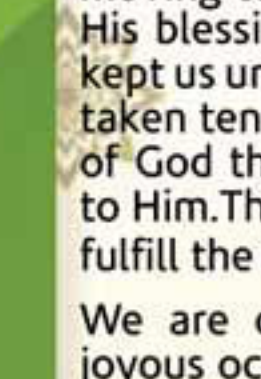


The Mar Thoma Parish Sharjah

Estd. 1978

Merry
Christmas &
Happy New Year



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Parish Bulletin December 2008

VOL - XV, No - IX

Message from the Vicar

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus

I am glad to greet you again through this bulletin. We are moving towards the end of this year. Let us thank God for all His blessings that we are receiving day by day. Our God has kept us under His wings, has provided for all our needs and has taken tender care of us all these days. We must see the hands of God that lead us always and be faithful and accountable to Him. This is the time to retrospect and commit ourselves to fulfill the unfinished tasks of the year.

We are celebrating Christmas this month, Christmas is a joyous occasion. People look forward to Christmas with more anticipation than any other season of the year. It is truly a time of rejoicing, giving and receiving of gifts and visiting of relatives and friends.

What is Christmas?

God loved the people of this world
So much that he gave his only son
So that everyone who has faith in Him
Will have eternal life and never really die. (John 3:16)

Human history has seen many great kings, philosophers and religious leaders but no one has affected man and society as much as a person called Jesus. Every year millions of people of all race, in every continent, celebrate his birthday on Christmas day.

People use number of words to describe God. One is 'transcendent'. This simply means that God is above or beyond the earthly. He exceeds the human. Another word used to describe God is 'omnipresent' and this means God is everywhere all the time. Still another word used to describe God is 'imminent' this means that God is present with us. The word imminent and Immanuel means practically the same. Immanuel means God with us. This is Christmas. The one prominent thing about the birth of Jesus is that God was making himself a human being. God was becoming identified with his creation.

This is the time of year when special attention is given to God's identity with us. If you know Christ as your personal savior, recommit your life to him for joys and victories. Lean on him for the strength you need. If you have not received him as your savior, let this be the greatest Christmas you have ever experienced by trusting him now and letting him have complete control of your life. In your seeking of happiness and a good time, take him in to your lives and he will give supreme happiness.

May you have the joy of Christmas during this holy day season. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours In Christ
Rev. Stephen Mathew
Vicar

CHRISTMAS HOUSE VISIT

DATE	DAY	AREA
01.12.08	MON	CA/MM
02.12.08	TUE	NS/RSQ
03.12.08	WED	KHS/IM
05.12.08	FRI	MC/UAQ
06.12.08	SAT	DXB/ABS
08.12.08	MON	KHS/MM
09.12.08	TUE	AJM/IM
10.12.08	WED	MC/NS
13.12.08	SAT	RCH/BMN
14.12.08	SUN	SCS/RSQ
15.12.08	MON	AJM/KHS
16.12.08	TUE	MC/IM
17.12.08	WED	NS/ABS
20.12.08	SAT	DXB/BMN
21.12.08	SUN	KHS/RSQ
22.12.08	MON	CA/RCH
23.12.08	TUE	MM/NS
24.12.08	WED	SCS/ABS
27.12.08	SAT	DXB/BMN
28.12.08	SUN	IM/MC
29.12.08	MON	MM/KHS
30.12.08	TUE	NS/ABS
03.01.09	SAT	BMN/AJM
05.01.09	MON	RSQ/IM
06.01.09	TUE	MM/KHS
07.01.09	WED	NS/MC

From your Parish Secretary,

Dearly beloved in Christ, + +

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

'Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Immanuel' which means God with us. (Matthew 1:23)

More than 2000 years ago, a virgin gave birth to a son and the God of heaven came to earth. Mankind had received its savior, and to those who had dwelled in darkness, the light of hope had come. Each Christmas we celebrate, that first coming a new, and we rejoice in the knowledge that the God who came to earth that night in Bethlehem is with us still and will remain with us forever.

Christmas is a season of hope and joy, a time to give thanks for the blessings of Christ's birth and for the blessings that surround us every day of the year.

Our Christmas becomes a source of blessing when we tune our hearts and minds to hear not just the wonderful carols and Christmas messages but also the painful cry of the unprivileged.

Wish You A Merry Christmas And A Prosperous New Year.

With kind regards

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 9.00am <<>> Christmas Service on 25th December at 5.00am

Watch night service on 31st December at 8.00pm <<>> Ordinary service on Fourth Friday at 7.30am

Lectionary & Area Acolytes

Date	Acolytes From	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle
04.12.08	IM	Isaiah	Romans	2 Peter
05.12.08	KHS	55:1-13	15:1-6	1:1-11
07.12.08 8pm	MM	Isaiah	Romans	1 John
11.12.08	RCH	9:1-7	1:1-7	5:1-12
12.12.08	MC			
18.12.08	NS	Zechariah	Hebrews	Ephesians
19.12.08	ABS	2:10-13	1:1-12	3:14-21
25.12.08 5am	Kaisthana Samithi	Isaiah	Philippians	Colossians
25.12.08 7.30pm	AJM	11:1-9	2:1-11	1:15-20
26.12.08	Sunday School			
31.12.08 10.30pm	Kaisthana Samithi	Isaiah	Acts	Galatians
1/1/09	BMN	45:1-7	17:16-31	2:15-21
02.01.09	CA			
04.01.09 8pm	IM			
08.01.09	KHS	Exodus	Hebrews	1 Peter
09.01.09	DXB	33:12-23	13:7-21	5:1-11

Area Prayer Meetings

Area	Date	Time	Venue	Hosted by	ID No.	Tel. No
AJM	01.12.08	8.30pm	Church	Mr. Jacob Kurien	J-43	06-7446303
MC	02.12.08	8.30pm	Church	Mr. George C. Mathew	G-65	050-4621963
RCH	08.12.08	8.30pm	Church	Mr. Jacob George Chacko V.	J-199	050-5355297
CA	08.12.08	8.30pm	Church	Contact Area Secretary		050-6951861
MM	09.12.08	8.30pm	Church	Mr. Jacob T. Varghese	J-111	050-5726923
ABS	09.12.08	8.30 pm	Church	Mr. Babu Oommen	B-21	050-4952678
				Mr. John Thomas	J-138	050-5655194
				Mr. Mathew Thomas	M-99	050-5649350
				Mr. Binu Mathew	B-122	050-5339507
DXB	09.12.08	6.30pm	Residence	Mr. Geju John	G-70	050-5186215
IM	15.12.08	8.30pm	Church	Mr. Eapen Philip	E-07	050-5592491
SCS	22.12.08	8.30 pm	Church	Mr. Johnny Philips	J-207	050-2342015
BMN	22.12.08	8.30pm	Church	Mr. John Philip	J-204	050-8064591
NS	22.12.08	8.30pm	Church	Contact Area Secretary		050-6311413
RSQ	23.12.08	8.30 pm	Church	Mr. Sherry Sam Cherian	S-73	050-3594440
KHS	23.12.08	8.30pm	Church	Mr. Sabu Kunjappan	S-146	050-6975083
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. George Mathew	G-119	St: Thomas MTC, Kaithakuzhy	CA	050-3688738
2	Mr. Rosh Koshy	R-151	Sharon MTC, Palarivattom	DXB	050-1966951
3	Mr. Thomas Baby	T-209	Immanuel MTC, Pathanapuram	ABS	050-7299266
4	Mr. Jerry Joy George	J-336	St: Paul's MTC, Vashi, Mumbai	MM	06-5637494
5	Mr. Koshy Mathew	K-67	St: Thomas MTC, Vayalathala	AJM	050-587649
6	Mr. Biju Eerickal John	B-179	Marthoma Church, Peringilipuram	IM	06-5728502
7	Mr. Aju Chacko	A-229	Marthoma Veliyapally, Chengannur	KHS	050-4752419
8	Mr. George K. Mathews	G-120	Marthoma Christ Church, Kumbarad	KHS	06-5647104
9	Mr. Shiju Zacharia	S-341	Jerusalem MTC, Mamala	CA	050-8604096
10	Ms. Seenu Rachel John	S-342	St: Thomas Church, Adoor	MC	06-5759633
11	Mr. Abraham K. Mathews	A-230	Marthoma Christ Church, Kumbarad	NS	06-5620890
12	Mr. Noble John	N-18	Marthoma Church, Thuruthikad	AJM	050-8725360
13	Mr. Cibi Mathews	C-75	Bethel MTC, Panavely	BMN	050-4971297
14	Mr. Shibu John	S-343	Jerusalem MTC, Keezhvaipur	ABS	050-4819543
15	Mr. Jiju Abraham	J-337	Marthoma Pazhayapally, Pariyaram	RCH	050-4509341
16	Mr. Manoj Raju	M-179	St: Paul's MTC, Vathikulam	CA	055-7130256
17	Mr. Aby Abraham	A-231	Sehion MTC, Pullad	AJM	050-4959278
18	Mr. Joseph Mathew	J-338	St: Thomas MTC, Aranmula	DXB	050-2425966

Organization Events

Sunday School

Anniversary 12th December at 6.00pm

Teens camp on 5th December 12.00 to 5.00pm & 6th December 8.00 am to 5.00pm

Theme: The Sweet & Glorious «Beyond»

Counseling & Orientation session will be led by Dr. John Panackal, Ministry of Education, Bahrain.

Parish Mission

Sundays 08.30pm at Church except 1st Sunday

Yuvajana Sakhyam

Saturdays 08.30pm at Church

6th December X'mas Carol House visit >>> 13th December Debate or Intercessory Prayer

20th December X'mas Carol House visit >>> 27th December Guest Speaker

Sevika Sangam

Wednesdays 08.30pm at Parish Hall

Fasting Prayer on 3rd Sunday at 09.30am at Church

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

Bus service for Holy Communion at 7.30am on every Friday

Area	Contact:	ID#	Tel:
AJMAN	Mr. Sajji K. Abraham	ID#S-242	Tel: 050-6793617
	Mr. Varghese T.M	ID#V-120	Tel: 050-3803988
DUBAI	Mr. Moni Jose Cherian	ID#M-59	Tel: 050-7868629
BMN	Mr. John Mathew	ID#J-28	Tel: 050-6265926
	Mr. George Varghese	ID#G-13	Tel: 5271423
SCS	Mr. Thomas Varghese	ID#T-41	Tel: 050-5768258

Condolences

Dr. Varghese Philip, 70 years
Brother in law of Mr. T.A. Abraham (ID#A-5) RCH
Brother in law of Mr. Mathew Abraham (ID#M-40) RCH
Co-brother of Mr. Varghese Mathew (ID#V-5) RSQ

Mr. V.J. John, 60 years
Father of Mr. Navin V. John (ID#N-16) UAQ
Mrs. Annamma Kuruvilla
Mother in law of Mr. Santhosh Abraham (ID#S-85) SCS

Mr. Mathew John, 82 years
Father of Mr. Kuruvilla John (ID#K-12) RCH
Father of Mr. Jacob John (ID#J-91) BMN
Father in law of Mr. Abraham Varghese (ID#A-73)
Grandfather of Mrs. Smith Brinly Thomas (ID#B-167) KHS
Mr. P.K. David, 76 years
Father of Mr. Kurien David (ID#K-9) BMN

Mr. George Thomas, 59 years
Brother in law of Mr. T.S. Mathew (ID#M-36) AJM
Mrs. Mariamma, 68 years
Mother in law of Mr. Sharly Benjamin (ID#S-84) ABS
Mr. Jacob Koshy, 62 years
Father in law of Mr. Noble Jacob Varghese (ID#N-12) ABS

Mr. Mathai Yohannan, 82 years
Father of Mr. Geevarghese Mathai (ID#G-32) BMN

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

Sharjah Marthoma Yuvajana Sakhyam ECUMENICAL X'MAS CAROL

Venue: Sharjah Marthoma Church, Date: 2nd January, 2009 (Friday), Time: 06.00pm

Sharjah Marthoma Yuvajana Sakhyam Picnic

Venue: Fujairah National Park, Date: 08th December 2008 (Monday)

MARTHOMA PARISH MISSION, SHARJAH ANNUAL CONVENTION 2008-2009

Venue: Sharjah Marthoma Church Date: January-18th Sun To 21st Wed
Time: 8.00 Pm To 10.00 Pm, Speaker: Evang: Saju Ayroor.



New Borns

A baby girl Annette is born to Elizabeth & Bini (ID#B-67) of MC on 27th October.

A baby boy Jordan is born to Beena & Christy (ID#C-53) of DXB on 15th November

Congratulations

To all participants of Sharjah Marthoma Suvisesha Saviga Sangom for winning the overall Championship in UAE centre Kalamela-2008

HARVEST FESTIVAL-2009

On Friday, 16th January 2009 from 10 am onwards

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

19th December Friday 6.00pm

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE ON 31st DECEMBER 2008 FROM 8.00pm ONWARDS

Ajman Area Prayer Group X'mas Carol Service

on 26th December 7.00 pm at Emirates National School, Sharjah

Umm Al Quwain Area Prayer Group X'mas Carol Service

on 26th December 6.00pm at Umm Al quwain Prayer Hall

Kids & Teens Fellowship

Immigration Area: Date: 17th December 2008, Venue: Residence of Mr. C.T. Thomas, Time: 7.00 pm to 9.00pm

Mussallah Maisalon Area: Date: 23rd December 2008, Venue: Residence of Mr. M.A. Mathew, Time: 7.00 pm to 9.00pm

Sharjah Marthoma Savika Sangam One day Conference

Date: 07th December (Sunday), Time: 9.30 am to 4.30 pm

For more information, please contact:

Rev. Stephen Mathew (Vicar)

Tel 06-5674876, Mob 050-8777701

Email: stephenmathewachen@yahoo.com

Rev. P J Chacko (Asst. Vicar)

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