

The Mar Thoma Church of Dallas, Carrollton

1400 W Frankford Road, Carrollton, TX 75007

WWW.MTCD.ORG

News Bulletin

Passion Week Schedule

Palm Sunday

Holy Communion - Malayalam @ 10:30AM

Monday – Wednesday

Worship service @ 7:00PM

Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion @ 6:30PM

Good Friday

Service will be in both English and Malayalam @ 9:00AM

Lunch will be served after service

Easter Sunday

Holy Communion – English @ 8:00AM

Followed by send off for Youth Chaplain & Family

Breakfast will be served after service

April 2015

From the Vicar's Desk

““Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.”- Luke 24:5,6.



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

It was probably very much like a certain cemetery outside Jerusalem. Not as large perhaps, but quiet and peaceful. It was a garden cemetery....a little collection of tombs dug out

of solid rock. There the Jews buried their sacred dead. There they laid their loved ones waiting for a better day.

Late on a Friday Afternoon

Just before sundown there they buried the body of Jesus. The Bible mentions four times that Jesus was buried in a borrowed tomb. It belonged to a rich man named Joseph from the city of Arimathea. He was a prominent figure in local society because besides being a rich man, he was also a member of the Sanhedrin, the ruling religious body. Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised. He didn't think Jesus was dead yet. But Jesus was dead after only 6 hours on the cross. When they took down the body of Jesus from the cross, his body was in bad shape. It bore all the marks of the abuse he had suffered. He was covered with blood. There was a hole in his side. His face was horribly disfigured, the skin hung from his back in tatters. Joseph and Nicodemus wrapped the body in strips of linen cloth. Then they sprinkled about 80 pounds of spices throughout the linen strips. Part of it was a kind of ground powder. The other part was gummy substance. The spices made the linen strips stick together and form a tight wrap around the body. That was how Jews embalmed their dead.

Buried Before Sundown

It was getting near sundown now. That created a problem because the Old Testament forbade the Jews to handle a dead body on the Sabbath. No time to find a new grave. So Joseph volunteered his own. The Bible says it was fresh, newly dug out of the rock. No one had been laid there yet. Joseph and Nicodemus- secret disciples- carried the dead body of Jesus to the tomb. Close behind them are Mary Magdalene and the other Mary. They laid the body of Jesus in the tomb. Then they got outside and rolled a great stone over the entrance and they left. Then, the two Mary's left.

Silent Saturday

It's a remarkable fact that the Bible says very little about that Saturday. We know about Good Friday. We know about Easter Sunday. But of that Saturday in between we know almost nothing. Sometime between Friday and Saturday the Roman's put a seal on the stone to keep people away.

Sunrise Surprise

But of Sunday, the Bible is clear. The women came to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus. But to their shock, and surprise, and utter confusion, the seal was broken, the stone was rolled away, the tomb was open. The tomb was empty. An angel stood beside them and said two of the most powerful sentences in the Bible. “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, for he is risen, just as he said.” Mary ran and found Peter and John. Peter and John ran to the tomb. John got there first, but Peter went inside.

An Empty Cocoon

The Bible has a strong word about what he found. It says he found the linen cloth lying there. And the head cloth wrapped by itself. I think it means that the linens were like an empty shell, as if whoever had been inside had simply passed right through them, like a cocoon after the butterfly has flown away. Then Mary met Jesus, two disciples on the road met Jesus, apostles met Jesus, doubting Thomas met Jesus, five hundred people at one time met Jesus... alive from the dead. The message went out. He's alive!

You Can't Keep a Good Man Down

The first days after the first Easter, Peter stood to preach in Jerusalem. He preached to the very people who had crucified Jesus. His blood was on their hands. In that sermon he said these words: "Jesus of Nazareth... You nailed to a cross... and put to death. But God raised him from the dead. The other day I happened to see a graffiti: "Christ rose from the dead. You can't keep a good man down!" That's what Peter said.

Death Could Not Hold Him

Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior

He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord,

Up from the grave he arose,

With a mighty triumph o'er his foes.

He arose! A victor! o'er the dark domain,

And like forever with his saints to reign,

He arose, He arose, Hallelujah! Christ arose.

Wish you all a Happy Easter! – Sam Achen



EASTER -DEFINES OUR OWNERSHIP IN CHRIST

Easter speaks to us the risen perspective of pain and death of humanity that has been overcome on cross. Resurrection in given time transcends a new path with stretched out arms and new definition of love. The Cross in every age has won victories over human troubles and in faith journey at the same time the victory and defeat is within believers who are ultimately stuck in their defeating attitudes.

Easter can not be experienced if we have poverty of understanding outstretched arms and blistered kiss in our spiritual righteousness. Faith Journey is all about how we have served and proved to be blessing for others. A.W. Tozer suggest that there was a time Christian Religion transforming people but today we have people transforming religion. Cross is evident gift of Romans to Jesus, who rejected to be blended with new religiosity to accept societal and cultural approval to mix kingdom values and trends.

Easter is not just an annual event for Christians but a daily hope and power to look on and draw power from the Risen Christ. Jesus when on cross drew power from heavenly father and in His death he was obedient to HIS Heavenly Father. **IN HIS DEATH WE HAVE LIFE AND LIFE IN ABUNDANCE.** You and me are among the millions who are experiencing the power of risen Christ in our faith

journey at our work, sickness and shortcomings.

The experience the Resurrection can only be experienced until and unless we come to His feet with perfume of sincere dedication and participating in His death just as Mary did openly confessing the Lordship of Jesus in her life spreading the fragrance of her FAITH.

The power of Resurrection in midst of Blistered Kiss was only possible because Jesus did not dismiss the Judas despite of his attitude but counted him among the Twelve. He transformed the Blistered Kiss into Kiss of Peace on the cross. As Christians we may encounter Blistered Kiss in our relations or even traded for better favors by others, manipulate our feelings and exploit our goodness but remember the power of Resurrection will keep you going in your faith experiences.

The assurance of Resurrection was for few but for many ran away from cross the word of Passerby was not encouraging but proved the distorted mind of society who wants to exhibit the power of high handedness over the Theology of Cross and to profess easy faith without Cross. The seven words uttered towards cross defined the man on the cross. But the fact is that many a times, **We end up as superficial believers that touch cross, but seldom allow cross touch us.** Easter can only be meaningful if we are able to see and believe risen Christ in our life situations and every time you overcome life negating forces you and I have **resurrection experiences in our faith and that's what I call lingering taste of Easter.**

So let us be like Mary Magdalene who came to tomb with heavy heart and little faith to find that stone had been rolled away from the tomb ran to tell the disciples that the master is not to be seen explains her selfless love and dedication. Peter and the disciple whom Jesus loved went into the tomb taught them that empty tomb is filled with radiance of redeeming love and embodiment of forgiving nature of God the Father.

We are called to understand the nature of Resurrection not only in faith perspective but also in relation to our attitude and faith community to go in search of the lost ones just as Jesus did seeking the faint hearted disciples who were afraid to move on in their life. Resurrected Christ imparts us with Holy spirit to overcome failures so that we can understand **CROSS IS NOT A MERE VICTORY SYMBOL BUT A SYMBOL OF OUR OWNERSHIP IN CHRIST.**

Wishing you all Empowered and Blessed Easter
Rev. George Jacob and Family

SCHEDULED FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

Parish Mission

Prayer Meetings will held from **7:30PM** every Thursday except April 2nd

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

On April 26, Sunday at the residence of Mr. Eapen Varghese immediately after the Holy Communion service

April Area Prayer Meetings

April Area Prayer Meetings		
April 11th (Sat)	Mr. George Varghese @ 6:30 PM	CAR
April 11th (Sat)	Mr. E. G. John @ 6:30 PM	IRV
April 18th (Sat)	Mr. Bobby Thomas @ 6:00 PM	AFW
April 18th (Sat)	Mr. Nibu Thomas @ 6:30 PM	CAR
April 19th (Sun)	Mr. Mon Kurian @ 6:30 PM	IRV
April 25th (Sat)	Common Prayer @ 6:30 PM	Church
Prayer group contact Carrollton: Mr. Merin Samuel AFW: Mr. Abraham George Garland/ Mesquite : Mr. Ginu George Irving : Mr. Renji George		

Church Calendar Events

Events for April

Mar Thoma Church of Dallas, Carrollton 2015 Calendar		
Passover Thursday	April	2
Good Friday	April	3
Holy Saturday	April	4
Easter Sunday	April	5
Rev. George Jacob send off	April	5
Yuvajana Sakhyam Blood Drive 9AM - 1PM	April	5
Sunday School Metroplex teacher's workshop	April	11
Diocesan Exam review / SS Parent Teacher meeting	April	11
YFF & YF volunteer event at Dallas Life	April	18
DAY Youth meeting	April	24

See full 2015 Calendar of Events on

<http://www.mtcd.org/web/guest/2>

April Wedding Anniversaries

DATE	NAME	AREA
2	Mr. & Dr. Matt Samuel	CAR
2	Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Mathew	MES
21	Mr. & Mrs. Mon Kurian	IRV
21	Mr. & Mrs. Rajan Thomas	CAR
22	Mr. & Mrs. George Mathew	CAR
25	Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Abraham	CAR
28	Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Varghese	CAR
29	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mathew	IRV

April Birthdays

DATE	NAME	AREA	DATE	NAME	AREA
1	Mrs. Mary Philip	CAR	17	Mr. Appu Wilson	CAR
1	Mrs. Sheeja Chacko	IRV	18	Mr. Abraham K Mathew	MES
2	Mrs. Annamma Abraham	MES	18	Mr. Cherian Mathew	MES
2	Mrs. Jiji Mathew	CAR	18	Ms. Varsha George	CAR
3	Mr. George Thomas	AFW	19	Mr. Chacko P T	AFW
4	Ms. RonicaReju	AFW	21	Mathew Joseph MES	MES
6	Ms. Ammu Varghese	CAR	22	Mrs. Annamma George	CAR
6	Mr. Jacob Thomas	CAR	22	Ms. Libby Philip	MES
8	Mr. Aby Jacob	CAR	22	Dr. Rachel Thomas	GAR
8	Mr. Aidan Thomas	AFW	22	Mrs. Saramma Rajan	CAR
9	Mr. Abraham Mathew	CAR	22	Mr. Staana Jacob Jacob	CAR
9	Ms. Adelinemol John	CAR	23	Mrs. Jency Liz Jacob	MES
9	Ms. Leah Thomas	CAR	23	Mr. V S Mathew	IRV
10	Mr. Jobby John varghese	CAR	24	Mrs. Julie Mathew	CAR
10	Mrs. Mini Abraham	CAR	24	Mr. Mervin George Abraham	CAR
11	Mrs. Lizy Simon	GAR	25	Mr. Johann Chacko Abraham	CAR
12	Mr. Joel Abraham Korah	CAR	25	Mrs. Molykutty Saji	CAR
12	Mrs. Liza Elizabeth	CAR	25	Mr. Navin S Mathew	IRV
13	Ms. Chinnu Mathew	MES	25	Mrs. Rincy P Mathew	CAR
13	Mr. Nathan Ninan Thomas	CAR	26	Mr. Jacob Mathew	MES
13	Mrs. TeenaMerin Abraham	CAR	26	Mr. Vinod Mathew	CAR
14	Ms. Aida Sam	CAR	27	Ms. Grace Abraham	AFW
15	Mr. Charles Abraham	MES	29	Mr. Alex M Alexander	IRV
16	Mr. Aaron Thomas Mathew	CAR	29	Ms. Sophia Babu	CAR
16	Mrs. Anna Rachel Mathew	CAR	30	Mr. Joel George	CAR
16	Dr. Christopher Thomas	AFW			

April Lectionary

Date	Lessons	Epistle-Gospels
30 Monday	Passion Week (Hasa)	
7:00 PM	Lev.2: 1-6	
	Acts.13: 26-43	
	St.Mat.21: 23-46	St.Mat.22: 1-14
31 Tuesday	Isa.52: 1-15	
7:00 PM	Acts.13: 44-52	
	St.Mat.22: 34-23:12	St.Mat.23: 13-22
1 Wednesday	Isa.28: 14-29	
7:00 PM	Col.1: 9-22	
	St.Mat.24: 29-51	St.Mat.25: 1-13
2 Thursday	Exo.12: 1-17	
6:30 PM	Heb.9: 1-15	1 Cor.11: 23-34
	St.Mat.26: 1-16	St.Mat.26:17-30
3 Good Friday	First Service	Second service
9:00 AM	Isa.53: 1-12	Zech.13: 1-9
	1Pet.1: 1-25	Gal.3: 1-22
	St.Mat.26: 47-75	St.Mat.27: 1-44
	Third Service	Evening Service
	Num.21: 1-9	Dan.2: 26-45
	Heb.3: 1-19	2Thes.2: 1-12
	St.Mat.27: 45-56	St.Mat.27: 57-61
05 Sunday	Holy Communion Service [English] @ 10:30AM	
	Resurrection: Celebrating the Joy of Salvation	
	Exo. 14: 5-31	1 Thes. 4: 13-18
	Col. 3: 1-11	St. Mat. 28: 1-10
	<i>Lessons Read by CAR prayer group members</i>	
12 Sunday	Holy Communion Service [Malayalam] @ 10:30 AM	
	New Sunday – Encounter with the Risen Lord (1 st Sunday after Easter)	
	Gen. 32: 22-32	1 Thes.1: 3-12
	Acts. 9:1-18	St. John 20: 24-29
	<i>Lessons Read by MES / GAR prayer group members</i>	
19 Sunday	Holy Communion Service [English] @ 10:30AM	
	Identifying Risen Lord in the Work Place	
	Ruth 2: 1-18	Acts 16: 6-15
	Acts 19: 36-43	St. John. 21:1-14
	<i>Lessons Read by AFW prayer group members</i>	
26 Sunday	Holy Communion Service [Malayalam] @ 10:30 AM	
	Community formation around resurrection experience	
	Isa. 25: 1-9	Acts 2: 43-47
	Acts 4: 32-37	St. Luke 24: 13-25
	<i>Lessons Read by IRV prayer group members</i>	