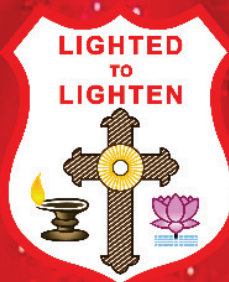


VOLUME 7 ISSUE 12

**Malankara
Mar Thoma
Syrian Church**



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(Since 1963 in Kuwait)

Kuwait St. James Mar Thoma Church
Parish Bulletin

(A Monthly Publication of Kuwait St. James Mar Thoma Church)

December 2017

**Wishing all a blessed
Christmas.**



Vicar, Rev. Prince Korah

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(For Private Circulation only)

Christmas: Grace upon Grace



Dearly beloved in Christ,

We are entering the month of December the last month of the calendar year. The month where birth of Christ is celebrated by the world. What does this Christmas hold in store for us? The message of Christmas, though is one of love, humility and peace, the event of Christmas is filled with rejection, dejection, pride, envy, arrogance and violence. The context today, is not different from this, where our world celebrates another Christmas in a time when terrorism, fascism, casteism, racism and violence against women and children are on a huge rise. Though our world and nation have tremendously advanced in terms of technology and communication, we seem to be failing miserably in terms of ethics, morality and human rights. Not only man but ecology too is immensely subjected to exploitation and violence. It is in this context that we meditate on the 'Prince of Peace', who came to live among us filled with grace and truth. Yes! He came to embrace us with 'Grace upon Grace'. But, what does it mean to say, 'Grace upon Grace', in a context of 'cries after cries'? Who is Christ in the midst of crises? What is 'Peace', when we live in 'Piecé'?

1. GRACE IMPLIES GOD CHOSE US

Christmas reminds us of this relation between God's Grace and our status as a chosen race. As it is said in Titus 3: 5-7, "He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy...so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life." In fact, it is because of the same Grace that He came down from heaven to love us and to be loved by us, called to be His heirs. On this Christmas day, let us rejoice, for we are His chosen heirs, through His grace.

2. GRACE IMPLIES GOD ANSWERS US

The story of Christmas reminds us of a nation which was subjugated by the Roman Empire, and also of their prayer for the coming of a Messiah to liberate them. There have been a number of attempts by the various Jewish sects to gain freedom from the Romans, using their own ways of weapons and arms, wars and fights, plans and plots. But all these failed repeatedly as the Roman government suppressed those using military. But God answers a people in distress, by sending the 'Messiah', meaning the 'anointed one'. God's answer to their prayer for a 'Messiah' to help them comes as the 'Emmanuel' (God with us) and 'Jesus' (God saves). Christmas therefore, reminds us for God's grace that works as answers in our times of pain, distress, anxieties and tensions.

3. GRACE IMPLIES GOD SAVES US

The Christmas event mentions Mary, mother of Jesus as a woman of grace. Her grace was that she was called to participate in the salvific mission of God. Therefore, Christmas reminds us not only about the grace of God that saves us, but also about the grace of God that saves us to continue His mission of enhancing that grace to many around us. And it is then, that Christmas becomes a mission mandate for the Church to engage in God's mission of spreading the good news of grace and peace.

God's grace has come in search of us, and we are filled by grace upon grace, that chose us, answered us and saved us despite our falls and failures. Therefore, Christmas is not only a time to celebrate, but also a time to recommit ourselves to continue God's mission of welcoming, loving and living in solidarity with the poor and needy. The month of december the church observes the 25 day lent i.e from 1st Dec to 25th Dec. Lets observe this lent prayerfully and prepare ourselves for the grace of God in our midst.

Christmas calls us to become an alternative community, a community that trusts not in chariots and horses, but who believes in Christ, who for His love to the world, was born as one among us, laid in the manger, lived among us, filled with grace and truth, loved the last, least and lost, was crucified and rose again from the dead, to come again in glory. Only then we could practice what we preach, the message of love, humility and peace in a context of violence, corruption and discrimination in the name of age, gender, caste and race. On this Christmas day, shall we make our hearts, mangers for Him to be born and laid, in order to experience and express 'Grace upon Grace'? Then and only then, our families, churches and communities could live the meaning of Christmas in its fuller sense.

As we enter into a new year that awaits us with hope and greater joys and bigger success in our lives, let us spend time to say a big Thank you to our creator for sustaining us throughout this year. We as a family wish you all a Grace-filled Christmas and Spirit-Filled New Year 2018. May God Bless us All.

Rev. Prince Korah
Vicar
princekorah@yahoo.com





WARM WELCOME

We heartily welcome
Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos Episcopa
Kottarakara –Punaloor Diocese
Who will visit our Parish and lead us in the
First Communion Service,
Parish Day & New Year Service.

PARISH DAY CELEBRATIONS (EDAVAKA DINAM)

Our Parish Day will be held on Saturday, 30th December 2017 at 7:00pm at Hall of Peace. **Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos Episcopa** will be the Chief Guest of the program. We welcome all our Parishioner's prayerful presence on this joyful occasion. As part of the celebrations, will be honouring our members (couples) who have completed 30 years of married lives and awarding our children who have secured top marks in the Xth and XIIth (2016-2017).



WELCOME

We welcome **HG. Most Rev. Kuriakose Mar Eusebious**,
Metropolitan of Delhi Diocese of Syrian Orthodox Church.
Thirumeni will deliver the Christmas message during the
Carol service on 16th December 2017

CHRISTMAS CAKE SALE

The Sevika Sanghom will organise a Christmas Cake Sale on Friday, 8th December immediately after the service. Proceeds of the sale will be utilized for the poor and needy. Please participate prayerfully.



December 21 Sabha Dinam
Mar Thoma Church Day (Martyrdom Day)

"My Lord
and
My God"

Saint Thomas the Apostle





Christmas and New Year Programs



Christmas Carol Rounds

Christmas Carol House to House Rounds will start from Sunday, 3rd December 2017 onwards.

Christmas Carol Service

The Christmas Carol Service is planned for Saturday, 16th December 2017 at 6:30pm at Hall of Peace, NECK.

Theme –The Word became flesh.

HG .Most Rev. Kuriakose Mar Eusebious, Metropolitan of Delhi Diocese of Syrian Orthodox Church will be our Chief Guest.



Sunday School Christmas Carol Program

The Sunday School Christmas Carol Program will be on Friday, 22nd December 2017, at 3:30pm at KTMCC Hall, NECK.



KECF Carol Service

The KECF Carol Service is scheduled for Friday, 29th December 2017 at 7:00pm at Church and Parish Hall, NECK.



Christmas Holy Communion Service

We will be having the Christmas Holy Communion Service on Sunday, 24th December 2017 at 6:30pm at North Tent, NECK.

New Year Holy Communion Service

The New Year Holy Communion Service will be on Monday, 1st January, 2018 at 7:30am at Church & Parish Hall, NECK.



Upcoming Events for the month

First Holy Communion Service

Friday, 29th December 2017 at 7:00am at Hall of Faith, NECK.

Parish Day Celebration (Edavaka Dinam)

Saturday, 30th December 2017 at 7:00pm at Hall of Peace, NECK.

Chief Guest

Rt.Rev.Dr.Euyakim Mar Coorilos Episcopa.

CHRISTMAS CAROL ROUNDS SCHEDULE		
DAY	PRAYER GROUP-AREA	CONTACT
Sun, Dec 03	Zion – Abu Halifa, Fahahaheel	Bibin Benjamin - 60078964
Mon, Dec 04 Wed, Dec 06	Kerith- Abassiya	Mathews Cherian - 99084699
Thurs, Dec 07	Nazareth – Khaithan	Manu Easo – 97373217
Thurs, Dec 07	Gloria – Riggae	Sunil Joseph – 97491405
Fri, Dec 08	Emmanuel – Farwaniya	Biju Alex – 97677906
Sun, Dec 10	Gilead – Sharq	Varghese V V – 999620153
Mon, Dec 11	Moria – Hawalli	Abraham K Cherian - 50201016
Wed, Dec 13	Sinai – Nugra	Bobby Thomas – 99696764
Wed, Dec 13	St.Andrews – Maidan Hawally	Sony P Sunny – 94929280
Wed, Dec 13	St.Luke – Salmiya	Jose Samuel – 25652969
Wed, Dec 13	Jerusalem – Salmiya	Mathew Eapen – 99607230
Sun, Dec 17	St.Thomas – Salmiya	Thomas Thomas T. - 99577247
Sun, Dec 17	Trinity - Salmiya	Alex Cherian P – 99539689
Mon, Dec 18	Carmel - Salmiya	Santhosh C Jacob – 67063899
Mon, Dec 18	St.Pauls - Salmiya	Abraham T V – 99015218
Wed, Dec 20 Thurs, Dec 21	Sehion - Salmiya	Prasanth – 99575580
Fri, Dec 22	Jahra Camp Visit	Office Bearers

CONDOLENCE

Mrs. Saramma Varghese, (91) Valliyanakuzhiyil, Vennikulam m/o Mr. V. V. Varghese, Mr. Jose Varghese, Mr. John Varghese & Mr. Reji Varghese - Gilead P.G.
The Parish express heartfelt condolences to the beavered families.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

DATE	FAM No.	NAME	TEL NO.	P.G.
Dec-03	0070	MR. & MRS. LIJU SAMUEL	66526273	GILEAD
Dec-11	0210	MR. & MRS. JOHN BABY	66238134	MORIA
Dec-14	0046	MR. & MRS. GIGI GEORGE	99276863	ST.THOMAS
Dec-14	0232	MR. & MRS. VIPIN JOHN	66090123	ST.PAULS
Dec-17	0158	MR. & MRS. ANOJ SASHIDHARAN	55609710	MORIA
Dec-18	0082	MR. & MRS. ABEY MATHEW	99181556	SEHION
Dec-22	0036	MR. & MRS. ZACHARIAH K THOMAS	99583285	CARMEL
Dec-24	0108	MR. & MRS. RUEBAN ABRAHAM THOMAS	66582234	SEHION
Dec-26	0221	MR. & MRS. SUMESH S.	65073648	KERITH
Dec-27	0044	MR. & MRS. PRASANTH MATHEWS GEORGE	99102137	SEHION
Dec-27	0248	MRS. LEENA SUSAN JOHN	51516457	GLORIA
Dec-29	0184	MR. & MRS. BYJU JOSEPH	51619299	MORIA
Dec-29	0080	MR. & MRS. PRAKASH KURUVILLA ABRAHAM (DR)	66112365	GILEAD
Dec-30	0207	MR. & MRS. CHERIAN ABRAHAM	66106028	SEHION
Dec-30	0052	MR. & MRS. VARGHESE ABRAHAM ARATTU	96962642	EMMANUEL

BIRTHDAYS				
DOB	FAM No.	FAMILY MEMBER	TEL NO.	PG
Dec-02	0034	GEEVARGHESE PHILPOSE E.	99516820	GILEAD
Dec-02	0220	CATHERINE VINOY MATHEW	94066609	SEHION
Dec-04	0070	ABIAH MARIUM LIJU	66526273	GILEAD
Dec-05	0039	NICKY MERLYN THOMAS	99132778	JERUSALEM
Dec-05	0091	CYNTHIA ANN VERGHESE	97163112	ST.PAULS
Dec-05	0118	JOBOY JOHN	55422435	EMMANUEL
Dec-05	0160	JISHA MARIAM MAMMEN	66197835	KERITH
Dec-06	0003	SUJAY REJI	99772974	GILEAD
Dec-06	0224	JOASH JOHN	97325083	KERITH
Dec-07	0163	LIJO MONCY	90058825	SEHION
Dec-08	0110	KRISTIN THOMAS	60011459	GILEAD
Dec-10	0114	ASHA GEORGE	66584573	ZION
Dec-11	0084	NOEL JOE CHERIAN	97949617	GILEAD
Dec-12	0123	CHRISTEN	66095981	MORIA
Dec-13	0062	ANA THOMAS	99567681	JERUSALEM
Dec-13	0173	GEORGE JOSEPH	66529835	ZION
Dec-14	0006	SACHIN K SURESH	66767441	TRINITY
Dec-14	0038	ANNAMMA GEORGE	99858713	GILEAD
Dec-14	0147	BENOY VARGHESE	97526289	EMMANUEL
Dec-15	0024	JOSE K ABRAHAM	65181260	MORIA
Dec-15	0242	RINI ROSE BIBIN	67030973	ZION
Dec-15	0111	RUBY RENJI	97406895	SEHION
Dec-16	0028	LINU VARGHESE	99620153	GILEAD
Dec-16	0053	LEEN ELIZABETH SIBU	66733862	SEHION
Dec-17	0065	JOSHIN SAMUEL	99051086	GILEAD
Dec-17	0114	AARON	66584573	ZION
Dec-18	0033	RELIN ANN RETHU	66216051	SEHION
Dec-18	0198	JOANNA ANN SAJI	66553827	ST.PAULS
Dec-20	0047	JOSE SAMUEL	55900792	ST.LUKE
Dec-20	0108	RACHEL KOSHY	66582234	SEHION
Dec-20	0108	ABRAHAM RUEBEN THOMAS	66582234	SEHION
Dec-21	0076	REA ELU ABRAHAM	97947603	KERITH
Dec-22	0047	JAYA JOSE	55900792	ST.LUKE
Dec-22	0112	JOHAN KURIAN JIBY	66393275	MORIA
Dec-22	0112	JOVANA SUSAN JIBY	66393275	MORIA
Dec-23	0006	SURESH KURIEN	66767441	TRINITY
Dec-23	0043	MOHAN KURUVILA	66612841	MORIA
Dec-25	0192	BIJOY JOSEPH	66929248	GILEAD
Dec-26	0085	MATHEWS CHERIAN	99084699	KERITH
Dec-26	0215	SHELLY MATHEW ERATTOLIL	97287056	ST.LUKE
Dec-27	0042	SUSAN VARGHESE	99412553	NAZARETH
Dec-28	0108	RUEBAN ABRAHAM THOMAS	66582234	SEHION
Dec-28	0062	ELIZABETH THOMAS (DR.)	99567681	JERUSALEM
Dec-29	0060	SHARON GRACE PHILIP	99006163	CARMEL
Dec-30	0208	RINSON T. GEORGE	66759479	EMMANUEL

***Birthday and Wedding Anniversary Wishes
to all celebrating this month. Birthday & Wedding Anniversary
Thanksgiving Services will be held during Holy Communion Services***

MEMBER UPDATES

New Member

Mr.Biju C K - Family No. 267 - Mother Parish: Kereeth Mar Thoma Church,Karavaloor, Kerith P.G, Mob: 66332349.

New Born Baby

Mr. Bijin Mathew and family blessed with a baby boy, Steve B Mathew.

Mr. David Jacob Philip & fly blessed with a baby girl, Reyna Elizabeth Philip.

Holy Matrimony

Mani Philip Mathew (Sehion PG) & Jubil Reji entered into the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

A WORD OF GRATITUDE

By the grace of God Almighty, our Harvest Festival went on very well. We thank and praise God for His grace that made it successful.

We thank our Vicar, the Harvest Festival General Committee, Kaisthana Samithi members and all our Parish members for your help, support, guidance and co-operation for the success of the event.

We also thank all the guests, our sponsors, advertisers, all those who sponsored various gifts and for each and every person who directly or indirectly supported in this event.

Thank you one and all for your kind participation in the 2017 Harvest Festival. May our Lord's blessing be with us all.

Glimpses



Harvest Festival 2017

PRAYER MEETINGS

Sevika Sanghom

Sat, Dec 09 - Res. of Mrs Annamma Jose (Kochumol) Gilead P.G, Sharq @ 4:00pm.

Edavaka Mission

Sun, Dec 31 – Res. of Mr. Vinu C Thomas, Zion P.G., Abu Halifa. @ 7:00pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Dec 08 – Birudu Exam - Junior II, Inter II, Senior II & Yuva Vakup II

Dec 22 – Christmas Program – KTMCC Hall at 3:30pm.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE & LECTIONARY

Date	Time	Worship	Venue	Theme	Lessons	Epistle-Gospel	Assisted by
01-Fri	7:15am	Holy Communion	Hall of Faith, NECK	Visitation of Virgin	Gen 18:1-16	2Cor 1:3-11	Common
02-Sat	7:00pm	Holy Communion	Hall of Peace, NECK	Mary to Elizabeth	1Pet 1:8-12	Luke 1:39-45	Common
08-Fri	7:15am	Holy Communion	Hall of Faith, NECK	Birth of John the Baptist	Isa 55:6-13	Gal 1:11-17	Kerith PG
09-Sat	7:00pm	Holy Communion	Hall of Peace, NECK	Annunciation of Joseph	Heb 4:1-13	Luke 1:57-66	Emmanuel PG
15-Fri	7:15am	Holy Communion	Hall of Faith, NECK		Zeph 3:14-20	Phil 4:4-10	Choir
16-Sat	6:30pm	Christmas Carol Service	Hall of Peace, NECK	Our Lord is coming	Heb 1:5-16	Matt 1:18-23	Christmas Carol
22-Fri	7:15am	Holy Communion	Hall of Faith, NECK		Mic 4:1-7	Rom 1:8-17	Moria PG
23-Sat	7:00pm	Holy Communion	Hall of Peace, NECK	Birth of our Lord	1John 4:7-21	John 1:1-14	Gilead PG
24-Sun	6:30pm	Christmas Holy Communion	North Tent, NECK		Mic 5:1-9	Gal 4:1-7	Common
					Col 1:13-20	Luke 2:1-14	
29-Fri	7:00am	Holy Communion	Hall of Faith, NECK	God our Helper & Redeemer	1Sam 7:5-17	Heb 13:7-11	Sunday School
30-Sat	7:00pm	Parish Day (Edavaka Dinam)	Hall of Peace, NECK		1Pet 5:6-11	Luke 12:22-34	Parish Day
01-Mon, 2018	7:30am	New Year Holy Communion	Church & PH, NECK	God's continuing act of grace	Zeph 3:14-20	Rom 5:1-11	Office Bearers
					Rev 3:7-13	Luke 13:1-9	

OFFICE BEARERS

Vice President	Secretary	Trustee (Finance)	Trustee (Accounts)	Lay Minister	Lay Minister
Mr. Philip Thomas 99006163	Mr. Biji Samuel 66862675	Mr. Abu Sam Thundathil 66280185	Mr. Abey Mathew 99181556	Mr. Baby Kutty Daniel 98853881	Mr. Johnson Kuttachen 99642207

REGULAR PROGRAMS

Choir Practice	Edavaka Mission	Sevika Sanghom	Sunday School	Yuvajana Sakhyam
Tuesdays 7:15pm -NECK	1 st & 3 rd Thursdays 7:30pm - Cottages	1 st & 3 rd Saturday - Parsonage - 10:30am , 2 nd Saturday - Sharq - 04:00pm , 4 th Saturday - Farwaniya - 05:30pm.	Fridays 3:45pm - 5:30pm NECK	Fridays After Church Service at Hall of Faith.

Kindly use the office facilities available on every Fridays & Saturdays after Church Services to settle all dues.
Changes in the information contained herein if any, will be announced during Church services.



With Compliments from:
Jiby Mammen Philip & fly (Moria), Prassanth Mathews George & fly (Sehion)
Philip Thomas & fly (Carmel), Saji James & fly (St.Pauls).