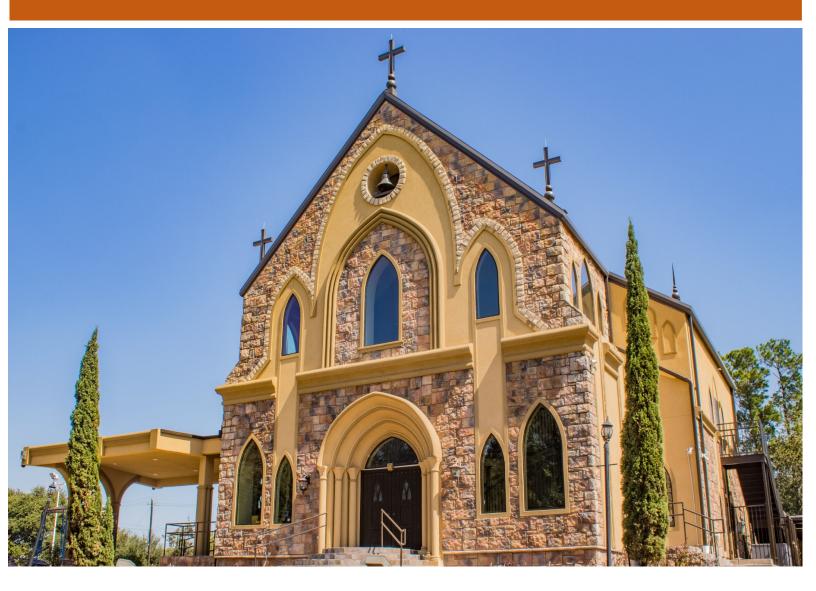


### Trinity Messenger October 2021



Trinity Mar Thoma Church 5810 Almeda Genoa Road Houston, Texas 77048



### Vicar's Message

Dear Trinity Family,

Greetings to you all in the everlasting name of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ. God has guided us through this year, and we are entering the last quarter of 2021. Let us continue to thank God for His abundant mercy and amazing blessings that we are receiving these days. I am thankful to you for your active participation in the church service as well as Zoom prayer meetings. Please reach out and encourage other families who are not active in the parish to join prayer meetings and church services. I am happy that more families are joining the fellowship of our parish and wholeheartedly welcome them to the Trinity Family.

I am requesting your support for the Trinity Campus expansion project. It is a big dream which requires a lot of hard work and participation. Kindly pray for this project and share your contributions to make this dream a reality. Access project details at: <a href="https://campus.trinitymtc.org/">https://campus.trinitymtc.org/</a>
I am happy that the Edavaka Mission Convention was a blessing to all. This year we are arranging two Parish Conventions. We have the English Convention October 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> and the Malayalam Convention November 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>. I pray that these spiritual sessions will be an enlightening experience to all.

Our Diocesan Episcopa Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Thirumeni is visiting our parish on Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. Thirumeni will be celebrating the Holy Qurbana and will lead the First Communion Service. The preparatory sessions for the first communicants are being conducted. I encourage all of you to pray for these children, who are the future of our parish.

I encourage all Organizations to elect their representatives for the new year. Elect new Prayer Group representatives this month, since the General Body meeting is scheduled in November to elect an Executive Committee for the year 2022.

I pray that the Covid 19 related struggles will end soon and wish that prayer meetings and our organizational activities can be arranged more energetically.

I would like to request your prayers and wholehearted support for leading the parish. I thank you all for understanding and helping me to overcome my limitations. It is just because of your support that I could do my ministry meaningfully.

As I am reaching the last few months of my tenure here in Houston, I assure you that I shall try my best to visit all homes in the parish once again.

With Prayers, Roshen Achen



### Vicar's October Schedule

Date	Day	Time	Event	
1-Oct	Friday	9:30 AM	Fasting Prayer	
		7:00 PM	Edavaka Mission Convention (YouTube)	
2-Oct	Saturday	11:00 AM	Baptism	
		09:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Sunday School Student Retreat (Grade 5 & above)	
		4:00 PM	House Warming	
		7:00 PM	Edavaka Mission Convention (YouTube)	
3-Oct	Sunday	8:30 AM	Holy Qurbana: Malayalam [MTVEA Day]	
		11:30 AM	English Divine Service	
		6:30 PM	Pasadena Area Prayer	
4-Oct	Monday	7:30 PM	MTVEA Diocesan Prayer	
5-Oct	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Southwest Region Sevika Sanghom Prayer meeting	
6-Oct	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Sevika Sanghom Prayer Meeting	
7-Oct	Thursday	6:00 PM	Alief - Sugar Land Area special prayer	
8-Oct	Friday	9:30 AM	Fasting Prayer	
		7:00 PM	Church Convention (English)	
9-Oct	Saturday	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Sevika Sanghom Center B half-day retreat	
		5:00 PM	House Warming	
		6:00 PM	Church Convention (English)	
10-Oct	Sunday	8:30 AM	Holy Qurbana: English	
		11:30 AM	GOA Area Prayer	
		4:00 PM	Senior Citizen Fellowship Committee meeting	
		4:30 PM	First Communion Class: Session 3	
		5:30 PM	Wake - Immanuel Mar Thoma Church	
11-Oct	Monday		On Leave till Friday	
12-Oct	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Alief - Sugar Land Area Prayer	
13-Oct	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Missouri City & Stafford Area Prayer	
14-Oct	Thursday		-	
15-Oct	Friday	9:30 AM	Fasting Prayer	
16-Oct	Saturday	10:30 AM	Healing Hearts: Holy Qurbana	

### Vicar's October Schedule

Date	Day	Time	Event	
17-Oct	Sunday	8:30 AM	Holy Qurbana: Malayalam	
		11:30 AM	English Divine Service	
		5:30 PM	First Communicants' Class: Session 4	
18-Oct	Monday		Reserved for Diocesan/Center Prayers	
19-Oct	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Medical Center & Stella Link Area Prayer	
20-Oct	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Sevika Sanghom Prayer Meeting	
21-Oct	Thursday	10:30 AM	Senior Citizen Fellowship Prayer	
22-Oct	Friday	9:30 AM	Fasting Prayer	
		3:00 PM	Travel to Chicago	
		7:30 PM	Edavaka Mission Prayer	
23-Oct	Saturday	3:00 PM	Marriage - Chicago	
24-Oct	Sunday	8:30 AM	Holy Qurbana: English	
			Sevika Sanghom kalamalsaram	
		5:30 PM	First Communicants' Class: Session 5	
		7:00 PM	YFF Meeting	
25-Oct	Monday		Reserved for Diocesan/Center Prayers	
26-Oct	Tuesday			
27-Oct	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pearland West Area Prayer	
28-Oct	Thursday	9:00 AM	Clergy Conference - Atlanta	
29-Oct	Friday	9:30 AM	Family Conference - Atlanta	
30-Oct	Saturday		Family Conference - Atlanta	
		5:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Trunk or Treat	
31-Oct	Sunday		Family Conference - Atlanta	
		9:00 AM	Malayalam Worship Service	
		6:00 PM	Pearland East Area Prayer	

This Newsletter published by the Secretary, Reji George, on behalf of Trinity Mar Thoma Church, Houston, is for private circulation only.

For more information, please contact Reji George (713-806-6751, Reji.George@yahoo.com or Secretary@trinitymtc.org)



https://www.youtube.com/user/MarThomaHouston
Registration link for Church Services

https://trinitymtc.org/register







## TRINITY MAR THOMA CHURCH EDAVAKA MISSION EVANGELISTS' CHRISTMAS GIFTS

As we approach another Christmas season, let us remember it is also a time for caring and sharing. For the past 15 years, Edavaka Mission has successfully coordinated Christmas Gift giving for our Evangelists serving in India.

Living conditions in many parts of India are tougher due to the Covid-19 pandemic. It is our duty to help the poor and needy. In Matthew 25:40, Jesus said, "whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

We are planning to send Indian ₹ 3,000 to each of our evangelists. With money transfer and other administrative expenses, total cost of an evangelist Christmas gift is approximately \$50.

Last year, the Edavaka Mission sent gifts to 608 evangelists. We need to raise \$30,000 for this project and are requesting all Trinity families to help. You can support as many Evangelists as you like, and any donation amount will be appreciated.

Donate via Venmo: @TMC-EdavakaMission, or mail a check to the Edavaka Mission Treasurer, Mr. Babu T. George, or drop it off at Church. Contact Roshen Achen or an Edavaka mission member for more details. God loveth a Cheerful Giver. Thank you very much.



### Secretary's Note

#### Hello Everyone,

As the year is wrapping up, our thoughts are shifting to Trunk or Treat, Thanksgiving, Christmas Caroling and the much anticipated in-person Christmas Play. At many workplaces, it is time for performance reviews. What is the secret sauce for success? Is it planning? Education? Luck? Something else? Pope Julius II also wondered about this fundamental question while taking a close look at Michelangelo's <u>statue of David</u>. What was the secret to his genius? Michelangelo answered, "It's simple. I removed everything that is not David."

Christianity challenges us to mend our ways. Reduce missteps and walk a few steps closer to an idealistic Christian life journey. I am thankful for the many examples of service at our Parish. We are seeds for good. Continue to be vigilant at reducing missteps - and allow the good in us to flourish.

The 2021-22 **Light to Life** fund collection was a big success. Trinity families have sponsored 251 children! I appreciate the fundraising efforts from Mr. Shawn Varghese, Mr. Jaison V. Cherian, and Mr. T. A. Mathew. Read the mission project general overview included in this newsletter to learn more on how this work supports holistic child development. Pray for the children you have sponsored. Expect a sponsored child-specific update in Q1 2022 from the Mar Thoma Mission Board of our Diocese.

Our **Edavaka Mission Convention** was a blessing with three excellent speakers - Rev. David Cherian, Rev. Shoji Varghese, and Evangelist Cherry George Cherian. Thank you Roshen Achen, Mr. Abraham K. Idiculla, the Edavaka Mission Team, Choir, AV Ministry, for organizing an effective Convention.

I am looking forward to the in-person **Trinity English Convention**, led by Rev. Larry Varghese, scheduled from Thursday, October 8th through Sunday, October 10th. The talks will also be livestreamed. Attend this convention focused on the theme **Kingdom Building Through Families**.

The **Trinity campus building project**, estimated to cost \$3.6 million, slowly moved through the evaluation, planning, and estimating phases. In July 2021, the General Body and our Diocesan Bishop approved the project with a condition: raise 60% of the project cost - \$2.2 million, prior to construction.

In addition to requesting assistance from all Trinity Families, the Executive Committee has approved promotion of the project through classroom sponsorships (\$50k paid over multiple years) and donor recognition in four categories - \$25k, \$20k, \$15k and \$10k. Please pray for and financially support the Trinity campus building project.

Please continue to pray for our Church, Achens and their families, the office bearers, executive committee, and me. Thank you,

Reji George

# LIGHTED TO LIGHTEN

### THE MAR THOMA MISSION BOARD

DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA & EUROPE



#### LIGHT TO LIFE MISSION PROIECT

Reaching Out to the Unreached with the Message of Love Through Education'









#### Origin:

Light to Life is an initiative of the Mar Thoma Mission Board of the Diocese of North America and Europe that supports the education and holistic development of less privileged children in different parts of India. The project was officially launched in October 2017.

#### Vision:

Light to Life aims at social transformation through holistic development of children. Holding up the motto of the Mar Thoma Church, *Lighted to Lighten*, the mission intends to shed light in the lives of children to equip them to transform their own communities and the world at large.



#### Background/Need:

Even amidst the availability of educational institutions, the socio-economic situation in the remote villages of India prevents children from making use of such facilities. The lack of proper guidance, educational support, proper nutritious food, and fair clothing results in the discontinuing of studies. This is where the Light to Life project gets involved.



#### Project Design:

The project is designed to support education, to provide nutritious food and sufficient clothing, and to create a congenial environment for the emotional, social, and spiritual growth for less privileged children. The Mission Board has implemented this project in partnership with church-related agencies in different states of India. At present we are supporting 3,529 children through the following mission partners of the Mar Thoma Church: Christian Agency for Rural Development (CARD), South Travancore Agency for Rural Development (STARD), Mar Thoma Evangelistic Association (MTEA), Ranni-Nilackal Diocese, Chennai-Bangalore Diocese, Kottayam-Kochi Diocese, and Adoor Diocese. Holistic Child Development India (HCDI), based in Pune, is the monitoring agency for all our Light to Life projects. HCDI monitors the activities of each project and ensures that the finances are properly utilized.

MISSION PARTNERS	Number of Children Sponsored
1. Christian Agency for Rural Development (CARD)	1,100
2. South Travancore Agency for Rural Development (STARD)	344
3. Mar Thoma Evangelistic Association (MTEA)	302
4. Ranni-Nilackal Diocese	500
5. Chennai-Bangalore Diocese	724
6. Kottayam-Kochi Diocese	459
7. Adoor Diocese	100



### Prayer Meetings

#### **Area Prayer Meetings:**

Zoom Meeting ID: 440 320 308, Passcode: 2222

Dial-in #:+13462487799, Access code: 440 320 308#, Passcode: 2222

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/440320308?pwd=NmhBVnVhcnRKOUkxUE9hSGRyYXFsUT09

- Pasadena Area: Sunday, October 3rd @ 6:30 PM
- Alief Sugar Land Area (special prayer): Thursday, October 7th @ 6:00 PM, on Zoom
- Galveston and Other Area: Sunday, October 10th @ 11:30 AM
- Alief Sugar Land Area: Tuesday, October 12th @ 7:00 PM, on Zoom
- Missouri City Stafford Area: Wednesday, October 13th @ 7:00 PM, on Zoom
- Medical Center—Stella Link Area: Tuesday, October 19th @7:00 PM, on Zoom
- Pearland West Area: Wednesday, October 27th @ 7:00 PM, on Zoom
- Pearland East Area: Sunday, October 31st @ 6:00 PM, on Zoom

#### Sevika Sanghom Meetings, on Zoom:

- Wednesday, October 6th @ 7:30 PM, on Zoom
- ♦ Wednesday, October 20th @7:00 PM, on Zoom

#### **Edavaka Mission Meeting, on Zoom:**

• Friday, October 22nd @ 7:30 PM, on Zoom

#### **Fasting Prayers**

- Friday, October 1st @ 9:30 AM, on Zoom
- Friday, October 8th @ 9:30 AM, on Zoom
- ◆ Friday, October 15th @ 9:30 AM, on Zoom
- Friday, October 22nd @ 9:30 AM, on Zoon

#### **Zoom connection details** for Sevika Sanghom, Edavaka Mission & Fasting Prayer Meetings

Zoom Meeting ID: 934 3547 4490, Passcode: 1111

Dial-in number +13462487799, Access code: 93435474490# Passcode: 1111

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/93435474490?pwd=bEUzeWxMRTI3MHlvOW54bHhLZIA2Zz09



### Worship Service & Lectionary

Service at 11:30 AM   Theme - Voluntary Evangelist's Day - Carriers of the Gospel		Malayalam Holy Communion Service 08:30 AM					
1st Lesson Genesis 12:1-9 Epistle 2 Timothy 4:1-6  2nd Lesson Romans 1:8-16 Gospel Matthew 28:16-20  Edavaka Mission members will be assisting the Holy Communion Service  English Holy Communion Service 08:30 AM  Theme: Kingdom Building Through Familes (Parish Convention theme)  1st Lesson 2 Samuel 9:1-12 Epistle 2 Corinthians 12:1-10  2nd Lesson Acts 3:1-10 Gospel Matthew 15:29-31  Youth Fellowship members will be assisting the Holy Communion Service  Malayalam Holy Communion Service 10:30 AM  Theme: Christian Approach to the Differently Abled  1st Lesson 2 Samuel 9:1-12 Epistle 2 Corinthians 12:1-10  2nd Lesson Acts 3:1-10 Gospel Matthew 15:29-31  Healing Hearts Ministry members will be assisting the Holy Communion Service  Malayalam Holy Communion Service 08:30 AM  English Divine Service at 11:30 AM  17-Oct Theme (Youth Sunday) - Youth: Search for a Meaningful Life  1st Lesson Daniel 1:1-7 Epistle 1 Timothy 4:12-16  2nd Lesson Ephesians 6:10-18 Gospel Mark 10:17-22  Yuwajana Sakhyam members will be assisting the Holy Communion Service  English Holy Communion Service 08:30 AM  Theme: Visitation of Virgin Mary to Elizabeth "Sharing the Good News"		English Divine Service at 11:30 AM					
2nd Lesson   Romans 1:8-16   Gospel   Matthew 28:16-20     Edavaka Mission members will be assisting the Holy Communion Service     English Holy Communion Service 08:30 AM     Theme: Kingdom Building Through Familes (Parish Convention theme)     1st Lesson   2 Samuel 9:1-12   Epistle   2 Corinthians 12:1-10     2nd Lesson   Acts 3:1-10   Gospel   Matthew 15:29-31     Youth Fellowship members will be assisting the Holy Communion Service     Malayalam Holy Communion Service 10:30 AM     Theme: Christian Approach to the Differently Abled     1st Lesson   2 Samuel 9:1-12   Epistle   2 Corinthians 12:1-10     2nd Lesson   Acts 3:1-10   Gospel   Matthew 15:29-31     Healing Hearts Ministry members will be assisting the Holy Communion Service     Malayalam Holy Communion Service 08:30 AM     English Divine Service at 11:30 AM     17-Oct   Theme (Youth Sunday) - Youth: Search for a Meaningful Life     1st Lesson   Daniel 1:1-7   Epistle   1 Timothy 4:12-16     2nd Lesson   Ephesians 6:10-18   Gospel   Mark 10:17-22     Yuwajana Sakhyam members will be assisting the Holy Communion Service     English Holy Communion Service 08:30 AM     Theme: Visitation of Virgin Mary to Elizabeth "Sharing the Good News"	3-Oct	Theme - Voluntary Evangelist's Day - Carriers of the Gospel					
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1st Lesson Genesis 16.1-15 Epistic Rollians 10.9-17	24-Oct						
2nd Lesson 1 Thesselonians 3:6-13 Gospel Luke 1:39-45				•			
Pearland West Area members will be assisting the Holy Communion Service							
Malayalam Worship Service 08:30 AM							
Theme: Koodosh Fetho - Sanctification of the Church							
31-Oct 1st Lesson Jonah 3:1-10 Epistle 1 Peter 1:13-19	31-Oct						
2nd Lesson Hebrews 9:11-23 Gospel Matthew 21:12-17			1-23	•			
Pasadena Area members will be assisting the Holy Communion Service							



### Demises

- Mrs. Rebecca Babu (72) was called to eternity on Wednesday, October 6th in Vakathanam, Kerala. She is the younger sister of Mr. Joseph M. Chemmarappally (Missouri City & Stafford Area Prayer Group). Funeral will be held later.
- Our former Parish member, **Mr. Koshy P. Thomas (87)**, was called to eternal abode on Monday, October 4th, 2021, in Houston. He was one of the founding members of our parish and is the co-brother of Mr. Daniel Varghese (Missouri City & Stafford Prayer Group). The wake will be held on Sunday, October 10th at 5 PM and funeral services will be held on Monday, October 11th at 10 AM. Both events will take place at Immanuel Mar Thoma Church, Houston.
- Mr. A. M. Samuel (89) was called to eternity on Saturday, October 2nd in Pathanamthitta, Kerala. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Annamma Samuel (Northshore Area), son Vinod Samuel, daughters Meena George, Omana Alexander, Kochumol Koshy, and Lena Koshy. He belongs to the Alappattu Family, in Omalloor. The funeral was held at the Omallor St. Stephens CSI Church on Monday, October 4th.
- Mrs. Ammini Varghese (86) was called to eternity on Monday, September 27th in Kolladu, Kerala. She is the elder sister of Mrs. Sucy Abraham (Medical Center-Stella Link Area). Funeral was held at St. Paul's Orthodox Church, Kolladu, Kottayam, on Friday, October 1st.
- Mrs. Saramma Joseph (86) was called to eternity on Wednesday, September 22nd in Jaipur, Rajastan. She is the maternal grandmother of our Roshen Achen. The funeral was held on Thursday, September 23rd at the Jaipur Mar Thoma Church.
- Mr. V. M. Mammen (92) was called to eternity on Monday, September 20th, in Cherukole, Kerala. He is the eldest brother of Roshen Achen's father, Rev. Mathews Mathunny. The funeral was held on Wednesday, September 22nd at Cherukole Mar Thoma Church.
- Dr. Sany Abraham (88) and Dr. John Abraham (88) were called to eternity on Saturday, September 18th and Monday, September 20th respectively, in Austin. They are the uncle and aunt of Mrs. Maggie Paulose of the Galveston & Other Area Prayer Group. Funeral was held on Friday, September 25th in Manor, Texas.



### Demises

- Mr. Koshy Idiculla (95) was called to eternity on Monday, September 13th in Kerala. He is the father of Mrs. Ponnamma Philip, of the Missouri City and Stafford prayer group. The funeral was held on Thursday, September 16th at St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, Kattanam.
- Mrs. Thankamma Abraham (78) was called to eternity on Sunday, September 12th in Kozhencherry, Kerala. She is the aunt of Mr. Titty Simon, of the Galveston & Other Area prayer group. The funeral was held on Monday, September 13th at St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, Kozhencherry.
- Mrs. Omana Koshy (69), our former Parish member, was called to eternity on Thursday, September 9th in Houston. She is the youngest sister of Mrs. Leelamma Thomas, Mrs. Mariamma Mathew & Mr. Rajan Koshy of the Galveston & Other Area.
- Mrs. Ammukkutty Samuel (79) was called to eternity on Thursday, September 9th in Kottayam. She is the aunt of Mrs. Sherry Reji (Pearland West Area) & mother of Mr. Saban Sam, member of Immanuel Mar Thoma Church. Funeral will be held on Monday, September 13th at St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, Kottayam.
- Mrs. Thankamma Kurian (90) was called to eternity on Wednesday, September 8th in Kindanganoor. Kerala. She is the mother of Mr. P.K. Thomas and Mr. P.K. Varghese, of the Missouri City and Stafford prayer group. The funeral was held on Wednesday, September 15th at the St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, Kindanganoor.



### 2021 Parish Executive Committee

OFFICE BEARERS						
1		Vicar				
2	Rev. Roshen V. Mathews	Vicar in-charge	713-408-7394	roshen.valyathu@gmail.com		
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A publication of the Diocese of North America & Europe

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