

THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS FARMERS BRANCH

CHURCH

11550 LUNA ROAD
DALLAS, TX 75234
TEL: (972) 830.9300



PARSONAGE

3621 CANYON OAKS
CARROLLTON, TX 75007
TEL: (972) 939.0699

Items to be included in the lifetimes should be submitted to the Secretary or Joint Secretary by the 3rd Sunday of each month. If information is incorrectly printed, please contact the Vicar and Secretary to make the corrections. Please feel free to contact the Vicar or Secretary with any questions or comments. Your feedback is appreciated.

CONTACT INFORMATION

President	Rev. Vinoy Daniel	(972) 939-0699	vinoydanielachen@yahoo.co.in
Youth Chaplain	Rev. Jaisen Thomas	(972) 495-5393	revjathomas@yahoo.com
Vice President	Mr. Varghese Abraham	(469) 556-6835	mohankoodal55@yahoo.com
Secretary	Mr. Anwar Achankunju	(214) 952-9262	secretarymtcfb@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Mr. C.M Mathew	(972) 462-7522	cmmathew254@yahoo.com
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Youth Lay Ldr.	Mr. Justin Chandy	(972) 529-2069	justin@jchandy.com
Sun School Sup.	Mr. Thomas Andrews	(817) 498-9372	thomasandrews81@hotmail.com
Facility Manager	Mr. Philip Thomas	(214) 415-5688	punalurthampy@yahoo.com
Mission & Outreach	Mr. Abraham Mathew	(214) 321-7561	saraabe2000@yahoo.com
Sound Engineer	Mr. Chacko N. Mani	(214) 215-6158	cbaby@mail.com

*Farewell
Vinoy Daniel Achen
and Family*



MAR THOMA LIFE TIMES

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS, FB

APRIL 2009

Year of Salvation

Celebrate
THE
RESURRECTION

HAPPY EASTER



The Mar Thoma Church of Dallas
Farmers Branch

11550 Luna Road, Dallas, TX 75234
972.830.9300
www.mtcdallasfb.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 5 **9:00 AM:** Sunday School
Hosana **9:15 AM:** Adult Bible Study
Jesus the sign of **10:15 AM:** Holy Qurbana
Peace (Malayalam)

Area: Garland

April 12 **8.00 AM:** Holy Qurbana
Easter Sunday (English)
Resurrection-
Celebration of
Hope

1st Lesson:
 2 Kings 4:27-37
2nd Lesson:
 1 Cor. 15:1-20
Epistle:
 Col. 3:1-11
Gospel:
 Luke 24:1-12

Area: Irving

April 19 **9:00 AM:** Sunday School
Jesus appearance **9:15 AM:** Adult Bible Study
To Apostle **10:15 AM:** Holy Qurbana
Thomas (English)

1st Lesson:
 Exo. 3:1-15
2nd Lesson:
 Acts 9:1-18
Epistle:
 2 Timo. 2:1-13
Gospel:
 John 20:19-29

Area: Plano

April 26 **9:00 AM:** Sunday School
Walk in the **9.30 AM:** Holy Qurbana
Fellowship of (Malayalam)
Reconciliation

1st Lesson:
 Eze. 36: 26-38
2nd Lesson:
 2 Thes. 2:13-3:13
Epistle:
 Philip 1:12-25
Gospel:
 John 21:1-14

**Area: Carrollton-
 East**

May 3 **9:00 AM:** Sunday School
Responds to basic **9:15 AM:** Adult Bible Study
Needs. **10:15 AM:** Holy Qurbana
Metropolitan Fund (Malayalam)

1st Lesson:
 Exo 16:1-20
2nd Lesson:
 Acts. 4:32-37
Epistle:
 2 Cor. 8:1-10
Gospel:
 Luke 10:25-37

**Area: Carrollton -
 North**

PRAYER MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>Area</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Residence of</u>	<u>Time</u>
Carrollton East	04-04	T.M. Varghese	7.00
	04-12	Easter Sunday	7:00
	04-18	C.V. Thomas	7:00
	04-26	TBD	7:00
Carrollton North	04-05(Sun)	Thomas Abraham(Shaji)	6:30
	04-12	Easter Sunday	7:00
	04-18	Mariamamma Daniel	6:30
	04-26(Sun)	Jose Cherian	6:30
Carrollton West	04-05	TBD	6:30
	04-12	Easter Sunday	0.00
	04-18	Sabu.V. Mathew	6:30
	04-26	TBD	7.00
Coppell	04-04	Dr. Roy Mathew	7:00
	04-12	Easter Sunday	7:00
	04-18	Aleyamma Mathews	7:00
	04-26	TBD	7.00
Dallas/ Mesquite	04-06	TBD	6:30
	04-12	Easter Sunday	0:00
	04-19	TBD	7:00
	04-26	TBD	7.00
Garland	04-04	House Visit at Murphy area	7.00
	04-12	Easter Sunday	7.00
	04-19(Sun)	Mathew Varghese	6:30
	04-25	K.E. Idiculla	7:00
Irving	04-04	Thomas Abraham	6.30
	04-12	Easter Sunday	6:30
	04-18	V.S. John	6:30
	04-25	Varghese Varghese	6.30
Plano	04-04	TBD	6:00
	04-12	Easter Sunday	6:30
	04-18	Aby George	7.00
	04-25	Dennis Kurian	7:00

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP FAREWELL BANQUET FOR ACHEN

Youth Fellowship will be hosting a Special Farewell Banquet for Vinoy Achen and family on April 3rd, Friday at 6.30 PM in the Church Fellowship Hall. All are invited for this special occasion . Dinner will be provided and the tickets are available for 10 dollars per person.

YUVAJANA SAKHYAM COTTAGE MEETING

Yuvajana Sakhyam will have a Cottage Meeting on April 5th at the residence of Mr. Jose George and Shali Jose.
Address: JOSE GEORGE, 1708 PECAN GROVE , CARROLLTON.TX-75007. PH:972-236-3121

SAVIKA SANGHAM

" Western Zone Sevika Sangham along with Dallas Center sevika sangham is conducting a one day meeting on April 4, 2009 at Sehion Mar Thoma church, Plano, Texas.
Rev. Dr.George Joseph, Holy Trinity CSI church of Dallas will be the Main Speaker.

BIBLE STUDY FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Attention Women ages 25+: A new bible study will begin April 1, 2009. This is an in-depth 10 week study on the book of Esther led by Sarita John that will meet on Wednesday nights at the church from 6:45pm-8:45pm. Required materials include the workbook entitled Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman by Beth Moore (available at Lifeway Stores), and a bible. Please contact Sarita John to register at baby2thdoc@hotmail.com.

CHURCH GROUP E-MAILING

Please sign up for the 'Church Email Group' in order to keep you posted on all Church programs and announcements. To sign up Please send an Email to-
secretarymtcfb@yahoo.com

MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

Dearly Beloved in Christ

We are now observing great lent and we are approaching Holy week. It is the time to meditate the trial, passion, crucifixion, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. If we sum up all in one word, it is the meditation of Cross. We all have our own definitions and understanding about the cross. For most people, it is a religious symbol of Christians. It adorns the steeple of the church and for some it is a piece of ornament to wear. Cross can be defined in many ways. It is the self sacrificing love of God towards human beings. It is the symbol of innocent sufferings.

The cross of Christ is the intersecting point of two relationships- the manifestation of vertical relationship from God to human being and as a response to God's relationship to us, we have to create a horizontal relationship with our fellow beings. God's love is vividly pictured in John 3:16 "for God so love the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life". This love is self giving love and it is from God. Moreover this love is for giving eternal life. Therefore, nothing speaks more clearly of God's love than the cross. You might have noticed a familiar picture of cross, the inscription says that I asked Jesus "How much do you love me", "This much", he answered, "then He stretched out his hands and died." We can never sacrifice enough for the one who sacrificed his all for us. These are all divine because these are acts of God for us all people.

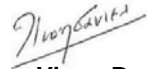
What is our response to this act of God? The meditation book 'Our Daily Bread' says about three types of responses to the cross of Christ. The first response is a cross without the savior. This group actively participate in the struggle of the people however they forget the redeeming power of cross from sin. Second response is Christ without cross. They consider Jesus as a wonder worker or great teacher. They forget the suffering of Christ for the sake of the marginalized and down trodden. The third response is from the group they want neither Christ nor his cross. They are untouched by Jesus' sorrow, unmoved by his suffering and unrepentant of their sins. In which Group we belong? The cross of Christ is meaningful only when we acknowledge in faith that the pain and the suffering on the cross is for my sin and in equities. In addition to this we have to touch the society with this sacrificial love.

As all of you know, we are leaving here for a new assignment. We are grateful to God almighty to allow us to serve in this great parish. We are thankful to each and every member of this parish for your love, support and prayer. We gratefully remember the prayer, support and cooperation extended by the office bearers, prayer group leaders, different organizations and its office bearers who worked with me. We need your prayer in the coming days.

"God be with you till we meet again, 'Neath His wings securely hide you, Daily manna still provide you, God be with you till we meet again." (J.E. Rankin)

May God bless you and keep you,

Yours in His Ministry



Rev. Vinoy Daniel



PASSION WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 6: Monday, Sandhya Namaskaram at 7:00 pm

1st Lesson: Lev 2: 1-16
2nd Lesson: Acts 13: 26-43

April 7: Tuesday, Sandhya Namaskaram at 7:00 pm

1st Lesson: Isa. 52: 1-15
2nd Lesson: Acts: 13: 44-52

April 8: Wednesday, Sandhya Namaskaram at 7:00 pm

1st Lesson: Isa: 28: 14-29
2nd Lesson: Col. 1: 9-22

April 9: Maundy Thursday:
Holy Communion In Malayalam at 7:00 pm

1st Lesson: Ex. 12:1-28
2nd Lesson: Heb 9:1-15
Epistle: St. Mat 26:1-16
Gospel: 1 Cor. 11:23-34

April 10: Good Friday.
Service begins at 9:00 AM

First Service - Malayalam Service

1st Lesson: Isa 53:1-12
2nd Lesson: 1 Pet 1:1-25

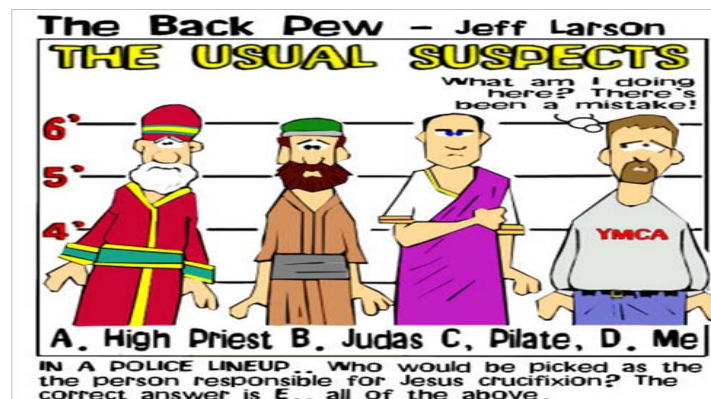
Second Service - Malayalam Service

1st Lesson: Zech 13:1-9
2nd Lesson: Gal 3:1-22

Third Service - English Service

1st Lesson: Num 21:1-9
2nd Lesson: Heb 3:1-19

MESSAGE FROM THE YOUTH CHAPLAIN



HAPPY EASTER!

What does the Cross and Resurrection of Christ teach us? How can the message of Easter change our lives and those around us?

Easter is the Festival of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is the time of year that the Church around the world together proclaims our freedom from sin and victory over death through the blood of Jesus Christ on the cross.

Through the cross and in the resurrection, Jesus Christ shattered the common conceptions of unity, love and hope that had shackled humanity far too long. On the night of His Last Supper, Jesus said "Drink from it all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant poured out for *many* for the forgiveness of sins" (St. Matt. 27). Thus, through His blood Christ has unified all humanity beyond racial and geographical borders. As well, in His sacrificial death He showed the depth of love that is beyond selfish desires and physical or material aims. In His resurrection He has proved that a physical or earthly death is not the end but, an open door towards eternity. As such, the empty tomb is the message of hope no matter the struggles, pain or even death. Yet, the message of the resurrection must be our witness to the world. And so, we must break down the barriers that segregate us and unify, share and live selflessly the character of love to all humanity and shine the light of hope amongst the struggling and suffering. Will you take up the call to live the message of Easter?

The famous legend of the dogwood tree reveals just how this tree continues to be a witness to Cross and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The legend begins like so:

At the time of Christ's crucifixion the dogwood tree was as tall as the oak and other forest trees. Its wood was so strong and firm that it was chosen for the cross. The tree was very upset to be used for such a purpose and Jesus understood. So he told the tree, "Because of your sorrow and pity for my sufferings, I promise this: never again will the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used for a cross. Henceforth it will grow slender, bent, and twisted.

Bright red fruit will represent the blood of Christ, and dogwood blossoms will be in the form of a cross- two long petals, and two short petals. In the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail prints- brown with rust. And in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns – as a reminder of my death upon the cross."

May God empower us all to be witnesses of His Resurrection through our lives, words and thoughts!!!

Your brother in Christ,, Jaisen Achen 214-604-6678,revjathomas@yahoo.com

APRIL WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Date	Name	Prayer Group
1	Thomas Abraham and Laila Thomas	Carrollton North
6	Neil and Rekha Daniel	Irving
9	George and Samma Poikail	Other Area
14	Eapen and Rachel Varghese	Carrollton West
	Kurian and Mariamma Ninan	Carrollton North
15	P M and Sosamma Abraham	Garland
16	Dillon and Mini Mathew	Carrollton North
17	Chacko C and Alice Mathew	Irving
	Sam and Sarita John	Irving
18	M A Philip and Susy Philip	Irving
	George P and Aleyamma Varghese	Dallas / Mesquite
19	George and Gracy Mathew	Coppell
21	K E Idicula and Aleyamma Idicula	Garland
	Kurien Oommen and Samma Kuraian	Carrollton West
	Thomas and Ponnamma Mathews	Plano
22	Mathai and Leelamma Panachakunnel	Carrollton East
	Navin and Anisha Koshy	Irving
	Varghese Ninan & Pennamma Varghese	Plano
23	Sunil K Zachariah and Mercy Sunil	Carrollton West
	Reji and Nancy Joseph	Coppell
24	Deepu T and Smitha Abraham	Irving
28	Varghese M Oommen & Susela Varghese	Carrollton East
29	Achenkunju and Flossy Chandy	Plano
30	Kuruvilla and Samma Varughese	Irving

Alter Flowers

Available upcoming dates to donate Alter Flowers. Please contact secretary for details.

ACHEN'S FAREWELL

We are having a Farewell Program for our Vinoy Achen and Family on April 26th Sunday immediately after the service. Let's all join together to Thank and bid farewell to our beloved Achen and his family.

Youth Choir Audition

Please sign up for the youth Choir Audition to be conducted on April 4th, Sat. from 8 am to 5 pm. Please see the church notice board for the guidelines to sign up.

Medical Seminar on Cancer Awareness

We are conducting a Medical Seminar on "Cancer Awareness and Prevention" on Sat. April 4th in the church fellowship hall from 2 pm. All men and women above 30 years are requested to attend this Seminar.

WEDDING

Joffe Abraham & Carmen Omota were united through holy matrimony on March 21, 2009 at Mar Thoma Church of Dallas, Farmers Branch.

BIRTH

Mr. & Mrs. George A. Thomas (Irving) is blessed with baby boy Jaden Thomas on March 10, 2009.

CONDOLENCES

Mrs. Aleyamma Joseph, 58 years old, Sister of Mr. Varghese Joseph of Dallas/Mesquite Prayer group, passed away on March 2nd, 2009 in Aluva, Kerala.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Day	Name	Prayer Group
1	Priya Mathew	Coppell
2	Isabella Ann Mathews	Dallas / Mesquite
	Rachel Varghese	Carrollton West
	Sunny Jacob	Dallas / Mesquite
3	Natalie Sara Tinu	Irving
	Julia John	Carrollton North
	Elisa Andrews	Irving
	Sam John	Irving
4	Noah Thomas	Coppell
	Marykutty Jose	Coppell
	Christian G Varghese	Coppell
	Snobey Kuruvilla	Irving
5	Anushka Miriam George	Irving
	Melvin Varghese	Coppell
	Nathan Varghese	Garland
6	Stephanie Jacob	Dallas / Mesquite
	Libby Mathew	Coppell
	Subin Skariah	Irving
7	Pennamma Varghese	Plano
	John P John	Carrollton East
	Dimple Varghese	Irving
	Tharun Thomas Cheriyan	Coppell
8	Shaleena George	Irving
	Jessica George	Irving
	Talya Neha Thomas	Coppell
	Kurian Varghese	Coppell
9	Thankamma Mathew	Irving
	Aleykutty Babu	Garland
	Anne Varghese	Irving
10	Lissy Abey	Irving
	Dr. Shirley Mathew	Carrollton East
	Shawn Chacko	Plano
11	Annie Mary Abraham	Coppell
12	Netra S. Oommen	Irving
	Lynn Samuel	Other Area
	Aleyamma Mathew	Coppell
	Princely P John	Carrollton East
13	Jonah Mathew	Coppell
	David Andrews	Irving
14	Elizabeth John	Garland
	Julia Cherian	Coppell
	Tinu Thomas Chacko	Irving
	Chacko C Mathew	Irving
	Jerry G Abraham	Carrollton North
	Thresiamma C Mathew	Coppell

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

15	John Joseph	Garland
	Dr. Sindhu Elizabeth Philip	Irving
	Shaema Susan George	Carrollton North
	Thomas Philip Thaimuriyil	Irving
	Jonathan Mathew	Coppell
16	Aswathi Mathew	Coppell
	Dimpu John	Carrollton North
	Sunil Rajan	Coppell
	Jeane Mathews	Plano
	Jewel M Jose	Carrollton East
17	George Varghese	Dallas / Mesquite
	Sherin Mariam Thampy	Irving
	Alex Mathew	Carrollton North
18	Thomas A George	Irving
	Ciny Mathew	Garland
	Soby Abraham	Irving
	Valsa R Varghese	Carrollton East
19	Thomas M. Mathew	Plano
	C G Georgekutty	Dallas / Mesquite
	Saramma John	Irving
20	T. K. Kurian	Carrollton North
	Chachiamma Abraham	Carrollton North
	Annie E Abraham	Coppell
	Mathews K Skariah	Carrollton West
	Achamma Baby	Carrollton East
	Priya Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
	Mathew Varghese	Dallas / Mesquite
Elizabeth Mathew	Garland	
21	Christopher P Philip	Plano
22	Julie Mathew	Irving
22	Cheryl George	Irving
	Annamma John	Carrollton East
	Sicily Skariah	Irving
23	Sosamma Zachariah	Coppell
	Ajith M Mathew	Coppell
	Mary Easow	Plano
	Linda Samuel	Other Area
24	Saramma Philipose	Carrollton West
	Santhosh Thomas Paul	Garland
25	Elizabeth Zacharia	Irving
	P T Issac	Garland
	Aleyamma Idicula	Garland
	Cherian Alexander	Garland
	Julie Koshy	Coppell
26	Vibin Thomas	Irving
27	Liza Yuhanon Panachakunnel	Carrollton North
28	Sarah M Kuruvilla	Other Area
	Jobby John	Irving
	Jaya Varghese	Carrollton West
	Annie Jacob	Coppell