

## **Introduction**

Worship is the expression of the quest of human mind for communion with God, the creator and sustainer of the universe. The body, heart, mind and soul of the worshipper are all involved in the worship experience. Awareness of God's presence makes worship alive and meaningful. The whole creation proclaims the glory of God, says the Bible: "The heavens declare the glory of God and the sky above proclaims his handiwork" (Ps 19:1).

Worship is the celebration of the salvation and abundance of life possible for the whole creation in and through Jesus Christ. It is an occasion of the fulfillment of our Lord's promise that when two or three are gathered in his name he would be in their midst. The Lord also said that the hour was coming when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth. Worship is a service.


Worship provides zeal and vigour to the mission of the Church. The word Liturgy is derived from the Greek term *Leitourgia* which means Service. Church, the Body of Christ, gathers for worship and disperses into the world at large for service. The ministry of the Kingdom of God engaged in by the worshipping community is called the Liturgy after the liturgy.

The reading and proclamation of the Word of God has a unique significance in worship. Ministry of the Word should be relevant exposition of the Word to equip the People of God to participate in the Kingdom witness and building up of the church. The lectionary is prepared as per the church calendar to help meaningful christian witness, across the year, to the redemptive acts of Jesus Christ who dwelt among us in grace and truth. May God prepare the church to meditate the whole year on the life of Jesus Christ which includes the birth, baptism, death on the cross, burial, resurrection, ascension and the glorious

appearance of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the Word of life and God incarnate of the Virgin Mary.

The Lectionary - 2023 is an amended version of the Cycle A order of the Communion of Churches in India. The members of the Liturgical Commission who put in great efforts to prepare the church calendar and Lectionary are Rev. Dr. Koshy P. Varughese, Dr. (Mrs) Mariamma James, Rev. Sam Koshy T. and Very Rev. Dr. Easow Mathew (Convenor).

May our worship as well as the reading and proclamation of the Word of God help us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, as St Paul says. It is our spiritual worship. Let us not conform to this world but be transformed by the renewal of our minds, that by testing we may discern the will of God - what is good, acceptable and perfect in his sight.



**Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos Suffragan Metropolitan,**  
Chairman, Liturgical Commission

**MALANKARA MAR THOMA SYRIAN CHURCH  
(LECTIONARY)  
CHRISTIAN YEAR - 2023  
BIBLE READINGS FOR SUNDAYS AND OTHER  
SPECIAL OCCASIONS - PUBLISHED BY THE  
EPISCOPAL SYNOD OF THE CHURCH**

Date	Lessons	Epistle-Gospel	Evening Reading
<b>JANUARY</b>			
1 Sunday	Good News for All Humanity (Outside Kerala Mission)		
	Isa. 52:7-12	Rom. 1:8-17	Isa. 2:1-6
	Act. 13:44-52	Mat.28:16-20	1Pet.1:3-9
6 Friday	<i>Danha</i> (Epiphany) Baptism of our Lord Jesus the King is Commissioned as the Servant		
	Isa.42:1-9	Heb.2:14-18	Isa. 53: 1-12
	Phi.2:5-11	Mat.3:13-17	Ps. 2
8 Sunday	Body: Temple of God to be kept in Holiness (Temperance Day) (St. Stephen's Day)		
	Dan.1:1-9	1 Thes. 5:4-11	Prov. 23:1-20
	1 Cor. 6:12-20	St. Lk. 11:33-36	Ps. 1
15 Sunday	Fruitful Christian Living		
	Isa. 5:1-7	Gal. 5:16-26	Ps. 1
	Col.1:3-13	John. 15:1-11	Rev.22:1-7
18-25	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Unity Octave)		
22 Sunday	Unity of the Churches God's will		
	Eze.37:15-23	1 Cor. 3:1-9	Eccl. 4:7-12
	Eph. 2:14-22	St. John. 17:18-26	Ps.133
26 Thursday	Republic day of India-Christian Participation in Nation Building		
	Neh.2:11-18	1 Pet.2:13-17	Ps. 45
	1 Cor. 10:23-33	Mat.5:13-16	Titus. 3:1-11

29 Sunday Trust in the providence of God  
 2 Chro. 32:9-23 Phil. 4:4-8 Ps.121  
 1 Pete. 5:7-11 St. Mat. 6:19-34 Act. 27:9-26

30 Monday Beginning of Three Days Fast  
 Jona. 1 Rom.15:24-33  
 Col. 3:5-11 St. Mat. 7:1-12

31 Tuesday Repentance  
 Jona. 2 Gal. 5:16-24  
 Rev. 3:14-22 St. Mat. 24:36-46

## FEBRUARY

1 Wednesday Redemption of All creation  
 Jona. 3 Eph. 5:1-10  
 Jam. 3:1-12 St. Mat. 12:38-50

2 Thursday Three Days fast ends Entry of our Lord to the Temple  
 Celebration of the redemption.  
 1 Sam.1:19-28 Eph.5:8-14 Ps. 118: 19-29  
 Heb.10:1-7 St. Luke. 2:22-39 2 John. 1-13

5 Sunday Medical Mission Sunday. Jesus Christ Who heals.  
 Isa.53:1-12 Acts. 3:11-16 Ps.103:1-10  
 1 Pet.2:18-25 St. Mat. 8:5-17 Rev. 22:1-5

12 Sunday Sabbath Leads to the Fullness of Creation  
 (Beginning of the 128<sup>th</sup> Maramon Convention)  
 1 Sam.21:1-9 Col. 2:13-19 Prov. 8:22-31  
 Hebr.4:1-11 St. Lk. 6:1-10 Ps. 8

19 Sunday Beginning of Great Lent  
 Lent: An invitation for Transformation  
 Final day of Maramon Convention  
 Hos.14:1-9 Rom. 12:1-2 Eze.18:25-32  
 2 Pet.1:1-11 St. John 2:1-11 Ps. 6

20 Monday Ministry of Reconciliation  
 Gen 45:1-15 Rom. 5:6-11  
 Eph. 2:11-22 St. Mat. 5:21-26

26 Sunday Jesus Christ who Sanctifies  
 (Second Sunday during the Great Lent)  
 Jere. 33:6-11 Jam. 4:7-10 Exo. 12:21-28  
 1 John. 1:5-10 St. Mark. 1:40-45 Ps.130

## MARCH

3 Friday World Day of Prayer

5 Sunday Jesus christ who forgives sins  
 (Third Sunday in Lent)  
 Isa. 33:13-24 Col.2:8-15 John.4:6-11  
 Heb.9:11-20 St. Mark. 2:1-12 Ps. 25

12 Sunday Jesus Christ who includes (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent)  
 Isa. 45:1-8 Gal.3:23-29 Ruth. 4:1-10  
 Acts.10:34-43 St. Mat. 15:21-28 Ps.87

15 Wednesday Mid Lent - The Readiness to face the Cross.  
 Num. 21:1-9 Gal. 6:11-16  
 1 Cor. 1:18-31 St. Mark. 10:32-34

19 Sunday Jesus Christ who Redeems (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent)  
 Exo.3:1-10 Rom.3:23-31 Isa. 12:1-6  
 1 Pet.1:18-25 St Luke. 13:10-17 Ps. 82

25 Saturday Annunciation to Virgin Mary  
 Isa. 7:10-14 Gal. 4:1-7  
 1 John. 3:1-12 St. Luke. 1:26-38

26 Sunday Jesus Christ who leads to New Vision (36<sup>th</sup> Sunday)  
 Eze. 37:1-14 Col. 3:1-11 Jere. 30:1-10  
 Phil. 3:7-16 St. Mark. 10:46-52 Ps. 126

31 Friday 40<sup>th</sup> Friday -Hunger to do the will of God  
 Num.11:4-15 1 Thes.3:1-8  
 Jam.1:12-18 St. Mat.4: 11

## APRIL

2 Sunday Hosanna - (Theological Seminary day)  
 Jesus' entry in to Jerusalem the alternate style of kingship  
 Zech. 9:1-12 Col. 1:15-23 Isa. 5:1-20  
 Heb. 5:5-10 St. Mat. 21:1-17 St. Mat.21:17-22



## JUNE

4 Sunday	Beginning of the New Academic year Grow in the Divine Wisdom. Medical Aid offertory of the Clergy (1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) 1Kig.3:3-14      Eph.1:15-19      Job.38:1-11 1 Cor.1:18-25      St.Luke.2:41-52      Ps.98
11 Sunday	Environmental Sunday - To till and keep Gen.2:4-15      Col.1:9-20      Isa.42 Rev.22:1-5      St.Luk.12:24-27      Ps. 19
16 Friday -	Beginning of the Fast of Apostles. call and selection of the Disciples Jere.1:1-12      1Cor.12:27-31 Heb.10:32-39      St.Luke.6:12-19
18 Sunday	Worship: Celebration of the Faith (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Isa.6:1-8      Eph.3:14-19      Eze. 47:1-12 Rev.4:1-11      St.Luke.18:1-14      Ps. 148
25 Sunday	Discipleship: call for mission (4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Jere.1:1-11      1 Timo.1:12-17      Isa. 8:11-18 Acts.9:1-15      St.Mark.3:13-19      Ps. 119:33-40
29 Thursday	St.Peter's and St.Paul's Day- End of the Fast of the Apostles) Jos.1:1-9      2Tim.1:3-12 Gal.2:1-10      St.Mat.20:25-28

## JULY

2 Sunday	Tithe Offering Sunday-Share for the Gospel (5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Dut.14:22-29      2 Cor. 9:6-12      Mala. 3:6-18 1 Tim. 6:17-21      St.Luke.3:7-14      Ps. 147:1-11
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3 Monday	St. Thomas Day Discipleship as Readiness to die with Christ. Isa. 8:16-9:3      2 Tim. 2:1-13 1 Thes. 1:1-10      St. John. 11:5-16
9 Sunday	Clergy Sunday Priests: Ministers of the Kingdom of God (6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Eze.33:1-9      Eph. 4:7-16      Duet. 5:20-33 1 Timo.6:11-16      St. Mat. 9:35-38      Ps.119:89-104
16 Sunday	People of God: The body of Jesus Christ (7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Josh. 1:1-9      2 Cor. 5:16-21      Jud. 6:11-24 1Cor. 12:27-31      St. Mat. 5:43-48      Ps.18:1-6
23 Sunday	Good News: Life Through Death (8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Due. 6:1-17      Rom. 8:12-17      Isa.53 Eph. 3:1-13      St. John 12:20-26      2 Cor. 4:7-12
25 Tuesday	St.James Day Jere.26:1-15      Act. 11:27-12:3 Acts. 8:1-11      St. Mark. 10:35-45
30 Sunday	Holy spirit who Empowers for Mission (9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Isa. 61:1-4      Gal. 5:16-24      Joe.2:12-17 Acts. 1:1-11      St. John. 20:19-23      1 Cor. 2:10-16

## AUGUST

1 Tuesday	Beginning of the Fifteen Days Lent. Dan. 1:1-21      Rom. 12:19-21 1John.3:1-12      St. Mat. 5:38-41
6 Sunday	Mission Sunday- The feast of Transfiguration-Glorification of the Messiah Through death (10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Exo.34:29-35      2Cor.3:5-11      Exo.24:12-18 2 Pet.1:12-21      St.Luk.9:28-36      Heb.12:18-29

13 Sunday	Holy Qurbana - Commemoration and the Experience of the Salvific Event (11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Gen. 14:17-24    1 Cor. 11:23-34    Exo. 16:9-21 1 Cor. 10:14-22    St. Mark. 14:22-25    John.1:1-10
15 Tuesday	Independence Day of India - End of the Fifteen Days Lent Exo. 23:1-9    Gal. 5:1-6 Acts. 15:1-11    St. Luke. 6:20-26
20 Sunday	Reformation Sunday Life: To be Reformed through the word of God. (12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) 2 King. 23:1-6    Heb.4:12-13    Josh.3:1-17 1 John. 2:14-17    St. Luk. 8:9-15    Gal. 1:1-6
27 Sunday	Called to be the Light-Church in the Pluralistic Society (13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Isa. 60:1-10    1 Pet. 2:1-10    2 King 5:1-14 Acts.10:9-16    St.Mat.5:13-16    Ps.67

### SEPTEMBER

3 Sunday	Education Day- Care Oriented Education (14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Prov.1:1-12    Col.1:24-29    Prov.4:1-9 Acts. 8:26-38    St.Mat.19:16-22    Tit.2:1-5
10 Sunday	Sevika Sangham Day-Women the Apostles of Christ (15 <sup>th</sup> Day after Pentecost) Num.27:1-11    Rom:16:1-6    Esth.7:1-10 Acts. 16:11-15    John 4:27-30    Luke.1:46-50
17 Sunday	Senior Citizen's Sunday- Old Age that Combines Faith and Experience (16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Isa. 40:21-31    Tim.5:1-10    Ps.71 Eph. 6:1-9    St.Luke. 2:25-38    1 John.4:7-21

21 Thursday	St. Mathew's Day Isa. 4:1-6    1 Thes. 1:2-6 Eph 6:1-9    St.Mat. 13:44-52
24 Sunday	The Golorious Coming of our Lord (17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Mala.3:13-4:2    Acts.1:6-11    2 Sam.18:24-33 1Thes.4:13-18    St.Mat.24:42-51    Ps.15
27 Wednesday	Formation Day of the Church of South India (CSI) Ezekiel. 37:15-22    Eph.4:1-6    Ps.133 1John. 3:1-12    St.John. 17:9-17    1 Cor.10:15-17

### OCTOBER

1 Sunday	Voluntary Evangelist's Association Day Christian Presence in Differing Life Spaces (18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Isa.49:1-6    Gal. 1:11-17    Neh. 1:1-11 Acts.16:19-34    St. Luke 12:41-48    Ps. 3
8 Sunday	Difference and dignity of all creation Day of the Differently abled. (19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Isa.35:1-10    1 Thes. 5:12-22    2 Sam.9:1-13 Acts. 14: 1-10    St. Luke. 14:12-14    Ps. 37
15 Sunday	Youth Sunday- Youth with Christ (20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) Dan. 1:11-17    1Tim.4:11-16    1 Sam.17:32-50 1 Pete. 3:13-18    St. Mart.7:21-27    Ps. 111
22 Sunday	Christian Family Dedication Sunday Family an Expression of the Kingdom of God Josh.24:14-22    Eph.5:21-33    Gen.2:18-25 Acts.10:1-8    St. Luke. 10:38-42    1 John. 2:7-17
29 Sunday	Confession: Sacrament of Reconciliation with God and Human Gen.45:1-15    2. Cor.5:16-21    Ps.51 1 Cor 6:1-11    St. Mat. 22:34-40    Eph. 2:11-22

## NOVEMBER

1 Wednesday	All Saints' Day Isa. 26:1-16      Eph. 1:15-23 Rev. 4:1-11      John. 11:21-27
5 Sunday	<i>Kudosh Eetho</i> - Santification of the Church- Beginning of the Liturgical Year: World Sunday School Day: Children - to be Partakers in the Concerns of Christ Prov. 3:1-8      Eph. 6:1-4      1 Sam. 3:1-12 1 John 3:1-12      John 6:1-14      Ps. 127
12 Sunday	<i>Hudos Eetho</i> - Renewal of the Church Festival of Unity of CSI, CNI and Mar Thoma Church. Josh. 22:21-29      1 Cor. 12:12-27      Jer. 29:1-9 Ephe. 4:1-7      St. John. 10:11-18      Ps. 106:1-12
19 Sunday	Annunciation to Zechariah God's Intervention that paves the way of Salvation Judg. 13:2-14      Heb. 11:6-12      Ps. 145 Heb. 6:9-12      St. Luke. 1:5-23      Rev. 8:1-8
26 Sunday	Annunciation to Virgin Mary Call to be the Mother of the Saviour of the world. Zech. 2:10-13      1 Cor. 1:26-31      Gen. 18:1-18 Rom. 1:1-7      St. Luke. 1:26-38      acts. 16:11-15
29 Wednesday	Fromation Day of the Church of North India (CNI) Isa. 65:17-25      2 Cor. 1:3-11 1 Cor. 12:12-26      John. 17:17-26
30 Thursday	St. Andrew's Day

## DECEMBER

1 Friday	Beginning of Twenty five Days Lent Isa. 2:10-22      Gal. 2:12-20 1 Thes. 4:1-12      St. John. 1:1-15
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3 Sunday	Meeting of Virgin Mary and Elizabeth : The meeting that shares The Good news of salvation. (Bible Sunday) Gen. 33:1-15      Rom. 15:5-9      Gen. 33:1-17 2 Cor. 1:3-10      St. Luke. 1:39-45      Ps. 146
10 Sunday	Birth of John the Baptist John the Baptist: Greatest among those born of Women Mala. 3:1-4      1 Cor. 4:1-6      Ps. 119:49-56 Acts. 13:17-26      St. Luke. 1:57-66      Gal. 1:11-17
17 Sunday	Annunciation to Joseph Joseph - A Man of Higher Justice Zeph. 3:14-20      Rom. 14:13-19      Isa. 35:1-10 1 Cor. 13:1-13      St. Mat. 1:18-23      Ps. 43
21 Thursday	Mar Thoma Church Day Joe. 2:11-17      1 Cor. 3:1-9 Rom. 12:3-18      St. John. 20:24-29
24 Sunday	Coming of the Saviour Isa. 11:1-9      Acts. 3:19-26      Neh. 12:27-43 1 John. 4:7-16      St. John. 1:14-18      2 Cor. 7:1-16
25 Monday	Birth of Our Saviour. Good News to all. (End of Twenty five Days Lent) Micah. 5:1-9      Gal. 4:1-7      Isa. 7:10-14 Phil. 2:5-11      St. Luke. 2:1-14      Ps. 128
31 Sunday	With Christ in to the New Year 1 Sam. 7:1-12      Rom. 8:31-39 Rev. 21:1-8      St. Mat. 5:1-12





## READING PORTIONS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

### 1. Thanksgiving Day for the New Academic Year

1 King 3:4-15      Jam. 1:5-8  
Col.1:3-14      St. Luke. 2:41-52

### 2. CSI-CNI-Mar Thoma Unity Sunday

Eze.37:15-28      Eph. 4:1-7  
1 Cor. 1:10-18      St. John. 17:18-26

### 3. Parish Day

Isa. 60      Acts. 4:32-35  
Phil. 2:1-18      St. Luke. 13:1-9

### 4. Diocesan Day

Isa. 43:1-13      2 Cor. 5:11-19  
Heb. 12:1-13      St. John. 15:1-12

### 5. Year Ending - Watch Night

Deut. 8:1-20      1Thess5:1-11  
2 Cor. 9:10-15      St. Luke. 13:6-9

### 6. Harvest Festival

Deut.26:1-11      Phil. 4:10-20  
2 Cor. 9:1-9      St. Mat. 21:1-4

### 7. Choir Day

Exo.15:1-18      Eph. 5:15-21  
Acts. 16:19-34      St. Luke. 1:46-55

### 8. Senior Citizens Day

Gen. 48:1-22      2 Tim. 4:1-8  
2 Cor. 4:7-18      St. Luke. 2:25-38

### 9. Birthday

Gen. 47:1-10      2 Cor. 2:14-17  
Ps. 103:1-12      St. Luke. 1:67-80

### 10. Wedding Anniversary

Gen. 2:18-25      Eph. 5:21-32  
Eph. 3:14-21      St. Mat. 19:3-12

### 11. Journey

Ps. 16.      Ps. 91, 121  
Josh. 1:1-9

### 12. Discouragement, Failures

Ps. 23, 40, 73, 130

### 13. Disease, Struggles in Life

2 King. 20:1-11      2 Cor. 12:1-10  
Ps. 42, 43      St. Mark 10:46-52

### 14. Serious Loss or Painful Situations

Job. 1      2 Cor. 11:23-33  
Ps. 3, 6      St. John 11:16-35

### 15. Joy, Victory

Ps.103, 106, 116      St.Luke. 15

### 16. Assuming New Office

Exo. 3:1-14      Ps. 27  
Josh. 1

### 17. Bereavement

Gen. 50:1-13      1 Cor. 15      2 Cor. 5:1-10  
Job. 14:1-22      1 Thes. 4:13-18  
Ecc. 2:11-26      Rev. 7:9-17  
Ecc. 3:1-22      Rev. 21:1-7  
Ps. 39, 42, 90      St. John. 11;20-27  
St. John. 5:19-29      St. Mat. 25:1-13

### 18. Ordination

Deacon:      1 Tim. 3:8-13      1 Tim. 4:1-8  
1 Pet. 4:1-19      St. John 12:20-36  
Priest:      1 Tim. 3:1-7      1 Tim. 4:12-16  
Tit. 1:4-9      1 Pet. 2:1-10  
1 Pet. 5:1-11      St. John 20:19-23

### 19. Laying Foundation Stone for a Church Building

Gen. 28:10-22      1 Pet. 2:1-10  
Eph.2:11-22      St. Mat. 7:24-29

### 20. Dedication of a Church Building

1 King. 8:22-30      Heb.8  
Heb. 9:11-28      St. Mat. 16:13-19





## **SPECIAL OFFERTORY**

1. Outside Kerala Mission	January 1
2. Medical Mission	February 5
3. Theological Seminary (Hosana)	April 2
4. Metropolitan's Fund	May 7
5. Sacred Music & Communication Sunday	May 28
6. Clergy Medical Aid	June 4
7. Tithe Offering	July 2
8. Mission Sunday	August 6
9. Education Sunday	September 3
10. Voluntary Evangelist's Association	October 1
11. Youth Sunday	October 15
12. Sunday School Samajam	November 5
13. Bible Society	December 3

