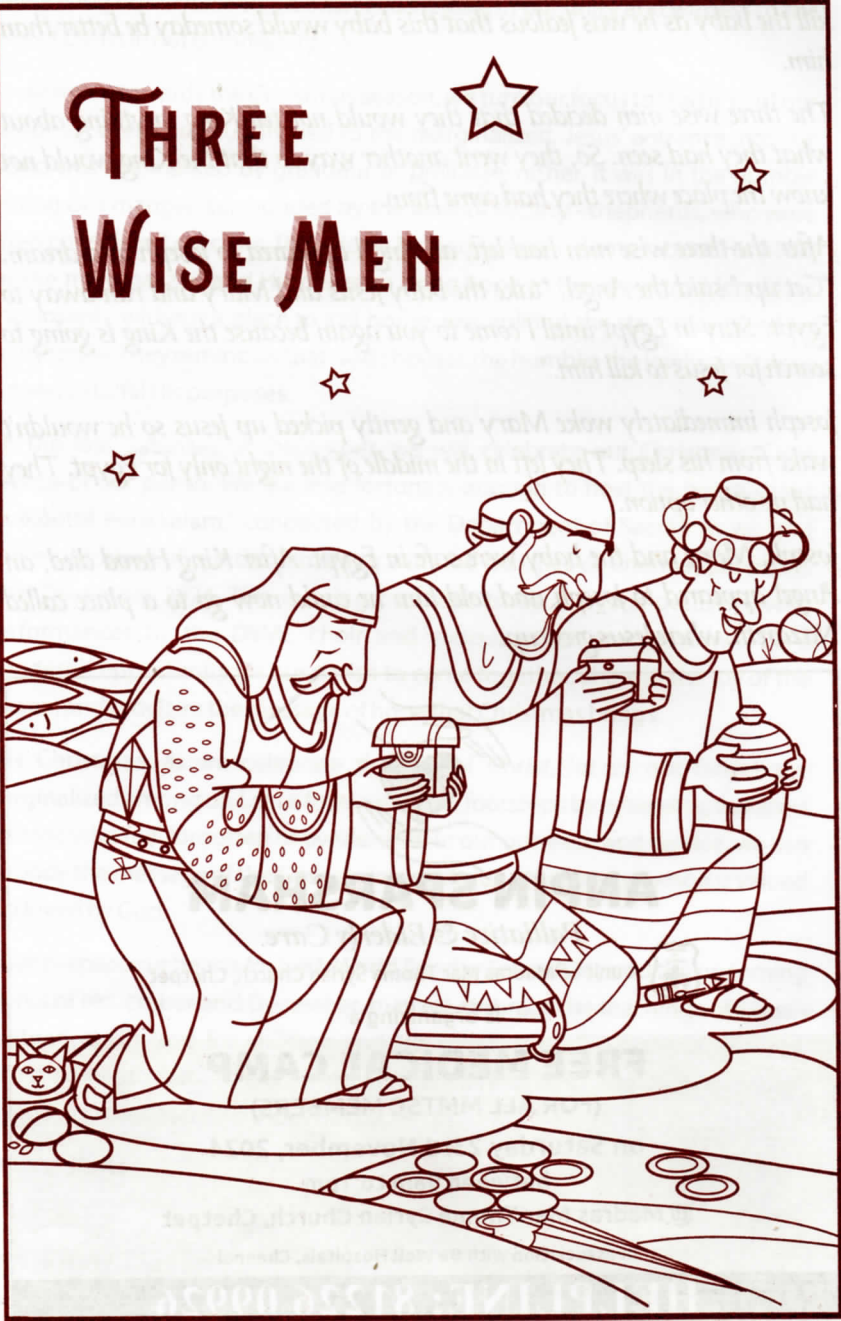
between 9am to 1pm

@ Madras Mar Thoma Syrian Church, Chetpet

in association with Be Well Hospitals, Chennai

**HELPLINE: 81226 09926**

# THREE WISE MEN







**CHURCH CHOIR'S VISIT TO ASHA BHAVAN ON 31.08.2024**

**CHETPET PG VISIT TO ASHA BHAVAN ON 11.10.2024**



**GURUKUL SEMINARY STUDENTS AND FACULTY**



**CHENNAI CENTRE SUNDAY SCHOOL CAMP ON 02.10.2024**

**JOSHUA JOSE UKKUR OF CHETPET PG WINS SILVER IN STATE ROAD CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024**



# Merry Christmas

AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR

## Christmas & New Year PROGRAMMES

**07-Dec-2024**

06:30 p.m. Parish Christmas Carols

**25-Dec-2024**

05:30 a.m. Holy Communion in English

07:30 a.m. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam

**31-Dec-2024**

10:00 p.m. Watch Night Service &  
Holy Qurbana in Malayalam

**01-Jan-2025**

08:00 a.m. Holy Communion in English