

CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO

Parish Messenger



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

Sunday services can be attended in-person or online.

Connect to video conferences at

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7577192513?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7577192513?pwd=VjZoSHVvSnhmclwSmJIYm0xL0paQT09)

[pwd=VjZoSHVvSnhmclwSmJIYm0xL0paQT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7577192513?pwd=VjZoSHVvSnhmclwSmJIYm0xL0paQT09)

*Or audio only at 1 312 626 6799, Meeting ID: 757 719 2513 # #,
password 5857 #*

Sun 9:15 - 9:50 AM : Sunday School

Sun 9:30 - 9:50 AM : Bible Study

Sun 10 AM - 12 NOON : Worship Service

Fri 9:00 AM : Fasting Prayer

Sat 6:30 PM : Cottage Prayer

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Dec 7 - Chicago
Ecumenical Christmas
program at 5:00 pm at
Syro Malabar church
Bellwood**

**Dec 21 - CSI Unity
Christmas celebration at
CSI Christ Church of
Chicago at 5:30 pm**

**Dec 22 - Lessons and
Carol service led by the
choir**

**Dec 25 - Christmas
Service**

**Dec 31 - Watch Night
Service**

*"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, "Plans to prosper you
and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future".- Jeremiah 29:11*

5857 W. GIDDINGS ST. CHICAGO, IL 60630. PHONE : 773-234-1034





FROM THE PRESBYTER'S DESK

-Rev. Joe Varghese Malayil

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it"
proverbs 22:6

Mother Mary! Courage in the unknown! Christmas! In God we trust!

Dear Beloved in Christ,

As we step into December, the final month of a blessed and eventful year, my heart is filled with gratitude for God's abundant grace upon CSI Christ Church of Chicago. This year, 2024, marked the 30th Anniversary of our church, and a Ruby Anniversary celebration of God's faithfulness to our existence as a CSI community in this Chicago land.

Looking back, we see the gracious way the Lord Jesus Christ has led us, holding our hands and guiding us step by step. This has been a year of spiritual growth and fellowship. Under the leadership of Mr. Premjith William (Vice President), Mr. Meljo Varghese (Secretary), Mr. Nityan Joy (Treasurer), and the entire executive team, we achieved significant milestones that strengthened our church life. I am particularly thankful for the peace and unity we enjoy as a congregation—a true blessing in these times.

A New Season: Advent and Transition

We are now in the season of Advent, a time of waiting, hope, and preparation. This marks the beginning of the Church Calendar year and reminds us of the joyful expectation of Christ's birth.

Advent this year is also a special time for our congregation as we prepare for a major transition. After 30 years of worshiping in our current facility, we will be moving to a new rental space starting from the first Sunday of January 2025. This move brings mixed emotions—gratitude for our past, anticipation for our future, and the challenges of change.

As we prepare for this new chapter, I want to encourage each one of you with a few reflections:

1. Let Go of the Unnecessary/ Let Go of the Past

The physical move gives us an opportunity to clear out the clutter, both in our church and in our hearts. Let us remove the unnecessary "junk" from our church and our hearts. This includes letting go of past differences or grievances that may hinder our unity. This is a time to release any grievances or differences that have no eternal value. Let us embrace forgiveness and unity, focusing on what truly matters—our shared mission to glorify Christ.

2. Strengthen Our Fellowship

In our new rental facility, our unity will be crucial. We must show love and care for one another, reflecting the light of Christ in our relationships. As members of the CSI tradition, let us proudly uphold our identity, rooted in faith, service, and community.

3. Trust in God's Promises

Our motto for this year was, **Jeremiah 29:11**. It has reminded us that God's plans are always for our good: *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

As we step into the unknown, we must trust that God has a purpose for this transition.

Mary's Example of Faith: Luke 1:38

In this Advent season, let us draw inspiration from Mary's response to God's plan for her life. When the angel announced that she would bear the Messiah, her response was simple yet profound:

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." (Luke 1:38).

Mary's faith teaches us three important lessons:

- 1. Humility in Submission:** Mary accepted God's will with a humble heart, even though it brought uncertainty and challenges. As a congregation, we too must humbly submit to God's plan for us, trusting His guidance as we transition to a new space.
- 2. Courage in the Unknown:** Mary faced the unknown with courage, relying on God's promise. Similarly, we may have anxieties about the move and the changes ahead, but we can face them with confidence in God's faithfulness.

3. Joy in Obedience: Mary's submission to God's plan brought joy to the world. In the same way, our obedience and unity can be a witness to others, bringing the joy of Christ to those around us.

Before we move, let us celebrate this Christmas season with gratitude and joy in our current church. This is a time to reflect on God's goodness and to thank Him for the countless blessings we have received as a community of faith.

Looking Ahead

As we prepare for the move, I encourage every member of our congregation to **Pray** earnestly for our transition and for the unity of our church.

Beloved, just as Mary trusted in God's promise, let us trust in His plan for our church. Change is never easy, but we know that the One who has led us for 40 years will continue to guide us. **I wish all the very best and congratulate the newly elected executive members of CSI Christ Church of Chicago for 2025.** May God guide and strengthen you to protect the peace, unity, and growth of our church in the coming year. May this Advent and Christmas season fill your hearts with peace, hope, and joy. Let us move forward in faith, ready to embrace the new opportunities God has prepared for us in 2025. Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a Spirit-filled New Year!

In His service,
Joe Achen

Congratulations to the newly elected Committee members for the year 2025!!

- Vice President:*** Soma Lukose
- Secretary:*** Sudha Kurien
- Treasurer:*** Thushara Vinod
- Accountant:*** Allen Thomas
- Sunday School:*** Jeena Jacob
- Youth Fellowship:*** Shawn Mathew
- Women's Fellowship:*** Deepa Joji Philip
- Mens Fellowship:*** Meljo Varghese

Auditors :
Aby Thomas
Shibu Kurian

CSI North American Council
Premjit William
Tarun Koshy

Chicago Ecumenical Council
Premjit William
Sam C James
Aby Thomas



NOVEMBER MEMORIES

Feed My Starving Children



Chicago Ecumenical Council Sunday School Competition



NOVEMBER MEMORIES

Chicago Ecumenical Council Basketball Tournament



REGION IV

CSI UNITY Christmas Carol

calvary csi church
redeemer csi church
csi congregation, elmhurst
csi christ church of chicago

SATURDAY

21ST DECEMBER 2024

5.30PM-7.30PM

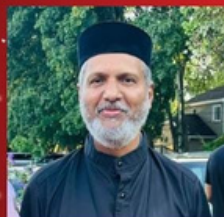
Hosted by:

CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO

5857 West Giddings Street, Chicago, IL 60630

DEC
22
5.30 PM
ONWARDS

Christmas Carol Night 2024



Guest Speaker:

Rev. Ham Joseph

St. Gregorios Orthodox Cathedral Bellwood.

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on
earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO

"For unto you is born this day in the
city of david a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:11



**ECUMENICAL
COUNCIL
OF KERALA
CHURCHES
IN CHICAGO**

41st ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE / MESSAGE / CAROLS
AND COLORFUL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**



Bishop Mar Joy Alappatt

Mar Jacob Angadiyath (Emeritus)

All are
cordially
invited to
attend this
blessed
event

DATE: **DECEMBER 7, 2024** TIME: **5:00PM**
VENUE: **MAR THOMA SLEEHA SYRO MALABAR CATHEDRAL**
ADDRESS: **5000 ST. CHARLES RD, BELLWOOD, IL 60104**

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE: **REV. ABY M. THOMAS THARAKAN**

Christmas Subcommittee

Chairman: Rev. Fr. Ham Joseph
Convener: Anto Kavalackal
Program Coordinator:
Aleyamma Punnoose
Choir: Jacob K. George
Stage: Johnson Kannookadan,
Rodney Simon, George Mathew,
Sarah Varghese, Abraham
George, Joyce Cherian,
Siby Mathew, Sheeba Shabu
Green Rooms: Agnes Thengumottil,
Susheela Johnson,
Sibit Philip, Sinil Philip,
Manju Baby, Carmel Thomas
Food: James Puthenpurayil,
Simon Thomas
Volunteer Captains:
Mathew Maplate,
Varghese Philip

For more information:

Very Rev. Sakariya Thelappillil
Cor Episcopa: 224-217-7846
Premjit William: 847-962-1893
Jacob George: 630-440-9985
Anto Kavalackal: 630-666-7310

Christmas -2024 / ORDER OF PROGRAMS

1. St. Mary's Knanaya Jacobite Church, Waukegan
2. Bethel Marthoma Church, Frankfort
3. St. Mark's Knanaya Church, Aurora
4. St. Peter's Jacobite Syriac Orthodox Church, Northlake
5. St. Gregorios Malankara Orthodox Church, Elmhurst
6. St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Church, Chicago
7. Chicago Marthoma Church, Des Plaines
8. CSI Congregation Chicago, Elmhurst
9. St. Mary's Syro-Malankara Catholic Church, Evanston
10. Mar Thoma Sleeha Syro-Malabar Cathedral, Bellwood.
11. St. Mary's Malankara Orthodox Church, Oaklawn
12. CSI Christ Church of Chicago
13. St. Gregorios Orthodox Cathedral, Bellwood
14. Sacred Heart Knanaya Catholic Church, Bensenville
15. St. Thomas Orthodox Church of India, Chicago
16. St. George Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Oak Park
17. St. Thomas Marthoma Church, Lombard

Ecumenical Office Bearers

Patrons: Bishop Mar Joy Alappatt
Mar Jacob Angadiyath
(Emeritus)
President: Very Rev. Sakariya
Thelappillil Cor Episcopa
Vice President: Rev. Joe Varghese Malayil
Secretary: Mr. Premjit William
Treasurer: Mr. Jacob K. George
Jr. Secretary: Mrs. Beena George
Jr. Treasurer: Mr. Varghese Palamalayil
Women's Forum: Mrs. Sarah Varghese
Youth Forum: Rev. Fr. Thomas Mathew
(Chairman)
Mr. Jibin Y. George
(Convener)
Media/Publicity: Mrs. Aleyamma Punnoose
Mrs. Carmel Thomas
Auditor: Mr. Babu Pallithara

PLEASE NOTE: 1. No food or beverages are
allowed in the parish hall. 2. Alcoholic beverages
and smoking are strictly prohibited in
the cathedral premises. 3. Do not aggregate
in the hallway while the program is going
on. 4. Cafeteria will be open at 7 pm and
refreshments will be sold at reasonable
prices. 5. Only the participants and one
coordinator will be allowed from each
church in the green rooms.

THREE LUCKY
PARTICIPANT PRIZES
WILL BE AWARDED AFTER
THE ENTERTAINMENT
PROGRAM

**LUCKY
DRAW**

Lucky Draw Sponsors
CALVIN KAVALLACKAL
AGNES THENGUMOOTIL

Food Sponsors
ROYAL MAHARAJA
CATERING & CARRYOUT

DISTRIBUTION OF ALMANAC & KISS OF PEACE

December 8, 2024, Sunday (Word of God: Inspired to Inspire)

Bible Sunday/ Council Sunday

OT	: Revelation 10: 1-11	- Glenn Joy
Psalm	: 119: 33-40	- Nathan Chacko
Epistle	: 1 Kings 19: 1-21	- Susamma Mathai
Gospel	: Luke 1: 39-45	- Presbyter
Kiss of Peace		- Ben Kurien & Sudha Kurien
Offertory		- Elisha Chacko, Elijah Chacko

December 15, 2024, Sunday (Deliverance from the Bondage of Sin)

OT	: Exodus 14: 1-14	- Joby Karottu
Psalm	: 37: 1-12	- Elisha Chacko
Epistle	: Romans 8: 1-11	- Hannah Philips
Gospel	: Matthew 8: 1-17	- Presbyter
Kiss of Peace		- Premjit William, Bini William
Offertory		- Shawn Mathew, Allen Thomas

December 22, 2024, Sunday (Maran-atha - O Lord come)

OT	: Deut. 18: 15-22	-
Psalm	: 28	-
Epistle	: I Cor. 16: 13-24	-
Gospel	: John 1: 1-14	- Presbyter
Kiss of Peace		-
Offertory		-

December 29, 2024, Sunday (Family as Healing Space)

Family Sunday

OT	: Genesis 33: 1-11	- Hannah George
Psalm	: 91	- Shawn Mathew Philip
Epistle	: Ephesians 6: 1-9	- Rakesh Jacob
Gospel	: Luke 15: 11-24	Presbyter
Kiss of Peace		- Joe Lukose, Soma Lukose
Offertory		- Babu Karottu & Mariamma Karottu



Birthdays

3 Glenn Cherian Joy
3 Susamma Mathai
3 Santhamma Sathyaseelan
4 Karuna Boel
7 Soma Lukose
7 Irene Karottu
8 Danny Kurian
8 Nathan Chacko

9 Joby M Karottu
13 Alex John Karottu
14 Hannah Philips
15 Nina Mathew
16 Alana Hunt
20 Sayona John
25 Rakesh Jacob
25 Omanakutty George
26 Rosamma Mathew
28 Suresh K
29 Sulochana Vijayakumar
30 Hannah George
31 Susan Thomas
31 Shawn Mathew Philip

"I've depended on you
from birth—you cut the
cord when I came from
my mother's womb.
My praise is always
about you. I've become
an example to many
people because you are
my strong refuge.
My mouth is filled with
your praise, glorifying
you all day long."

PSALM 71:6-8

*May God's blessing
be on each and
everyone of you !!!*

Anniversaries



*Those who remain in Love,
remain in God and God remains
in them.*

John 4:16

23 Premjit William & Bini William
27 Joe Lukose & Soma Lukose
29 Abraham T Joseph & Sheela Jos
30 George Ampalloor & Sheba Amp
31 Tarun K Koshy & Arunima K Alex

Happy Anniversary



Accounts Of November 2024			
	INCOME		EXPENSE
Subscription	\$5,321.20		
Offertory	\$942.00		
Thanks Offering	\$825.00		
Tithe	\$100.00		
Church Maintenance/Emergency Repair			\$170.00
Car Insurance			\$353.25
Church Cleaning, Land scape, Snow removal			\$305.00
Utilities : Church ComEd			\$45.68
Peoples Energy			\$228.00
Church Zoom			\$0.00
Church Water/Sewer			\$11.92
Parsonage/Church Insurance			\$1,453.00
Utilities : Parsonage ComEd			\$76.37
Nicor			\$40.69
Clean/Maint			\$150.00
Internet			\$61.19
Phone, cell			\$153.65
Water			\$137.26
Special Donation	\$76.18		\$0.00
Harvest Festival	\$0.00		\$0.00
Hospitality/Refreshments/ Food for sp.events	\$0.00		\$361.99
Mission/Charity	\$1,225.00		\$1,650.00
Presbyter's Honorarium			\$2,100.00
Church car maintenance			\$20.00
Choir	\$0.00		\$0.00
Youth Group	\$0.00		\$250.00
Back to School	\$0.00		\$2,550.00
Convention/Parish Day	\$0.00		\$0.00
Printing/Stationary	\$0.00		\$0.00
Church Supplies	\$0.00		\$0.00
Carol Rounds	\$6,595.00		\$0.00
Sub Total	\$15,084.38		\$10,118.00
Ledger Summary	General	Reserve	Building Fund
Opening balance as of 11/01/2024	\$10,785.76	\$15,068.00	\$4,615.56
Add Inc -Nov24/Inc to Bldg	\$15,084.38		\$0.00
Add to Reserve		\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer Carol Rounds to Building	\$6,945.00	\$0.00	\$6,945.00
Less-(ExpNov2024/Loan payment from Bldg)	\$10,118.00		\$2,000.00
Closing Ledger balance as of 11/30/2024	\$8,807.14	\$15,068.00	\$9,560.56
President(Vicar).....Treasurar.....Accountant.....			
Proposed By..... Seconded By.....			
Auditors 1.....2.....			