

# CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO

## Parish Messenger



### JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

**Malayalam service: 1st and 3rd Sundays.**

**English service: 2nd Sunday**

**Youth and Young Adults (YAYA) Worship 4th Sunday**

**Sunday services can be attended in-person or online.**

**Zoom Link**

**pwd=VjZoSHVvSnhmcElwSmJ1Ym0xL0paQT09 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 Evenings : Cottage Prayer**

**And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28.**

**1095 E Thacker St, Des Plaines, IL-60016. PHONE : 773-234-1034**





-Rev. Joe Varghese Malayil

## Will You Carry Christ as Mary Did? (Luke 1:26-38)

Dear beloved in Christ,

Wish you all a blessed and grace-filled month of December. As we enter the final month of the year, we thank the Lord who has protected and sustained us through the past eleven months. Now, as a faith community, we turn our hearts toward Christmas—remembering His first coming and renewing our hope in His coming again.

This passage reveals the intimate moment when God invites Mary into His divine plan. Christmas reminds us not only that God came into the world, but that He still asks a question that echoes across generations: “Will you be a mother? A mother of the Son of God? or Is there room for Jesus in your life?” This question continues to speak to us today.

### 1. Mary's Yes: A New Dawn for Humanity

The angel's message to Mary was not merely an announcement but an invitation—an invitation to participate in God's redeeming work. Mary responded not with full understanding, but with full surrender: “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.”

Her “yes” became the hinge on which salvation history turned. It was the moment heaven touched earth, and eternity entered time. Christmas reminds us that God still seeks human hearts willing to say, “Let it be to me according to Your word.”

In Mary's simple obedience, we see that God does not seek our capability but our availability. God works through ordinary people who open their lives to extraordinary grace.

### 2. The Deeper Meaning of Motherhood

Motherhood is not defined merely by giving birth; in a world with surrogacy and many complexities, we understand that true motherhood goes beyond delivery—it is the willingness to nurture, protect, carry, give life, and even sacrifice for a child. In the same way, bearing Christ is not a one-time event but a lifelong responsibility. Christmas asks whether we will carry Christ in our hearts, nurture His presence in our thoughts, protect His teachings in our daily decisions, and reflect His life in our relationships and community. Just as Mary made room for Jesus in her body, God asks us today, “Is there room for Me in your heart, your decisions, your priorities, and your home?” If Christ is to be born again in our world, it must begin by being born in us.

### 3. Preparing Our Hearts for a Meaningful Christmas

As we enter this holy season, let us prepare not only our homes but our hearts. Christmas becomes meaningful when Christ finds a dwelling place within us. The world into which Jesus was born was noisy and crowded—much like ours—but the Savior came quietly because one young woman made room for Him. This December, may we welcome His peace into our conflicts, His hope into our worries, His light into our darkness, and His love into every corner of our lives. When Christ takes shape within us, our celebrations rise above tradition and become true worship.

May the grace shine upon us anew, and may Christ be born in our hearts, our homes, and our church. Wishing every family a blessed Advent and a Christ-filled Christmas.

**I Wish you all a Merry Christmas,**

Joe Achen.



-Rev. Joe Varghese Malayil

## Month of November: [Report/ an overview]

As we look back, November 2025 stands out as a month richly adorned with God's grace, unity, and joy within our parish family.

Our month began with great delight on **November 2**, as our Sunday School children and teachers beautifully led the worship service. Their dedication and God-given talents were further highlighted by their remarkable achievements at the Chicago Ecumenical Sunday School Fest 2025, held on November 1. Congratulations, dear children-you made our church truly proud.

**On November 8**, we hosted the grand 'Kerala Fest 2025', a vibrant cultural celebration that exceeded all expectations. With more than 400 attendees, the event featured colorful performances. Divyaa Unni, renowned artist and former film actress was the center of attraction. Many of our own members were the artists who performed on the stage. Heartfelt thanks to the organizing team for their tireless work behind and in front of the scenes.

**On November 19**, we embarked on a meaningful spiritual journey by launching a new weekly sacrificial prayer meeting every Wednesday via Zoom, along with a Bible-reading challenge to complete the entire Scripture in one month. May this initiative continue to deepen our spiritual life and strengthen our fellowship. Our youths filled us with pride on **November 22**, when our basketball team qualified for the quarterfinals of the Chicago Ecumenical Basketball Tournament-for the very first time. Congratulations to our energetic and dedicated young people!

Thank you Women Fellowship for collecting the tin foods, clothing and other personal products to help the needy, for donate at Des Plaines food pantry.

**On November 23**, the Golden Age Fellowship led the Sunday worship service with grace, wisdom, and heartfelt devotion, enriching our congregation.

That same day, we also held our Election General Body meeting to select leaders for the year 2026. I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to our outgoing executive committee for their outstanding service throughout the year. As a united team, we were able to achieve several meaningful milestones. Thank you, dear leaders, for your selfless and dedicated service. By God's grace, this year we successfully accomplished many projects.

We congratulate the newly elected leadership team for 2026: Sudha Kurien - Vice President, Premjith Willian - Secretary, Nithyan Joy - Treasurer, Allen Thomas - Accountant, Thomas Koshy - Men's Fellowship Convener, Deri Christudas - Women's Fellowship Secretary. The positions of Choir Director, Sunday School Superintendent, and Youth Director remain vacant. Let us keep these roles in prayer so that God will lift up the right leaders in His time.

We joyfully concluded the month with three blessed days of carol serenading-on **November 28, 29, and 30**-visiting many homes and spreading the message of Christ's peace, hope, and joy as we stepped into the Advent season.

Indeed, November was a tapestry of blessings, fellowship, and joyful service. We praise God for His continued grace upon our parish and extend our heartfelt appreciation to every member who participated, served, and supported these events.

Rev. Joe Varghese Malayil

# NOVEMBER MEMORIES

Ecumenical Sunday School Fest



Sunday School Sunday



# NOVEMBER MEMORIES

## Kerala Fest



# NOVEMBER MEMORIES

## Ecumenical Basketball Tournament



## Senior Citizen Sunday



## Carol Seranading





## **LECTIONARY & DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS**

**December 14, 2025, Sunday-3rd Sunday in Advent (Holy Eucharist- English)**

**Theme: Deliverance from the Grip of Fear (Annunciation to Joseph)**

**OT Joshua 1:1-9 Alex Karottu**

**Psalm 27 Nathan Chacko**

**Epistle 1 John 4:13-21 Joby Karottu**

**Gospel Matt.1:18-25 Presbyter**

**Kiss of Peace & Elements - Mathew & Thankamma Karottu**

**Offertory- Hannah Philips & Shiloh Philips**

**December 21, 2025, 4th Sunday in Advent (HolyEucharist-Malayalam)**

**Theme: Maran-atha: Life in Waiting (Emphasis - Second Coming)**

**OT Isa. 2:2-5 Shibu Kurian**

**Psalm 75 Elisha Chacko**

**Epistle Rev. 22:10-21**

**Gospel John 1:1-14- Presbyter**

**Kiss of Peace & Elements- Joseph and Usha Subra**

**Offertory- Thomas Koshy & Ommana Thomas**

**December 25, 2025 -Christmas (Holy Eucharist in English)**

**Theme: Christ: Guiding Light of Hope**

**OT Isa. 9:1-7 Thushara Tharakan**

**Psalm 96 Allen Thomas**

**Epistle Titus 3:4-7 Meljo Varghese**

**Gospel Matt. 2:1-12 Presbyter**

**Kiss of Peace & Elements: Premjit and Bini William**

**Offertory: Shawn Mathew & Sam C. James**

**December 28, 2025 Sunday-YAYA Sunday**

**OT Gen. 46:28-34, 47:1-10 YAYA Fellowship**

**Psalm 21 YAYA Fellowship**

**Epistle 1 Tim. 5:1-10 YAYA Fellowship**

**Gospel Luke 2:25-35- Presbyter**

**Kiss of Peace & Elements Joe & Soma Lukose**

**Offertory Jaden & Ethan Karottu**

**December 31st Wednesday -Watch Night Service**

**Theme: Year Ending -Counting God's Blessings**

**OT Lam. 3:21-31 Sam C. James**

**Psalm 66 Reena James**

**Epistle Phil. 4:10-23 / 2 Cor. 9:6-15 K.M. Mathai**

**Gospel Luke 7:11-17 Presbyter**

**Kiss of Peace & Elements Thushara Tharakan & Vinod Skariah**

**Offertory**

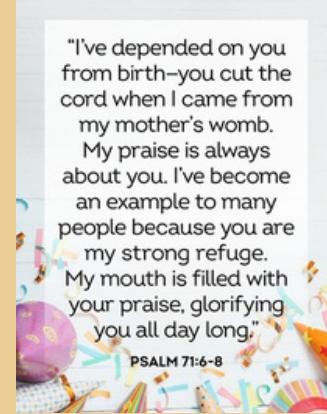
# DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

## 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



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

## Anniversaries



- 23 Premjit William & Bini William
- 27 Joe Lukose & Soma Lukose
- 30 George Ampalloor & Sheba Ampalloor
- 31 Tarun K Koshy & Arunima K Alex

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

John 4:16

Happy Anniversary



# **CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO**

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2025**

*CSI Christ Church of Chicago  
Schedule Of Events Of The Year 2025*

DATES	EVENTS
Jan. 19	Annual General Body meeting/Installation of the Executive Committee for 2025
Feb 9	Healing Ministry Sunday
Feb 23	Dedication of new choir members
Mar 1	Lenten Retreat 10 am-12 pm
Mar 5	Ash Wednesday – Service at 6:30 PM
Mar 8	Ecumenical Council World Day of Prayer
Mar 9	International Women's Sunday
April 13	Palm Sunday
April 14-16	Vespers
April 17	Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion Service at 8:00PM-9:30 PM
April 18	Good Friday - Service 6:00 PM-9:30 PM
April 19	Women's Fellowship Chain Prayer & Evening Prayer at Church 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
April 20	Easter Sunday
May 11	Mother's Day
May 31	Chicago Ecumenical Council Family Night
June 7	Youth Gathering at Parsonage
June 15	Father's Day
June 20-22	Weekend Family Retreat
June 28	Youth Gathering at Parsonage
July 10-13	CSI North American Youth Conference
July 19	Church picnic
July 25,26,27	VBS
Aug 3,10	Back to School Prayer
Aug 10, 17	Celebrating Graduates
Aug 23	Women's Retreat
Aug 31	Harvest Sunday
Sept 6	Choir Retreat
Sept 7	Women's Sunday
Sept 27	CSI Day-Moderator Visit
Oct 17-18	Annual Convention 6pm-9pm
Oct 19	Choir Sunday/Parish Day
TBD	Ecumenical Council Convention
Nov 2	World Sunday School Day
Nov 8	Kerala Fest Fund Raising Event 5:30PM-9:00PM
Nov 23	Senior Citizen Sunday
Nov 23	General Body Meeting for the Election of Executive Committee members for 2025
Nov 28, 29, 30	Christmas Carol Rounds
Dec 7, 14	Christmas Carol Rounds
Dec 6	Ecumenical Council Christmas Celebration 5pm
Dec 13	Carols and Lessons Service -5:30pm
Dec 20	CSI Unity Carol Service -5:00pm
Dec 25	Christmas / Sunday School Christmas Program 10 am
Dec 31	Watch night service -10:30 pm
Jan 18, 2026	Annual General Body meeting
Feb 1, 2026	Installation of New Church Executive Committee/Joint Committee Meeting



CSI Christ church Monthly Accounts		Oct 2025	
Category		Income	Expense
Subscription		\$8,223.00	
Offertory		\$1,275.00	
Thanks Offering		\$1,125.00	
Tithe		\$1,260.00	
Special Donation			
St. Martin's rent			\$2,200.00
Church Supplies/Communion Elements			\$140.00
Car Insurance			
Church Car Maintenance			\$40.00
Church Maintenance/Emergency Repair			
Church Cleaning,Land scape, Snow removal			
Ch:ComEd			
Ch:Peoples Energy			
Ch&Psng Insurance			
Ch:Water			
Ch:Garbage			
Psng:ComEd			\$191.35
Psng:Nicor			\$234.96
Psng:Clean/Maint			\$179.73
Psng:Internet			\$80.63
Psng:Phone,cell			\$184.32
Psng:Water			
Presbyter's Honorarium			\$2,200.00
Presbyter healthcare			\$596.00
Hospitality/Refreshments			\$480.00
Mission/Charity	\$25.00		\$1,150.00
Women's Fellowship			\$179.16
Mens Fellowship			
Sunday School	\$203.00		
Youth			
Choir			
Visiting Pastor			\$500.00
Presbyter gift/Visiting Pastors			
Legal/Tax/Visa Processing-W2/W3			
Miscellaneous			
Carol Rounds			
Family Retreat			
Building Fund	\$14,991.00		\$673.04
CSI Council Membership / Conf	\$43.00		\$560.30
Ecumenical Council			
Family Sunday/Harvest	\$50.00		
Confirmation			
Cottage Prayer			
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$27,195.00</b>	<b>\$9,589.49</b>	
<b>Ledger Summary</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>Reserve</b>	<b>Building Fund</b>
Opening balance at the beginning of the month	\$46,298.67	\$6,068.00	\$662,573.03
Add Income "in month"	\$27,195.00		
Move building fund donations to building fund	<b>\$14,317.96</b>		<b>\$14,317.96</b>
Less (Expenses) "in month"	\$9,589.49		
Interest credited and moved to building fund			\$1,366.56
Closing Ledger balance end of the month	\$49,586.22	\$6,068.00	\$678,257.55

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Let's pray together for an own place of worship!

Join our prayer programs until we buy the church. 

JOIN ZOOM TONIGHT: 7 PM  
WEDNESDAY PRAYER

Many Spl. Prayer Events

Full Bible Reading Plan by Church

Wednesday Prayer Through Zoom - 7 pm

CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO



CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO  
Organizing

## CHRISTMAS Serenading



Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased.

CAROLING DATES

6 December Time 9 am to 1 pm  
7 & 14 December Time 2 pm to 8 pm



You Are Invited To Our

## Nine Lessons and Carols

The Dawn Of Redeeming Grace

Luke 1: 26-38

"Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Saturday, December 13th  
@ 5.30 PM

CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO  
1095 EAST THACKER STREET, DES PLAINES, IL 60016.

CSI Region IV Unity

## Christmas CAROL



20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025  
Evening 5pm to 7.30pm

VENUE:  
CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO  
1095 East Thacker Street, Des Plaines, IL 60016

CSI Redeemers Church  
CSI Congregations Elmhurst  
CSI Calvary Church  
CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

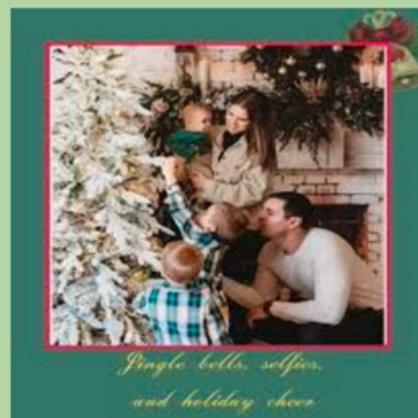
## Upcoming Events in December

- Saturday December 6- Ecumenical Council of Kerala Churches Christmas Celebration at **5 PM** at St Thomas Syro Malabar Parish Hall, Bellwood, IL
- Saturday December 13- Carols & Lessons at **5:30 PM** at church
- Saturday December 20- Region 4 Unity Carol Service at **5 PM** at church
- Thursday December 25- Christmas worship service and Sunday School program at **10 AM**
- Thursday December 31st- Watch night service at **10:30 pm** with Sneha Virunnu

## Christmas 2025 Memories

Professional Holiday Photo Shoot

December 14 and December 21 (after service)



CHRISTMAS SHOW

<https://qrchristmas.com/>

ENTIN ROAD CHRISTMAS

DEC 17-21, 2025

CONTACT US

BUY TICKETS



The Sunday School is planning to go for December 21st at 5pm. Use the link to buy tickets. Row 102 or 103. Adults and children can join!