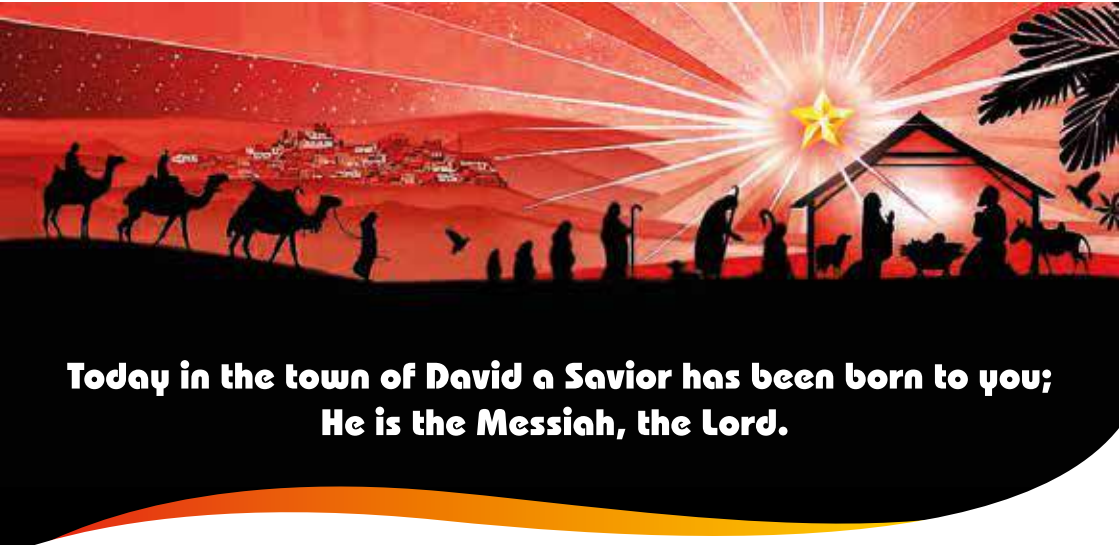




THE MAR THOMA CHURCH, ABU DHABI

PARISH NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2017



**Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;
He is the Messiah, the Lord.**



DECEMBER

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						

December Highlights

- Dec 2 Yuvajana Sakhyam – U.A.E Center Kalamela
- Dec 14 Joint Prayer Meeting
- Dec 22 Christmas Carol Service
- Dec 24 Christmas Holy Qurbana
- Dec 29 Prayer Group Day
- Dec 31 Watch Night Service

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

3rd & 17th Dec Sunday HQ (Mal) @ 8 P.M at St. Andrews Church

24-Dec Sunday CHRISTMAS HOLY QURBANA @ 8 P.M , MTC Mussafah

31-Dec Sunday WATCHNIGHT SERVICE @ 9:30 P.M ,MTC Mussafah

HOLY QURBANA (English)

10-Dec Sunday @ 8:00 P.M at St. Andrews Church
15-Dec Friday @ 07:30 A.M at MTC , Mussafah

DIVINE SERVICE(Malayalam)

15 Dec Friday @ 10:30 A.M MTC, Mussafah



The Blessings of Peace
The Beauty of Hope
The Spirit of Love
The Comfort of Faith
May these be your gifts
this Christmas Season.



Merry Christmas



MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR



Dearly beloved in Christ,

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

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rest" (Luke: 2:14)

First of all, let me sincerely thank each and every member of our parish for their prayers, unity, dedication, hard work, support and active participation in our Harvest Festival. It was a great and blessed experience for all of us.

December is the month for Christians all over the world to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas is an occasion of joy and peace. On the first night of Christmas, an angel from heaven said to the shepherds: "Do not be afraid, I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people" (Luke 2:10).

The word "mass" means "sacrifice" and Christmas means sacrifice of Christ. Therefore, it is an occasion to remember the birth and death of Jesus Christ. God sent his son to save the world through him. As Mary prepared herself for the birth of Jesus, the church has set apart 25 days of lent for the purification of our lives so that Christ will be born in us and we will grow up in Christ.

These days Christmas has become a season of mere celebration without Christ. For many, it is a time to enjoy the worldly pleasures like consuming alcohol, dining, merry making and shopping. These worldly pleasures are expensive, interim and short lived. But spiritual pleasures give us real joy of salvation through Christ that is free and eternal, which cannot be taken away by others.

As we move on to the New Year 2018, what is our testimony? Let us cling on to the promises of God in His time; He shall make all things beautiful.

May the Almighty God help us to spread the joy of Christmas among our family, friends and neighbors. Wish you all a happy Christmas and a blessed new year.

Yours in Christ's service,

കുലത്താക്കൽ അച്ചൻ

Rev. Babu P Kulathackal



Letter from Vice President's desk

How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me. I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.(Psalms 116 :12-14).

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is indeed a great privilege to be an office bearer of this divine church.

Over the years Abu Dhabi Mar Thoma parish has been blessed by the pastoral services of eminent priests. Our present priests Babu Achen and Biju Achen along with their families is working towards the kingdom of God. The unity and the respect they have for each other, has indeed percolated down to all parish members. This is evident in the mass participation of all church programs, like Family Conference, Parish day, Parish Picnic, Pickle preparation, Harvest Festival, to name a few. It's been a great time for fellowship. However there are many facing hardships. The geopolitical situation, merger of flagship oil companies and its subsidiaries, merger of two big banks, downward trend in contracts, had adverse impact on job front. Suppliers/contractors delayed payments have affected the business side. People are apprehensive about the cost factor due to Value Added Tax for goods and services from 2018. Many are worried. This is the time, we hold our hands and pray for one and all and pray for our adopted country (UAE).

In spite of all hardships, the support shown by our parish members towards all contributions are commendable. We had an overwhelming response for the Diocesan collection. Therefore it was conscious decision not to go overboard for Harvest Collection, but to stick to budget numbers. A big thank you to all the committee members for their support.

Looking forward to Rt. Rev. Gregorios Mar Stephanos Episcopa visit, the advent of Christmas season, Carol Service, Prayer Group Day and Parish Convention.

Let me take this opportunity to thank Babu Achen, Biju Achen, all organizations, committee members, conveners, and office bearers for their relentless support.

May our God bless us all.

Your loving brother in Christ.

Varghese Thomas (Jose).

E-Souvenir

Senior Citizens Fellowship is publishing an E-Souvenir to mark the completion of 15 fruitful years. Inviting articles / write-up from Senior Citizens (Age 55 and above). Send entries latest by 30th November 2017 to seniorcitizensfellowship@gmail.com. For more details contact SCF Secretary: 050-4411726

USHERS FOR THE MONTH

Date	Day	Prayer Group	Title	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Epistle	Gospel
01-Dec	Fri	A4	Beginning of 25 Days Lent; Visitation of Virgin Mary to Elizabeth	Gen 18:1-16	1 Pet 1:8-12	2 Cor 1:3-11	Luke 1:39-45
03-Dec	Sun	Muss2					
08-Dec	Fri	Beda Zayed	Birth of John the Baptist	Issa 55:6-13	Heb 4:1-13	Gal 1:11-17	Luke 1:57-66
10-Dec	Sun (Eng)	Muss 1					
15-Dec	Fri (Eng)	A3	Annunciation to Joseph	Zeph 3:14-20	Rom 1:5-16	Phil 4:4-10	John 14:1-7
15-Dec	Fri (Mal Ordinary)	A2					
17-Dec	Sun	Madina Zayed					
22-Dec	Fri	A1	Our Lord is Coming	Mic 4:1-7	1John 4:7-21	Rom 1:8-17	John 1:1-14
24-Dec	Sun (MTC,Mussafah)	Kaisthana Samithi					
29-Dec	Fri	Zayani	Year Ending – Watch Night Service 'God our Helper and Redeemer'	1Sam 7:5-17	1Pet 5:6-11	Heb 13:7-11	Luke 12:22-34
31-Dec	Sun (MTC,Mussafah)	Kaisthana Samithi					
05-Jan	Fri	TCA2					
07-Jan	Sun	Khalifa Street	Denha – Baptism of Jesus	Isa 56:1-8	Rev 7:9-17	Rom 6:1-11	Mark 1:1-11

ORGANISATION PROGRAMS

Senior Citizen Fellowship

12-Dec	Tue	Senior Citizen's Fellowship meeting will be at the residence of Mr. of Mr. K. A. Mathew
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Parish Mission

1st,8th, 22nd & 29th Dec	Fri	Fasting Prayer cell Carmel Hall Mussaffah @ 7:45 A.M
1st & 8th Dec	Fri	Devotional Meeting in Abu Dhabi 7:30 P.M & Mussaffah 6:30 P.M
15-Dec	Fri	Joint Praise & Worship and Chain Prayer participants meeting at Mussaffah Church @ 7:00 P.M

Yuvajana Sakhyam

01-Dec	Fri	Sakha Meeting @ 08:00 am
02-Dec	Sat	UAE Centre Kalamela @ Dubai Mar Thoma Church
08-Dec	Fri	Sakha Meeting @ 08:00 am & Carol Rounds
9,11&12th Dec		Christmas Carol Rounds
15-Dec	Fri	Christmas Carol Rounds - Bedazayed
22nd & 29th Dec	Fri	Meeting & Cake Sale @ 08:00 am
26- Dec	Tue	Cottage Prayer at Ebenezer Hall @ 8:00 pm

Youth Forum

9th & 23rd Dec	Sat	Cottage Prayer @ 7:15 P.M Details will be announced in Church.
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Sevika Sankham

4th & 10th Dec	Fri	Mussaffah sakha meeting at member's residence @ 9:30 A.M
08-Dec	Fri	Cake fest (soon after the Church Service)
9th & 23rd Dec	Sat	Abu Dhabi sakha meeting at St. Andrews Centre @ 6:00 P.M
16-Dec	Sat	Sevika Sangham Family Picnic

Sunday School

1-Dec	Fri	7:30 am-8.20 am – Graduation Ceremony 8.20 am - 9.15 am -Answer Discussion /Revision for Birudh/Annual Day Practice
8-Dec	Fri	Birudh Exam / Teachers Exam - 12:30 noon - 3 pm
15-Dec	Fri	42nd Annual Day- 4.30 pm – 8.30 pm
22nd & 29th Dec	Fri	No Sunday School Classes
5-Jan-18	Fri	7.30 am – 9.15 am -Registration for the year 2018

CCC

16-Dec	Sat	CCC Meeting
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Parish Picnic



Youth Forum - "Praise & Worship - COME BACK' Session



Senior Citizens Fellowship - Babu Achen's birthday Celebration



Yuvajana Sakhyam - Inter Prayer Group Volleyball Tournament 2017 Winners Mussafah 4 + TCA 1 Team



ADMTC Holyland Trip 2017 Team



Sevika Sangham - Cooking contest



Golden Opportunity for Bible study Freely at your own pace and convenience, through Jeevamrutham correspondence course.

Contact: Course Coordinator: 050-4411726

Email: jeevamruthamcc@gmail.com

Better Days for Diaspora

“Pravaasikalkku Oru Nalla Naale”

Seminar on Saturday 9th December 2017, 7:30 P.M – 9:30 PM

Sub: Tips for Financial planning, saving and investment

Followed by Question-Answer session & dinner

Leader: Mr. K. V. Shamsudheen, Director, Barjeel Geojit Securities

Location: Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Hall, St. Andrews Centre

Regn. Fee – AED 10/- Contact: SCF Secretary 050-4411726

Harvest Festival 2017



NEW MEMBERS



Name: Mr. Jabu Abraham Philip
Contact No. 055-4338019
Home Parish: St Thomas MTC,
Kozhencherry
Roll No. P153
Prayer Group: Khalifa Street



Name: Mr. Jubin Joseph
Contact No. 054-3385986
Home Parish: St Thomas MTC,
Bassein Road, Mumbai
Roll No. J427
Prayer Group: B2



Name: Mr. Alex C Chacko
Contact No. 050-9776852
Home Parish: Christos MTC, Chathannoor
Roll No. C163
Prayer Group: Central Hospital



Name: Mr. George V Cherian
Contact No. 050-1549340
Home Parish: St George MTC, Alleppy
Roll No. C162, Prayer Group: C2



Name: Mr. Jolly George
Contact No. 058-8432823
Home Parish: MISC Secunderabad
Hyderabad
Roll No. G232
Prayer Group: Mussafah 3



Name:
Miss. Christina Rocky Fernandez
Contact No. 052-8962955
Home Parish: Mar Thoma
Syrian Church, Kalyan, Mumbai
Roll No. F003
Prayer Group: C1



Name: Mr. Robin Thomas
Kochethu
Contact No. 055-9714931
Home Parish: St Thomas MTC,
Thiruvalla
Roll No. K191
Prayer Group: A1



Name: Mr. Johnson Joseph
Contact No. 055-7920082
Home Parish: St John's MTC,
Kaipuzha, Kulanada
Roll No. J428
Prayer Group: Mussafah 3



Name: Mr. Issac Thomas George
Contact No. 054-3076631
Home Parish: St. Thomas MTC, Pennukkara
Roll No. G231
Prayer Group: C1

Joint Prayer meeting

Third Joint Prayer Meeting on Thursday 14th December 2017 at 8:00pm in Mussaffah church community center.

Prayer Groups : TCA1, TCA2, B1, B2, B3, C1, C2, C3, D1, D2 & Beda Zayed



Celebrant : Rt. Rev. Gregorios
Mar Stephanos Episcopa

Date	Day	Time	Location	Event Title
22-Dec	Friday	9:30 A.M	ADMTc, Mussaffa	HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
22-Dec	Friday	7:00 P.M	ADMTc, Mussafah	CHRISTMAS CAROLS
24-Dec	Sunday	8:00 P.M	ADMTc, Mussaffah	CHRISTMAS HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
29-Dec	Fri	9:30 A.M	ADMTc, Mussaffa	HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
29-Dec	Fri	5:00 P.M	ADMTc, Mussafah	PRAYER GROUP DAY 2017
31-Dec	Sunday	9:30 P.M	ADMTc, Mussaffah	Watchnight Service



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

Vicar : Rev. Babu P. Kulathackal
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Email : kulathackalachen@yahoo.com

Asst. Vicar : Rev. Biju C.P
Mob : 050 2171188
Tel. : 02 5550880
Email : bijucp77@yahoo.com,

Mussafah Church Office
Tel. : 02 5555300
Jossy : 0563150707