



The Mar Thomas Church
Abu Dhabi

He is not
here, for he
has
Risen!



PARISH NEWS LETTER
MARCH 2016



Theme of the Year
"Parish as a mission field."



UPCOMING EVENTS

Holy Qurbana Mussafah Church :
Fridays at 9:30 AM
St. Andrews Church : Sundays at 8 pm.
2nd Sunday-8 pm English HQ Service

18/03/2016 :
M J Cheeran Memorial &
Kalasandya

18/03/2016 : 40th Friday
19/03/2016 : Farewell to Tirumeni
20/03/2016 : Hosanna Sunday
24/03/2016 : Maundy Thursday
25/03/2016 : Good Friday
26/03/2016 : Easter (Mus. Ch)
27/03/2016 : Easter
(St. Andrews Ch)

19/03/2016 : CCC meeting
at St. Andrews

VBS 2016
Date : 28 March to
4 April 2016

Parish Theme of the Year - Phase 4

6 MF's for the Visible Instrument of Gods Mission

1. Home/Family
2. Work/Work Place
3. Prayer Groups
4. Sick/Neglected
/Under Privileged
5. Church/Church Organizations
6. Wider World

Opening Lines from the Vicar



Dear beloved in Christ,

Living as Christian is a response to deliberate choice. It calls for a decision to place our faith in Christ. Faith is not fully inherited. It is a gift offered to us, but accepting the gift is a personal decision. We are at the mid of the observance of fifty days of Great Lent with great devotion and much preparation to celebrate the Holy Week. This Lent season is a special time when Christians renew their faith choice. The liturgies of Lent remind us that the cross is the only way to life. For those who are faithful, Good Friday leads to Easter Sunday. This season of grace calls us to honestly look at how well our faith affects our decision in life. As Parish we have raised the slogan: 'kenotic Love in action.' For this we have published a lent meditation book for the parishioners. I request you all to use this book in your personal and family prayers. Moreover I appreciate the editorial team for their hard work in publishing the book. We expect your whole hearted participation and involvement in the 'Nombu Namaskaram'. The sacrifice of Jesus gives us reason to rejoice. Therefore let us walk with Jesus on the way of cross.

Life is always changing and everything, whether good or bad, will eventually come to an end. Nothing in this life remains the same; only God is unchanging and constant in His love, at all times. We as family thank God Almighty for His kindness to us allowing to be here as His servants during the last two years. Words are not enough to thank you for the love, kindness, and support you all have shown to us till today. Building up of the people of God through spiritual nurturing and pastoral care are the focus of our ministry here. The elderly, sick, people who pass through various kinds of crisis, isolated, underprivileged, youth and children are our target groups in our ministerial tasks. For us this is the time to evaluate ourselves what makes our presence different? What type of changes we have to make within ourselves?

By God's grace the General body meeting to elect the new office bearers for the year 2016-17 went on well. I hope and pray that the newly elected office bearers will continue 'the culture of unity' among the parishioners and put their effort for the establishment of the Kingdom of God. The various Parish Organizations are also on the process of finding new teams. Jesus calls us for his ministry which involves a process of shaping ourselves reflecting God centered faith and deep commitment to the concerns and issues of God's community around us. Jesus calls us into leadership that involves self-giving service to the community of God. We are called not to be served but to serve the community of God in and around us. Let us commit ourselves for this task.

Our Diocesan Episcopa, Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxinos Thirumeni is completing 12 years of Shepherding in our Parish including 7 years of service through the Chennai-Bangalore Diocese. As the Bishop of this Diocese he is so concerned about each and every movement of the Parish. He cared the Parish with great vision. Even though he is busy with World Council of Churches, Serampore University, the Diocesan Activities, etc his presence & involvement in the ministry of the Parish is praise

worthy. We have arranged a farewell meeting on 19th Saturday at 7.30pm. Thirumeni will be with us for the Hossanna Service on 20th Sunday. Let us thank God for the ministry of Philoxinos Tirumeni and wish him all the best in the newly appointed diocese.

Our children studying in 10th & 12th grade are going to appear for the board exams in the first week of this month. Let us join our hands together in prayer for their success in the exam. May this Lenten season be a special time for all of us as we prepare to celebrate the Easter with renewed faith, enthusiasm and commitment.

May God's choicest blessing upon you all.

Together in Christ's Ministry
Rev. Prakash Abraham
 Vicar

USHERS FOR THE MONTH

FRIDAY	SUNDAY	TITLE	LESSON 1	LESSON 2	EPISTLE	GOSPEL
04/03/2016 Madina Zayed 9.30 AM	06/03/2016 Khalidiya Area 8 PM	Transforming the Oppressive Structures C.H.246(5th Sunday in Lent)	Nahum. 1:1-15	Acts. 16:25-34	Acts. 4:32-37	St. Luke. 13:10-17
11/03/2016 Khalifa Street 9.30 AM	13/03/2016 Hamdan St (Eng) 8 PM		Gen. 26:12-33	2 Cor. 11:20-31	2 Cor. 1:3-11	St. Mark. 10:46-52
18/03/2016 Senior Citizen 9.30 AM		40th Friday	Numbers. 21:19	Heb. 12:1-13	1 Pet. 1:13-22	St. Mat. 4:1-11
20/03/2016 Yuvajana Sakhyam 8.00 PM		Hosanna Sunday	Zech. 9:1-12	1 Tim. 4:6-16	Heb. 5:5-10	St. Luke. 19:28-40
24/03/2016 Sunday School 8.00 PM		Maundy Thursday	Gen. 22:1-14	Heb. 5:1-14	1 Cor. 11:23-34	St. Mat. 26:31-46
25/03/2016 Kaithana Samithy 8.30 AM		Good Friday	1st Session Isa.53:1-12 1st Peter.1:1-25 St. Mat.26:47-75	2nd Session Zech.13:1-9 Gala.3:1-22 St. Mat.27:14-44	3rd Session Numbers.21:1-9 Heb.3:1-19 St. Mat.27:45-56	
26/03/2016 Parish Mission 8.00 PM (Mussafah)	27/03/2016 Sevika Sangham 8.00 PM	Easter	Gen. 23:1-19	Col. 3:1-11	1 Thes. 4:13-18	St. Mat. 28:1-10
01/04/2016 Khalidiya Area 9.30 AM	03/04/2016 Electra Street 8 PM		Gen. 28:10-22	Acts. 20:7-12	1 The. 1:2-10	St. John. 20:24-29

PROGRAMMES

HOLY QURBANA

Mussafah Church : Fridays at 9:30 am

(3rd Friday - 7.30am English HQ service, 10.30am Malayalam Ordinary Service)

St. Andrews Church, Abu Dhabi : Sundays at 8 pm

(Every 2nd Sunday - Holy Qurbana service in English order)

Thanksgiving services for birthday and wedding anniversary are conducted during the Holy Qurbana.

Area Prayer Meetings - Wednesday / Thursday at 8.00 PM

GENERAL

18/03/2016 : CCC meeting in association with senior citizen forum. Very Rev. A.C. Kurien (former Vicar General), the Director of Palliative Care Unit, Pushpagiri Hospital, Thiruvalla will be leading the meeting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Regular Sunday School on Friday at 7:30 am.

VBS 2016

Date : 28 March to 4 April 2016

Time : 4 - 7 pm at Mussafah Church

Leader : Rev. Vinod Babu

Theme : What's up? Colossians 3:1 'Set your hearts on things above'



VBS Leader :
Rev. Vinod Babu

YOUTH FORUM

Details of meetings will be announced in the Church

TEENS FORUM

Camp will be held from April 5 to 7

YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

Every Friday, 8:00 am Regular Sakha Meeting @ Bethel Hall

18/03/2016 : M J Cheeran Memorial & Kalasandya

29/03/2016 : Cottage Prayer

Church Choir

Fridays : Choir practice

at St. Andrews Lower hall at 5:30 PM

SEVIKA SANGHOM

Regular Meetings. - Abu Dhabi - Saturday 6-7pm St Andrew's Lower Hall

- Mussafah - Monday 09:30 am at member's Residence.

08/04/2016 : Psalms Evening

EDAVAKA MISSION

2nd and 4th Friday : Morning Prayer Cell at 7.45am in Mussafah Carmel Hall.

04/03/2016 : Parish Mission Fasting Prayer at 7.45am in Mussafah Carmel Hall

04/03/2016 : UAE Center Meeting at Sharjah.

11/03/2016 : Joint Devotional Meeting at 7.30pm in Abu Dhabi Upper Hall.

Parish Mission General Body Meeting at 9.00pm in Abu Dhabi Upper Hall

18/03/2016 : Bible Class at 6.30pm in Mussafah & 7.30pm in Abu Dhabi.

25/03/2016 : Praise & Worship joint meeting at 7.00pm in Mussafah.

Membership Campaign : Members can register for Parish Mission Membership 2016-17 at book stall.

SENIOR CITIZEN FORUM

08/03/2016 : Monthly prayer meeting at the residence of Mr. George John (Prasad) at 8pm.

Condolences

Expressing deep condolences to our members and their families, whose dear ones have been taken to Heavenly Abode

NEW MEMBERS : We whole heartedly welcome all new members to our parish family
Please keep in touch with our Vicars and respective prayer group representatives.



JACOB JOHN
Mob: 052-7596887
Home Parish:
St. Thomas M T C Mulakuzha,
Chengannur.
Roll No. J401
Prayer Group: Electra Street



JOMON C PHILIP
Mob: 056-9539305
Home Parish:
Emmanuel M T C, Mepral, Thiruvalla
Roll No. P140
Prayer Group: BANIYAS



CHACKO SAMUEL
Mob: 050-8364574
Home Parish:
St. Thomas M TC, Karackal, Thiruvalla
Roll No. S174
Prayer Group: Khalidya



ROJY A VARGHESE
Mob: 052-7102510
Home Parish: Ranny Vaikom
M T C, Ranny
Roll No. V335
Prayer Group: Khalidya



REENISH P THOMAS
Mob: 056-7922995
Home Parish: St. Thomas M T C,
Pazhavanthangal, Chennai
Roll No. T411
Prayer Group: Electra



SUBIN KURIAN THOMAS
Mob: 050-3927402
Home Parish: M T C Pattoor, Trivandrum
Roll No. T412
Prayer Group: Muroor Road



ASWIN ABRAHAM THOMAS
Mob: 056-9042873
Home Parish: Nanthancode
Jerusalem MTC, Nanthancode
Roll No. T410
Prayer Group: Mussafah -3

ROTA for 40th Friday to Easter Including Passion Week

Date	Time	Place	Importance	Stewards
18/03/2016 - Fri	9:30 AM	Mussafah Church	40th Friday HQ	Senior Citizen
19/03/2016 - Sat	7:30 PM	Mussafah Church	Farewell to Tirumeni	Office Bearers
20/03/2016 - Sun	8:00 PM	Mussafah Church	Hossana H Q	MTYS
21/03/2016 - Mon	8:00 PM	Mussafah Church	Common	Youth Forum
22/03/2016 - Tue	8:00 PM	Mussafah Church	Common	Teens Forum
23/03/2016 - Wed	8:00 PM	Mussafah Church	Common	Parish Choir
24/03/2016 - Thu	8:00 PM	Mussafah Church	Maundy Thu: H Q	Sunday School
25/03/2016 - Fri	8:30 AM	Mussafah Church	Good Fri: Serivce	Kaisthana Samithy
26/03/2016 - Sat	8:00 PM	Mussafah Church	H Q For Easter	Parish Mission
27/03/2016 - Sun	8:00 PM	St. Andrews Ch.apel	H Q	Sevika Sangham

*Guest Achen for
Passion Week*



Very Rev. A.C. Kurien

Yuvajana Sakhyam - Sports Day



The Mar Thoma Church, Abu Dhabi, U. A. E



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UAE Center Sunday School - Children's Fest



Sunday School - Prize Winning Tiny Tots



Yuvajana Sakhyam - Book Fest





With lots of love and gratitude...



ur Diocesan Bishop, Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxinos Tirumeni is transferring from our diocese to North America & Europe from April 2016. We have been really blessed with the leadership of His Lordship as the Bishop of our Parish over the last 12 years. He has given clear direction around the various issues related with this Parish. He has inspired us to be more passionate about mission and discipleship and has been a real encourager to Achens and laymen alike. During his tenure, our Parish has been transformed in to a model Parish in Mission which others can emulate. He is a quiet leader of unfathomable depth and vision. Tirumeni's simplicity, humility and excellent leadership skills made him to rise to the platform of excellence in various capacities. We place on record our appreciation and gratitude for the blessed & visionary leadership of our beloved Tirumeni.

We wish you a blessed and a fruitful ministry in the new Diocese.

The Vicar, Assistant Vicar,
Kaisthana Samithy
& Members of the
Abu Dhabi Mar Thoma Parish



His Lordship Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Episcopa

- ❖ Farewell Meeting on Saturday, 19th March at 7.30pm—Mussafah Church
- ❖ Holy Qurbana on Sunday, 20th March at 8pm—Mussafah Church

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