

CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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PARISH MESSENGER

February 2017



From the Presbyter's Desk...

My Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The world around us is deeply divided. There is injustice and inequality in the midst of affluence. Vast majority struggle to ensure mere sustenance as Pablo Neruda says "for now I ask for no more than the justice of eating." This situation brings a widespread breakdown in and around the world. Due to the socio-economic and political changes there is a negative attitude towards life among the people in and around the world. Intolerance is creeping up day by day.

Even among all these uncertainties the word of God brings us hope to live a life according to Gods will. Malachi the last Old Testament prophet rebuked the people and the priests for neglecting the worship of God. In the 4 chapters Malachi through a question and answer format probed deeply into their habits of hypocrisy, arrogance, unfaithfulness, divorce, mixed marriages and dishonoring God by not giving tithe. Some of the questions he raised are as follows:-

God said, "I love you." You replied, "Really? How have you loved us? If the priests were unfaithful, how could they lead the people? If the people divorcing their wives and marrying other women, how could they lead their children? The People of Malachi's day ignored Gods command to give a tithe and they asked, "What good does it do to serve God"?

Even in this period of chaos and confusion the prophecy of Malachi was that God will remember those who remain faithful to him. Those who feared the Lord talked with each other and the Lord listened and heard. Surely the Day of the Lord is coming. It will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evil doer will stumble. But those who revere Gods name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings.

Let me conclude by stating that our call is to be faithful in all walks of our life. The One who called us is with us and He is completely faithful and He will keep us.

The amazing grace of Jesus Christ be with you!

John Mathai Achen

Do Not Dwell On The Past. See, I Am Doing a New Thing! (Isaiah 43: 18-19)

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FEBRUARY

BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Omana Thomas	2	Tarun Koshy	17
Sarah Mary Philip	3	Anit Roy	23
Rajesh Benjamin	8	Ben Kurian	25
Krystle Thomas	10	Bino Oommen	26
Cherian Kandapallil	15		

Susamma & K. M. Mathai	2	Geetha & Cherian Mathew	18
Annie & Nikhs Prabha	14	Aleyamma & Eappen Thomas	23



Events

Sunday	8:45 AM	Malayalam Class
	9:15 AM	Sunday School / Youth Group / Bible Study for Adults
	10:00 AM	Praise & Worship, Holy Communion
Friday	1:00 PM	Fasting Prayer ending with Tele-Prayer
Saturday	6:30 PM	Prayer Meeting at Church or Members' Residence
Saturday	10 AM	Fasting Prayer every 3rd Saturday at Church

Feb 18 Saturday 10 AM Fasting Prayer at Church

Accounts for the past month (January)

**Subject to approval by the committee*

A. Income			YTD	B. Expenditure			YTD
Subscription	5,910.00	5,910.00	Church Mortgage+ Add'l Principal	6,162.48	6,162.48		
Offertory	878.00	878.00	Church Maintenance	160.00	160.00		
Thanks Offering	1,280.00	1,280.00	Cleaning / Landscaping/Snow Rem	195.00	195.00		
Special Donation	100.00	100.00	ComEd	56.10	56.10		
Tithe	125.00	125.00	Peoples Energy	213.00	213.00		
Hospitality	805.00	805.00	City of Chicago—Water	22.88	22.88		
Mission	250.00	250.00	Car Loan Payoff / Maint.	3,531.69	3,531.69		
			Hospitality	1,098.56	1,098.56		
			Mission	250.00	250.00		
			Presbyter Honorarium	1,000.00	1,000.00		
			Parsonage Allowance	1,398.00	1,398.00		
			Presbyter Health Insurance	94.32	94.32		
			Printing/Stationary	75.05	75.05		
			Misc.	100.00	100.00		
Total Income	9,348.00		Total Expenditure	14,357.08			
C. Balance from last month	19,342.81						
D. Balance (A+C-B)	14,333.73						

Distribution of Almanac & Kiss of Peace

February 5, 2017

5th Sunday after Epiphany

Christ: The Rhythm of Life

OT Exodus 15: 1-21 : Omana Thomas
Psalm 149 : Aditya Thomas
Epistle Ephesian 5:15-21 : Anupa Joseph
Gospel Luke 8:26-39 : Presbyter
Kiss of Peace : Susamma & K. M. Mathai

February 12, 2017

9th Sunday before Easter

Sabbath as the Culmination of Creation

OT Isaiah 65: 17-25 : Shibu Philip
Psalm 8 : Hannah George
Epistle Hebrews 4:2-13 : Jincy Sujith
Gospel Mark 2: 23-28 : Presbyter
Kiss of Peace : Neethu & Aby David

February 19, 2017

8th Sunday before Easter

Fall as the Violation of the Purpose of Creation

OT Genesis 6:1-13 : George Jacob
Psalm 32 : Glenn Joy
Epistle Romans 7:4-25 : Leela Mammen
Gospel Matthew 7:15-23 : Presbyter
Kiss of Peace : Arunima & Tarun Koshy

February 26, 2017

7th Sunday before Easter

Lent: A Time of Transformation

OT Isaiah 44: 21-28 : Bino Oommen
Psalm 6 : Rakesh Jacob
Epistle Romans 11:13-24 : Leah George
Gospel John 2:1-11 : Presbyter
Kiss of Peace : Staney James & Rintu Philip