

# THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS FARMERS BRANCH

## CHURCH

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



## PARSONAGE

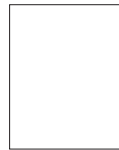
3621 CANYON OAKS  
CARROLLTON, TX 75007  
TEL: (972) 939.0699

Items to be included in the lifestimes 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. Thomas Mathew	(972) 906-7224	ttmathew@aol.com
Secretary	Mr. Dennis Kurian	(214) 681-5442	secretarymtcfb@yahoo.com
Joint Secretary	Mr. Thomas Skariah	(972) 513-9450	tskariah@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Mr. Sunny Jacob	(972) 463-1212	sejaj123@aol.com
Accountant	Mr. Raju George	(972) 285-7066	r1george@sbcglobal.net
Adult Lay Ldr.	Mr. Shaji David	(972) 359-9144	shajidavid@sbcglobal.net
Youth Lay Ldr.	Mr. Shane Alexander	(972) 235-1899	shane.alexander@gmail.com
Sun School Sup.	Mrs. Nirmala Philip	(972) 377-4555	monaphilip@hotmail.com
Facility Manager	Mr. Philip Thomas	(972) 539-7440	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

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DALLAS, TX 75234



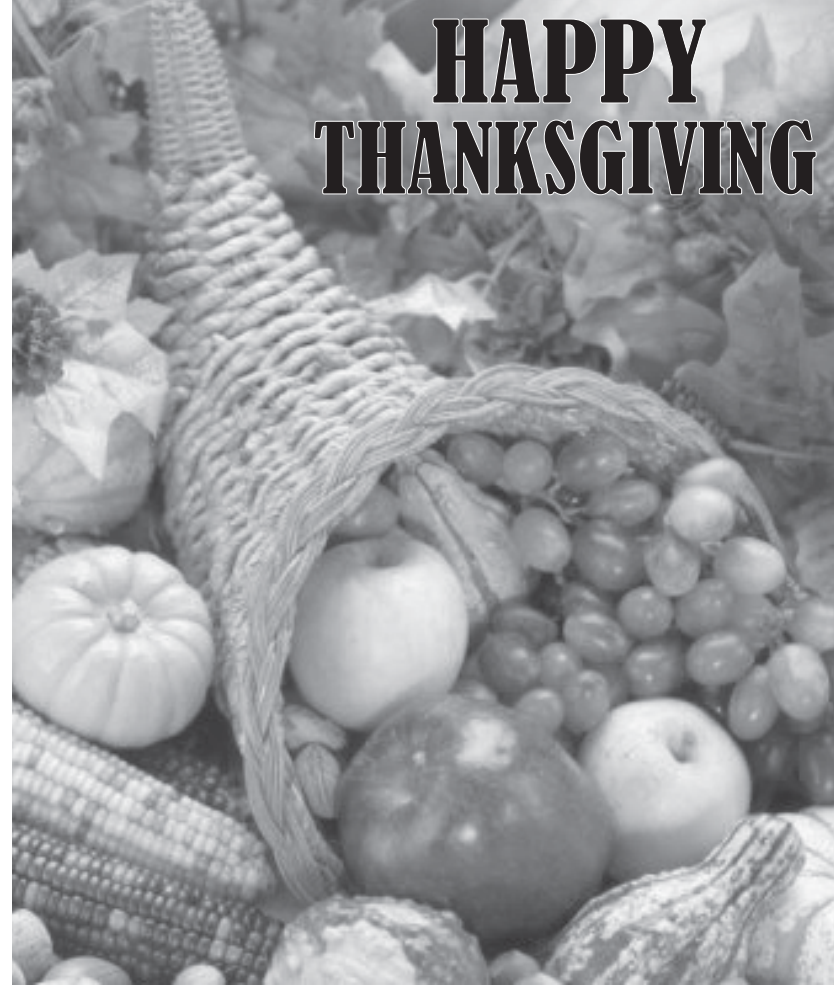
# MAR THOMA LIFE TIMES

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS, FB

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING

NOVEMBER 2008

*Dare to be different*



## The Mar Thoma Church of Dallas Farmers Branch

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

# WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<b>November 2</b> <i>Sanctification of the Church</i>	<b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:15 AM:</b> Adult Bible Study <b>10:15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana (English)	<b>1st Lesson:</b> Pro 23:15-26 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Heb 12:1-13 <b>Epistle:</b> Eph 6:1-4 <b>Gospel:</b> St. John 6:1-14
<b>World Sunday School Day</b>		
<b>Area: Sunday School</b>		

<b>November 9</b> <i>Renewal of the Church</i>	<b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:15 AM:</b> Adult Bible Study <b>10:15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana (English)	<b>1st Lesson:</b> Josh 24:14-22 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Eph 5:22/6:4 <b>Epistle:</b> 1 Pete 3:1-7 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Math 19:1-6
<b>Family Sunday</b>		
<b>Area: Coppell</b>		

<b>November 16</b> <i>Annunciation to Zechariah</i>	<b>9:30 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	<b>1st Lesson:</b> 1 Chro 24:1-19 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Rev 8:1-5 <b>Epistle:</b> Heb 5:1-10 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Luke 1:8-25
<b>Area: Dallas/ Mesquite</b>		

<b>November 23</b> <i>Annunciation to Virgin Mary</i>	<b>10:15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	<b>1st Lesson:</b> Zech 2:10-13 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Eph 1:3-14 <b>Epistle:</b> Gal 4:21-31 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Luke 1:26-38
<b>Area: Joint Service</b>		

<b>November 30</b> <i>Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth</i>	<b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:15 AM:</b> Adult Bible Study <b>10:15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	<b>1st Lesson:</b> Gen 33:1-17 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> 1 Thes 3:6-13 <b>Epistle:</b> 2 Cor 1:3-11 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Luke 1:39-45
<b>Area: Garland</b>		

# PRAYER MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>Area</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Residence of</u>	<u>Time</u>
<b>Carrollton East</b>	11-01	John P. Varghese	7:00
	11-08	Charly George	6:30
	11-15	Shaji Mathew	7:00
	11-23(Sun)	Bijili George	6:30
<b>Carrollton North</b>	11-01	TBD	TBD
	11-08	TBD	TBD
	11-15	TBD	TBD
	11-22	TBD	TBD
<b>Carrollton West</b>	11-01	TBD	TBD
	11-08	P. V. Thomas	6:30
	11-15	Philip Thomas	6:30
	11-23(Sun)	John Philipose	6:30
<b>Coppell</b>	11-08	Sam Alex	7:00
	11-15	Jacob Thomas	7:00
	11-22	Thomas Chacko	7:00
	11-30(Sun)	George Varghese	7:00
<b>Dallas/ Mesquite</b>	11-01	TBD	TBD
	11-08	TBD	TBD
	11-15	TBD	TBD
	11-22	TBD	TBD
<b>Garland</b>	11-08	Cherian Alexander	7:00
	11-15	P. M. Abraham	7:00
	11-22	Chacko N. Mani	7:00
	11-29	John Joseph	7:00
<b>Irving</b>	11-01	Abraham Andrews	6:30
	11-08	Abraham Kunnathuparam	6:30
	11-15	Thomas Andrews	6:30
	11-22	Reji Andrews	6:30
<b>Plano</b>	11-01	House Visit : Plano	6:30
	11-08	Jesse Varghese	6:30
	11-15	Thomas K. Mathews	6:30
	11-22	House Visit : Frisco	6:30

## MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

### First Holy Communicants

Parents please submit the names of children who are planning to participate in the First Holy Communion to the Vicar or the Secretary.

### Malayalam Choir Audition

The Malayalam Choir Auditions will be held on November 22, 2008 from 8:00 AM to 5:00PM. Please approach the Secretary to sign up for auditions.

### Young Family Fellowship

Sun 11/16/2008  
Ben and Jini Mathew  
3517 Matagorda Springs  
Plano, Texas 75025  
(972) 712-5521

Sun 12/14/2008  
Lijoy and Leny Philipose  
412 Pleasant Run  
Murphy, TX: 75094  
972-423-7617

### Secretary's Corner

All submissions for the December edition of the Life Times should be submitted to the Secretary or Joint Secretary by **Friday, November 21, 2008**.

There are opportunities to donate Altar flowers in November. Please approach the Joint-Secretary or Facility Manager Philip Thomas for donating Altar flowers.

Please continue to pray for the secretary and joint secretary. We need your prayers daily to execute the responsibilities entrusted upon us. Thank you

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Why do we worship God? We have our own ideas about worship. Most of the time, we miss our target in worshipping. The word worship is an Anglo-Saxon word and means "worthship" or "worthiness". The word commonly translated "worship" in the New Testament means *to kiss the hand toward*. The act is a mark of reverence and respect, and also implying affection. In worship, we adore God because he is our creator and respect his creation especially our fellow being.



Worship is an act of adoration and celebration. Through worship we glorify, honor, praise, and exalt God. Our celebration in worship is because God delivers us from the bondage of sin, so we can have the salvation. When we worship God, we develop such traits as forgiveness, tenderness, justice, righteousness, purity, kindness, and love. All of these are preparing us for fruitful life here in this world along with our neighbors and eternal life with God and Christ. Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel includes the following important elements in Worship;

- The spirit of obedience: We follow the command of God, for we know that obedience is the way to life and salvation. And we know that the employment of all these forms in our worship, in our liturgy, will give us an effective administration of the divinely appointed Means of Grace.
- The spirit of reverence: We are humbled before the presence of our creator and redeemer. We approach him with reverence and awe, and ascribe him majesty, might and supreme worth.
- The spirit of communion: Here we find all the sacramental elements in which God imparts his gifts of grace - the hearing of the Word, the declaration of absolution, the administration of the sacraments and the benediction.
- The spirit of fellowship: Here we find the commandment of Jesus: "Love the Lord your God" . . . "Love one another" - Corporate worship draws us not only to God, but to one another and binds us together in Him. We share our strength and inspiration with one another and with "all the company of heaven."
- The spirit of sacrifice: Our very understanding of communing with God implies our response to His gifts. We are moved to give and to do as well as to accept.
- The spirit of celebration: Every service is a lifting of our eyes to God, above the level of the ordinary, and a celebration of the many things He has done for us, especially our salvation.
- The spirit of edification: worship is a time of edification and strength. Worship helps us develop a God-like and Christ-like character. When we worship God we tend to value what God values and gradually take on the characteristics and qualities of God. As Philippians 2:5 says, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ."

These elements are very important in our worship. Never miss the goal when we come for worship. May God bless you all.



Rev. Vinoy Daniel

## Youth Corner

Rev. Jaisen Thomas will be having open office hours at the parsonage 1014 Fairhaven Drive, Garland, TX every week Mon-Thurs 10:30am-4pm for counseling or any other needs. No prior appointments are necessary for these times.

If anyone would like to meet at another time they can call or email Youth Chaplain in order to confirm an appropriate time.

Also, couples who are preparing to get married are encouraged to meet with the Youth Chaplain for premarital counseling at least a few months before the wedding

## PARISH MISSION

Please become a MISSION PARTNER with Parish Mission to feed the hungry and support the evangelists in the following mission fields:

- Achenkovil Mission
- Devanahally Mission
- Girideepthi Tribal Mission
- Kalahandi Mission
- Malabar Mission
- Mochana Counseling Center
- Mundugod Mission
- Narasapuram Mission
- Sihora Ashram
- Faridabad Institute
- Bhopal Tribal Mission
- Wayanad Mission

## MESSAGE FROM THE YOUTH CHAPLAIN

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

**Have you ever felt that you're not getting enough out of worship? Any worship for that matter, liturgical or "praise and worship"? Maybe even that it's just not complete or enough? What or who or where is the problem?**

Often the real problem rests in that worship is not truly understood for what it is essentially. In St. John 6:41-42 it reads, "Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, I have come down from heaven?'" No matter how much Jesus tried to convince them, the Jews just could not grasp who Jesus *really* was! Why? Simply, they had blinded themselves to the divine nature of Jesus Christ. So, confined their faith to their own understanding and saw nothing in Jesus but, a man.

In the same way, if we confine worship to the things of our understanding, to the material and physical alone, we blind ourselves to its divine nature and mystery. Worship is spiritual in essence and beckons believers towards a higher plane of faith. Therefore, true spirituality relies on personal and true faith so that completeness and wholeness may be realized in worship.

There is a story of how the Russian Prince Vladimir of Kiev, while still a pagan desired to know which was the true religion and sent his followers to investigate. They traveled to various countries without being satisfied until they reached the city of Constantinople. Here they attended the Divine Liturgy in the great Church of the Holy Wisdom. Writing to Vladimir the envoys stated, "We knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth, for surely there is not such splendor or beauty anywhere upon earth. We cannot describe it to you; only this we know, that God dwells there among men, and that their service surpasses the worship of all other places, for we cannot forget that beauty".

Although, their methods may have been questionable the understanding of the envoys that worship is not simply earthly or temporal but, mysteriously divine and ethereal is notable. This is the experience of true worship. That is, where the boundaries of heaven and earth even the finite and infinite cease and we, together with the divine chorus of angels praise God. Thus, the Church on earth simultaneously lives in both the heavenly and earthly realms. It is our union with Christ in faith that makes this truth a reality. We need to equip ourselves in faith in order to move beyond the obvious and tangible elements to experience this spirituality. In so doing, with St. Paul we may literally exclaim, "he is not far from each one of us. For in Him we live and move and have our being..."(Acts 17:27-28).

May the Almighty Lord strengthen us all to see with the eyes of faith the depths of worship anchored in Spirit and Truth!

Your brother in Christ,  
Jaisen Achen  
H- 972-495-5393  
C- 214-604-6678  
[revjathomas@yahoo.com](mailto:revjathomas@yahoo.com)

## **NOVEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Prayer Group</b>
2	Mr. Mathew Chacko & Mrs. Molly Mathew	Coppell
7	Mr. K. T. & Mrs. Aleyamma Andrews	Irving
8	Mr. Vettolil & Mrs. Rachel John	Carrollton North
10	Mr. Mathew Varghese & Mrs. Elizabeth Mathew	Garland
	Mr. Jayan & Mrs. Maya Varkey	Coppell
12	Mr. George Pulinthitta & Mrs. Elsamma George	Carrollton West
16	Mr. Shibu & Mrs. Suby Mathew	Garland
17	Mr. George & Mrs. Marykutty Skariah	Irving
18	Mr. Sunny & Mrs. Annamma Jacob	Dallas / Mesquite
	Mr. John Itticheria & Mrs. Aleyamma John	Dallas / Mesquite
20	Mr. Thomas & Mrs. Leelamma Chacko	Coppell
	Mr. Babukutty Skaria & Mrs. Jessy Thomas	Irving
21	Mr. Benny & Mrs. Anuja Thomas	Plano
23	Mr. Eapen Thomas & Mrs. Sosamma Eapen	Carrollton East
	Mr. Babu C. & Mrs. Saramma Mathew	Garland
24	Rev. Thomas Varkey & Mrs. Marykutty Thomas	Irving
25	Mr. Roy & Mrs. Anu Varghese	Garland
	Mr. Mammen & Mrs. Mariamma Koshy	Coppell
26	Mr. Thomas V. & Mrs. Alice Thomas	Carrollton North
27	Mr. George & Mrs. Lalamma Varghese	Coppell
28	Mr. John & Mrs. Molly Cherian	Garland
	Mr. Mathews Skariah & Mrs. Lilly Mathews	Carrollton West
29	Mr. P. S. & Mrs. Chinnamma George	Carrollton East
	Mr. Sunny & Mrs. Sali Abraham	Carrollton East
	Mr. Varghese & Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	Carrollton North
	Mr. M. & Mrs. Mariamma Philipose	Garland
30	Mr. Bijo & Mrs. Anu Abraham	Dallas / Mesquite
	Mr. Thamy Abraham & Mrs. Mini Thampy	Irving

## **WEDDINGS**

Mr. Manoj Philip Thomas and Ms. Jaime John were united through holy matrimony on September 27, 2008 at Mar Thoma church of Dallas, Farmers Branch

Mr. Amit John Varghese and Ms. Julie Mathew were united through holy matrimony on October 17, 2008 at Mar Thoma church of Dallas, Farmers Branch

## **CONDOLENCES**

Mr. C. G. Mathew (84), father of Rachalamma Mathew (Dallas/Mesquite) passed away on Oct 17<sup>th</sup> at Niranam, Kerala

Mrs. Rachel Skariah (78), mother of Mrs. Valsamma Joseph (Garland) passed away on Oct 12<sup>th</sup> in Vazhoor, Kerala

George Kurivilla (86), grandfather of Mrs. Rincy Daniel (Carrollton-N) and brother in law of Mr. P. V. Thomas (Carrollton-West) passed away on Oct 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at Kollam, Kerala

## **Sunday School**

The World Sunday School Day will be observed Nov. 2nd. The Sunday School Office Bearers invite all parents, Teachers and students to be a part of our special Worship

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Day	Name	Prayer Group
1	Rachalamma Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
	Dr. Molly Zacharia	Irving
2	Jerry Thomas	Coppell
	Mariamamma Mathew	Plano
	Varughese P. George	Irving
	Sumi Mathew	Carrollton East
3	Joseph G Karamvellil	Irving
	Vimal Varghese	Irving
	O C Thomas	Irving
4	Mariamamma Mathew	Carrollton East
5	Babu Rajan	Coppell
7	Julie Sara Abraham	Garland
8	Noel S Kovoor	Plano
9	Noel George Abraham	Irving
	Mini Mathew	Carrollton North
10	Renil Samuel	Irving
	Annie G Samuel	Carrollton West
	Alex T Jacob	Coppell
	Abraham Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
	Joyal E. Samuel	Irving
	Christy Mathew	Coppell
	Lisa Jacob	Coppell
11	Neethu Chacko	Dallas / Mesquite
	Elizabeth Andrews	Irving
	Arun Jacob Mathew	Plano
12	Paula Sarah Alexander	Dallas / Mesquite
	Siljo Kuruvilla	Irving
13	Seena Sunil	Carrollton West
	Cyril Mathew	Carrollton North
	M A Philip	Irving
	Sunij M Abraham	Garland
	Liny Philipose	Garland
14	Zita Samuel	Irving
	Baby K Samuel	Carrollton East
	Snoby G. Varughese	Irving
	Dr. Roy Mathew	Coppell
15	Shalin Varghese	Carrollton West
	Blessen Abraham John	Carrollton North
	Suma Princely	Carrollton East
	P S George	Carrollton East
	Nicole Sara Abraham	Irving
16	Justin C. John	Coppell
	Gelta George	Carrollton West
17	Shaju Chacko	Plano
	Nevin Chacko	Garland
	Zachry John Joseph	Coppell

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Day	Name	Prayer Group
18	Saramma Mathew	Garland
	Jeffrey Abraham	Garland
19	Rachel Anna Mammen	Plano
	Depu Thomas Abraham	Irving
20	Manoj Thomas	Carrollton West
	Subhash Mathew	Coppell
	Lindsey Thomas	Coppell
	Mariamamma Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
	Valsala Jacob	Coppell
21	Emily Mary Joseph	Carrollton North
	Marykutty Skariah	Irving
22	Joshy Mathew	Carrollton East
	Aleena Kurien	Carrollton West
	Jose V George	Carrollton East
	Jijo George Mathew	Carrollton North
23	Stanley Joseph	Garland
	Chacko N Mani	Garland
	P I Cherian	Coppell
	Ryan Chandy	Irving
	Steven Joseph	Garland
	Suja S Varghese	Garland
24	Mariamamma Joji	Irving
	Jerry Benjamin	Carrollton East
	Mathew T George	Dallas / Mesquite
	Renee Zachariah	Plano
25	Sheena Abraham	Garland
	Genu A George	Irving
	Anica Ann John	Garland
26	Joseph M Varughese	Irving
	Soosamma Samuel	Carrollton East
	V T Abraham	Garland
	Lincy Samuel	Other Area
27	Esther Joseph	Garland
	Binoy Varghese Thomas	Carrollton East
28	Mathew K S	Dallas / Mesquite
	Roy Varghese	Carrollton East
	Koshy T George	Irving
	Abraham Andrews	Irving
	Abraham Theckemury	Garland
29	Thomas Abraham	Carrollton East
	John Thomas	Carrollton East
30	John Kombikunnathu	Carrollton West
	Varghese Abraham	Coppell
	Mathew V Thomas	Carrollton East
	Alex V Easo	Carrollton East