

Jubilee Voice

Jubilee Malayalam Church (CNI)



Parish Messenger

Thought for the month

Remember: Sharing the holiday with other people, and feeling that you're giving of yourself, gets you past all the commercialism. – Caroline Kennedy

JUBILEE MALAYALAM CHURCH [C.N.I.]
PLOT-3, SECTOR-7, SANPADA EAST, NAVI MUMBAI – 400 705

Programmes

- May 2:** Cottage prayer in the house of Mr. Jacob William at 8pm.
May 4: Holy Communion Service in Sanpada at 7.00am and Panvel at 11am.
May 4: Committee Meeting after the church service in the side room.
May 11: Matins service in Sanpada at 7am and Panvel at 11am.
May 18: Holy Communion Service in Sanpada at 7.00am and Panvel at 11am.
May 25: Holy Communion Service (ENG) in Sanpada at 7.00am and Panvel at 11am.
May 30: Cottage prayer at the house of Mr. David James at 8pm.

Motto for the year 2014

“Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature” (Romans 13: 14)

Message from the Presbyter

Dear Friends in Christ,

We are entering into a season of holidays. Holidays are needed for everyone to relax oneself and refresh his/her mind. We cannot be working all through our life without a break. Working environment creates immense pressure and stress. Holiday gives a relaxation to our mind and body. Therefore it is important to spend time creatively on holidays.

Holiday does not mean that we pass time without discernment or spend time idly. On holidays, the importance is to the family and family relations. That is why we travel to our home town and spend time with our grand parents and dear ones. It is then a renewal of our relationships. In an era of scattered living, due to job commitments, familial relationships are getting weaker attention. Those, who are working alone in a distant place, want to spend their time with their immediate family during vacation. It gives them a great joy and satisfaction to come back to their own.

In a world of commodities, where our interests are driven by the various products available in the society, we cannot find true happiness or satisfaction by just achieving what the world of commodity offers. This world cannot give us a meaningful existence without a living relationship. When the family relationships die, our earth will become a waste land. What holds our earth together is primarily the relationship that God has kept with it. But within that relationship God extends to humanity, it is our duty to keep alive our relationship with fellow human beings. Church is a place, where you can exercise such a relationship. But nothing is far more than a family. Church itself is a grouping together of many families. If church is filled with mere individuals, it cannot be a long lasting one. What connects the people together in church is their connectivity with God and togetherness in a family. The church may become easily disintegrated, when one of these two ties gets broken. It is within these two ties that a larger network of family, that is the church as we know, functions.

Coming back to our holiday theme, it is important that we recognize and teach our younger generation the importance of family relationships by visiting our dear ones during holidays. By accommodating oneself with the larger family units, one can learn some spiritual lessons too. Obeying and respecting the elders, especially one's grandparents, rather than just their parents, would often come to the fore during these visits. It is the commandment of God that we respect and obey our grandparents, uncles and aunts.

We also learn to adjust our lifestyles with others in the larger family circle. Normally, we rule our reign in our nuclear families. But when it comes to the extended family circles, we need to adjust our lifestyles' with others' also. Therefore it is good to visit and stay together with other family units once in a while.

Spending quality time with our family and nature is something that we miss in our modern city life. Our visit to Nilshi YMCA was one such rejuvenating experience. Therefore visiting nature oriented places with our dear ones would give us a refreshing experience than artificially built places. For example, Singaporeans would appreciate the natural beauty of Malaysia as soon as they enter there. In Singapore, every corner would look alike, which is due to the man made interference on nature's look.

Most of our new generation children do not get a chance to play in open fields. Every where we see only enclosed areas. Stadiums and school/college grounds are not easily accessible to all every time. If our

holidays take into consideration, these aspects of life, it would be beneficial to them. That is why we observe sports day in our church calendar.

More and above all, let children learn to spend time with God and His word during vacation. In Kerala, we have vacation Bible School, proclaiming the importance of studying the word of God during holidays. Our Mumbai children need more of such learning since Mumbai life is greatly oriented by busy schedules of parents and children than God that time to spend with God is taken lightly or avoided.

With love and prayers,
Rev. Varghese Enathickal V.
Email: presbyter.sanpadajmc@gmail.com

Members of the editorial board:

Dr. Jowin Jacob

Biju George

John P. Mathew

Binu Thomas

Lini Paul

P. K. Abraham

Bijitta David

News & Notes

Previous Month Highlights:

Sunday school Anniversary: Sunday school anniversary was celebrated excellently on March 30. Children have performed beautiful skits, songs, dances, choreography and poetic narration. All were in high spirit and performed well. Teachers also joined in singing medley. Chief Guest, Mr. T. J. Jacob, Marthoma Sunday school Head Master, spoke on the importance of obeying parents and taking parental advice in various complex situations in which children find themselves in. He said it is also important for parents to understand children's feelings, emotions and intellectual maturity. Sunday school coordinator Mrs. Shelly Abraham, read out the report and declared that the Sunday school will reopen in the month of June. We appreciate Sunday school coordinator, teachers, children and their will wishers in putting forth their efforts, talents and support in organizing this event. Panvel centre Sunday school also joined in the anniversary. Prizes were distributed to children, who scored high marks in exams and various other competitions. Dinner was served to all at the end of the program.

Friday Lenten Services: After the Ash Wednesday, there was a special Lenten service conducted on every Friday till Palm Sunday. We had attendance not less than 20 on average.

Bible Convention: Bible convention was organized on April 15&16. Rev. Dr. David Joy, UTC New Testament professor, gave speeches based on the cross of Jesus. Speeches were informative

and done with clarity. He had structured his messages in such a way all could recollect the points even afterwards.

Passion Week Services: On every day of the Passion Week, we had programs organized. On Monday we had a service. Tuesday and Wednesday, we had Bible convention. On Thursday, there was Maundy Thursday service. Special Passover Appam and dipping liquid were served after the service. Good Friday service was conducted at 8am. Rev. Dr. David Joy delivered 6 sermons based on different characters related to the cross. The service ended at 11:30am and traditional 'Kanji and Payar' was served to all. On Saturday, we had a retreat in which Rev. Dr. David Joy spoke on the key elements that sustain a family. Easter day service was held at 7am and Rev. Dr. Joy delivered the sermon. He left Mumbai to his home town in the afternoon. Breakfast was served to all after the Easter service. Special thanks to all those, who have sponsored food on these days. Church website was officially inaugurated on Easter day during the service. Rev. N. C. David attended our convention and Good Friday service.

Present Month Programs

Committee Meeting: Committee meeting will be held on May 4, Sunday, after the divine service in the church side room. All committee members are requested to attend.

Cottage Prayer

1. May 2, Friday at 8:00pm: Address: Mr. Jacob William, JN-2/18/B:6, Sector 9, Vashi, Navi Mumbai- 400703. Phone: 9892059371.
2. May 30, Friday at 8:00pm: Address: Mr. David James, H-7/1 Spagetti CHS, Sector 15, Kharghar, Navi-Mumbai 410210. Phone: 9969314125

New Membership:

1. Binny Johnson Mob: 9619195358
Residential Address: 804, B-wing, E-V Homes, Kalamboli, Sector-12, Navi-Mumbai
2. Vishal John Mathew Mob: 9870077733
Residential Address: Flat No-B 203, Krishna Residency, Plot No-46, Sector-20, Kalamboli, Navi-Mumbai.

Women's Fellowship

There will be no women's fellowship meeting in the month of May.

Prayer Requests

1. Mr. John P. Mathew- 9820456808 (for good health)
2. Mother of Mr. Thariyan George and Mrs. Linnet Thariyan- 9820236219.
3. Mother of Mr. W. J. Mathai (022-27703681) for happy and peaceful old age.
4. Mother of Mr. Sudeep Philips (Mob: 8879640355) for good health.
5. Mrs. Suja Thomas Thyparambil (9820866250) for healing from arthritis.

6. Mrs. Susan Samuel- for shoulder pain.
7. Mrs. Aleyamma Joseph, Kharghar: Cataract Problem
8. Father of Rev. Reni Philip, Vakola church vicar.
9. Mr. John Samuel

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR MAY 2014

4TH May: 2nd Sunday after Easter

Theme: Witnesses to Christ's Resurrection

Acts 2: 22-32

Psalm 30: 1-12

1 Peter 3: 13-18

Luke 24: 13-35

11th May: 3rd Sunday after Easter

Theme: The Good Shepherd

Acts 2: 32-41

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2: 19-25

John 10: 1-10

18th May: 4th Sunday after Easter

Theme: Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life

Acts 6: 1-7

Psalm 63: 1-5

1 Peter 2: 2-10

John 14: 1-14

25th May: 5th Sunday after Easter

Theme: The promise of the Holy Spirit

Acts 16: 6-10

Psalm 32: 6-11

1 Peter 4: 7-11

John 14: 15-21

1st June: 6th Sunday after Easter

Theme: Christ's Ascension is a sign of our glorious destiny

Acts 1: 12-14

Psalm 73: 1-26

1 Peter 4: 12-19

John 17: 1-11

SCRIPTURE READING NAMES- SANPADA

	1st Lesson	Psalms	2nd Lesson
04.05.14	Ms. Sarah B. George	Mrs. Teena Josey	Ms. Tanya Ninan
11.05.14	Mr. Nebu Kory Kurien	Mrs. Mary Joseph	Mrs. Elizabeth Cherian
18.05.14	Mr. John Samuel	Mrs. Nirmala John	Mr. Biju Abraham Varghese
25.05.14	Mr. Roshin James	Mrs. Annamma Mathew	Ms. Tanya Ninan
01.06.14	Mr. David James	Mrs. Linnet Tharian	Ms. Reeba Kurian

PEACE
04.05.14 Mr. & Mrs. Jacob William

ELEMENTS
Mr. & Mrs. John Samuel

11.05.14 Mr. & Mrs. Hans Thomas
 18.05.14 Mr. & Mrs. Aby Thomas
 25.05.14 Mr. & Mrs. John P. Mathew
 01.06.14 Mr. & Mrs. Josey Oommen

Mr. & Mrs. M. George Joseph
 Mr. & Mrs. John Joseph
 Mr. & Mrs. Uday Ninan
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Joseph

INTERCESSION

04.05.14 Mrs. Anila W. S
 11.05.14 Mrs. Lini Paul
 18.05.14 Mr. David James
 25.05.14 Mr. T. G. Kurian
 01.06.14 Adv. Chandy Kurian

OFFERTORY

Mr. Reuben Kurien; Mst. Libin Yesudas
 Mr. Reuben Kurien; Ms. Aneeta Rose Paul
 Mr. Reuben Kurien; Ms. Sanaya shaji
 Mr. Reuben Kurien; Mst. Alex Monzy
 Mr. Reuben Kurien; Ms. Grace Abraham

SCRIPTURE READING NAMES – PANVEL

1st Lesson

04.05.14 Mr. Solomon Samuel
 11.05.14 Ms. Bijitta David
 18.05.14 Mr. Babu K.
 25.05.14 Mr. W. K. David
 01.06.14 Mr. T. C. Isaac

Psalms

Mrs. Flory David
 Mrs. Shiney Sam
 Mrs. Sinu Ashok
 Mrs. Susan Samuel
 Mrs. Miriam Simon

2nd Lesson

Mr. Binny Johnson
 Mst. Elvin Isaac Jacob
 Ms. Soffy John
 Ms. Dinsey Jacob
 Ms. Mary John

INTERCESSION

04.05.14 Mrs. Susan Samuel
 11.05.14 Mrs. Bindu John
 18.05.14 Mrs. Flory David
 25.05.14 Mrs. Saramma Isaac
 01.06.14 Mrs. Sinu Ashok

PEACE

Mr. & Mrs. John Thomas
 Mr. & Mrs. Solomon S. Samuel
 Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Zachariah
 Mr. & Mrs. Ashok Abraham
 Mr. & Mrs. Simon Philip

BIRTHDAYS

BIRTHDAYS		
02-May	Mrs. Teena Josey	Kopar Khairne
03-May	Ms. Tanya Ninan	Kopar Khairne
03-May	Ms. Sarah B. George	Kopar Khairne
04-May	Mrs. Elizabeth Cherian	Vashi
06-May	Mrs. Beena Hans Thomas	Airoli
07-May	Nebu Kory Kurian	CBD Belapur
08-May	Mr. John Samuel	Kopar Khairne
09-May	Mr. Biju Abraham Varghese	Nerul
10-May	Mrs. Anila W.S	Vashi

11-May	Mrs. Lini Paul	Kharghar
11-May	Ms. Bijitta David	Khamothe
11-May	Mast. Elvin Isaac Jacob	Panvel
11-May	Mast. Jeremiah Kurian Nebu	CBD Belapur
15-May	Mr. Babu K.	Old Panvel
17-May	Mrs. Sinu Ashok	Kharghar
18-May	Mrs. Nirmala John	Juhu Gaon
23-May	Mast. Reyan Paul Simon	Panvel
24-May	Mr. Roshin James	CBD Belapur
26-May	Miss. Anaina Babu	Old Panvel
27-May	Ms. Reeba Kurian	Nerul
30-May	Mr. David James	Kharghar

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

02-May	Mr & Mrs John Samuel	Kopar Khairne
07-May	Mr & Mrs. Jacob William	Vashi
10-May	Mr. & Mrs. Solomon Samuel Samuel	Kharghar
10-May	Mr. & Mrs. Mannoor George Joseph	Nerul
12-May	Mr. & Mrs. C G Thomas	Vashi
15-May	Mr. & Mrs. John Joseph	Vashi
17-May	Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Zachariah	CBD
20-May	Mr. & Mrs. Ashok Abraham	Panvel
23-May	Mr. & Mrs. Uday Ninan	Kopar Khairne
23-May	Mr. & Mrs. Aby Thomas	Kamotho
24-May	Mr. & Mrs. John P. Mathew	CBD
27-May	Mr. & Mrs. Kurian Joseph	Vashi
31-May	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Joseph	Kharghar

31-May	Mr. & Mrs. Josey Oommen	Koperkhairne
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Church Calendar 2014	
Church Sports Day	June 8

Our Glorious Hope for the future

Biju George

*“Hope” is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all”*

What happens at death? Is there a life after death? Will the world end one day? If yes, when is this going to happen? Will we see our loved ones who have departed from us through death? These are enigmatic questions concerning our future. Who is not interested in it? Scientists, theologians, the common man on the street are all seeking answers. These are honest questions that require honest answers. The interest in future is evidenced by the statistics on the number of people who consult astrology and horoscopes for their future and the folks who rely on the prophecies of Nostradamus concerning key future events in the stage of world history.

For a Christian believer, the above questions are answered. Jeremiah 29: 11”*I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*” These answers are revealed in the pages of the Scripture in broad strokes and the central theme of that revelation is redemption through the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross. The fact that we are designed for a better world bears out in our common experience in life. There is the reality of evil, corruption and miscarriage of justice. We all long for a better tomorrow and also a peaceful and just society.

This is where theology has its practical uses. CS Lewis captures this well with his customary clarity: *“A man’s physical hunger does not prove that man will get any bread; he may die of starvation on a raft in the Atlantic. But surely a man’s hunger does prove that he comes of a race which repairs its body by eating and inhabits a world where eatable substances exist. In the same way, though I do not believe (I wish I did) that my desire for Paradise proves that I shall enjoy it, I think it a pretty good indication that such a thing exists and that some men will. A man may love a woman and not win her; but it would be very odd if the phenomenon called “falling in love” occurred in a sexless world.”*

In theology the Christian doctrines are broadly summarized into three branches of study:

Anthropology (Man is made in God's image and at the same time he is fallen)

Soteriology (Mankind can be saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ)

Eschatology (There is a hope and a future for believing individuals, the redeemed community and the cosmos)

Our interest area for the present article is eschatology, a term derived from two Greek words 'Eschatos' and 'Logos' which means 'study of the last things'. To start with, a personal note would be in order. My interest in eschatology was triggered in the year 1987 while I was in my third semester in Engineering by an immensely popular book published in 1970 titled "The Late, Great Planet Earth" written by Hal Lindsey. Although I could hardly subscribe to his views in that book, it helped me to study the subject in some depth. Thereafter, I was exposed to the 'dispensationalist' view of eschatology which also has its own strengths and weaknesses. The purpose of this study is to discuss eschatology and I will deal with this theme under seven clusters of teaching as enshrined in the scriptures:

(a) **The Physical Death**: Scripture teaches that physical death is result of man's fall that we read in Genesis 3. In 1 Cor 15:21 Apostle Paul says: " *For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead*". Since the verse is talking about the resurrection of the body, physical death is meant here. Since Christ has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light (2 Tim 1:10), it is not surprising to read in Rev 21: 4 that in the new heaven and new earth there will be no more death. What is the practical application? We need not be scared of death. Death as the last enemy has been conquered by Christ. Christ Abolished Death(CAD) would be a more theologically precise epitaph on the tomb stone of a believer than the customary 'Rest In Peace'(RIP) as the Late John RW Stott has mentioned in his one of his commentaries of the New Testament.

(b) **Intermediate state** : Then the question arises, what happens to people at death? The Bible teaches an intermediate state between the death and the resurrection of the body, although very little is said about in the Scriptures. At death the believer continues his existence with Christ, although the body has died and decay has set in, there is an aspect that continues beyond death. The Greek word used in the New Testament is Psyche which can be translated as soul in English. Three passages where psyche (soul) is used are relevant in this regard: Mathew 10: 28, Rev 6:9 and Rev 20:4. Death brings a temporary separation to the psychosomatic unity of the body and soul and ultimately death cannot terminate human existence. The Hebrew word used to describe the state of the dead is *Sheol*. The word *Sheol* refers to the realm of *all* dead – both righteous and the unrighteous. The New Testament equivalent of *Sheol* is *Hades* which also commonly refers to the realm of the dead. However, there is a slight twist to the understanding of hades in the New testament. Although it commonly refers to the realm of all the dead, in particular it refers to an intermediate temporary state of a dead believer in Christ at the same time is also a condition of suffering for the ungodly. In hades there is a 'comfort zone' as well as a 'suffering zone' so to speak. Two particular usages are associated with the comfort of hades : paradise and Abraham's bosom. These two situation in hades are the intermediate state where both the godly and ungodly will become increasingly conscious of their respective destinies and all 'awaiting' the final resurrection of their bodies which is commonly referred to as the 'General Resurrection of the dead'. It will become clear that the study of eschatology is immensely practical.

On the one hand we are getting a glimpse into our individual future and the future of a renewed and redeemed cosmos, on the other we have the hope of meeting our loved ones who are dead in Christ. No wonder Paul writing to a band of Christians in the Greek city of Thessalonica wrote twenty centuries ago : “ be comforted with these words”(1 Thess 4: 18).

(c) **The second coming of Christ** : The New Testament is categorical that Christ is coming again (Mk 9:1, 13:30, Mat 10:23). “*We wait for the blessed hope – the glorious appearing of our great God and savior Jesus Christ*” Titus 2:1. The greatest hope for a Christian is the *second coming* of Jesus Christ. The Christian hope is that Christ will come again and gather his children. All the dead will resurrect and face judgment. He will judge both the living and the dead and will allow people to move to the destinies they have chosen while on earth. The anticipation of Christ’s coming should improve the quality of our living. This expectation is an incentive to live for Christ and his kingdom. We also recognize the transitory nature of this side of the grave and will be keen to ‘invest’ for and in eternity. Our glorious hope is well captured in the popular hymn....

*When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound,
and time shall be no more,
And the morning breaks, eternal, bright and fair;
When the saved of earth shall gather
over on the other shore,
And the roll is called up yonder,
I'll be there.*

(d) **The Resurrection of the body**: The Bible teaches that we all will have resurrected bodies at Christ’s return. However, Bible tells us very little on the exact nature of the resurrection bodies. We get a few hints from the post resurrection appearances of Christ. For instance, the glorified body could enter into a room where the door was closed. The resurrected Jesus ate fish and honey. This means that there is continuity and discontinuity with the present state of existence. The ‘Resurrected life’ is by and large cast in negative terms- absence of corruption, tears, morning, pain death and crying etc(1 Cor 15: 42-43, Rev 21:4). Interestingly although we have a little glimpse of what we will not experience, we don’t have much clue about what we will experience. In this context, we should not be surprised to read 1 Cor 2:9 which says: Eye has not seen, nor ear has heard, neither have entered into the heart of man , the things which God has prepared for them that love him. The hymn writer continues....

*On that bright and cloudless morning
when the dead in Christ shall rise,
And the glory of His resurrection share;
When His chosen ones shall gather
to their home beyond the skies,
And the roll is called up yonder,
I'll be there.*

I will just try to sum–up our study so far as follows:

- Physical death was not the original creation intention but is an accident in the moral universe because of the fall of man.
- Death is not termination of personality. One does not cease to exist after death. It is only a temporary separation of the psychosomatic unity that exists between the body and soul or body and spirit.
- As believers in Christ we look forward to the glorious return of our Lord when we will have resurrected bodies and thereafter live eternally in the new heaven and new earth.
- Between the death and the resurrection the dead will be in *Sheol*(Heb)-*Hades*(Gk) where the godly and the wicked will realise their ultimate fate. In this realm of the dead, death shall be the shepherd of the ungodly, while the people of God are comforted.
- The dead in Christ will be in a condition of comfort which is rendered as paradise and Abraham's bosom in the New Testament.
- The hades will give up its dead at the time of the resurrection at the return of Christ.

(...to be continued)

Members of the Parish Committee:

Rev. Varghese Enathickal V		9820569403 (Mob)
Mr. Biju C. Alex (Hon. Secretary)	27723246 (Res)	9619894443 (Mob)
Mr. Bose K. Thomas (Hon. Treasurer)		9594970356 (Mob)
Mr. Jacob William		9892059371 (Mob)
Mr. Oommen George	27709304 (Res)	9820073241 (Mob)
Dr. Roselet Winford		9699639263 (Mob)
Mr. W. K. David		9867802946 (Mob)
Mr. Thomas George	27604854 (Res)	9987014204 (Mob)
Mr. Mathew Philip	27746099 (Res)	9619600499 (Mob)
Mr. K. K. Johnson	27743611 (Res)	9820248239 (Mob)

Diocesan Council Members & Alternates

Mr. Monzy Tharian	27814658-9619608750	Mr. T. G. Kurian	9869038440
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Mrs. Lini Paul Joseph 9322901795 Ms. Jisby Ann Bose 9820214851
Mr. Thomas George 27412463-9322901795 Mr. Oommen George 27709304-9820073241

Sunday School Superintendent	Mrs. Shely Abraham	27750066	9821758209
Youth Coordinator	Mr. Biju George	27540490	9820373589
Youth Fellowship Secretary	Mr. Bobby P. Cherian		9619088647
Women's Fellowship Secretary	Mrs. Marina Chandy	27665387	27884127
Choir Convener	Mr. Biju C. Alex	27723246	9619894443
Choir Secretary	Mr. Rijo George Cherian		9594426024
Organist	Ms. Sharon John	27540500	9769961641
Worshipping Centre Convener	Mr. Ashok Abraham	27491706	9892386920
WC Sunday School Coordinator	Ms. Mary John		9920374857
WC Youth Fellowship Coordinator	Ms. Dinsey Jacob		9022857762
WC Women's Fellowship Coordinator	Mrs. Sinu Ashok		7208006920
Jubilee Church Caretaker	Mr. Prashant		8976269067

Presbyter-in-charge

Rev. Varghese Enathickal V.

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF



ANITA DAVID

03-12-1980 - 28-05-2012