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=VjZoSHVvSnhmcEIwSmJ1Ym0xL0paQT09 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
Wed 7:00 PM : Zoom Prayer Meeting
Sat Evenings : Cottage Prayer
Fri 9:00 AM : Fasting Prayer

Be still, and know that I am God. Psalms 46:10a.

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

The Grace We Preserve

A crow, drinking water from an earthen pot, once asked the pot: "You were shaped from clay and baked in fire. Even in the scorching heat of summer, how do you keep the water within you cool?"
The pot replied: "I still preserve the moisture of the earth from which I was made."

There is a profound truth in this simple conversation. We may pass through the fire of trials, the heat of suffering, and the difficult seasons of life, but we are called not to lose the grace and goodness that God has planted within us. The roads we travel through life should never disfigure us; they should only sanctify us. Perhaps it is not always the plans we make that shape our lives, but the unforeseen circumstances that come our way. When life determines its own course, leaving us little choice or freedom, some surrender, while others endure and overcome. From a biblical perspective, even the roads we did not choose can become places where God forms our character, deepens our faith, and teaches us to depend upon Him.

Life's beauty does not lie in escaping without a single scar. Nor does the greatness of a journey lie in never having passed through a difficult turning. What matters are the lessons taught by the roads on which we stumbled, and by the events that struck us and left their wounds behind. In the end, who we truly become is determined, in part, by the difficult roads we have travelled. Scripture tells us, "We also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope" (Rom 5:3-4).

Some skillfully avoid every crisis, while others face adversity with courage. Those who spend their lives running away from every unfavorable circumstance may never be given even a single moment in which they can truly take pride in themselves. What a person eventually becomes is the sum of all the roads they have travelled. Yet, as people of faith, we know that our journey is not shaped by circumstances alone. God can use even the difficult roads to transform us. Therefore, do not sacrifice your fundamental values at the altar of necessity.

Though the road may be unpleasant, there are certain innate goodnesses within us that must never be destroyed. Once we sacrifice them, we may no longer be able to preserve the authenticity—the very essence—of who we are. The Christian life calls us to remain rooted in the goodness of God even when circumstances attempt to reshape us. Like the earthen pot, we may be hardened by the fire, but we must not lose the moisture of the earth from which we came—the humility, compassion, faith, and love that make us who we are before God.

Perhaps, with the passage of time, life will give meaning to many of the things we once considered misfortunes. What appeared to be a broken road may have been a road of formation; what seemed to be a wound may have become a place through which grace entered; what felt like a loss may have taught us dependence upon God.
And perhaps, somewhere along the way, many birds will keep circling us—waiting for that little moisture of life that we have managed to preserve.

For there may be people who come to us thirsty—not merely for water, but for hope, kindness, forgiveness, courage, and faith. The world may have plenty of people who have been hardened by the fire of life; what it needs are people who, though they have passed through the fire, still carry within them something refreshing from God.
May our journeys never destroy what God has planted within us. May the difficult roads sanctify rather than disfigure us. And when others come to us weary and thirsty, may they find within us a little of the living water that God has entrusted to our lives.

Rev D.S. Arun

UPCOMING OCTOBER EVENTS

Oct 17: Ecumenical Sunday School Festival

Oct 18: Choir Sunday

Oct 19-22: Parish Week

Oct 23,24: Church Convention

Oct 25: Parish Day

Oct 31: Ecumenical Convention

Nov 1: Confirmation Service led by the Most Rev. Reuben Mark

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

CHURCH RETREAT - SEP 12









SEPTEMBER EVENTS

WOMEN'S SUNDAY - SEPT 13











SEPTEMBER EVENTS

ECUMENICAL CRICKET TOURNAMENT – SEP 26,27







LECTIONARY & DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS
OCTOBER 2026

October 4, 2026, Sunday/Laity Sunday/18th Week after Pentecost
Theme: Every Member a Minister (Malayalam)

Numbers 11:24–30	Numbers 11:24–30	Shane Joy
Psalm	Psalm 92	Elisha Chacko
New Testament/Epistle	Acts 6: 1-7	Eapen Thomas
Gospel	John 15: 12-19	Presbyter
Kiss of Peace/Elements		Babu Philip & Valsamma Philip
Offertory		Rintu & Nikki Philip

October 11, 2026, Sunday/Sunday for the Mentally & Physically Challenged and Palliative Patients
19th Week after Pentecost
Theme: Strength in Weakness: God's Grace in Our Lives (English)

Old Testament	Isaiah 35:1–10	Valsamma Philip
Psalm 34	Psalm 34	Jaden Karottu
New Testament/Epistle	2 Corinthians 12:1–10	Soma Lukose
Gospel	John 9:1–7	Presbyter
Kiss of Peace/Elements		Thomas and Aleyamma Philip
Offertory		Shiloh & Hannah Philip

October 18, 2026, Sunday/20th Week after Pentecost
Theme: Holy Eucharist: Table of Reconciliation (Malayalam)

Old Testament	Jeremiah 29:10–14	Epie Lee
Psalm	Psalm 37:23–40	Rian Varghese
New Testament/Epistle	Hebrews 11:17–31	Mary Philipose
Gospel	Mark 4: 35-41	Presbyter
Kiss of Peace/Elements		George David & Rinu David
Offertory		Joseph Subra & Usha Joseph

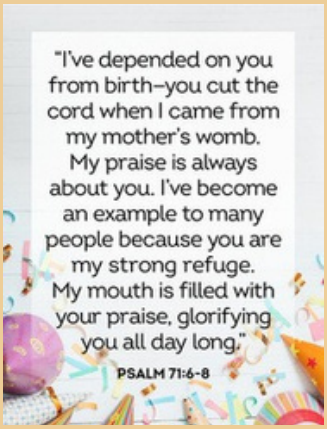
October 25, 2026, Sunday/ Reformation Sunday/21st Week after Pentecost -YAYA Sunday
Theme: Reformation: A Call for Renewal (English)

Old Testament	2 Kings 23: 1-8	Shawn Mathew
Psalm	Psalm 119: 25-32	Amaya Das
New Testament/Epistle	Titus 3: 3-8	Ben Lukose
Gospel	Luke 5: 36-39	Presbyter
Kiss of Peace/Elements		Ben & Sudha Kurien
Offertory		Jonah & Jenna Oommen

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS



Birthdays



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

1 Shane Nityan Joy
2 Eappen Thomas
4 Levi Joji Philip
5 Staney A James
6 Valsamma Philip
7 Jaden J Karottu
9 Thomas Philip
10 John Mammen Karottu
10 Zane Philip
12 Sunil John
13 Sathyaseelan S Jacob
13 Noelle Kurien
14 Eipe Lee
14 Lida Mariam Oommen
18 Dennis Chacko
18 Mary Philipose
19 Geetha Mathews
20 Sarah Kurian
24 Bryden J Varghese
25 Jonah Oommen
25 Jenah Oommen
25 Anna Cherian
25 Susan Chacko
25 Ryan Ben Joe
30 Joji Philip

Anniversaries



6 Rintu Philip & Niki Philip
19 Joseph Subra & Usha Joseph
19 George David & Rinu George David
22 Ben Kurien & Sudha Kurien
24 Alex John Karottu & Irene Karottu
25 John Mathew & Rosamma Mathew
31 Lovy George & Jain George



Happy Anniversary

CSI Christ Church of Chicago

Calendar Of Events Of The Year 2026

DATES	EVENTS
Jan 18	Annual General Body
Jan 25	Council Sunday
Feb 1	Installation of the Executive Committee for 2026
Feb 8	Healing Ministry Sunday
Feb 14/21	Lenten Retreat 10 am-12 pm
Feb 18	Ash Wednesday – Service at 6:30 PM
Mar 7	Ecumenical Council World Day of Prayer
Mar 8	International Women's Sunday
Mar 29	Palm Sunday
Mar 30-Apr 1	Vespers
April 2	Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion Service
April 3	Good Friday - Service 6:00 PM-9:30 PM
April 4	Women's Fellowship Chain Prayer & Evening Prayer at Church 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
April 5	Easter Sunday
May 10	Mother's Day
TBD	Chicago Ecumenical Council Family Night
TBD	Youth Gathering at Parsonage
TBD	Regional Youth Retreat
June 7	Education Sunday/Celebrating Graduates
June 21	Father's Day
June 19-21	Weekend Family Retreat
July 12	Theological Sunday
July 17-18	Unity VBS
July 23-26	35th CSI North American Family Conference (Dallas, TX)
Aug 1	Church Picnic
Aug 2/9	Back to School Prayer
Aug 9	Student Sunday
Aug 30	Harvest Sunday/Family Sunday
Sept 12	Women's Retreat
Sept 13	Women's Sunday
TBD	Choir Retreat

Sept 20	Senior Citizen Sunday
Sep 26-27	Ecumenical Cricket Tournament
Sept 27	CSI FormationDay
Oct 16-17	Annual Convention 6pm-9pm
Oct 17	Ecumenical Sunday School Fest
Oct 18	Choir Sunday/Parish Day
TBD	Ecumenical Council Convention
Nov 1	Confirmation Service led by the Most Rev. Reuben Mark
Nov 1	World Sunday School Day (Daylight Savings Day)
Nov 22	General Body Meeting for the Election of Executive Committee members for 2027
Nov 27,28, 29	Christmas Carol Rounds
Dec 5,6, 12, 13	Christmas Carol Rounds
Dec 5	Ecumenical Council Christmas Celebration 5pm
Dec 12/19	Carols and Lessons Service -5:30pm
Dec 12/19	CSI Unity Carol Service -5:00pm
Dec 25	Christmas / Sunday School Christmas Program 10 am
Dec 31	Watch night service -10:30 pm
Jan 17	Annual General Body meeting
Jan 31	Installation of New Church Executive Committee/Joint Committee Meeting

CHURCH ACCOUNTS

	CSI Christ Church Aug Accounts 2026	INCOME	EXPENSE
2	**Category**	**August**	**August**
3	Subscription	$3,645.00	$0.00
4	Offertory	$1,586.00	$0.00
5	Thanks Offering	$1,265.00	$0.00
6	Tithe	$1,175.00	$0.00
7	Special Donation	$0.00	$0.00
8	St. Martin`s rent	$0.00	$2,200.00
9	Church Supplies/Communion Elements	$0.00	$195.39
10	*Car Insurance*	$0.00	$319.25
11	*Church Car Maintenance*	$0.00	$35.00
12	*Church Maintenance/Emergency Repair*	$0.00	$0.00
13	*Church Cleaning,Land scape,Snow removal*	$0.00	$400.00
14	*Ch:ComEd*	$0.00	$0.00
15	*Ch:Peoples Energy*	$0.00	$0.00
16	*Ch&Psng Insurance*	$0.00	$711.50
17	*Ch:Water*	$0.00	$0.00
18	*Ch:Garbage*	$0.00	$0.00
19	*Psng:ComEd*	$0.00	$163.60
20	*Psng:Nicor*	$0.00	$45.07
21	*Psng:Clean/Maint*	$0.00	$125.00
22	*Psng:Internet*	$0.00	$0.00
23	*Psng:Phone,cell*	$0.00	$228.18
24	*Psng:Water*	$0.00	$0.00
25	*Presbyter's Honorarium*	$0.00	$2,000.00
26	Presbyter healthcare	$0.00	$0.00
27	Hospitality/Refreshments	$171.29	$600.72
28	Mission/Charity	$25.00	$0.00
29	Women's Fellowship	$0.00	$0.00
30	Mens Fellowship	$575.00	$64.00
31	Sunday School	$1,843.00	$200.00

32	Youth	$50.00	$0.00	
33	Choir	$0.00	$0.00	
34	Visiting Pastor	$0.00	$0.00	
35	Presbyter gift/Visiting Pastors	$0.00	$0.00	
36	Legal/Tax/Visa Processing-W2/W3	$0.00	$0.00	
37	Miscellaneous	$0.00	$0.00	
38	Carol Rounds	$0.00	$0.00	
39	Family Retreat	$0.00	$0.00	
40	Building Fund	$250.00	$0.00	
41	Kerala Fest Fundraising	$0.00	$0.00	
42	CSI Council Membership / Conf	$450.00	$440.00	
43	Ecumenical Council	$10.00	$660.00	
44	Family Sunday/Harvest	$10,144.00	$390.00	
45	Confirmation	$0.00	$0.00	
46	Cottage Prayer	$0.00	$0.00	
47	Parsonage Maintenance special Fund	$0.00	$232.40	
48	Presbyter's PF in India	$0.00	$0.00	
49	Presbyter-Visa Amendment/Processing	$0.00	$75.00	
50	Presbyter gas allowance	$0.00	$100.00	
51	**Sub Total**	**$21,189.29**	**$9,185.11**	
52	**Ledger Summary**	**General**	**Reserve**	**Building Fund**
53	Opening balance at the beginning of the month	$1,919.50	$215.65	$0.00
54	Add Income August	$21,051.29		
55	Less(Expenses)August	$9,185.11		$0.00
56	CD at Chase bank	$0.00		$2,50,000.00
57	Interest earned at maturity @3.73(Nov 9)	$0.00		$2,155.00
58	International Bank	$0.00	$0.00	$5,00,535.26
59	International bank interest earned August			$1,360.33
60	Move Kerala Fest to Building Fund			
61	Move Caroling contributions to Reserve Fund			
62	Closing Ledger balance end of the month	**$13,785.68**	**$215.65**	**$7,54,050.59**