



THE MAR THOMA CHURCH ABU DHABI, UAE

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PARISH NEWS LETTER February 2010

| Scheduled Worship Services | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Service | Day | Time | Venue |
| Holy Communion | Every Friday | 09.30 | Mar Thoma Church, Mussafah, Abu Dhabi |
| Holy Communion | Every Sunday | 19:45 | St. Andrew's Church, Abu Dhabi |

Thanksgiving service for Birthday and Wedding Anniversary is held during the Holy Communion services and you are invited.

Holy Qurbana Service in English order will be held on all the second Sundays of every month @ 7.45 pm @ St. Andrews Church.

Joint Prayer Meeting: -

Will be held on February 25, 2010

Upper Chapel, St. Andrews Complex @ 8.00 pm.

Prayer Groups: A-1, C-1, D-2, Madinat Zayed, Mussafah -1, TCA-2

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From the Diocesan Secretary's desk



Dearly beloved in Christ,

I deem it a privilege to address you through the pages of your news letter. God has granted us an opportunity to enter another decade with hope. When we feel for the victims of the devastating earthquake in Haiti and pray for them, are we ever grateful for the protection of our God, which we enjoy? Turbulent and tumultuous situations are on the rise everywhere. Optimism helps us move forward in the midst of all the chaos around us.

The state of affairs, in the world scenario is alarming for many. Lack of job opportunities, uncertainty about one's present employment, the struggle to enroll children in schools, etc... all these can make us stressful. However, our Lord, through the Church, helps us to hold on with unwavering faith in the midst of tribulations. Let us hope and pray for a better tomorrow.

We are about to enter the 'Big Lent' on February 14, 2010. Lent is the time of re-dedication and renewal of our commitments. Let us look at our fasting this year in a different perspective. Let us consider the following, to help us:

1. *Fast from anger and hatred. Give others an extra dose of love each day.*
2. *Fast from judging others. Before making any judgments, recall how Jesus overlooks our faults.*
3. *Fast from discouragement. Hold on to Jesus' promise that He has a perfect plan for your life.*
4. *Fast from complaining when you find yourself about to complain. Close your eyes and recall some of the little moments of joy Jesus has given you.*
5. *Fast from resentment and bitterness. Work on forgiving those who may hurt you.*
6. *Fast from spending money extravagantly. Try to give your tithe for the needy and for charitable causes.*

The Chennai-Bangalore Diocese, otherwise known as the Missionary Diocese, has created an impact in the minds of the people in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka by spreading the Good News to all. The number of members added to the community, far exceeds the membership of the migrant community from Kerala. This is an outcome of our Missionary work alone. We have 30 missionary Aghens and 58 evangelists & social workers. Their zeal and passion helps us to reach people with an unfathomable love for God.

The Diocese is indebted to the prayer groups of Abu Dhabi and the Parish at large for the monetary help and prayer support, which aids in spreading the Gospel.

In this context, the collection drive for the Vellore Guidance home is promising. The Diocese has incurred a debt of around Rs.55 lakhs while purchasing the new plot and this has to be cleared before March 31, 2010. We hope that each of you will help the Diocese in this noble cause. I congratulate the members of the Yuvajana Sakhaym for their timely help.

May God bless us all.

Your servant in Christ,

Mathew Baby Achen.

revmathew.baby@gmail.com

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NEW MEMBERS

| Name | Roll No. | Home Parish | Pr. Grp. | Mobile No. |
|---------------------------|----------|--|----------|-------------|
| SHAJI JOHN VARGHESE | J306 | St. Thomas M T C, Pennukara. | D-2 | 050-5163790 |
| CHACKO JOY | J307 | Jerusalem Mar Thoma Church Niranom. | ELECTRA | 050-7438245 |
| BONEY VARGHESE | V248 | Jerusalem Mar Thoma Church, Kuttapuzha. | D-1 | 050-5260545 |
| HENLEY CHACKO VARGHESE | V249 | Jerusalem Mar Thoma Church, Kuttapuzha. | D-1 | 050-6155746 |
| ARUN K. VARGHESE | V251 | Sehion Mar Thoma church Varikad. | D-2 | 050-2219711 |
| MATHEW VARGHESE | V252 | Mar Thoma Church, Cheppad. | Mus. 3 | 050-4184137 |

USHERS FOR THE MONTH

| Friday | Sunday | Lesson -1 | Lesson - 2 | Epistle |
|---------------------|------------|---|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 05/02/2010 | 07/02/2010 | 2 Kings: 5: 1 - 14 | Acts: 3: 1 – 10 | James: 5: 13 – 19 |
| C 3 | B 2 | <i>Theme : Holistic Healing that Jesus gives</i> | | |
| 12/02/2010 | 14/02/2010 | Exodus: 15: 22 - 27 | Romans: 12: 1 - 8 | Ephesians: 4: 17 - 24 |
| D 1 | B 1 | <i>Theme : Redemption and Transformation of Creation (Great Lent).</i> | | |
| 19/02/2010 | 21/02/2010 | 2 Kings: 20: 1 - 11 | 1 John: 2: 1 - 17 | Acts: 5: 12-16 |
| D 2 | A 4 | <i>Theme : Jesus Christ who recognises the untouchables</i> | | |
| 26/02/2010 | 28/02/2010 | 1 Sam: 18: 1 - 20 | Acts 8: 14 – 22 | Philemon: 8 – 22 |
| Central Hospital | A 3 | <i>Theme : Fellowship & Liberation through Christ</i> | | |
| 05/03/2010 | 07/03/2010 | Isaiah: 45: 1 – 8 | Acts: 16: 6 - 15 | Gal: 2: 11 - 21 |
| Electra | A 2 | <i>Jesus who honours faith</i> | | |

OTHER CHURCH ACTIVITIES

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Area Prayer Meetings | Wednesday / Thursday at 8 pm |
| Sunday School | M T C Mussafah, Friday at 7:30 am |
| Yuvajana Sakhyam | M T C, Mussafah, Friday at 7:45 am |
| Sevika Sanghom | Saturday: Lower hall - at 6 pm, Mussafah - 5 pm |
| Choir Practice | Friday - Lower hall, St. Andrew's Centre, at 5:30 pm |
| Edavaka Mission | Friday - Upper hall, at 7 pm & Mussafah at 6 pm |
| E. M. Fasting Prayer | Friday @ 07:30 am on 5 th February 2010, Muss. Church |
| Senior Citizens Prayer | Monday @ 8:00pm on 8 th Feb, at Res. of Mr. Mathai Koshy |

SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

Feb.5, Friday - Special One Day Convention, Mussafah Church @ 6.30 pm Guest speaker: Rev. A. T. Zachariah.

Feb. 14 - 21: 115th - Maramon Convention.

Feb.19, Friday - Yuvajana Sakhyam Picnic - after Holy Communion Service.

Feb.14th Sunday to April 04th Sunday:

"The Great Lent"
(50 - Days Valiva Nombu).

For prayer requests:

E-mail: tkancheryachen@yahoo.com

Vicar: Mobile: 050-445 1160.

Resi: 02-446 4562.