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CSI Congregation of Dallas

July 2019



Dear Beloved Members,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Almighty and Savior Jesus Christ.

By the Grace of our Almighty God I took the Charge as Vicar of this Parish from 4th July onwards. It is an honor for me to be as your pastor. I would like to humbly uphold me as a useful instrument in His Mighty hands. Thank you for your openness to welcome me into this great community; as your priest and pastor, and as your spiritual brother and friend in Christ. Let Gods mission be our mission. And together let us do our very best to be part of that mission, building up Gods Kingdom here in this great community. Here I am remembering the ministry of our former vicar Rev. K G Thomson and his family. Wishing them all success in their future ministry.

Church always considered as the called-out Community. So, we are called out as an alternative community in His vineyard. Parish members are the flock of our Good shepherd. So, we should keep His will instead of our self-interest and this will lead to the spiritual betterment of our Church. The well- known writer Khalil Gibran, in one of his books titled 'The Prophet' giving the answer about the question regarding 'What is religion and religiosity'? Religion is our response to the 'transcendent' (God) that we are confronting at each and every moment in our life world. We can feel the 'transcendent' (God) in every day and every moment activities. In Gibran's words, "God is playing with the children, walking in the cloud outstretching the arms in the lightning and descending in rain, smiling in flowers, and rising and waving hands in trees". Feeling the 'transcendent' (God) at the very subtle experience of life and responding to it meaningfully is what is meant by religion.

As a Christian, as well as Diaspora community, we experienced the feeling of this 'transcendent' (God) through our Worship, Sacraments, Sermons, Prayer meetings, Relationship, fellowship. We need to have a re - definition and re – dedication in our parish life. For this purpose, we need to have the unity among the parishioners with the power of Holy Spirit. Then only we can look back and say; "Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits" (Ps: 103:1, 2) May God bless you all.

Yours in Christ

Revd. Jijo Abraham

Meet our new Vicar and Family



We welcome our Vicar Rev. Jijo Abraham, Sonia Kochamma, Saira Jijo & Janet Jijo to our congregation. May Almighty God give you the strength to shepherd the church of God and bless your ministry to be a shining light before others.

<p>July 7, 2019 Stewardship Sunday</p>	<p>Giving without Counting the Cost.</p> <p>Gen: 13: 8-18 Psalm: 15 II Timothy 3:10-17 John 20:24-29</p>
<p>July 14, 2019</p>	<p>Theological Education: Making of the Faithful</p> <p>Josh: 4:1-9 Psalm: 1 I Timothy 6:11-16 Matt. 13:1-9</p>
<p>July 21, 2019</p>	<p>People of God: Flock of Christ</p> <p>Gen 35: 1-15 Psalm 95 Acts 16: 11-15 John 10: 1-6</p>
<p>July 28, 2019</p>	<p>Ordained Ministry: Fragrance of Christ</p> <p>Ex. 29: 1-9 Psalm 99 Eph. 5: 1-14 Luke 10:1-11</p>
<p>August 4, 2019</p>	<p>Mission: From Everywhere to Every Where</p> <p>I Kings. 17: 1-16 Psalm 107. 1-15 Gal 2. 1-10 Matt. 13: 47-52</p>

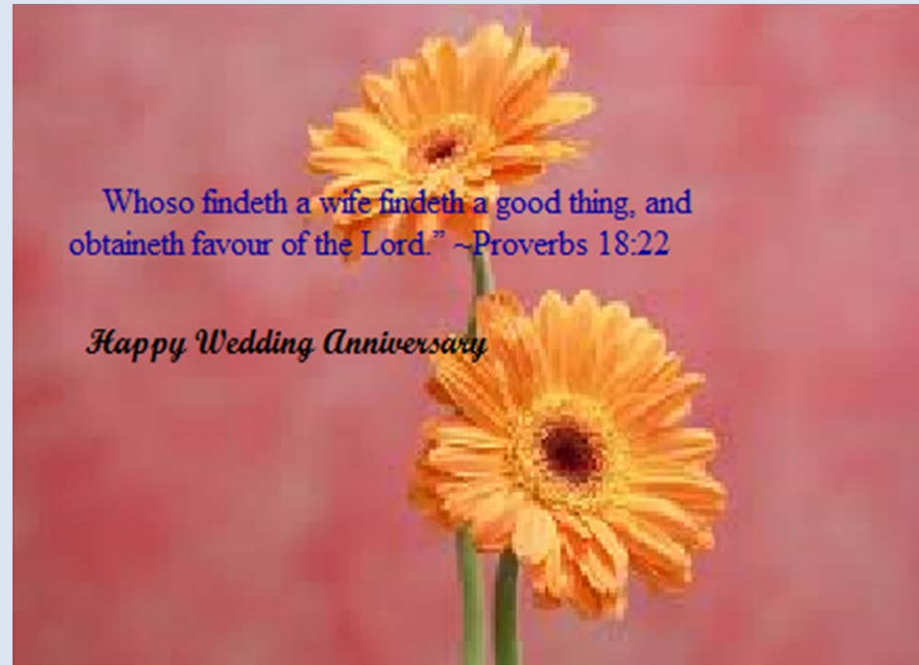
Birthdays

Name	Birthday
Crystal Mathew	2-Jul
Mrs. Divya Varghese	2-Jul
Prabitha Cherian	6-Jul
Andrew Varghese	6-Jul
Mr. Jacob Abraham Cheeramkulam (Shaji)	9-Jul
Nikita Jacob	11-Jul
Mr. Jacob John (Saji)	11-Jul
Mrs. Anjana Jacob	15-Jul
Mr. George Mathews (Denny)	17-Jul
Derrick J John	18-Jul
Alaina Mary Mathew	18-Jul
Riya K Samuel	19-Jul
Mr. Jinu Abraham	19-Jul
Reshma Thomas	21-Jul
Anna Kaippalimalil	21-Jul
Mrs. Rayni Mary Tharian	22-Jul
Mrs Sheeba Alvin	27-Jul
Mr. Roshan Varkey Abraham	28-Jul



Wedding Anniversaries

Name	Date
Mr. Jisho Tony Philip & Mrs. Sherly George	12-Jul
Mr. Thampy P Varghese & Mrs. Jaqualin Varghese	22 July
Mr. Mathew Daniel & Mrs. Aleyamma Mathew (Susan)	27-Jul
Mr. Cherian Varghese & Mrs. Leelamma Varghese	30-Jul



Chorister's Corner

Hymn History: How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds – John Newton

When John Newton was ordained a curate of Olney Parish in Buckinghamshire, England, after a hard past of working as a sailor and slave trader, he gave attention to ministering to the people in ways that went above and beyond the weekly worship service. He began arranging spiritual gatherings during the week: one on Thursday afternoons for children, where he would explain the Scriptures to them “in their own little way,” and one in the evenings for adults to allow for extemporaneous prayer and teaching.

For these meetings Newton began to compose little bits of verse to be sung, probably to summarize and impress the Scripture lessons on the minds and hearts of his congregants. Regarding his composition of these hymns, one of the famous musician wrote:

“Newton was not a poet and did not pretend to be one. . . . He was writing for plain people and made his hymns so simple that these could follow and understand. Newton had a ready pen, some imagination, deep feeling, a knowledge of Scripture, and an urgent motive”

Eventually Newton composed over 200 of these hymns and combined them with 68 more from his friend William Cowper to publish *Olney Hymns*. The book became quite popular in England and America as it captured the spirit and theology of the Evangelical revival that was happening in those days through the ministries of George Whitefield, the Wesleys, and many others.

The hymn “**How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds**” was published in *Olney Hymns* under the title “The Name of Jesus.” It was based on Song of **Solomon 1:3**: “Your anointing oils are fragrant; your name is oil poured out; therefore, virgins love you.”

*How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.*

*It makes the wounded spirit whole,
And calms the troubled breast;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary, rest.*

*Dear Name, the Rock on which I build,
My Shield and Hiding Place,
My never-failing treasury, filled
With boundless stores of grace!*

*Till then I would Thy love proclaim
With every fleeting breath,
And may the music of Thy Name
Refresh my soul in death!*



Sunday School Corner

Notes from the Sunday School Teachers

- Sunday school is closed for summer vacation and will reopen on August 18th Sunday
- God willing our VBS will be held on August 9th Friday, 10th Saturday and 11th Sunday
- Parents please register your children at the earliest, registration fee is \$15
- Annual Sunday School competition will be held on August 24th Saturday, details will be sent out later this month.

Bible Quiz Genesis chapters 40- 50

1. In Pharaoh's dream, what did the seven ugly, gaunt cows do to the seven sleek, fat cows?
2. When Jacob learned there was grain in Egypt, he sent 10 of his sons there to buy some. Which son did he not send?
3. The famine was severe, and Israel's family needed to return to Egypt for more grain. Which son refused to go unless they took Benjamin with them?
4. Joseph told the steward of the house to fill his brothers' sacks with as much food as they could carry and to put each man's silver in the mouth of his sack. What else did he tell the steward to put in the mouth of Benjamin's sack?
5. What did Joseph do when he made himself known to his brothers?
6. Who was the father of Manasseh and Ephraim?
7. When Joseph's brothers came before Pharaoh to ask for permission to settle in Goshen, Pharaoh asked them about their occupation. What was their answer?
8. Where were Joseph's sons Ephraim and Manasseh born?
9. In addition to Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, and Rebekah being buried in the cave in the field of Machpelah, who had Jacob buried there?
10. What did Joseph's physicians do to his father after Israel died?



32nd CSI Family & Youth Conference in North America

We cordially invite you to attend the **32nd CSI Family & Youth Conference in North America**. The conference will be hosted from July 25th through July 28th of 2019 at the Hyatt Regency in Houston, Texas, led primarily by our **Moderator, Most Rev. Thomas K. Oommen**. This year's honored guest speaker will be **The Rt. Revd. Dr. John Perumbalath**, Bishop of Bradwell, Church of England. Together, we will meditate on the theme of "**Desert Blossom**". For more details visit the conference website: <https://csiconference2019.org/>



CSI Congregation of Dallas Executive Committee 2019

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<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Mr. Cherian Varghese</i>	<i>(214) 424-7556</i>
<i>Joint Secretary</i>	<i>Mr. Sreejith John</i>	<i>(214) 695-8052</i>
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<i>Joint Treasurer</i>	<i>Mr. John Thomas</i>	<i>(214) 621-3870</i>
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<i>Committee Member</i>	<i>Mr. Jacob Cherian</i>	<i>(484) 343-6383</i>
<i>Committee Member</i>	<i>Mr. Vinod Philip</i>	<i>(914) 403-5634</i>
<i>Auditor</i>	<i>Mr. George Itty</i>	<i>(214) 227-9586</i>
<i>Choirmaster</i>	<i>Mrs. Rayni Tharian</i>	<i>(469) 226-4530</i>
<i>Choir Secretary</i>	<i>Mr. Jinu Abraham</i>	<i>(425) 306-5836</i>
<i>Sunday School Superintendent</i>	<i>Mr. Shelby Thomas</i>	<i>(214) 923-2719</i>
<i>Women's Fellowship Secretary</i>	<i>Mrs. Tessy Jacob Davidson</i>	<i>(214) 218-1358</i>
<i>Women's Fellowship Treasurer</i>	<i>Mrs. Emy Varghese</i>	<i>(214) 491-0068</i>
<i>Youth Secretary</i>	<i>Ms. Rebecca Ruby Richardson</i>	<i>(469) 237-6717</i>