



# THE MAR THOMA CHURCH, ABU DHABI

## PARISH NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2018



**Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me**



### JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## January Highlights

Jan 10 – 13 **PARISH CONVENTION**

(07:45 – 09:30 pm)

Jan 19 Parish Mission

Special prayer meeting

for 10th & 12th Students at

Abu Dhabi Upper hall @ 7:30 P.M

Jan 19 Yuvajana Sakhyam Bachelor's

Get together 5 PM

Parish Theme for the year 2017-18:

**Parish a space for refocusing our purpose and reaching our potential (Witness & Progress)**

### **HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)**

Every Friday (except 3rd Friday) at 9:30 A.M, MTC, Mussafah

Every Sunday (except 2nd Sunday) HQ ( Mal) @ 8 P.M at St. Andrews Church

### **HOLY QURBANA (English)**

14 - Jan Sunday @ 8:00 P.M at St. Andrews Church

19 - Jan Friday @ 07:30 A.M at MTC , Mussafah

### **DIVINE SERVICE( Malayalam)**

\19 - Jan Friday @ 10:30 A.M MTC, Mussaffah

*May the New Year bring you  
warmth of Love and a light to guide your path  
towards a positive destination.*

**Happy New Year**



# Message from Rt. Rev. Gregorios Mar Stephanos Episcopa



Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It gives me immense Joy to be along with the members of the Abu Dhabi Mar Thoma Parish, in this season of abundant Joy and Hope through the Birth of Christ and as we enter with faith into the New Year 2018. May we all look back and thank God who has been faithful to us in our Life's journey along with Him. The famous quote that we read everywhere in this season of Joy is that "**Jesus is the reason for the Season**", in a way this is true. But we have to look into this more deeply, "**Jesus became the reason for us so that we can become the reason for Others**". It means that you and me have to become His witnesses by sharing, loving, caring, forgiving the "Other" whom we have ostracized. This is Christmas, the bringing together of all creation to the Manger of Mysteries revealed to us. "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, good will to men, I bring you good news of great joy to everyone." These are the words the angels said over the hills outside of Bethlehem when they announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds tending sheep through the night. It was great news. A baby had been born and this baby was the demonstration of God's love for us. That first Christmas is the reason we can live a life of purpose and significance. The baby in the manger was proof that God loved us, and that His love was deep enough to make a way for us to know Him. Experiencing a meaningful Christmas is not in buying more gifts or decorating more elaborately. It is in putting Christ first, focusing on what matters most, and then sharing that with others. This Christmas celebration can be a time to pause and reflect on the love that God has for us, and then find a way to share that love with others.

Once that amazing love has been placed in us, (Romans 5:5) we now have the capacity to love with the God kind of love. It is the love that allows us to look beyond ourselves and sees needs in others, and then helps us to find a way to do something about them.... just like God did in sending His Son to save us. It is this wonderful message that we get to share. Once we find our purpose in life, we get to help others find theirs. You were made for this mission! In fact Jesus said in John 17:8, "In the same way that You (God) gave Me (Jesus) a mission in the world, I give them (you and me) a mission in the world." What Jesus began as a baby in a manger, we get to continue. Jesus was about His Father's business during His life on the earth, and that is our mission as well! Showing and telling others that they can have a relationship with God through His Son Jesus is the greatest gift you could give anyone. No gift can be greater than helping people establish a vibrant relationship with God.

In St. Paul's letter to the **Ephesians chapter 5:15-17** it says, "*So be careful how you live, don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the lord wants you to do*". **The first thing we see here is "To live wisely"**, it means to live in the ability to discern or judge what is true, right or lasting. There are many choices to make in this world, but making the right choice is challenging, it here where our spirituality is tested, are we able to make the right choice in our day to day lives to be Christ at our home, church and workplaces. **The second thing we see here is, we have to make the most of every opportunity.** We are living in a time where our faith, worship, beliefs, values and morality are being re-written into something that cannot be accepted. Our cultural expressions are becoming outdated and boring for the younger generation. As *Nietzsche* said, "*the last known Christian died on the cross*", it is a challenge for we the community of faith to act and defend our faith when tested, in love, faith and care. We are called to be as St. Paul says "Ambassadors of Christ". The harvest is plenty but the workers are few. Are we willing to God's loyal servant. **The third thing we see in this verse is, we need to surrender to the will of God,** this is the greatest challenge for all of us in our decision making situations, what is the will of

God? And how can we know it in this New Year that we are entering into. “**W**alk with the Lord” in His ways to know His will. “**I**nvest in the Lord”, give Him your everything and seek Him at all times. “**L**ook to the Lord”, at all times, for He will never fail you and finally, “**L**ove as the Lord”, show selfless love to all, pray for your enemies, smile at them and win their hearts. May the good Lord be with all of us in this New Year, may it be filled with the presence of God almighty and let our hearts be thirsty for God to do His Will revealed in the life of Christ. I once again thank and praise God for the Abu Dhabi Mar Thoma Church, for all your help, support and fellowship that each and everyone of you have been rendering towards the Utkal Mission and the various activities of the Delhi Diocese. May our good Lord be with us all.

**“Wishing you all a meaningful Christmas and a Blessed New Year 2018”**

With prayerful regards,  
Yours Sincerely,



**Rt. Rev. Gregorios Mar Stephanos Episcopa**




Jesus Said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8: 31-32

**ABU DHABI MAR THOMA CHURCH**

*Parish Convention*

**Speaker : Rev.C.V Symon**  
**Theme : Witness & Progress**

Date : 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> January (Wed - Sat)  
Time : 04:00 pm - 02:00 pm  
Venue: The Mar Thoma Church, Mussafah

For transport details contact transport coordinator :  
Mobility Co-ordinator: Alex Math 950 280073  
Transport is available from all the Church Bus routes.  
Buses will leave from Abu Dhabi at 7:00 PM & from Mussafah at 7:15 PM.

**Pray; Participate ; Encourage others to come; Be blessed; Be a blessing**

## USHERS FOR THE MONTH

Date	Day	Prayer Group	Title	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Epistle	Gospel
05-Jan	Fri	TCA2	God's Revelation that redeems all	Isa 61:1-11	Rev 5:1-10	Acts 27:18-26	Luke 4:16-21
07-Jan	Sun	Khalifa Street					
12-Jan	Fri	TCA1	Life worthy of the Holy Calling	Prov 23:19-35	Rom 6:12-23	Gal 5:16-24	Matt 7:15-23
14-Jan	Sun (Eng)	Khalidiya					
19-Jan	Fri (Eng)	Passport Road	'One Lord – One Baptism' – Ecumenical Sunday	Num 11:23-30	1John 3:1-11	Eph 4:1-10	John 10:7-18
19-Jan	(Mal Ordinary)	A2					
21-Jan	Sun	Hamdan Street					
26-Jan	Fri	Mussafah-4	Church – A Praying Community	Gen 18:19-33	1Pet 4:7-16	Jas 5:13-18	Matt 6:1-9
28-Jan	Sun	Electra Street					
02-Feb	Fri	CCC Central Hospital	The Holistic Healing that Christ gives (Medical Mission Sunday)	Job 42:1-12	Rev 22:1-5	2Cor 12:1-10	John 5:1-16
04-Feb	Sun						

# ORGANISATION PROGRAMS

## Senior Citizen Fellowship

9 - Jan	Tue	Senior Citizen's Fellowship meeting will be at St. Andrews Mar Thoma Hall hosted by Mr. Tharian Mathew @ 8PM
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## Parish Mission

5th, 12th & 26th Jan	Fri	Fasting Prayer Cell Carmel Hall Mussaffah @ 7:45 A.M
5th & 26th	Fri	Devotional Meeting in Abu Dhabi (7:30 P.M) & Mussaffah (6:30 P.M)
12 - Jan	Fri	Joint Prayer Meeting & General Body at Abu Dhabi Upper hall @7:30 P.M
19 - Jan	Fri	<b>SpecialPrayer meeting for 10th &amp; 12th Students at Abu Dhabi Upper Hall @ 7:30 P.M</b>

## Yuvajana Sakhyam

5th, 12th & 26th Jan	Fri	Sakha Meeting @ 08:00 A.M
19 - Jan	Fri	<b>Bachelor's Get together from 5:00 P.M – 09:30 P.M</b>
23- Jan	Tue	Cottage Prayer at Ebenezer Hall @ 8:00 P.M

## Youth Forum

20th & 27th Jan	Sat	Cottage Prayer @ 7:30 P.M Details will be announced in Church.
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## Sevika Sankham

8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th Jan	Mon	Mussaffah sakha meeting at member's residence @ 9:30 A.M
12th Jan	Fri	Cake Fest (soon after the Church Service)
6th, 20th & 27th Jan	Sat	Abu Dhabi sakha meeting at St. Andrews Centre @ 6:00 P.M
27th Jan	Sat	Baniyas Sakha Meeting at member's residence @ 5:30 P.M

## Sunday School

05-Jan	Fri	<b>Registration for new Academic year @ 7:30 A.M</b>
06-Jan	Sat	Sunday School Teachers General Body 4:30 P.M – 6:00 P.M
12th & 26th Jan	Fri	Regular classes at 7.30 A.M
19-Jan	Fri	Sunday School After the English Service

## CCC

13-Jan	Sat	CCC Meeting - Bible class by Rev. C.V Symon at Abu Dhabi lower hall @ 10:00 A.M
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## Parish Choir

05-Jan	Fri	UAE Center Christmas Carol@ Fujairah Mar Thoma Church
26-Jan	Fri	Choir Picnic after the Church Service

## Senior Citizen Fellowship - Savings and Investment Seminar



## Housewarming Ceremony of the house donated by Senior Citizen Fellowship



## Yuvajana Sakhyam - UAE Center Kalamela : Overall 1St Runner Up



## Yuvajana Sakhyam - Christmas Carol Rounds



## Sevika Sangham – Picnic



## Sunday School - Graduation Ceremony



## Annual Day Program



# Christmas Carol Service



Christmas Holy Qurbana Service



Altar Boys dedication



Kaisthana Samithi Family Get together



# NEW MEMBERS



Name: Dr. Jem Kollavana Raj  
Contact No. 056-7653777  
Roll No. R055  
Prayer Group: TCA 2



Name: Mr. Sujith Mamman  
Contact No. 050-4177638  
Home Parish: Salem MTC, Kundara  
Roll No. M538  
Prayer Group: Shabiya



Name: Mr. Jacob Mathew  
Contact No. 050-4439016  
Home Parish: Carmel MTC, Vadaserikara  
Roll No. M536  
Prayer Group: C-1



Name: Mr. Sijo Mathew  
Contact No. 052-9566104  
Home Parish: Bethel MTC, Bhopal  
Roll No. M537  
Prayer Group: B-3



Name: Miss. Nisha Merry Jose  
Contact No. 050-9667259  
Home Parish: St Thomas MTC, Anicadu  
Roll No. J429  
Prayer Group: Khalifa City



Name: Mr. Jibin Varghese  
Contact No. 055-1471749  
Home Parish: Anaprampal MTC, Edathu  
Roll No. V350  
Prayer Group: Mus 4



Name: Mr. Jovin M George  
Contact No. 058-2975813  
Home Parish: Jerusalem MTC, Konni  
Roll No. Cen Hospital  
Prayer Group: G233



Name: Mr. Reni K George  
Contact No. 055-3257707  
Home Parish: MT Mathilakam Ascension, Puthencavu  
Roll No. G234  
Prayer Group: Mus 1



**Golden Opportunity for Bible study Freely at your own pace  
and convenience, through Jeevamrutham correspondence course.  
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Email: [jeevamruthamcc@gmail.com](mailto:jeevamruthamcc@gmail.com)**

**For Church transport please contact- Transport coordinator Mr. Bobby Oommen Abraham 050 5915075**

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