



THE MAR THOMA CHURCH, ABU DHABI

PARISH NEWSLETTER - March 2018

How Deep The Father's Love For us !

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

March 23 40th Friday at 9:30 AM,
MTC Mussafah

March 25 Hosanna at 8:00 PM, MTC Mussafah
March 29 Maundy Thursday at 7:30 PM,
MTC Mussafah

March 31 (Sat) Easter Service at 8 PM,
MTC Mussafah

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

HOLY QURBANA (English)

11 - Mar Sunday @ 8:00 P.M
at St. Andrews Church

16 - Mar Friday @ 7:30 A.M at MTC Mussafah

DIVINE SERVICE (Malayalam)

16 - Mar Friday @ 10:30 A.M MTC, Mussaffah



MARCH

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

March Highlights

- Mar 7 - Mid LENT
- Mar 22 - Joint Worship Prayer
(All 31 Prayer Groups)
- Mar 23 - 40th Friday
- Mar 24 - Passion Recital by Parish Choir
- Mar 25 - Hosanna
- Mar 26 - 28 - Teens Camp
- Mar 29 - Maundy Thursday
- Mar 30 - Good Friday
- Mar 31 - Easter Service
- Apr 1-7 - VBS

Greetings to you all in the Risen Lord



Dear beloved in Christ,

I am very happy to communicate to you with this newsletter. Now the church entered the festival of lent, the season on prayer fasting and meditation.

Clause 3 section 1 of the constitution of the Mar Thoma Church says ‘the observance of Sunday, Lents and dominical feasts shall not be abolished at any time’. This it is a clause that cannot be deleted or amended by anybody.

It was about a century ago when Titus I Mar Thoma was the Metropolitan that the present constitution was given its initial shape. There was an earlier constitution which was published in 1857 by Mathews Mar Athanasius, the Metropolitan who led the church after the Reformation. It was known as “The Canon of the Malankara Syrian Church”, the See of St. Thomas the Apostle. It is from this canon that we can get some insights into the tradition of the lent and what it meant to our ancestors.

The Canon list’s 5 Lents:

1. Great lent -50 days
2. 25 days lent preceding Christmas
3. 3 days lent called Nineveh lent – 21 days before great lent
4. Lent of the apostles – June 16 – 29
5. Lent of the Virgin Mary –Aug 1 -15

Lent is the span of time in the church calendar that starts with Ash Wednesday and ends with Easter Sunday. Ash Wednesday commemorates the beginning of Jesus’ 40-day fasting and temptation in the desert, and Easter Sunday commemorates Jesus’ resurrection from the grave after his crucifixion. Lent, then, is generally observed as a time for Christians to reflect, repent, and pray as a way of preparing their hearts for Easter.

“The real aim of Lent is to prepare people for the celebration of the death and Resurrection of Christ...the better the preparation the more effective the celebration will be. One can effectively relieve the mystery only with purified mind and heart. The purpose of Lent is to provide that purification by weaning people from sin and selfishness through self-denial and prayer, by creating in them the desire to do God’s will and to make His kingdom come by making it come first of all in their hearts.”

In other words, Lent is the preparation of the believer through prayer, doing penance, mortifying the flesh, repentance of sins, almsgiving, and self-denial. May god bless you to do and practice the real meaning of lent.

We also come on the end of current financial year. It is the time of retrospection, determination and look back. It is the time of thanks giving for God’s provision over us from the beginning to the end.

Yours in Christ

Rev Biju C P

MAR THOMA SUNDAY SCHOOL, ABU DHABI

VBS 2018

Theme: Transformers (Romans 12:2)
 Date: April 1st - 7th 2018
 Time: 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. (Friday 7.30 a.m. - 9.20 a.m.)
 Venue: Mar Thoma Church, Mussafah
 For Details: Contact 050 6112376 or Sunday School Team



عام
زاید



YEAR OF
ZAYED

Join to celebrate Year of Zayed
 To promote values of tolerance, progression,
 environmentalism, leadership, and charity.
Introduction to Community service

Date/time: Friday 9th March 2018, 2:00 - 3:30 PM
 Venue: Mussafah Community Centre
 Registration Fee: AED 10 per head (Lunch provided)
All Church members are cordially invited

Mar Thoma Senior Citizens Fellowship, Abu Dhabi

USHERS FOR THE MONTH

Date	Day	Prayer Group	Title	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Epistle	Gospel	
02-Mar	Fri	Khalifa Street	Persistence in Prayer that leads to Healing	2Kings 20:1-10	1Thess 5:12-22	Jude 1:17-23	Mark 7:24-30	
04-Mar	Sun	Shabia						
09-Mar	Fri	Khalidiya	True worship that liberates from Bondage	Exod 3:11-18	Rev 14:1-7	Acts 16:19-34	Luke 13:10-17	
11-Mar	Sun	D2						
16-Mar	Fri (Eng)	Hamdan	New Vision of Messianic Age	Isa 35:1-10	1Pet 4:12-19	2 Cor 1:3-11	2Cor 1:3-11	
16-Mar	Fri	Electra						
18-Mar	Sun	D1						
23-Mar	Fri	Parish Mission	40 th Friday – Jesus who triumphed Temptations	Number 21:1-9	Heb 12:1-13	1 Pet. 1:13-22	Matt 4:1-11	
25-Mar	Sun	Sevika Sangham	Hosanna Coming of the King Messiah	Zech 9:9-17	Rev 4:1-11	Col 1:14-23	Matt 21:1-11	
29-Mar	Thu	Kaisthana Samithi	Maundy Thursday	Exod 12:1-17	Heb 9:1-15	1 Cor 11:23-34	Matt 26:17-30	
30-Mar	Fri	Kaisthana Samithi	Good Friday Service					
31-Mar	Sat	Yuvajana Sakhyam	Resurrection – Easter: Joy and Celebration of Salvation	Exod 14:5-31	Col 3:1-11	1Thess 4:13-18	Matt 28:1-10	
01-Apr	Sun	Senior Citizen						
06-Apr	Fri	Central Hospital	New Sunday – Encounter with the Risen Christ	Gen 32:22-32	Acts 9:1-18	1Thess 1:3-12	John 20:24-29	
08-Apr	Sun	C3						

ORGANISATION PROGRAMS

Senior Citizen Fellowship

9-Mar	Fri	Celebrating "Year of Sh.Zayed" seminar on "Community Service" at Mussafah Community Center @ 2 P.M
13-Mar	Tue	Senior Citizen's Fellowship meeting will be hosted by Mr.Rajan P George at St. Andrews Mar Thoma Hall @ 8 P.M

Parish Mission

2nd,9th, 23rd Mar	Fri	Fasting Prayer Cell at Carmel Hall Mussaffah @ 7:45 A.M
2-Mar	Fri	Devotional Meeting in Abu Dhabi (7:30 P.M) & Mussaffah (6:30 P.M)
9th,16 & 23rd Mar	Fri	Devotional Meeting in Abu Dhabi (7:30 P.M) & Mussaffah (6:30 P.M)

Yuvajana Sakhyam

2 -Mar	Fri	General Body Meeting
9th & 23rd Mar	Fri	Sakha Meeting @ 8 A.M
20-Mar	Tue	Cottage Prayer at Ebenezer Hall @ 8:00 P.M

Youth Forum

10th & 24th Mar	Frit	Youth Forum Cottage Prayer @ 7:15 P.M. Details will be announced in Church
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Sevika Sankham

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th Mar	Sat	Abu Dhabi Sakha meeting at St. Andrews Centre @ 6:00 P.M
24- Mar	Sat	Baniyas Sakha Meeting at member's residence @ 5:30 P.M

Parish Choir

23-Mar	Fri	Family Gettogether @ 02.30 pm in Community Center
24-Mar	Fri	Passion Recital along with Sandhya Namaskaram

Sunday School

2nd,9th,16th & 23rd Feb	Fri	Regular classes at 7.30 A.M
30-Mar	Fri	Good Friday (No Sunday School Class)

CCC

17-Mar	Sat	'SAFE PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES – TIPS FOR DEALING WITH ACHES AND PAIN'. Session by Experts in Physical Therapy
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Teens Forum

26-28 Mar	Mon - Wed	Teens Camp from 9 A.M – 4 P.M @ St.Andrews Upper Hall
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Thanks Note From Trustee - Finance



Greetings to you in the trusted name of Jesus Christ!

It has been a great privilege for me to have served as the Trustee of the Church during the current financial year. I would cherish this as the highest decoration God placed on me yet and thank God for the opportunity.

Abu Dhabi Mar Thoma Church is merited as one of the best church of the Sabha and my experience to understand the qualities leading to that position from close quarter is my testimony. We as the Church is focused on the support to many of the forefront services to humanity and all of these are deserving causes. God has placed us in the land of opportunity and we extend the benefits to the needy and that is the strength of our edavaka.

The team of office bearers and Kaisthana Samithy along with the well bonded Vicars were a great source of blessing and support for the overall functioning of the trustees. Minimalism was the adopted policy for the year and splurge was restricted considering the economic scenario. We trust to have achieved our objectives on these fronts.

Most of all, these outcomes were only possible due to the intrinsic worth of our members and we thank God for the great community we have become and thank each and every member for your creditable support extended to us over the year.

Ajith Ninan, Trustee - Finance



Thanks Note From Trustee - Accounts

Praise the Lord.

I take this opportunity to thank the Almighty for giving a chance to serve the Mar Thoma community in Abu Dhabi. During the one year tenure, I have experienced the lord's care in all aspects. The vivid parish organization, are catering the spiritual need of all age groups. The programs in the parish are giving a place for the parishes to associate more closely and giving intimacy.

The role of area prayer group meetings must be appreciated. That is the place where the couples, children and singles get a Christian fellowship. The needy and weak persons get a compassionate approach from the fellow members. This units are the foundation for a good parish.

Thanking Lord for being a member of the blessed parish. Glorifying the Lord for giving the all privileges in a foreign land as a Pravasi (Immigrant). Let us all enjoy the gift of God to freely worship in the land donated by the kind Rulers of Abu Dhabi Emirates.

Varughese Binu Thomas, Trustee - Accounts

Yuvajana Sakhyam

Hearty congratulations to our Yuvajana Sakhyam Volleyball team for the hat-trik victory in UAE Center inter church volleyball tournament.



Labour Camp Minsitry (Thanal)
Vist Usba Camp outskirts of Samha & Ajban



Joint Prayer Meeting / Preachers Meeting



Youth Forum - UAE Center Youth Chaplaincy Forum - Center Meeting



Participants from our parish attending the HeartSaver First Aid CPR AED Course



ROTA FOR PASSION WEEK (40TH FRIDAY TILL EASTER)

Date	Day	Time	Importance	Place	Organisation
23-Mar	Fri	9.30 am	40th Friday	Mussafah Church	Parish Mission
24-Mar	Sat	7.30 pm	Sandhya Namaskaram	Mussafah Church	Parish Choir
25-Mar	Sun	8.00 pm	Palm Sunday	Mussafah Church	Sevikha Sangham
26-Mar	Mon	8.00 pm	Sandhya Namaskaram	Mussafah Church	Youth Forum
27-Mar	Tue	8.00 pm	Sandhya Namaskaram	Mussafah Church	CCC
28-Mar	Wed	8.00 pm	Sandhya Namaskaram	Mussafah Church	Sunday School
29-Mar	Thu	7.30 pm	Maudy Thursday	Mussafah Church	Kaisthana Samithi
30-Mar	Fri	8.30 am	Good Friday	Mussafah Church	Kaisthana Samithi
31-Mar	Sat	8.00 pm	Easter Service	Mussafah Church	ADMYTS
01-Apr	Sun	8.00 pm	Easter	St. Andrews Church	Senior Citizen

Condolences



**ADMTC express heartfelt condolences
on the sad demise of
Mr.Tilu Mammen Thomas (33) son of Mr.Thomas N.T
(Roll# T018), Hamdan Prayer Group**

**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

TEENS CAMP

Date : 26th -28th March
Time : 9.00am - 4.00 pm
Venue : St.Andrews Upper Hall

Registration : 50 Dhs.
For More Details Please Contact
Master Abel Mathew (Teens Forum Secretary)
0561557916

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

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