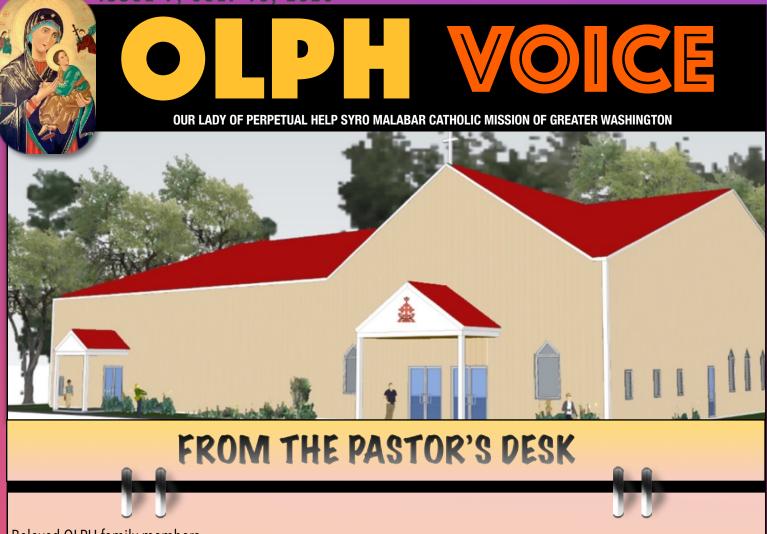
ISSUE 7; JULY 19, 2020



Beloved OLPH family members,

According to the Eastern Liturgy, this year the **Season of Kaitha (Season of Growth of the Church)** begins on **Sunday, July 19, 2020**. "Kaitha" in the Syriac language means Summer or Harvest. It is also known as the season of fruits. The Season begins with the feast of the Twelve Apostles who laid the foundation of the Church and played a key role in the growth of the Church around the world. During this season we remember the thousands of Saints and Martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the growth of the Church through their missionary activities. Hence the commemoration of Saints and Martyrs who were faithful to the Church is a special feature of this season and their sacrifice is commemorated on Fridays of this season.

Let us follow the footsteps of the Saints and Martyrs in helping the Church to grow by renewing our personal faith through prayer and the Sacraments.

A circular has been sent by Bishop Mar Jacob Angadiath, which states that the present Parish Council and Kaikkarans will continue in office for one more year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. For more details please check **Page 7** of this newsletter.

With love, Royachan **Rev. Fr. Roy Moolechalil OLPH Mission Director**

HOLY MASS & SERVICES

TOUCH HERE to connect to OLPH YouTube channel. Holy Mass & Services are streamed LIVE every day.

SATURDAY 7/18/2020

- **09:30 AM Adoration & Rosary**
- **10:00 AM Holy Mass in Malayalam**
- 10:45 AM OLPH Novena

Link for Saturday Readings: 1 Cor 7:8-16; Mt 19:1-12

SUNDAY 7/19/2020

- 09:30 AM Adoration & Rosary
- **10:00 AM Holy Mass in Malayalam**
- 11:30 AM Holy Mass in English

Link for Sunday Readings: Acts 5:12-20; <u>1 Cor 1:9-16</u>; <u>Lk 14:7-14</u>

MONDAY - FRIDAY

- 06:30 PM Adoration & Rosary
- 07:00 PM Holy Mass in Malayalam

WEEKLY SCHEDULE





DAILY Rosary leaders

Sunday, July 19 Rex & Mini Family

Monday, July 20 Sandeep & Pinkle Family

Tuesday, July 21 Sajit & Ponnu Family

Wednesday, July 22 Manoj & Mariat Family

Thursday, July 23 Binoy & Liz Family

Friday, July 24 Sajeev & Pushpa Family

Saturday, July 25 Roby & Selin Family **DAILY Bible Reading** (click on link to read online)

Sunday, July 19

Psalms 115-118

Monday, July 20

Psalm 119

Tuesday, July 21

Psalm 119

Wednesday, July 22

Psalms 120-132

Thursday, July 23

Psalms 133-139

Friday, July 24

Psalms 140-145

Saturday, July 25

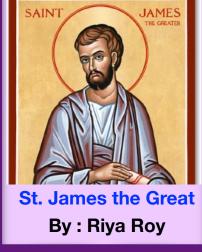
Psalms 146-150



St. Bridget of Sweden **By : Jonathan Alapatt**



St. Christina of Bolsena By: Venassa Jijo



- ISA

page 4

Are you a true Christian?

~By Dave Jose (10th Grade)



page 5

By definition, a Christian is a person "who is born by the spirit of God and wholeheartedly trusts and follows Jesus Christ." The disciples were the first followers of Jesus. Acts 11:26 states that "The disciples were first called Christians at Antioch." A basic definition of a disciple is someone who is a student or follower. However, a disciple is one who embraces the ways of Jesus and practices his ways in their own lives.

Christianity is all about establishing a special relationship with Jesus Christ. It is all about loving him, trusting him, and most of all, being able to have a conversation with Him. Our friendship with Christ is the key to being a true Christian.

As a Christian, it is our goal to have a strong relationship with Jesus. In our everyday life, he should be our master, best friend and our priority over everything. As soon as we start strengthening our relationship with Christ, we will begin to see how our lives seem so wonderful, even with the smallest decisions we make to some of the biggest. Jesus wants us to have a good life here on earth.

Here are a few ways to help us to know and follow Jesus:

Read the Bible daily

We must take time to read the Bible daily. The Bible has the answers to our worries. We have praises to sing in the Bible. There are many concepts and ideas that are very important throughout the Bible. Once we start reading the Bible daily, we are going to see true happiness in us and understand the meaning of eternal life with Jesus.

Do not give in to temptation

It is not temptation that is a sin, but it is giving in to the temptation. When we give in to temptation we are choosing to hurt God. As true Christians, we do not want to intentionally or unintentionally hurt anyone. To be able to not give in to temptation, it is important to pray to Jesus to send the Holy spirit for strength and guidance, so we may overcome the temptation or the desire to sin.

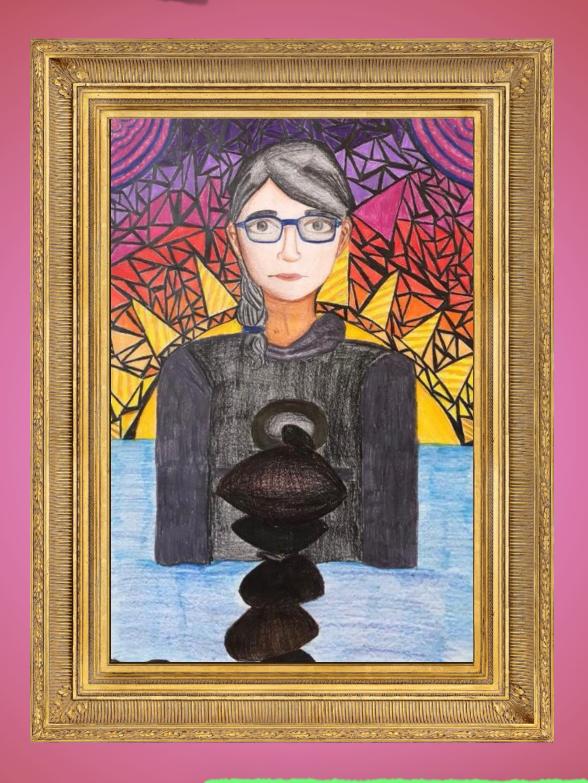
Do not judge others

It isn't our job to judge people for whatever act they have committed. We are not perfect, so why are we judging others. Take that opportunity to appreciate the goodness in them. We are true christians so let us not judge others but rather show that we are followers of Christ.

Take the time to thank and praise the Lord

Generally, we tend to pray when we have the need. However, we should also take the time to thank and praise God for whatever he has done for us. As a Christian, we should imbibe in ourselves, the true meaning of Christianity and be a true follower of Christ our King.





Self-Portrait by Elizabeth Issac (9th Grade)

St. Thomas SyroMalabar Catholic Diocese of Chicago



372 S. Prairie Avenue Elmhurst, Illinois 60126 - 4020 Ph: 630 279 1383, 630 279 1386 Fax: 630 279 1479 email: bishop@syromail.com / www.stthomasdiocese.org

Circular #72/2020

July 17, 2020

Dear Rev. Fathers, Rev. Sisters and Parishioners,

Glory to God in the highest! Amen.

We have been celebrating "Dukrana", the feast of St. Thomas, our Father in Faith, during these days. His profession of faith in the Risen Lord, "My Lord and My God", strengthens us to continue his mission in the New World. His encouraging words; "Let us also go and die with Him", really motivate us to face all challenges of life. Even the present "Corona Virus" and its impacts on our faith life are real challenges to our living situation. May the Lord through the intercession of St. Thomas the Apostle bless us to overcome this pandemic and its effects.,

I would like to bring to your attention the following matters:

1. Approval of the financial report or statement of 2019

Since the month of March, we are under the corona impact, "Stay Home" or "Lockeddown" condition. Churches are practically closed, and Liturgy is life-streamed and there is no gathering at the Church. So, in many parishes, annual general body meeting (Pothuyogam) could not be conducted to approve the financial report or statement of 2019. Wherever the Pothuyogam was not held, just for this year, the parish council meeting is enough to approve the annual financial statement. Let there be the publication of the statement through the *notice board* at the parish or mission center.

2. The term of the present Parish Council- Extended

Regarding the selection of the new Parish Council and Kaikkarans, due to Covid-19 special situation, the curia is pleased to extend the term of the present Parish Council, Kaikkarans and Pastoral Council just for <u>one more year</u>. We will conduct the Parish Council and Kaikkarans selection towards the end of the year 2021. Since our parishes and missions are not fully functioning with the full participation of our faithful in our Liturgy and Catechism, let us maintain the "status quo" of our Parish Council and Kaikkarans for one more year.

3. Annual Retreat via Zoom

We could not hold the Annual Retreat in June; we thought of combining the retreat and Presbyterium in September. But, Covid-19 situation does not permit us to hold the gathering. So, the gathering for Retreat and Presbyterium on September 13-17, 2020 is hereby cancelled. Sorry for the inconvenience caused by this cancellation. But an On-Line – Zoom – retreat will be held on September 14-16, 2020 (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday) for two hours per day, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Central time. Rev. Fr. Augustine Tharappel, MSFS will guide us with the reflections and adorations.

4. Financial support to Parish/Mission & Diocese

As we all are aware that our income for the parish/mission and diocese is the collection taken at the Sunday Holy Qurbana. Since, we do not have the regular Sunday Liturgy, please see that our parishes/missions are financially supported by our faithful. The diocesan support also is solicited from the parish/mission and faithful.

Dear friends, this is a very tuff time for any kind of social gatherings and church celebrations. Let us co-operate with the Officials regarding the guidelines on Covid-19. Much more, let us pray intensely for the mercy of God to overcome this pandemic and to build our faith to keep our communal relationships.

May the grace of the Lord be with us.

+ Jacob & Stry

Mar Jacob Angadiath Bishop



GET TO KNOW AN OLPH FAMILY

Abraham Thomas is from Kallara, Kottayam, and Lillykutty is from Nattassery, Kottayam. Their son, Marvin is married to Ancy, and they have 2 children, Amelia and Elias. Their daughter is Tincy who is married to Roddey.

Lilliykutty moved to the US in 1975 and in 1978, Abraham joined her. They have lived in Maryland ever since. The couple worked at Shady Grove Hospital, but they are retired now.

Something you love about the OLPH community:

- Prayer gatherings with the community

Favorite family vacation spot:

- Holy Land & Europe.

Favorite family activity:

- Family gatherings.

Abraham So Thomas & Lillykutty Karathuruthel `--☆Marvin `--☆Tincy



Editorial Board

Rev. Fr. Roy Moolechalil Tessie Alapatt Manoj Mathew Thomas Abraham Binoy Mathews Rashmi Roy

Biju Issac

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Shellin Jose Boby Augustine Pooja Muttath Dignamartha Kakkanattu Venassa Jijo Riya Roy Rona Roy

☆ Share your thoughts

E-mail: newsletter.olph@gmail.com