

# **The Mar Thoma Church of Dallas, Carrollton**

1400 W Frankford Road, Carrollton, TX 75007

<http://www.mtcd.org>

## **News Bulletin**

**March 2015**

## ***From the Vicar's Desk***



Dearly beloved in Christ, as we are in the lent season, I would like to share with you the seven last words of Jesus on the cross and its meaning. Jesus Christ made seven final statements during his last hours on the cross. These phrases are held dear by followers of Christ because they offer a glimpse into the depth of his suffering to accomplish redemption. Recorded in the Gospels between the time of crucifixion and his death, they reveal his divinity as well as his humanity. As much as possible, given the approximate sequence of events as portrayed in the Gospels, these seven last words of Jesus are presented here in chronological order.

### **1, JESUS SPEAKS TO THE FATHER**

Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”(Luke 23:34). In the midst of his excruciating suffering, the heart of Jesus was focused on others rather than himself. Here we see the nature of His love – unconditional and divine.

### **2, JESUS SPEAKS TO THE CRIMINAL ON THE CROSS**

‘I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.’(Luke 23:43). One of the criminals who was crucified with Christ, had recognized who Jesus was and expressed faith in him as Savior. Here we see grace poured out through faith, as Jesus assured the dying man of his forgiveness and eternal salvation.

### **3, JESUS SPEAKS TO MARY AND JOHN**

When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Dear woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” (John 19:26-27) Jesus looking down from the cross was still filled with concerns of a son for the earthly needs of his mother none of his brothers were there to take care for her, so he gave this task to the Apostle John. Here we clearly see Christ’s humanity.

### **4, JESUS CRIES OUT TO FATHER**

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?” (Mathew 27:34, also Mark 15:34). In the darkest hours of his suffering, Jesus cried out the opening words of psalm 22. And although much has been suggested regarding the meaning of this phrase, it was quite apparent the agony Christ felt as he expressed separation from God. Here we see the Father turning away from the Son as Jesus was bore the full weight of our sin.

### **5, JESUS IS THIRSTY**

Jesus knew that everything was now finished, and to fulfill the scriptures he said, “I am thirsty.”(John 19:28) Jesus refused the initial drink of vinegar, gall and myrrh (Mathew 27:34 and Mark 15:23) offered to alleviate his suffering. But here, several hours later, we see Jesus fulfilling the *messianic prophecy* found in Psalms 69:21.

### **6, IT IS FINISHED**

...he said," It is finished!"(John 19:30) Jesus knew he was suffering the crucifixion for a purpose. Earlier he had said in John10:18 of his life, "No one takes it from me, but I lay it down for my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father." These three words were packed with meaning, for what was finished here was not only Christ's earthly life, not only his suffering and dying, not only the payment for sin and the redemption of the world- but the very reason and purpose he came to earth was finished. His final act of obedience was complete. The scriptures had been fulfilled.

## **7, JESUS LAST WORDS**

Jesus called out with a loud voice," Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. (Luke 23:46) Here Jesus closed with the words of Psalm 31:5, speaking to the Father. We see his complete trust in the Father. Jesus entered death in the same way he lived each day of his life, offering up his life as the perfect sacrifice and placing himself in God's hands.

Dearly beloved may these last words of Jesus, open our hearts and mind to a deeper understanding of His love towards us and enable us to observe the lent in a meaningful manner. – Sam Achen

## SCHEDULED FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

### **Parish Mission**

Prayer Meetings will held at Church from **7:30PM** every Thursday

### **Sunday School**

Praise and worship will begin from **9:15AM** every Sunday

### **Malayalam Choir**

Choir Practice will be held from **9:30AM** every Sunday

### **English Choir**

English Choir practice sessions will be held from **1:00PM** on alternate Sunday after Holy Communion service

### **Fasting Prayer**

Fasting prayer will be held at Parsonage every Friday from **10 AM – 1 PM**

### **Bible study**

Every Sunday from **10:00 – 10.20 AM**

### **Malayalam Class**

Every Sunday immediately after the service

### **Young Family Fellowship Meeting**

Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Residence of Mr. Renji George at 2PM

### **Yuvajana Sakhyam Cottage Meeting**

Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Residence of Mr. Philip Vaidyan

The  
Season  
of  
Lent



## Church Calendar Events

### EVENTS FOR MARCH

#### **DAILY PRAYERS DURING GREAT LENT**

Begins March 16th

#### **Diocesan Sunday**

March 1st

Rev. Aji Varghese will be visiting our parish

Our vicar, Rev. Sam Mathew will be visiting

Sehion Mar Thoma Church, Dallas

#### **World Day of Prayer**

March 7th

Venue – St. Mary's Jacobite Church, Carrollton

Registration fee of \$10

#### **Address Changes**

Mr. Jacob Mathew

4813 Blue Flax Dr.

Garland, TX 75043

### **March Area Prayer / Fellowship Meetings**

March 8th (Sun)	Mr. Renji George @ 6:30 PM	IRV
March 8th (Sun)	Mr. Mathew Abraham (Babu) @ 6:00 PM	MES/GAR
March 14th (Sat)	Mr. Thomas Kuruvilla @6:30 PM	MES/GAR
March 15th (Sun)	Mr. Mathew Thomas @ 6:30 PM	AFW
March 29th (Sat)	Common Prayer @ 6:30 PM	Church
<b>Prayer group contacts</b> <b>Carrollton:</b> Mr. Merin Samuel <b>AFW:</b> Mr. Abraham George <b>Garland/ Mesquite :</b> Mr. Ginu George <b>Irving :</b> Mr. Renji George		

### **Youth Fellowship Events**

Mar 8th	Last date for Youth Retreat registration
Mar 13-14	Youth Retreat @ Camp Copass, Denton TX
Mar 15	Deadline to pay Youth Fellowship dues
Mar 27-28	Women's & Men's small group meetings
For details contact <b>Ms. Jamie George</b>	

### **March Wedding Anniversaries**

DATE	NAME	AREA
10	Mr. & Mrs. Jothy Jacob	CAR
10	Mr. & Mrs. George Varghese	CAR
12	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Stephens	OTR
17	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mathew	CAR
17	Mr. & Mrs. Jacob K Mathai	CAR
21	Mr. & Mrs. Sajan Thomas	CAR

## **March Birthdays**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>AREA</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>AREA</b>
1	Mrs. Amminikutty Simson	CAR	21	Mr. Chriss Mathew	MES
1	Mrs. Juju Kurian	CAR	21	Mrs. Elizabeth Varghese	AFW
1	Ms. Roshin Merlyn Varughese	CAR	22	Ms. Betsy Rachel Mathew	CAR
3	Ms. Giya Elsa Ginu	MES	22	Ms. Jaimie Thomas	MES
4	Mr. Abel Sam Abraham	CAR	23	Ms. Jovia Elisa John	CAR
4	Mr. George Joy Varghese	CAR	23	Mr. Manoj Mathew Abraham	CAR
6	Ms. Cynthiya Ann Jacob	CAR	23	Mr. Tommy Chacko	AFW
7	Ms. Hannah George	IRV	24	Mrs. Elsy Abraham	CAR
7	Mrs. Sherly k Jacob	IRV	24	Mrs. Pushpa John	MES
9	Mr. Michael Stephens	OTR	25	Mrs. Jolly Alexander	IRV
10	Mr. Kevin V George	CAR	25	Mr. Kurian Mathai	AFW
11	Mr. Aju Thomas	MES	26	Mr. Anthony Simon	GAR
14	Mr. Jeremy John	GAR	27	Mr. Isaiah Thomas	GAR
14	Ms. Ria George	GAR	27	Ms. Jenna Sarah John	GAR
15	Mr. Akash Vaidyan	CAR	27	Mrs. Liffy I Cherian	AFW
15	Mr. George Varghese	AFW	28	Mr. Arun Kuruvilla	CAR
16	Mr. Joshua Vijay Pappan	CAR	28	Mr. E G Varghese	GAR
16	Ms. Meevel John	AFW	28	Mr. Johni Mannamthalakkal Mathai	CAR
16	Mr. Minoo Alex John	CAR	29	Mrs. Anju Anna Abraham	CAR
16	Mr. Nathan Mathan Mathew	CAR	29	Mr. Sibin Abraham Thomas	CAR
17	Dr. Cini Abraham	MES	30	Ms. Alyssa Abraham	CAR
17	Mr. Stephen Thomas	AFW	31	Mr. Matt Samuel	CAR

## ***March Lectionary***

Date	Lessons	Epistle-Gospels
01 Sunday	Holy Communion Service [English] @ 10:30AM	
	Life saving Faith (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent)	
	2 kings 4:1-7	Heb.11: 1-12
	Acts.5: 12-16	St.Luke.5: 17-26
<i>Lessons Read by CAR prayer group members</i>		
08 Sunday	Holy Communion Service [Malayalam] @ 10:30 AM	
	Persistence in Prayer (4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent)	
	2 kings 20:1-10	Jud.1: 17-23
	1 Thes.5: 12-22	St.Mark.7: 24-30
<i>Lessons Read by IRV prayer group members</i>		
15 Sunday	Holy Communion Service [English] @ 10:30AM	
	True Worship That Liberates (5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent)	
	Exo.3: 11-18	Acts 16:25-34
	Rev.14: 1-7	St.Luke.13: 10-17
<i>Lessons Read by MES / GAR prayer group members</i>		
22 Sunday	Holy Communion Service [Malayalam] @ 10:30 AM	
	A New Vision Of The Messianic Age (36th Sunday)	
	Deu.18: 15-22	2 Cor.1: 3-11
	1 Pet.4: 12-19	St.Luke.18: 35-43
<i>Lessons Read by AFW prayer group members</i>		
29 Sunday	Holy Communion Service [English] @ 10:30AM	
	Hosanna: New King In The Temple (Theological Seminary Day)	
	Isa.56: 1-8	2 Cor.6: 11-17
	1 Cor.3: 16-23	St.Mat.21: 1-17
<i>Lessons Read by Youth Fellowship members</i>		



