

## Happy Easter

### Farewell Message From The Vicar.

My beloved brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus .  
Loving greetings in His glorious name. Welcome to new financial year. Since we are starting a new financial year we have to think about Christian stewardship. We are not owners, but stewards of our possessions. We can work but cannot produce fruits. So all that we consider as our attainments are nothing but the blessing and gift of God, and God wants as to share them with our fellow men. So in this new financial year let's start a new beginning in Christian stewardship

This month is the last month of my service as vicar in this parish. I thank God for giving me a chance to be in service of Sharjah parish for the last three years. I am extremely happy to note that, I received the prayerful co-operation of a good number of people. I thank almighty for providing us with a church building our own with all accompanying facilities and for gracing us with abundant blessings.

Rick Warren, in his book " The purpose driven church" wrote " A church's health is measured by its standing capacity not by its seating capacity". I whole heartedly thank all the members for unlimited co-operation extended to me during the last three years. You stood by me in all my joys and woes. You gave me fellowship of prayers. I also gratefully acknowledge the co-operation and fellowship with the Panicker Achen & Chacko Achen, as well as office bearers of the parish and the various organizations. There were several limitations but God almighty helped me to overcome these limitations.

"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Test everything, hold fast what is good, abstain from every form of evil." 1st Thess: 5:16-22. I take this opportunity to express the whole hearted gratitude of mine and my family and wish you all the boundless blessing of God.

May God bless you all. Yours In His Service,  
Stephen Mathew Achen.

### THRUMENT'S MESSAGE

Every year, I visit, the Sharjah, Fujairah, & Ras Al Khaimah parishes because they are part of Ranny Nilackal Diocese. With the completion of the G+1 hall, the accommodation problem is almost over. Fujairah parish's extension work is over. The members of the Ras Al Khaimah parish are struggling hard to finish the construction of the new church building. They are in dire need of money. We must rise to the occasion to help them generously by our prayer and other resources.

We are in the Lenten season. Lent is the season to develop greater spiritual discipline , it is a time of repentance and renewal. We repent of our sins more out of fear of God's wrath. Many of our prayers in our liturgies for special occasions such as prayers for the sick, burial service and passion week prayers focus on eternal punishment, hell fire etc. But no one is scared of these things now a days.

We should, however become remorseful for a different reason. We should feel guilty and sad, when we think of the enormity of God's love. Let me draw your attention to the parable of the two sons in Luk:15 we often describe this parable as the parable of the prodigal son, the real hero of the story is the father. When younger son returns home after squandering the wealth and living a delinquent life , the father embraces him and gives him a royal welcome. Similarly the father lovingly pleads with the older son to come inside the house and join in the celebration over the return of his brother. The father's love reaches out to both the sons without any limits. The word "prodigal" originally meant "lavish" "over generous". The bad meaning of the word "wasteful", squandering came only later. If we take the adjective "prodigal" in its original sense, then this parable may be described as the parable of the "prodigal father" one who was overflowing and lavish in his love.

The father's love on the cross should drive us to us to contrition. Our remorse should not be out of fear of judgment, but because of the enormity of the God's love. In Marie corelli's novel -Barabbas- there is a touching scene. Barabbas who was set free from prison ( instead of Jesus ) goes to the foot of the cross, and seeing Jesus hanging on the cross felt so remorseful and uttered pointing to Jesus : " he died for me" (in my place ). Sathu Sunder Singh describes God's love thus. When I throw a stone at the fruit tree, the fruit tree throw no stone back, instead it gives me fruit. Is it not perfect love ?

This is my wish and prayer that in and through the Lenten meditation we may understand that the journey to Calvary is not a sentimental journey for the Christian and the Christian church but the realistic acknowledgement of where true Christian renewal is to be found. Let no one rob us of our Easter hope. Let us cling on to the risen Lord and strive to be a community of resurrection in the world of corruption death and decay.

Yours in Christ, Sharjah,  
Lent- 2009.  
Rt. Rev. Geevarghese Mar Athanasius

### Happy Easter to all of you,

## From your Parish Secretary,

Dearly beloved in Christ,  
Greetings to one and all in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We are in the end of this financial year 2008-2009.I praise the Almighty Lord for His mercy and guidance that has been showered upon us throughout this year.

The tenure of our trustees are over by the end of march.I would like to thank Mr.Baby V.Y.Tharakan and Abraham P. Mathews, on behalf of the vicars, kaisthanasamithi and all the members of the parish.

The parish general body was held on 27th February and selected the new office bearers for the new financial year 2009-2010.Let us uphold all our new office bearers for Gods grace and guidance. Mr.Raju Samuel and Mr.Reji Thomas have taken charges, on behalf of Kaisthanasamithy with great pleasure I welcome our new trustees.

Our beloved Athanasious Thirumeni's birthday is on April 26th.Let us pray for his good health and for long life to lead the church very enthusiastically.

With kind regards Wish you all a Happy Easter

Sam P.George Secretary. 050-6964903

### HOLY COMMUNION

Thursdays at 7.30pm. Fridays at 7.30am<<<>> 1st Sunday at 8.00pm, Third Friday at 7.00pm  
English Service on Fourth Friday at 8.00am<<<>> Ordinary service on Fifth Friday at 7.30am  
Hosanna Service on 05.03.09 at 8.pm<<<>> Good Friday Service on 10.04.09  
>>Easter Service on 11.04.09 at 7.30pm & 12.04.09 at 5.00am<<<  
>>Evening Worship Service on 6th,7th and 8th at 8.00pm<<<

### Lectionary & Area Acolytes

Date	Theme	Acolytes From	1st Lesson	1nd Lesson	Epistle
02.04.09	40th Friday-Overcoming Temptation	CA	Numbers 21:1-10	Hebrews 12:1-13	1 Peter 1:13-22
03.04.09		BMN			
05.04.09	Hosanna -Jesus the sign of peace	IM	Zachariah 9:9-17	Ephesians 2:11-22	Colossians 1:15-24
09.04.09	Holy Qurbana-Celebration of-Salvation	Kaisthanasamithy	Exodus 12:1-28	Hebrews 5:1-14	1 Corinthians 11:23-34
10.04.09	Good Friday-Salvation of All	Organizations	Isaiah 53:1-12	Galatians 3:1-22	
12.04.09	Easter Sunday-Resurrection-Celebration of Hope	Kaisthanasamithy	2 Kings 4:27-37	1 Corinthians 15:1-20	Colossians 3:1-11
16.04.09	Appearance of Jesus to Apostle-	AJM	Exodus 3:1-15	Acts 9:1-18	2 Timothy 2:1-13
17.04.09	Thomas-Firm Faith	DXB			
23.04.09	Walk in the fellowship of -	KHS	Ezekiel 36:26-38	Philippians 1:12-25	Mathew 28:16-20
24.04.09	Reconciliation	Sunday School			
30.04.09	Our response to basic needs	MM	Exodus 16:1-20	Acts 4:32-37	2 Corinthians 8:1-10
01.05.09	(Metropolitan Fund)	NS			
03.05.09		RCH			
07.05.09	The Mission of the Church	RSQ	Chronicles 16:1-15	Acts 11:19-30	Ephesians 4:11-16
08.05.09		SCS			

### Area Prayer Meetings

Area	Date	Time	Venue	Hosted by	ID No.	Tel. No
DXB	03.04.09	6.30pm	Church	Mr.Raju Samuel	R-66	050-4545250
AJM	13.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Mr.Vinson Alex	V-68	06-7428747
RCH	13.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Mr.Koshy Thomas	K-07	050-3631457
ABS	14.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Mr.Joy Thomas	J-159	050-6364201
				Mr.George Thomas	G-46	050-6987837
				Mr.Dominic T.A	D-21	050-4547270
				Mr.Anish V.Abraham	A-143	050-6552961
MM	14.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Mr.M.A.Mathew	M-12	050-4972008
SCS	20.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Mr.Balu Abraham	B-52	050-4799640
IM	20.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Mr.Varghese Chacko	V-13	06-5440284
MC	21.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Mr.Jacob Thomas	J-154	050-4877925
BMN	21.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Mr.V.C.Samkutty	S-44	050-4270325
CA	27.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Mr.Thomas Mathen	T-53	050-4576722
				Mr.Varghese P.Thampi	V-108	050-5148265
NS	27.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Contact Area Secretary		050-6311413
KHS	28.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Mr.Simon Thomas	S-48	050-1616764
				Mr.Abraham George	A-46	050-4820793
RSQ	28.04.09	8.30pm	Church	Contact Area Secretary		
UAQ		7.00pm on all Fridays except 3rd Friday, Contact Area Secretary				050-6581179

### Welcome to New Members ...

Sl.	Name	ID	Home Parish	Area	Contact No.
1	Mr.Vijit Eapen Thomas	V-127	St.Thomas MTC,Thiruvalla	NS	06-5620336
2	Mr.Manoj K.Abraham	M-183	Immanuel MTC,Mundackal	KHS	06-5642807
3	Mr.Thomas John	T-213	Marthoma Valiyappally,Thevalakara	AJM	06-7428610
4	Mr.Suman Eapen Thomas	S-350	St.Thomas MTC, Kozhenchery	DXB	055-5030798
5	Mr.Santhosh Mathews	S-351	Emmanuel MTC, Chenkulam, Oyoor.	RSQ	06-5612246
6	Mr.Thankachen G.	T-214	Bethel MTC, Channapetta	AJM	050-1796675
7	Mr.Tiju Mathew	T-215	Salem MTC, Kurianoor	IM	050-1722459
8	Mr.Easo K.Thomas	E-17	Marthoma Church, Mallappally	IM	06-5743769
9	Mr.Varghese K.C	V-128	MTC,Padinjarekkara, Thalavady	SCS	055-9454562
10	Mr.Cherian K.C	C-78	MTC,Padinjarekkara, Thalavady	SCS	055-9454562
11	Mr.Blesson Jacob Philip	B-185	St.Thomas MTC, Anamala	DXB	050-2245642
12	Mr.Cecil Mathew	C-79	Salem MTC, Vennikulam	SCS	055-7157827
13	Mr.George Koshy	G-124	Bethel MTC, Malad, Mumbai	MC	050-7804143

**In loving and affectionate memory of**  
**Mr.Shaju Thomas, 54 yrs, Church ID#S-349 AJM**

With deep regrets we extend our heartfelt condolences on the sad demise of Shaju and pray that God provides them with comfort and peace.

The Marthoma Parish, Sharjah

### Organization Events

#### Sunday School

\* Students Dedication-Vidhyarama Stothram will be held on 2nd April(Thursday)and 3rd April(Friday) during Holy Qurbana. \* Picnic for Teachers & family on 3rd April(Friday)immediately after Sunday School. \* Teens camp on 4th April(Saturday) in the Church from 9.00am to 3.30 pm  
Theme->The Word without full stop>> Registration fee-Dhs.10.00 \* There will be no Sunday School on 10th April(Good Friday) \* The UAE Cnter Annual Meeting-17th April immediately after Sunday School.  
\* Memory Verse Competition for class 11 on 24th April during Sunday School.

#### Parish Mission

Sundays 8.30 pm at church except 1st Sunday

#### Yuvajana Sakhyam

\* Saturdays 08.30pm at Church \* 4th April Vidhyaarambam \* 11th April Bible study \* 18th April, Debate \* 25th April, Farewell meeting(Vicar)

#### Sevika Sangam

Wednesdays 08.30pm at Parish Hall \* Fasting Prayer on 3rd Sunday at 09.30am at Church \* 22nd April, Anniversary and Farewell meeting(Vicar)

#### FASTING PRAYER

Every Friday 12.00 noon at Church

#### CHOIR

« O sing to the Lord a new song:He has done wonderful things»  
Choir Practice-Every Wednesday 08.30pm to 10.30pm

#### Sharjah Marthoma Yuvajanasakhyam

#### Shuttle Badminton Tournament-semi Final & Final

DATE:03rd April,2009(Friday), Time:4.30pm  
Venue:Sharjah Port & Customs Badminton court.

Contact Convenors:Mr.Abraham Mathew(050-4585200)Mr.Jeril Philip(050-2232457)

#### Selection of New Choir Members

For Juniors (9 years and above) and Seniors(18 years and above)  
Audition on 17th April at 4.00pm

Contact : Mr.Thomas Kurien-050-7857376, Mr.Jayan Chacko-050-6951861

### Condolences

Mrs.Aleyamma Kurien, 78yrs Mother of Mr.Jacob Kurien(ID#J-247)MM	Mr.K.C.Samuel, 87yrs Father in law of Mr.Thomas Varghese C.(ID#T-46)AJM
Mr.K.J.Varghese, 78 yrs Grand Father of Mrs.Shiney Kuruvilla(ID#K-12)RCH	Mrs.Jessy Thomas 48 yrs Sister of Mr.Chacko Eapen(ID#C-41)DXB
Mrs.Sosamma Mathai, 78yrs Mother in law of Mr.Philippos K.V(ID#P-08)MM	Mr.Kunjachen, 65 yrs , Mrs.Jolly, 40 yrs, Mrs.Sherly, 35 yrs Father and Sisters of Mr.Rajan Kunjachen(ID#R-116)AJM
Mrs.Aleyamma John,73 yrs Mother of Mr.Santhosh Cherian(ID#S-309)MM	Mr.Shaju P.Thomas, 54 yrs(ID#S-349)AJM

The Sharjah Mar Thoma Parish expresses heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members on the sad demise of their beloved ones. May God's care strengthen and comfort them

### New Borns

A baby girl Arene is born to Susan & Gippy(ID#G-116) of MM

A baby boy Aiden is born to Eby & Binny(ID#A-71)ABS

A baby girl Nikita is born to Cristine & George(ID#S-244) of RCH

#### Sharjah Marthoma Yuvajanasakhyam Vidhyaarambam

Venue: Sharjah Marthoma Church, Date: 4th April, 2009, Time:8.15pm

#### U.A.E Mar Thoma Youth Chaplaincy Forum

04-04-09 4 PM presents  
The first U.A.E Mar Thoma Youth Retreat  
**APHESIS 09**  
Theme : Set free in Christ ( Luke 15: 21 )  
Speaker : His Lordship Rt. Rev. Geevarghese Mar Athanasius  
Venue: Sharjah Mar Thoma Church

For further details contact  
Rev.Zachariah Alexander (U.A.E Youth Chaplain)  
+971 50 5543119 (M) , +971 6 5300558 (L)  
Email : zachariahalexander@yahoo.co.in

Participating Churches : Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, Dubai, Fujairah, Ras Al Khaimah & Sharjah

#### Kids & Teens Fellowship

Immigration Area: Date: 4/21/09 Venue: Residence of Mr.Jacob V.Idiculla ID#J-224 Time: 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Rolla Corniche Date: 4/22/09 Venue: Residence of Mr.Varghese John ID#V-101 Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm
Ajman Area: Date: 4/24/09 Venue: Residence of Mr.P.C.Varghese ID#V-26 Time: 7.00pm to 9.00am	Mussallah Maisaloon Date: 4/28/09 Venue: Residence of Mr.M.A.Mathew ID#M-12 Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm

For more information, please contact:

Rev. Stephen Mathew (Vicar) Rev. P J Chacko (Asst. Vicar)  
Tel 06-5674876, Mob 050-5877701 Tel 06-5749696, Mob 050-8627593

Email: stephenmathewachen@yahoo.com Email: asstvicar@marthomaparishsharjah.com