

October 2007 Newsletter

Message from the Vicar

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We are in the fall season and it is a season of colors. It is really an enticing view all around us. But it is transitory in nature. The trees will groan, the colorful leaves will fall and the atmosphere will become boring gray. During the spring the same trees said: 'Look at me, I am looking so young, look at my greenery and look at my beauty.' In summer these trees said 'I am the mighty one, I can stop the powerful rays of the sun and block the might of the southern wind and I am providing food to all those who live in around me'. Now I have a question for you, O' my beloved tree, where is your joy of the youth and where is the might of your adulthood? Isn't your exaltations temporary? Are they not momentary?

My dear brothers and sisters, through this change of nature, which we see in our life, God teaches us an important truth. Our colorful life is a temporary one, and one day it will change just like the trees. Likewise, in the latter part of the liturgical year, the Church reminds us about the need for change in our lives. For the Church, this is the last season of Her liturgical year and She is emphasizing the preparation for the arrival of Jesus Christ.

Again look at the trees, they store their food for winter during the summer, what about you and me? Hear the voice of Solomon, the wise king:

The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer. The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks (Proverbs 30: 25-26).

Look at the nature, it looks simple. But wise creatures of the world prepare for their future. What about you and me? The trees store their food under the ground or in their stems and not in the leaves that fall. Ants store their food in a safer place and colonies making their shelter in a safe place. What about you and me? Where is our wealth stored? Are we storing our treasure in this world where the moth and rust destroys and where thieves break and steal (Mat. 6:19) or is it in the earthen vessel that can be destroyed at any time (2 Cor.4:7) or in a safer place from all the above mentioned threats?

Like the change of season, I would like to exhort you that we should change our attitude. This is the time for bringing changes to our lives. This is the time for the preparation of our lives for the original and lasting world. Remember that our time is at hand. The owner of our treasure will ask for our soul. Be careful like a watchman. His arrival is like coming of lightening; it will come fast. The time will arrive like a robber's arrival; we will not know at what time he will come. So, be watchful of the treasure that was entrusted by God to us.

May God Bless you

II. Building Update

By the grace of God, we are about to start the foundation work of the church building. We were supposed to have had this work started during last week. But several stumbling blocks came on our way. We did all things that we had to, but God has a plan on it. What we need is the unceasing prayer, as St. Paul reminds us in **(I Thessalonians 5:17)** 'Prayer is the one and only haven.' And may God help us to resume the work at the earliest.

III. Annual Retreat

Our annual retreat will be conducted on 3rd November, Saturday at The Marthoma Church, Washington DC. Mr. Toby Manimelethu will lead this year's retreat. For more details you can see the flyer on the website. Please assign the day for prayer and fasting. Also, make use of the time for confession.

IV. Important Days of the Month

In this month, we remember the blessed memory of:
Yeldo Mar Baselios (Oct.3)
Cheppadu Mar Dionysius IV (Oct. 13)
Yuhanon Mar Athanasios (Oct. 13)

V. Birthday

George Varghese	Mariam Abraham	Regina George
Anila Biju	Gracy Thomas	Philip Viju
Sara Elizabeth Varghese	Steve Sam	Aswin John
Nidhi Biju	T. P. Abraham	Mathew Paul
Rio Rajan	Remani Rajan	Preethy Kuriakose
Jessy Johnson	Anu George	Kevin Bixa
Kevin Varghese	Shibu Varghese	

VI. Wedding Anniversary

Biju Mathew & Anila

John C. Thomas & Mary

T. M. Chacko & Ammini

T. P. Varghese & Leela

VII. Prayer Family

10-07-07 : (1) T. M. Chacko & Family (2) Binu Cherian & Family
10-14-07 : (1) Sajjan George & Family (2) Viju Ipe & Family
10-21-07 : (1) Jacob Cherian & family (2) Deena Jacob
10-28-07 : (1) Shine Jacob & Family (2) Benny Job & Family

VIII. Thanksgiving

By the grace of God Maj. Sajjan George returned safely from Iraq. We thank God

Almighty for having kept our son safe.