



APRIL 2015

TIDINGS

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CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

Celebration of Hope

**MOTTO
2015**

നിന്റെ സന്തതിക്കൾ എന്റെ ആശ്വാസിയായും
നിന്റെ സന്താനത്തിന്മേൽ എന്റെ അനുഗ്രഹത്തെയും പങ്കും. യെശയ്യാവ് 44:3

I will pour My Spirit on your descendants,
And My blessing on your offspring. Isaiah 44:3

உன் சந்ததியின்மேல் என் ஆவியையும், உன் சந்தானத்தின்மேல்
என் ஆசீர்வாதத்தையும் ஊற்றுவேன். ஏசாயா 44:3

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Tidings

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Vicar's Reflections

Dear friends in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

We have come to the end of another Lenten period. I hope that our prayers, services and meditations during this period have helped us to grow spiritually. I pray that we will be able to experience the joy and hope of the Resurrection throughout the journey of life.

Resurrection: The celebration of the joy of Salvation:

In Matthew 28: 1-10 we see the importance, the message and the meaning of the Resurrection.

This portion begins with the announcement of the angel to the women who had come to see the tomb of Jesus. When the women set out to convey the angel's announcement to the disciples, the risen Lord meets them on the way.

The Message beyond the announcements:

In the Word of God we read of many announcements regarding the birth of Jesus. With the resurrection of Christ these announcements come to an end. The name "Immanuel" or "God with us" becomes meaningful when Christ becomes visible. The continuing presence of God with us is the message that is conveyed to us through the appearance of Christ.

When we read, "Jesus met them", we must realize that it is to those who go in search of Christ that He is first revealed. There is no doubt that when we seek Jesus in our journey of life He will reveal Himself to us.

The Christ who met them charges them: "Go and tell". That is the Message.

The Joy of being sent:

The instruction to "Go and tell" was first given to two women. This is very important. These women may have been those who

shed tears at the suffering of Jesus when His disciples fled and hid themselves during the last few days. Their joy is doubled when they see the risen Christ. They cannot keep this news to themselves. Jesus appoints two women to convey the message of the Resurrection. What He tells them is that from now on they must declare, not what they have heard, but what they have seen.

Dear friends, the Gospel should be, not hearsay, but a personal experience. It is only then that there will be a passion for proclaiming the Gospel. As we share the joy of the Resurrection, may at least one person experience this joy through our lives.

I wish all of you the hope and joy of the Resurrection.

Sumod Achen

കർത്താവിൽ പ്രിയമുള്ളവരെ,

നിങ്ങൾക്കേവർക്കും കർത്താവായ യേശുക്രിസ്തുവിന്റെ നാമത്തിൽ എന്റെസ്നേഹവന്ദനം.

സഭയായി, ഒരു നോമ്പുകാലയളവു കൂടെ അവസാനിച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണ്. ഈ കാലയളവിലെ പ്രാർത്ഥനകളും, ആരാധനകളും, ധ്യാനവും നമ്മെ ആത്മീകമായി വളർത്തുവാൻ സാധ്യമായിത്തീർന്നു എന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്നു. ഉയിർത്തെഴുന്നേല്പിന്റെ സന്തോഷവും പ്രത്യാശയും തുടർന്നുള്ള ജീവിതയാത്രയിൽ അനുഭവഭേദമായിത്തീരുവാൻ ഇടയാകട്ടെ എന്നു പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

ഉയിർപ്പ് : രക്ഷാസന്തോഷത്തിന്റെ ആഘോഷം

വി. മത്തായിയുടെ സുവിശേഷം 28:1-10 വരെയുള്ള വേദഭാഗത്ത് ഉയിർത്തെഴുന്നേല്പിന്റെ പ്രാധാന്യവും, സന്ദേശവും, അർത്ഥവും കാണുന്നു.

ക്രിസ്തുവിന്റെ കല്ലറ കാണുവാൻ എത്തിയ സ്ത്രീകളോട് ദൈവദൂതന്റെ അറിയിപ്പോടെയാണ് ഈ ഭാഗം ആരംഭിക്കുന്നത്? അറിയിപ്പു ലഭിച്ച സ്ത്രീകൾ ശിഷ്യന്മാരോട് അറിയിക്കുവാൻ പോകുമ്പോൾ ഉയിർത്തെഴുന്നേറ്റു കർത്താവ് അവരെ അഭിമുഖീകരിക്കുന്നു.

അറിയിപ്പുകൾക്കപ്പുറമായ സന്ദേശം :- യേശുവിന്റെ ജനനത്തോടനുബന്ധിച്ച് ധാരാളം അറിയിപ്പുകൾ ദൈവവചനത്തിൽ നാം വായിക്കുന്നു. ക്രിസ്തുവിന്റെ ഉയിർത്തെഴുന്നേല്പോടെ ഈ അറിയിപ്പുകൾ അവസാനിക്കുന്നു.

ഇമ്മാനുവേൽ - ദൈവം നമ്മോടുകൂടെ എന്ന പേര് അർത്ഥമുള്ളതായിത്തീരുന്നത് ക്രിസ്തുവിന്റെ പ്രത്യക്ഷതയോടു കൂടിയാണ്. ഇനിയും തുടരുന്ന ദൈവസാന്നിധ്യമാണ് ക്രിസ്തുവിന്റെ വെളിപ്പെടുത്തലിലൂടെ നൽകപ്പെടുന്ന സന്ദേശം.

ക്രിസ്തു അവർക്ക് എതിർപ്പെട്ടു എന്നു നാം വായിക്കുമ്പോൾ, അന്വേഷിച്ചു ചെല്ലുന്നവർക്കാണ് ആദ്യം വെളിപ്പെടുന്നത് എന്നു നാം മനസ്സിലാക്കണം. യേശുവിനെ ജീവിതയാത്രയിൽ നാം അന്വേഷിക്കുമ്പോൾ, യേശു നമുക്ക് വെളിപ്പെടും എന്നുള്ളതിനു സംശയമില്ല.

എതിർപ്പെട്ട യേശു ഒരു സന്ദേശം നൽകുന്നു. “നിങ്ങൾ പോയി പറയുവിൻ”. അതാണ് സന്ദേശം.

അയയ്ക്കപ്പെട്ടതിന്റെ ആനന്ദം : “നിങ്ങൾ പോയി പറയുവിൻ” എന്ന ആഹ്വാനം ആദ്യം ലഭിച്ചത് രണ്ടു സ്ത്രീകൾക്കാണ്. ഇതു വളരെ പ്രാധാന്യം അർഹിക്കുന്നു. കഴിഞ്ഞ ദിനങ്ങളിൽ ശിഷ്യൻമാർ ഭയന്നു ഓടി ഒളിച്ചപ്പോൾ ക്രിസ്തുവിന്റെ വേദന കണ്ടു കണ്ണുനീർ ഒഴുക്കിയവർ ആകാം ഈ സ്ത്രീകൾ. പുനരുത്ഥാനം ചെയ്ത ക്രിസ്തുവിനെ കാണുമ്പോൾ അവരുടെ ആനന്ദം ഇരട്ടിയാകും. പിന്നെ ആ വാർത്ത അവർക്കു മറച്ചുവയ്ക്കാനാവില്ല. പുനരുത്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ സന്ദേശം അറിയിക്കുവാൻ ക്രിസ്തു സ്ത്രീകളെ നിയോഗിക്കുന്നു. ഇനി മുതൽ നിങ്ങൾ കേട്ടത് അറിയിക്കുകയല്ല, കണ്ടത് അറിയിക്കുക, അതാണ് അവരോടു പറയുന്നത്.

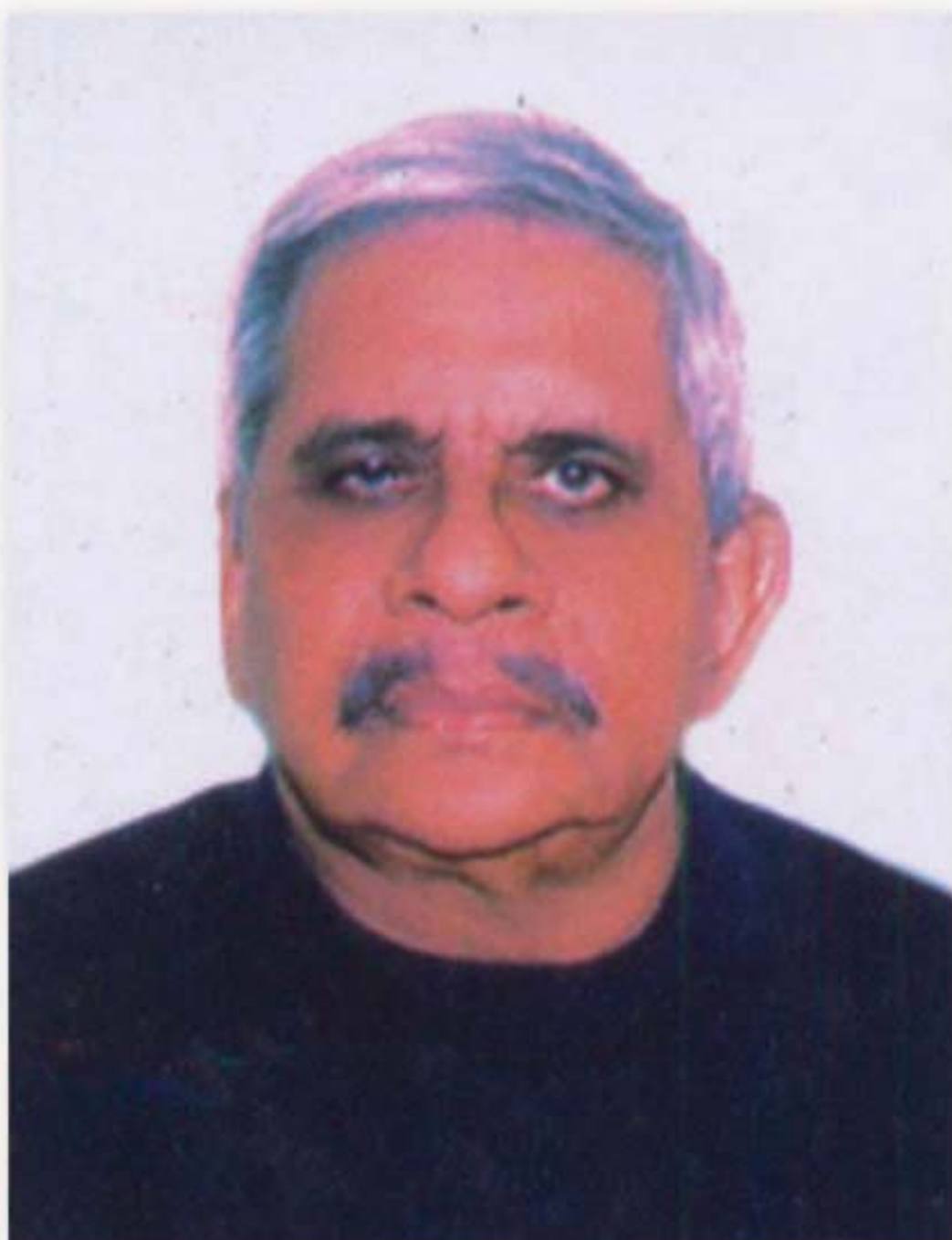
പ്രിയമുള്ളവരെ, സുവിശേഷം കേട്ടറിവല്ല, വ്യക്തിഗത അനുഭവമാകണം. എങ്കിൽ മാത്രമേ, സുവിശേഷം അറിയിക്കുന്നതിന് തീർപ്പാണത ഉണ്ടാകയുള്ളൂ. പുനരുത്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ സന്തോഷം പങ്കിടുന്ന ഈ കാലയളവിൽ, നമ്മുടെ ജീവിതത്തിലൂടെ ഒരാൾ എങ്കിലും ഈ സന്തോഷം തൊട്ടറിവാൻ ഇടയാകണം.

എല്ലാവർക്കും പുനരുത്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ പ്രത്യാശയും, സന്തോഷവും ആശംസിക്കുന്നു.

സുമോദ് അച്ചൻ



Fourth Death Anniversary



Mr. K. C. Thomas

Kaduvettoor (ID-545)
Charachira, Trivandrum

Inserted By
Mrs. Elizabeth Oommen

In Loving Memory of



Prof. Ninan Koshy

Kalaparampil (ID-227)

01.02.1934 to 04.03.2015

Remembered by:
Loved Ones

വാർത്തകളും കുറിപ്പുകളും

VBS

ഈ വർഷത്തെ വി.ബി.എസ്. ഏപ്രിൽ 6-ാം തീയതി മുതൽ 17-ാം തീയതി വരെ സെന്റീനറി ഹാളിൽ വെച്ച് നടത്തപ്പെടും. മാതാപിതാക്കൾ, കുട്ടികളെ വി.ബി.എസിന് അയയ്ക്കണമെന്ന് അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

ഹരിതഭവനം അവാർഡ്

2015 ലെ ഹരിതഭവനം അവാർഡ് ജേതാക്കളുടെ പേരുകൾ ചുവടെ ചേർക്കുന്നു :

1st Prize	Mrs. Leela Mathew	ID 150
	Mr. K.M. Mathen	ID 744
2nd Prize	Mrs. Aleyamma Joseph	ID 1052
3rd Prize	Mr. Reji Easo Cherian	ID 507
പ്രോത്സാഹന സമ്മാനത്തിന് അർഹരായവർ :		
	Mr. K.I. John	ID 563
	Mr. Thomas V. Oommen	ID 1038
	Mr. C.C. Cheriankunju	ID 253

ഏവർക്കും സഭയുടെ അഭിനന്ദനങ്ങൾ !

od for the Needy project

ഈ പ്രോജക്ടിന് ഫണ്ട് വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമായിരിക്കുന്നു. സഭാജനങ്ങളുടെ ഉദാരമായ സംഭാവനകൾ, ഈ സംരംഭം തുർന്ന് കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

Church Directory

നമ്മുടെ ചർച്ച് ഡയറക്ടറി പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിക്കുന്നതിന്, വലിയ ഒരു തുക ആവശ്യമാണെന്ന് ഏവർക്കും അറിവുള്ള കാര്യമാണല്ലോ. ആയതിലേക്ക് പരസ്യം വഴിയോ, സംഭാവനകൾ നൽകിയോ സഹകരിക്കണമെന്ന് താല്പര്യപ്പെടുന്നു. വിശദവിവരങ്ങൾക്ക് താഴെപ്പറയുന്നവരുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെടുക.

Mr. Korah Abraham, Mr. Renju Philip,
Mr. Suku C. Oommen, Mr. John Mathew (Jojo)

ശ്രീ. റിച്ചി വത്സലം

നമ്മുടെ ഗായകസംഘത്തിന്റെ ഇംഗ്ലീഷ് വിഭാഗം അസി. ക്വയർ മാസ്റ്ററായി പ്രവർത്തിച്ചുവന്ന ശ്രീ. റിച്ചി വത്സലം (82) 3-3-2015 ന് നിര്യാതനായി. സഭയുടെ ആദരാജ്ഞലികൾ.

ഓമന എബ്രഹാം (സെക്രട്ടറി)

Organisations' Corner

സ്ത്രീജനസഖ്യം

മാർച്ചുമാസം 1-ാം തീയതി സ്ത്രീജന ഞായറായി ആചരിച്ചു. സ്ത്രീജന സംഖ്യാംഗങ്ങൾ ഇംഗ്ലീഷ് മലയാളം ആരാധനകളിലെ വിവിധ ശുശ്രൂഷകളിൽ നേതൃത്വം നൽകി.

സ്ത്രീജനസഖ്യത്തിന്റെ റിട്രീറ്റും പിക്നിക്ക്കും ശാസ്താംകോട്ടയിലുള്ള ആദിത്യാ റിസോർട്ടിൽ വെച്ച് മാർച്ച് മാസം 2-ാം തീയതി തിങ്കളാഴ്ച നടത്തപ്പെടുകയുണ്ടായി. സജി അച്ചൻ ശോഭക്കൊച്ചമ്മ എന്നിവരുൾപ്പെടെ 28 അംഗങ്ങൾ പങ്കെടുത്തു. നമ്മുടെ തന്നെ സഭാംഗമായ പ്രൊഫസർ സിസിലി തോംസൺ വ്യക്തി ജീവിതത്തിലും കുടുംബ ജീവിതത്തിലുമുള്ള ദൈവത്തിന്റെ കരുതൽ എന്ന വിഷയത്തെ ആധാരമാക്കി പ്രഭാഷണം നടത്തി. തുടർന്ന് കുസൃതി ചോദ്യങ്ങൾ ബൈബിൾ കിസ്, എന്നിവ നടത്തുകയും അംഗങ്ങളിൽ ചിലർ അവരുടെ ജീവിതാനുഭവങ്ങൾ മറ്റുള്ളവരുമായി പങ്കുവെക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു.

മാർച്ച് മാസം 7-ാം തീയതി സ്ത്രീജനസഖ്യാംഗങ്ങൾ അഖിലലോക പ്രാർത്ഥനാ ദിനമായി ആചരിക്കുകയും മുൻകൂട്ടി തയ്യാറാക്കി നൽകിയിരുന്ന ആരാധനാക്രമമനുസരിച്ച് സജിഅച്ചന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ ലോകക്ഷേമത്തിനും ഐശ്വര്യത്തിനുമായി പ്രാർത്ഥന നടത്തുകയുമുണ്ടായി.

Golden Age Fellowship

Bi-monthly Worship and General Body Meeting

The next Bi-monthly Worship Service and Get-together will be held on 1st may 2015 at 7.30 AM. Immediately after the Service the General Body Meeting for 2014-15 will be conducted. Your prayerful presence is requested.

Mission House at Dhamarachanpally and Education Help

Your prayerful participation and valuable contributions are requested for this noble cause, which is our Project for this year.

Almanac

01-04-2015	Evening Worship (Malayalam) 6.00 pm	Wednesday
02-04-2015	Eucharist : The Remembering Jesus (Maundy Thursday) ഓർമ്മയുടെ ആഘോഷം OT : Exodus 12:1-17 Epistle : 1 Corinthians 11:23-34 Psalm 116 Gospel : Mathew 26:17-30 6.15 a.m. H.E. (Tamil) 7.15 a.m. H.E. (English) 6.00 p.m. H.E. (Malayalam)	
03-04-2015	Cross : Death of Death (Good Friday) കുരിശ് : മരണത്തിന്മേൽ ജയം OT : Numbers 21:1-9 Epistle : 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 Psalm 22 Gospel : Mathew 27:1-56 7.15 a.m. (English) 9.45 a.m. (Malayalam) 1.00 p.m. (Tamil)	
05-04-2015	Resurrection : Celebrating the Joy of Salvation (Easter Sunday) ഉയിർപ്പ് : രക്ഷയുടെ സന്തോഷം ആഘോഷിക്കുക OT : Exodus 14:5-31 Epistle : Colossians 3:1-11 Psalm : 118:14-29 Gospel : Mathew 28:1-10 5.00 a.m. H.E. (Malayalam) 7.15 a.m. H.E. (English) 9.45 a.m. H.E. (Malayalam)	
08-04-2015	H.E. (English)	6.00 p.m. Wednesday
10-04-2015	H.E. (Malayalam)	7.30 a.m. Friday
12-04-2015	Encounter with the Risen Lord) 1st Sunday after Easter പുനരുത്ഥാനം ചെയ്ത കർത്താവിനെ കണ്ടുമുട്ടുക OT : Genesis 32:22-32 Epistle : Acts 9:1-18 Psalm : 40 Gospel : John 20:24-29 6.15 a.m. Matins (Tamil) 7.15 a.m. H.E. (English) 9.45 a.m. Matins (Malayalam) 7.00 a.m. H.E. at Zion Hall 6.00 p.m. H.E. at Zenana Chapel	
15-04-2015	H.E. (English)	6.00 p.m. Wednesday
17-04-2015	H.E. (Malayalam)	7.30 a.m. Friday
19-04-2015	Identifying Risen Lord in the Work Place 2nd Sunday after Easter തൊഴിലിടങ്ങളിൽ ഉയിർത്തെഴുന്നേറ്റ ക്രിസ്തുവിനെ തിരിച്ചറിയുക Ot : Ruth 2:1-8 Epistle : Acts 9:36-43 Psalm : 15 Gospel : John 21:1-14 6.15 a.m. Matins (Tamil) 7.15 a.m. H.E. (English) 9.45 a.m. H.E. (Malayalam) 6.00 p.m. Evening Worship at Zenana Chapel	

22-04-2015	H.E. (English)	6.00 pm	Wednesday
24-04-2015	H.E. (Malayalam)	7.30 am	Friday
26-04-2015	Community formation around resurrection experience 3rd Sunday after Easter ഉയിർപ്പിന്റെ അനുഭവത്തിൽ സമൂഹ നിർമ്മിതി OT : Isaiah 25:1-9 Epistle : Acts 4:32-37 Psalm : 126 Gospel : Luke 24:13-35 6.15 a.m. Matins (Tamil) 7.15 a.m. Matins (English) 9.45 a.m. H.E. (Malayalam) 7.00 a.m. H.E. Zion Hall 6.00 p.m. Evening Worship at Zenana Chapel		
29-04-2015	H.E. (English)	6.00 p.m.	Wednesday
01-05-2015	H.E. (Malayalam)	7.30 a.m.	Friday
03-05-2015	Believing in Christ : The Resurrection 4th Sunday after Easter ഉയിർപ്പ് : ക്രിസ്തുവിലുള്ള വിശ്വാസം OT : 2 Kings 4:27-37 Epistle : Acts 26:12-23 Psalm : 90 Gospel : John 11:17-28 6.15 a.m. H.E. (Tamil) 7.15 a.m. H.E. (English) 9.45 a.m. H.E. (Malayalam) 6.00 p.m. Evening Worship at Zenana Chapel		

Roster For Reading Lessons

ENGLISH

Date	First Lesson	Second Lesson
05-04-2015	Mr. M.J. Kuruvilla	Mrs. Elizabeth Ammattil
12-04-2015	Mr. Mohan A. Chandy	Mrs. Georgina Mathen
19-04-2015	Dr. Mohan Mathew	Dr. Indumathi Rajkumar
26-04-2015	Dr. Oommen V. Oommen	Mrs. Jessie Mathew
03-05-2015	Capt. T.M. Punnen	Mrs. Jessy John

MALAYALAM

Date	First Lesson	Second Lesson
05-04-2015	Mr. M.V. Daniel	Sr. Annamma Mathew
12-04-2015	Mr. P.J. Daniel	Mrs. Jolly Job
19-04-2015	Mr. George Mathew Vilayil	Mrs. Kunjumariam
26-04-2015	Mr. C.T. John	Mrs. Mable Mathen
03-05-2015	Mr. John M.M.	Mrs. Marykutty Abraham

In Loving Memory of



K. I. Abraham

Died on : 07-04-2012



Saramma Abraham

Died on : 27-03-2009

For it is my Father's will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day. *John 6:40 (NLT)*

Fondly Remembered By : Icy Abraham, Saki Koshy Abraham & Families. Nanthencode, TVM

Almaya Fellowship Picnic to Wagamon



Second Death Anniversary
(30th April 2015)

In Loving Memory of



Dr. Alex Thomas
Chittalapally
Ambalamukku, Trivandrum (ID 624)

Remembered by: Mrs. Alex Thomas & Dr. Shibu Thomas and Family

Programme for April

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All Sundays
Bible Study (Youth Fellowship) – After the English Service
Prayer Meeting (Almaya Fellowship) – After the Malayalam Service
Hindi Service at Centenary Hall - 4.30 PM ● All Fridays
Choir Practice (English) - 5.00 PM ● All Saturdays
Intercessory Prayer (Youth Fellowship) – 4.30 PM
Choir Practice (Junior Choir) - 4.30 PM
Choir Practice (Malayalam) - 5.00 PM ● 10th - Friday
Intercessory Prayer - 10 AM | <p>Bible Study (Golden Age Fellowship) - After the Intercessory Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 14th - Tuesday
Prison Visit - (Women's Fellowship) - 2 PM ● 18th - Saturday
Bible Study (Women's Fellowship) - 3.30 PM ● 24th - Friday
Visiting the Sick (Golden Age Fellowship) - 9 AM ● 25th - Saturday
House Visit (Women's Fellowship) - 10 AM ● 28th - Tuesday
Prison Visit - (Women's Fellowship) - 2 PM |
|--|---|

Baptism

Ayden Mathew Munduparambil S/o Mr. Sumeeth M. Mathew and Mrs. Vitty Elizabeth Tharakan, "Munduparambil", Barton Hill, Trivandrum (ID 326), on 26th Jan 2015 (DOB: 31st Aug 2014)

Johann Justin, S/o Mr. Justin Joseph and Mrs. Betsy Stephen, "Enchaparayil", Kanjirampara, Maruthenkuzhy, Trivandrum, on 9th March 2015 (DOB: 1st Dec 2014)

Obituary



Mr. Richy Walsalam (82)

YMR Junction, Nanthencode, Trivandrum (ID 518)
on 3rd March 2015



Prof. Dr. Ninan Koshy (81)

Kalaparambil, 4A Wilcrest Point, Golf Links Road,
Trivandrum (ID 227), on 4th March 2015

Area Prayer Meetings

Time	Area	Name	ID	Phone
05-04-2015	Sunday			
4 PM	Peroorkada	Mr. Sudhir George Verghis	870	2730219
06-04-2015	Monday			
5 PM	Palayam –Vazhu	Mr. Soman John (Memorial Prayer at Centenary Hall)	607	2326640
09-04-2015	Thursday			
5.00 PM	Nanthencode	Mr. Saki Abraham (Zion Hall)		
11-04-2015	Saturday			
5.00 PM	PTP - Vattiyoorkavu	Mr. Koshy Oommen	1275	9847705961
12-04-2015	Sunday			
4 PM	Peroorkada	Mr. John Kurien	827	2434633
13-04-2015	Monday			
5 PM	Palayam – Vazhu	Mr. Y. Thomas	616	2320296
16-04-2015	Thursday			
5.00 PM	Nanthencode	Mr. K.I. John	563	2318892
17-04-2015	Friday			
5 PM	Pongu –Sreekariam	Mrs. AleyammaChandy	1049	2443367
19-04-2015	Sunday			
4.30 PM	Kesavadasap	Mr. Thomas Kurien	154	2543227
5.30 PM	Pettah-Manacaud	Mr.C.A.Abraham	909	2742727
20-04-2015	Monday			
5 PM	Palayam-Vazhu	Mr. Joseph Babu	646	2736373
24-04-2015	Friday			
5.30 PM	Palayam –Vazhu	Mr. T.V.Cherian	636	2323296
26-04-2015	Sunday			
4.00 PM	Peroorkada	Mr. K.K.Koshy	829	2432988
4.30 PM	Pattom – Plam	Dr. Thomas Abraham	711	2559321
5.30 PM	Poojappura - Karamana	Mr. P.C. Joy	1135	2358877
02-05-2015	Saturday			
4.30 PM	Peroorkada	Mr. Thomas George	871	2733992
03-05-2015	Sunday			
4 PM	Peroorkada	Dr. Shibu Thomas, Ambalamukku		2433598
4.30 PM	Kesavadasap	Mr. C.T.John	151	2531789

The Resurrection of Christ – Celebration of Hope

“... If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain”

(1 Corinthians 15: 14)

The word ‘Resurrection’ is mainly used in Christianity. It might be incomprehensible to all human understanding or reasoning, but it is undoubtedly the foundation of our Christian faith. For if our Lord had not risen from the dead two thousand years ago, where or what would be our condition today?

No other religious leader is known to have conquered death by rising up again. It is because we have a Risen Lord that we are Christians, the followers of Christ.

Our preaching will be meaningful, presentable, acceptable and authentic only when the subject of our preaching is able to instill hope in the mind of the listener. Through his death and resurrection, Christ has become the total embodiment of life and hope for all human beings, a physical entity, typifying an abstraction.

His death on the cross has become the greatest proof of Agape Love. (1 Corinthians 13: 4-8.) This agape love shows us that love without sacrifice is empty or transitory.

His death on the cross preaches Life. (John 10:10) The death of Jesus on the cross and His resurrection has demonstrated that life is possible through death.

The death of Jesus on the cross preaches new Hope. (Ephesians 2: 13-16) The cross of Christ proclaims the good news that even death is conquered and humanity is liberated from death to life, from bondage to freedom, from slavery to son-ship.

St. Ambrose has said, “The world has been redeemed by one man’s death. Christ need not have died unless he had willed it, yet he did not think it a shameful death, a thing to be avoided, nor was there any better way to save us than by his dying. So his death is everyman’s life.” Thus the cross is the power of God for the Salvation of mankind.

The words of Mary Magdalene in St. John 20:18, “I have seen the Lord..” bore the message of resurrection. These words sum up the reasons for the faith, hope and celebration of the whole of Christianity.

What can be the reasons for this celebration or festivity?

- a) Christ's Resurrection brought victory to mankind. Jesus arose a victor from the dead and all forces of evil. This is celebrated during every Sunday service.
- b) Christ's Resurrection is a promise of New Life. Our life is God's gift and no force can destroy it. Through Jesus Christ this life goes beyond the present time to 'eternal life. The Resurrection of Jesus is the guarantee of this promise.
- c) Christ's Resurrection is Good News for the Oppressed and Suffering. A new community with firsthand experience was born on the day of resurrection. They were bold in confessing Jesus as "crucified, died, risen, who is living and will come again in glory." Thus a life in Jesus is a life of worship, total freedom, hope and peace.

The reality of Jesus' resurrection instills special hope in those who claim God's promise in faith."Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading kept in heaven for us." (1 Peter 1: 3, 4). Believers in Christ should press towards the goal to attain the prize of "the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus."(Philippians 3:14). God invites us his believers to become joint heirs with his dear Son. That calling fosters a purifying hope in us, which helps us fight the evil forces.

By the grace of God, Christ tasted death for each one of us. (Hebrews 2:9) and gave himself up as "a ransom for all (1 Timothy 2:6). We also see that he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not ours only but also for the sins of the whole world (1 John 2:2). We are thus assured of the share of hope through the resurrection of Jesus.

How are we to be assured of this hope? The answer to this is found in the New Testament Book of Acts 17:31: "Because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead." So, Jesus' resurrection is God's assurance to all of us who believe that sin and death no longer reigns over us. This remarkable, extraordinary, eminent, unusual experience, awaits all men. The Bible talks of this assurance in (1 Corinthians 15: 20, 21) "But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For, since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead, has also come through a human being."

God has proved to us, by resurrecting Jesus, that He has absolute power over death. This resurrection means that God's wisdom, justice and inherent goodness will eventually be vindicated. A new and living hope flows forth from God's promises of an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled that never fades away. So those who are alive in Christ will receive eternal life through faith.

In John 5:28,29 we read, "Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice, and will come out – those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation."

In Revelation 21: 1-4: "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

These promises instill hope in every believer and added to this, our Lord has taught us in very simple words as in St. John 11:25, "I am the resurrection and the life."

Having such strong promises to cling on to the Apostle Peter encourages every believer as in 1 Peter 3:15: "But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you. The reality of Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead is the basis of our hope. The resurrection of Jesus is the announcement of the triumph of Christ. "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Mrs. Shoba Sumod

CITY MISSION (SANTHWANAM)

Housing Project for our Gardener, Mr. Roy Daniel, is proposed to be dedicated at 8.00 AM on 15th April 2015. This is a CSI MKD Bi-centenary Commemoration Project of Christ Church Parish.

The Empty Tomb

There is an empty tomb
Where the crucified body
Of my Lord Jesus was laid,
Perfumed and clothed
By someone who loved him !

Little did he know that our Lord
Would rise up from the dead
And surprise those who killed Him
Bring joy to all who loved Him
And wipe away their tears !

On the third day at dawn
The disciples were astonished
To find the stone rolled away
From the entrance of the tomb
And the body of Jesus missing !

Jesus appeared to them
Many times after resurrection
Showed His nail-pierced hands
Assuring and confirming
What He had told them before !

Jesus ascended into heaven
And sent down the Holy Spirit
As our Counsellor and Friend
Who stays with us all the time
As a comforter and guide !

Mrs. Sosamma Thomas (ID 244)

In Loving Memory of



Mr. Richie Walsalam

Former Choirmaster, Christ Church

*"On the Resurrection Morning
Soul and body meet again;
No more sorrow
No more weeping
No more pain"*

Remembered by the Christ Church Family



“തലമുറകളുടെ ക്വയർ മാസ്റ്റർ”

തലമുറകളുടെ ക്വയർ മാസ്റ്റർ എന്നു വിശേഷിപ്പിക്കാവുന്ന, ശ്രീ. റിച്ചി വത്സലം (82) മാർച്ച് മാസം 3-ാം തീയതി അന്തരിച്ചു. ആദരാഞ്ജലികൾ.

സംഗീതം ജീവിതവ്രതമാക്കി മാറ്റി, സംഗീതത്തെ മാത്രം സ്നേഹിച്ച്, പ്രേമിച്ച്, പ്രണയിച്ച്, തന്റെ ജീവിതസഖിയാക്കി മാറ്റിയതു മൂലം, ഒരു സ്വകാര്യജീവിതം കരുപ്പിടിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ മറന്നുപോയ, കഴിയാതെപോയ, കൃശഗാത്രനെങ്കിലും, മലയാള ക്രൈസ്തവ ഭക്തിഗാനരംഗത്തെ അതികായനായിരുന്നു ശ്രീ. റിച്ചി വത്സലം എന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ അതിൽ അതിശയോക്തിയുടെ ഒരു കണിക പോലുമുണ്ടായിരിക്കയില്ല.

മലയാള ക്രൈസ്തവ ഭക്തിഗാന സാമ്രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ചക്രവർത്തിയായ ഭക്തകവി മോശവത്സലം ശാസ്ത്രിയാരുടെ വംശാവലിയിൽ, ശ്രീ. ജോസഫ് വത്സലത്തിന്റെയും ശ്രീമതി. ആനി വത്സലത്തിന്റെയും മകനും പ്രശസ്ത സംഗീതജ്ഞനായ ശ്രീ. സണ്ണി വത്സലത്തിന്റെ ഇളയ സഹോദരനുമായി ജനിച്ചു എന്നതുകൊണ്ടു തന്നെ ചെറുപ്പകാലം മുതലേ പഠിത്തത്തേക്കാളുപരി ശ്രീ. റിച്ചി വത്സലത്തിന് സംഗീതത്തോടായിരുന്നു അഭിനിവേശം. അതുകൊണ്ടു തന്നെ ഭക്തിഗാന രംഗത്തേക്കുള്ള അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ കടന്നുവരവ് തികച്ചും സ്വാഭാവികമായിത്തീർന്നു. അങ്ങനെ 1959-ൽ തിരുവനന്തപുരം ക്രൈസ്റ്റ് ചർച്ചിൽ ഒരു ഗായകസംഘാംഗമായി കടന്ന് വന്ന റിച്ചി വത്സലം 1965 മുതൽ ക്വയർ മാസ്റ്റർ ആയി പ്രവർത്തിച്ചു വന്നു. കൃത്യമായ, ചിട്ടയായ, കർശനമായ പരിശീലനത്തിലൂടെ ഗായകസംഘത്തെ വളരെ ഉന്നതമായ നിലയിലെത്തിച്ചു. ക്വയർമാസ്റ്റർ എന്നതിലുപരിയായി ഒരു ജ്യേഷ്ഠസഹോദരൻ, ഒരു നല്ല സുഹൃത്ത് എന്നീ നിലകളിലുള്ള സമീപനങ്ങൾ കൂടി സ്വീകരിച്ചിരുന്ന അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ കീഴിലുള്ള സംഗീതാഭ്യസനങ്ങളും ഗാനശുശ്രൂഷകളും പ്രത്യേകാനുഭവങ്ങൾ തന്നെ ആയിരുന്നു. ഇടിമിന്നലുകൾ അകമ്പടിയായുള്ള സംഗീതപ്പെരുമഴകൾ ആയിരുന്നു, അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ നടത്തപ്പെട്ടിരുന്ന ഓരോ ക്രിസ്തുമസ് ഗാനശുശ്രൂഷകളും. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിലുള്ള കാലഘട്ടം ക്രൈസ്റ്റ് ചർച്ച് ഗായകസംഘത്തിന്റെ സുവർണ്ണകാലമായിരുന്നു. ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ തന്നെ തന്റെ സേവനങ്ങൾ ആവശ്യമായിട്ടുള്ള മറ്റു മേഖലകളിലെല്ലാം തന്നെ അത് എത്തിക്കുവാൻ അദ്ദേഹം പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചിരുന്നു. ഇത് വിവിധ മേഖലകളിലുള്ള ശിഷ്യഗണങ്ങളുടെ ഒരു വലിയ സമ്പത്തു തന്നെ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന് ലഭിക്കുവാനിടയാക്കി. ഈ കാലഘട്ടത്തിലാണ് അദ്ദേഹം പിതാമഹനായ മോശവത്സലം

ശാസ്ത്രീയാരുടെ പേരിൽ ഒരു ഗായകസംഘം രൂപീകരിച്ചത്. വളരെ ഉന്നതമായ നിലയിൽ അതിനെ വളർത്തിക്കൊണ്ടു വന്ന് നിലനിർത്തിപ്പോന്നു.

ശാരീരികമായി വളരെ അവശതകൾ അനുഭവിച്ചിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ പോലും 2015 മാർച്ച് മാസം ഒന്നാം തീയതി വരെ, ശ്രീ റിച്ചി വത്സലം ഗായക സംഘത്തിന്റെ ഉന്നമനത്തിനായി അഹോരാത്രം പരിശ്രമിച്ചിരുന്നു എന്നത് നന്ദിപൂർവ്വം സ്മരിക്കുന്നു. മാർച്ച് മാസം രണ്ടാം തീയതി ശ്വാസകോശ സംബന്ധമായ അസുഖം മുർച്ഛിക്കുകയും മൂന്നാം തീയതി അന്ത്യം സംഭവിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു.

തിരുവനന്തപുരം ക്രൈസ്റ്റ് ചർച്ചിലെ മൂന്നു തലമുറകളെ സംഗീതം അഭ്യസിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ അവസരം ലഭിച്ച ഒരു സംഗീതാധ്യാപകനാണ് ശ്രീ. റിച്ചി വത്സലം. നാലാമതൊരു തലമുറയെ പഠിപ്പിക്കുവാനുള്ള അവസരത്തിനായി കാത്തുനില്ക്കാതെ, സ്വർഗ്ഗീയ ഗായകസംഘത്തിലേക്കുള്ള ദൈവത്തിന്റെ ക്ഷണം സ്വീകരിച്ച്, അദ്ദേഹം കടന്നുപോയി. അവിടെ ഇപ്പോൾ, ദൈവത്തിന്റെ വലതുഭാഗത്ത്, കെരുമ്പുകളോടും സെറാഫുകളോടുമൊപ്പം അവരിലൊരാളായി ദൈവത്തെ മഹത്വപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊണ്ട് ആ സ്വർഗ്ഗീയഗാനശുശ്രൂഷയിൽ പങ്കാളിയായി നില്ക്കുന്ന ഒരു ചിത്രമാണ് എന്റെ മനസ്സിൽ തെളിഞ്ഞുവരുന്നത്. ഈ ലോകജീവിതം അവസാനിപ്പിച്ച്, നാമോരുത്തരും അവിടെയെത്തുമ്പോൾ, ആ സ്വർഗ്ഗീയ ഗായകസംഘത്തിലേക്ക് നമ്മെ സ്വീകരിക്കുവാൻ നിറഞ്ഞ പുഞ്ചിരിയോടെ കാത്തുനില്ക്കുന്ന “**റിച്ചി അണ്ണനെ**” നമുക്ക് വീണ്ടും കണ്ടു മുട്ടുവാൻ കഴിയും എന്ന ശുഭാപ്തി വിശ്വാസമാണെന്നിക്കുള്ളത്.

ശ്രീ. റിച്ചി വത്സലം ഇപ്പോൾ നമ്മോടൊപ്പമില്ലെങ്കിലും സന്തത സഹചാരിയായ സംഗീതം ഇപ്പോഴും നിലനില്ക്കുന്നു. മരണമില്ലാത്ത ആ സംഗീതത്തിലൂടെ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ സ്മരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു ആ നല്ല കാല്പാടുകളെ നമുക്കു പിൻതുടരാം. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ സംഗീതത്തോടുള്ള ആത്മാർത്ഥയും അർപ്പണബോധവും നമ്മുടെ ജീവിതത്തിലും പകർത്തി, സംഗീതസ്നേഹികളായി സഭാജീവിതം നമുക്കു മുന്പോട്ടു നയിക്കാം. അതിനായി ദൈവം നമ്മെ സഹായിക്കട്ടെ.

സജി സാം ജോർജ്ജ് (ID No. 1286)

Contributions

Contributions omitted to be shown in earlier issues:

Parkal Orphange	Rs.	Andhra Mission	
Dr. Y A Ajith	3,000 (Jan)	Mr. AkshayAjith	4,000 (Jan)
Dr. Y A Ajith	3,000 (Feb)	Mr. AkshayAjith	4,000 (Feb)

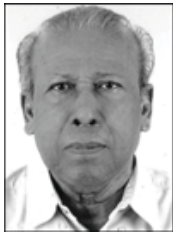
Members may please note that contributions made in March 2015 will be shown in the May 2015 issue of Tidings, along with the Contributions made in April 2015.



**Golden Age Fellowship Picnic
at Alappuzha VembanadKayal on 24-02-2015**



**SPARK
Youth Retreat - January 2014**



A Tribute to Professor Dr. Ninan Koshy

WCC tribute to DrNinan Koshy, former executive secretary and director of the WCC's Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, by WCC General Secretary

Rev. Dr. Olav FykseTveit

The World Council of Churches mourns the loss of Prof. Dr. Ninan Koshy who passed away unexpectedly in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India on 4 March, shortly after his 81st birthday. Prof. Koshy joined the WCC staff as Executive Secretary of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs (CCIA) in July 1974 and served as its Director from 1981 to 1991. He has left an indelible mark on the WCC and the wider ecumenical movement with his incisive analyses of global issues and his theological insights on the churches' responsibility to witness for truth, justice and peace in a deeply troubled world.

Dr Koshy was a devoted academic and teacher. He graduated from St. Berchmans College of the Catholic Archdiocese of Changanassery, took a Masters in English literature from St. John's College in Agra and then taught at Bishop Moore College in Mavelikkara (Kerala).

He became deeply involved in the World Student Christian Federation (WSCF), especially among its national movements in Asia. In 1973 he joined the staff of the Ecumenical Christian Centre, Whitefield, Bangalore and served first as its Associate Director and then as Director-in-Charge. Then - on the recommendation of his mentor M.M. Thomas – he was invited to join the staff of the CCIA.

In Geneva he assumed responsibility for the programme on militarization and the armaments race organizing a series of international ecumenical consultations that broke new ground, for example in identifying militarization as an underlying cause of war and conflict. The definition of militarism developed there was subsequently applied by the United Nations in its Commission on Human Rights. At a critical moment in the nuclear arms race he organized, together with Paul Abrecht, Director of the WCC Department of Church and Society, the Public Hearing on Nuclear Weapons and Disarmament held in Amsterdam in 1981, and co-edited its report, *Before It's Too Late*. WCC General Secretary Philip Potter reported its findings directly to the plenary of Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament (SSDII) in New York in 1982 where they proved to be influential.

He engaged personally in initiatives aimed at peaceful resolution of conflicts in different parts of the world, meeting with churches, government and political leaders and reported on them through a series

of CCIA Background Information that was read in both church and political circles.

Ninan was a compelling speaker whose astute analyses of international affairs became high points of meetings of the WCC Central Committee. Partly in response to them the representatives of the churches tended to focus more and more on international political concerns during their meetings. Although serious in his work, Koshy maintained his relaxed demeanor and his sense of humour.

He was a gifted and prolific writer, in both English and in his mother tongue, some of the latter products have become classics of Malayalam literature. His very first book written under M.M. Thomas's tutelage in 1968, *Caste in the Kerala Churches* was even then called path-breaking and it has been reissued recently with a postscript on the contemporary situation.

Upon "retirement" from the WCC Prof. Koshy accepted an invitation to become a Visiting Fellow in the Human Rights Program of the Harvard Law School in Cambridge, Massachusetts. His dissertation there, "The United Nations and the Protection of Human Rights in Internal Conflicts, A Case Study of the U.N. Security Council Action with regard to 'The Civilian Population in Kurdish Populated Areas in Iraq'," was published in 1992 and signaled his return to journalism and academia. Back at home in India he became a fellow of the Faculty of Law at the University of Delhi, taught at other universities, was granted an honorary doctorate in theology by Serampore University and was named member of the Kerala University Senate. He remained devoted to the ecumenical movement and at the request of the Christian Conference of Asia he edited the two-volume work, *A History of the Ecumenical Movement in Asia*, published in 2004. His written production in books, newspapers, and periodical journals was prodigious and appeared regularly, and right up to the day he died he was still writing and at work on new projects.

The WCC and the world-wide ecumenical movement to which Dr. Koshy devoted so much of his life mourns his passing.

It is, however, especially to his beloved and devoted wife Susan and daughters, Mariam Shiney, Achamma Niney, and Elizabeth, to whom we offer our most heartfelt condolences and our deep affection. By the grace of God, Ninan is now reunited with the guardian angel of the family who departed too soon and has looked over and awaited him ever since with arms open wide.

In this time of Lent, as we prepare again to celebrate the one God sent to show us the fullness of life and through the Resurrection of Christ made manifest the promise of life eternal, we give thanks for blessing of having Ninan Koshy among us. May he rest in peace.

Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit (WCC General Secretary)

Seminar on ' Higher Education and Career Planning'

It is proposed to hold a whole day seminar on ' Higher Education and Career Planning' by Christu Seva Social Service Centre on Saturday, 18th April 2015 from 09.00 am to 05.00 pm at the Christ Church centenary hall, In the morning session, the program will have a talk on

- Higher Education Scenario — Ms. Lida Jacob IAS (Retd) former Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala, & Chairperson for Commission for Education Act.
- Career Opportunities — Mr Mathew Eipe B Tech (IIT), MBA (IIMC) – Former President Chemicals Division, Godrej Industries Ltd, Director of Godrej Companies and currently Professor Strategy Management, Asian School of Business, Trivandrum
- Financing Higher Education (India & Abroad) — Senior Bank Official from SBT
- Question & Answer session

Afternoon session:

- Personality Test / Aptitude Test / Student Participant Profiling (Conducted By Sri. Mohan Chandy MBA (IIMC) Senior Management Professional & Sri George Behanan Counselling Specialist)
- Individual Counselling will be provided for those interested, on a later date as per request by participants

The fee will be Rs.250/- per participant including lunch. Those students/parents interested to participate may please register in the prescribed form. Registration forms are available at Christuseva counter every Sundays. The last date for Registration is 11th April 2015.

Online registration can be made at csichristchurch.org under news and events.

Contact persons :

Mr. Soman John, Hon. Secretary - Mob : 9447007700
Mr. K Paul Raj Hon. Jt. Secretary – Mob 9447022463
email: csimkdcscs@gmail.com

Gibson Chandra Walsalam : Richie - A Tribute



Despite my long association with him, it was only at his funeral that I learnt that he was christened Gibson Chandra Walsalam and that his pet name Richie was not an abbreviation of Richard, as I had wrongly believed, but that it was his given name.

Around 1960 when Richie came to the Christ Church Choir, my friends and I came to be thrown around a lot with him, and over the years there developed a strong bond amongst us that lasted till his demise. There was something about the man that drew us to him apart from his musical prowess. He was through and through a gentleman, a good friend, and he could enjoy a joke as well as the next man.

Music was his world. He was married to music, so to speak, for he never took a wife. It was music, music all the way for him; music was his middle name.

He took music so seriously that he never looked for a job other than teaching music and singing - church music, that is. Monetarily, it wasn't a big deal, but then, he didn't much care for money. Nor did he care for publicity. To be known was not his concern. He found his niche in teaching church music, the music close to his heart, so much so, that it was for him almost a vocation. He never cared for games and sports and jokingly used to say that the only exercise he got was from turning the pages of music books and writing scores - reams and reams - for the choir.

Come rain or shine, Richie was in time for the choir practices. When I look back, I am amazed at the tremendous effort he made to teach and train to perfection the choir for the various services in their seasons, ranging from Advent through Epiphany to Easter, and for singing during occasions like weddings and burials, not forgetting the practices for Praise and Thanksgiving, *Guidance and Keeping*, and Holy Communion, to mention but a few.

Richie was broadminded, generous, and above jealousy and pettiness. He never put on airs or bossed around. He was more than a Choir Master to us.

Memories of years of association with him come flooding and it is sufficient to say that we were fortunate: we had the privilege to sing under, and with him.

'God sent an angel down
The Church Choirs to train;
But the angels missed him, in their choir,
And asked for him again'

I suppose, Richie is now waiting in the wings, as it were, in the Great Hall in Heaven, waiting for the Great Conductor to wave to him to join the Tenors in the Heavenly Choir, to sing with them, for Him.

Prof. C.O. Philip (Pochen)

RESURRECTION

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the miracle of miracles, the most wonderful event ever recorded in history. Ever since that event many people have tried to prove that such a thing never happened. But the number of people who accept and believe in the Resurrection is increasing day by day.

Jesus' life was accompanied by extraordinary signs and wonders. But He did not perform these wonders to display His supernatural powers. He ministered mostly to those whom most people would not even care to notice, such as lepers, beggars, prostitutes, tax collectors, lunatics, and other such marginalized people. The religious leaders of His time, the Pharisees and the Sadducees, even portrayed Him as the friend of sinners and prostitutes. Even one of His own followers betrayed Him, and the Roman soldiers mocked, slapped, flogged and whipped Him, subjecting Him to unbelievable torture. After a trial, which was a mockery of justice, He was sentenced to be crucified, as desired by the leaders of the Jews, but the man who sentenced Him, the Roman Governor Pilate, declared in public that he found no fault in Him.

That fateful Friday morning He was made to carry a heavy cross, deserted by all His beloved followers, ridiculed, and He hung on the cross on three nails for six hours, going through intense pain. He chose to die such a death to fulfill the wish of His Father, and to save all mankind from eternal death.

It is important to note that Jesus had foretold that He would die such a death but that the cross would not end His life. He said that he would rise again on the third day.

After His death and burial in the tomb of one of His secret disciples, His tomb was guarded by the Roman soldiers, as requested by the Jewish leaders, to prevent His disciples from later claiming that He had risen from the grave, as He had foretold.

In spite of all the precautions taken by His enemies, Jesus rose again on the third day, and there begins our story of the Resurrection!

The religious leaders, who had taken all measures to ensure that Jesus would never come out of the tomb, were dismayed when they

learned that Jesus' body was no longer in the tomb. They made desperate efforts to try to prove that the Resurrection story was a hoax.

Their first attempt was to put forward the "stolen body" accusation, suggesting that the disciples had staged the disappearance to claim that Jesus had risen from the dead. But the frightened disciples were in hiding, and they would never have had the courage to steal the body from under the noses of the Roman soldiers.

A second explanation was that the disciples were "seeing things" as they were under severe stress. But the disciples, sometimes as many as 500 of them at a time, saw the risen Christ on various occasions.

Another argument was that the disciples saw only a ghost. But the incredulous disciples touched His hands and wounds, and He ate food with them.

Some argued that it was a case of mistaken identity. But how could the disciples, who were in close touch with Jesus for three and a half years, mistake Him after an absence of just two days? They saw Him, touched Him, ate food with Him and spoke with Him many times after the Resurrection.

It has been argued that Jesus did not actually die on the cross, but that He escaped, perhaps using supernatural powers. But the Bible records that many, perhaps hundreds, witnessed His death on the cross.

These arguments are still put forward by people who do not wish to accept that Jesus is the Messiah. But when we talk about Jesus we are speaking of One claimed that He is the Son of God, which no one else has claimed to this day. He lived a life that shook one of the most powerful civilizations of all times. This He did, not by might or power, but by transforming the lives of people. He rose from the dead, and has promised to come again. He is the hope of millions of people today, even some two thousand years of His life on earth.

Jesus is alive and is coming back to reign. He is the King of kings, and the Lord of lords. Are we ready to receive Him as our Lord and Saviour?

K.V. Varghrse, Ampat (ID 1206)

KID'S ZONE

The Gift of Easter

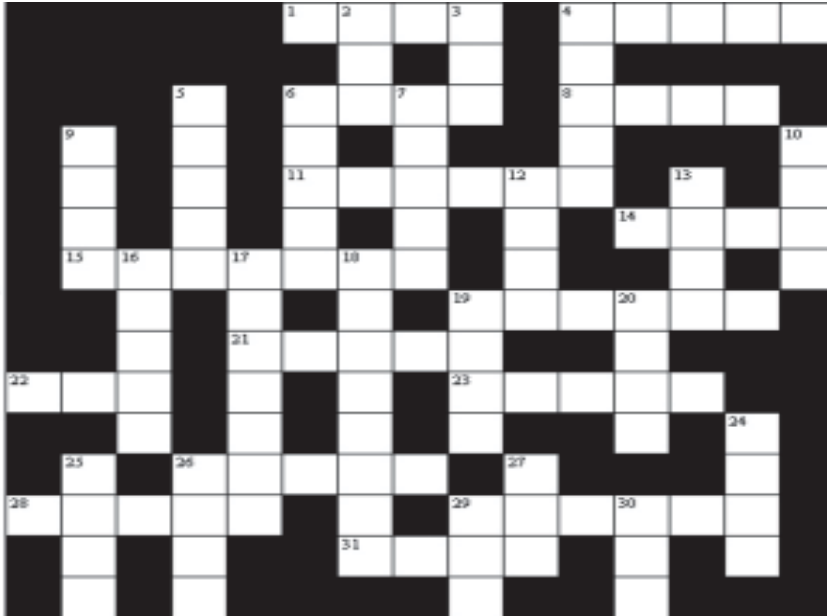
These math facts reveal a startling message.

Directions: X out every box where the answer is 36. The letters in the remaining boxes will spell out an important message about who Jesus really is!

30 + 6 C	15 x 2 R	20 + 16 T	6 x 7 I	84 - 45 S
5 x 6 E	72 - 36 O	50 - 20 N	9 x 4 R	40 - 4 L
46 - 10 M	18 + 10 S	24 + 8 A	18 + 18 E	32 + 4 R
15 + 22 V	72 / 2 Q	8 x 8 I	46 - 10 O	28 + 8 N
18 x 2 C	40 - 2 O	4 x 9 A	38 - 36 R	3 x 12 B

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BIBLE CROSSWORD - 71



Drop your answers in the suggestion box before 22nd April

ACROSS

1. "And now abide faith, hope, _____, these three; but the greatest of these is _____."
4. The city that is the port for Jerusalem, 35 miles away, Jonah set sail for Tarshish from here
6. "I was _____ when they said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'"
8. Lots of this on a beach
11. Caesar was their leader
14. Elijah slew 450 prophets of this false god
15. Female judge of Israel
19. A spring to the west of the Dead Sea where David hid from Saul
21. Whom Jacob wrestled with at Peniel
22. One of the sons of Ham
23. In Matthew 4, he is seen tempting Christ
26. "So then _____ comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."
28. He was fish food
29. He was known for his great strength
31. This is what Herod did to all the male babies in Jerusalem after Jesus was born

DOWN

2. Little, Screech and White are types of this Bible bird
3. "And God said to Noah, 'The _____ of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them.'"
4. He was born of a virgin
5. His name was changed to "Israel"
6. A place in the Negev, between Beersheba and Gaza, whose king wanted to take Sarah as his wife
7. One of a group of five cities, of which Sodom and Gomorrah are best-known
9. In the list with frankincense and myrrh
10. Satan's home for all eternity
12. A town near Nazareth where Jesus restored a widow's son to life
13. "Behold, the Lord's _____ is not shortened, that it cannot save."
16. "He hangs the _____ on nothing"
17. Book following Amos
18. He was Caesar when Jesus was born
19. Rachel said to Jacob. "Give me children, or _____ I die!"
20. The country east of Babylonia whose capital was Susa
24. "Lot dwelt in the cities of the plain and pitched his _____ even as far as Sodom."
25. Patmos prisoner
26. "And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to _____ on Adam."
27. The _____ of Moses
29. Red and Dead are each one of these
30. Look up to see this

First Death Anniversary

6th April 2015



Mrs. Persis Joseph

Sheela Cottage,
Palayam (ID No. 607)

"We shall meet on that beautiful shore"

Fondly remembering Amma...

Annie, Mary & Isaac, Molly & Kepha Isaac, Sheela
& Soman John, Shino, Reni, Rachel, Rino.