

MTCSF Newsletter

FROM VICAR'S DESK

Dearly beloved in Christ,

We have now reached the mid-point of 2021. Let us thank God for His presence, blessings, grace, and mercy. This is also a time of retrospection. Let us renew our spiritual life and commitment to God Almighty.

We are a Diaspora community. We have been privileged and blessed to receive the many opportunities offered by this land. At the same time, we live in a society where there is a decaying of relationships, degrading of humanity, discrimination, corruption, persecution, genocide, acts against the earth, moral decay, etc. It is up to us as a faith community to move forward in hope and faith, and face the different challenges of the day as an extension of our Christian witness. The world needs authentic Christians more now, more than ever. What is our faith contribution to the world? What about this country? John 13:35 says: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Let us bring the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ, which proclaims life and salvation, hope and peace for all who believe.

We are entering the season of summer. Another academic year is coming to a close, marking the start of summer vacation. I encourage students to take advantage of the free time in a creative, fruitful and responsible manner, keeping in mind the COVID-19 protocols and safety of all. We will be having our VBS online, as a collaborative effort of the three Mar Thoma churches in Northern California. I appreciate the Sunday School for their hard work and initiative in organizing this in light of the limitations due to the pandemic.

I also wish the very best to those completing an academic year in their schools and colleges. Also, I congratulate those who are entering, and those who are graduating High School and College. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors. I wish you all a happy, healthy, and blessed summer.

May the blessings of the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit be with you all.

Yours in Christ's Service,

Dennis Achen

SECRETARY'S NOTE

Greetings to you all in the precious name of our lord and savior Jesus Christ. Hope all of you are already vaccinated or in the process of getting vaccinated.

Thank you all for the support and appreciation you have extended as we navigate through the reopening process, so far we have completed three Sunday's of in person worship. The signing up process have been very smooth so far. Thanks to the volunteers from the church reopening sub-committee, especially Robin and Michael who has been there every Sunday on time to support the process. Deepak and Biju did an excellent job building and refining the pews reservation system which is being used for reservation. Sajeev has led the charge on the AV side, the work load on AV team have almost doubled.

Huge thanks goes to everyone who contributed so far toward this effort in planning, structuring and executing it flawlessly.

Thank you Sunday School, leaders, teachers, parents and students who just wrapped up a successful year adapting and improvising to the evolving pandemic situation that has impacted us all

Prayers and Regards,
Anil Jacob



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NEWS

- Church reopening for reduced capacity attendance for all areas starting 6/13
- Please check your vaccine eligibility and stay safe by following COVID protocols

MONTHLY EVENTS

Choir	Saturday, June 12, 2021 - Choir fellowship at 11AM
Edavaka Mission	Saturday, June 5, 2021 – Edavaka Mission Fasting Prayer meeting at 10:00AM
Edavaka Mission	Monday, June 7, 2021 – Diocesan Edavaka Mission prayer meeting at 5:30PM
Sevika Sanghom	Thursday, June 3, 2021 – Western Regional Sevika Sanghom Meeting at 8PM
Sevika Sanghom	Sunday, June 20, 2021 - Sevika Sanghom intercessory prayer at 2PM
Sevika Sanghom	Saturday, June 26, 2021 - Sevika Sanghom prayer meeting at 11AM
Senior Fellowship	Sunday, June 27, 2021 - Senior Fellowship meeting at 4PM
Sunday School	Friday June 18, 2021 -VBS at 10 AM
Sunday School	Saturday June 19, 2021 -VBS at 10 AM
Sunday School	Sunday June 20, 2021 -VBS at 10 AM
Youth Fellowship	Saturday, June 26, 2021 – Youth Fellowship Meeting at 1PM
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Saturday, June 26, 2021 - Yuvajana Sakhyam meeting at 4:30PM

RECURRING EVENTS

- Every Sunday, 9:15 AM – Edavaka Mission Bible Study
- Every Monday, 9 PM - Youth Fellowship Prayer call
- Every Wednesday, 8 PM – Western Regional Edavaka Mission meeting
- Every 1st Thursday, 8 PM – Western Regional Sevika Sanghom meeting
- Every 1st Saturday, 10:00 AM – Edavaka Mission fasting prayer

AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

- Friday, June 4, 2021 - San Ramon Area Prayer Group Meeting at 8PM
- Saturday, June 12, 2021 - Central Valley prayer group meeting at 5PM
- Saturday, June 12, 2021 - Fremont Area prayer meeting at 7PM
- Saturday, June 19, 2021 - South Bay Area prayer meeting at 5:30PM
- Saturday, June 19, 2021 - San Francisco Area prayer meeting at 7PM

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June 6th, 10 AM	Malayalam Holy Qurbana Service Live streamed and reduced capacity in person Celebrant - Rev Dennis Abraham	Assistance and Attendance: San Ramon Capacity:50
June 13th, 10 AM	Malayalam Holy Qurbana Service Live streamed and reduced capacity in person Celebrant - Rev Dennis Abraham DSMC Sunday	Assistance : Choir Capacity:50 Attendance : All Areas
June 20th, 10 AM	English Holy Qurbana Service Live streamed and reduced capacity in person Celebrant - Rev Dennis Abraham	Assistance : San Francisco & South Bay Capacity:50 Attendance : All Areas
June 27th, 10 AM	English Holy Qurbana Service Live streamed and reduced capacity in person Celebrant - Rev M. P, Yohannan	Assistance : Fremont Capacity:50 Attendance : All Areas



LITURGICAL CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday June 6, 2021 - Student Sunday

Sunday June 13, 2021 - Environmental Sunday

Friday June 16, 2021 - Beginning of the Fast of the Apostles

Thursday, June 20, 2021 - Fathers Day

Tuesday June 29, 2021 - End of the Fast of the Apostles + St. Peter's & St. Paul's Day



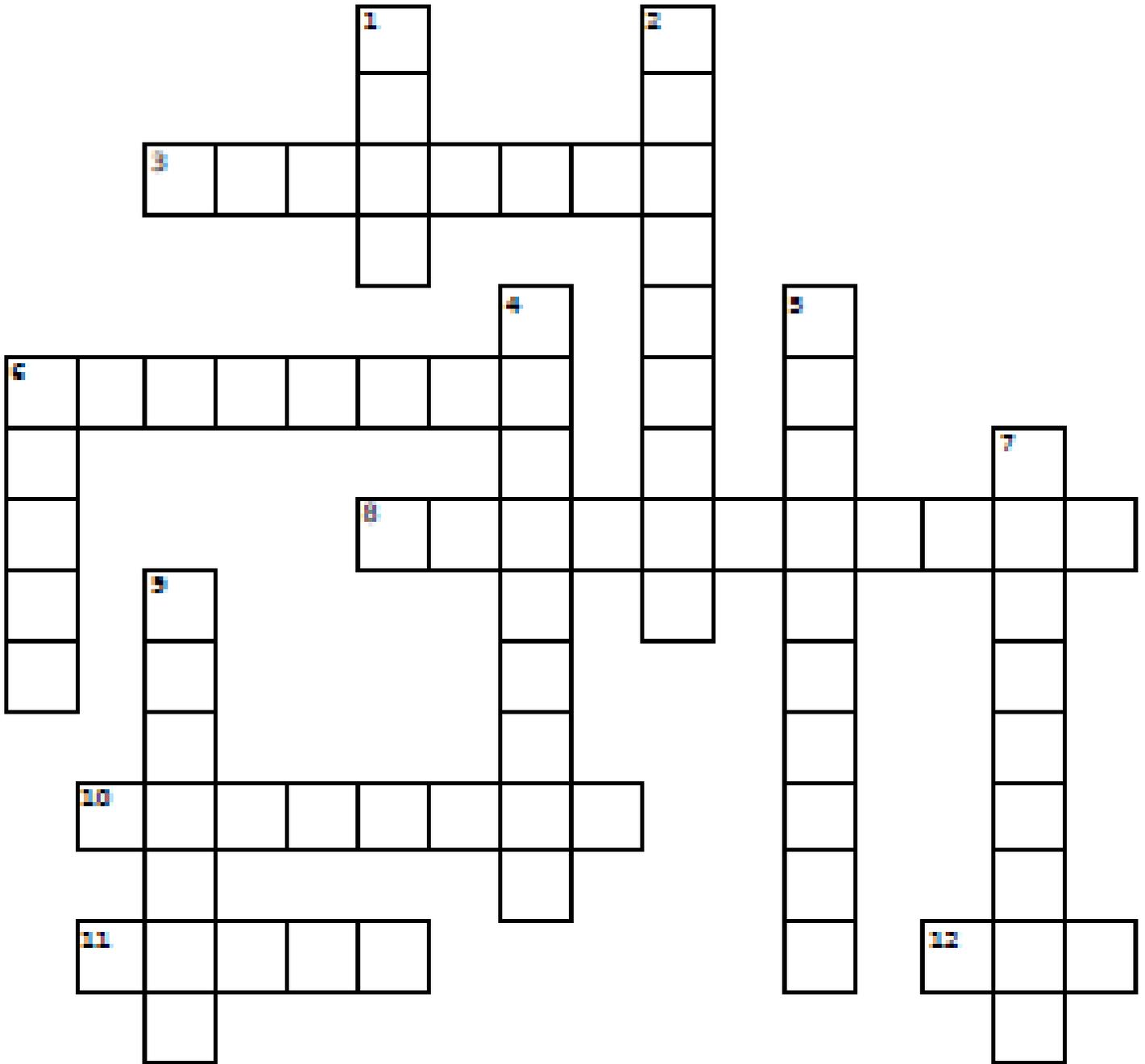
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Titus George (01)	Jacob Kuruvilla (01)
Swapna Mathew (01)	Rolly Mathew (02)
John Samuel (02)	Joseph Tharakan (02)
Manoj Varughese (02)	Kochumol John (03)
Ruth Alex (04)	Motty Alexander (04)
Thomas Geevarghese (04)	Sajan Jacob (04)
John Abraham (05)	Graceykutty Abraham (05)
Achenkunju Issac (05)	Daniel George (08)
Juno Jacob (09)	Reena Ninan (09)
Tanishq Abraham (10)	Darlana David (10)
Sancia Saji (10)	Divya Thomas (11)
Sarah Johnson (13)	Jaxon Philipose (14)
Thankam Roy (14)	Noah Kuriakose (16)
Priya Mathew (17)	Johann Thomas (17)
Kiran Abraham (18)	Mariamamma Babu (20)
Jeffry Mammen (20)	Rachel Abraham (21)
Ryan Skaria (21)	Jinto Varughese (21)
Aby Samuel (22)	Michael Mathew (23)
Caleb Austin (24)	Emmanuel Oommen (25)
Jeffrey Philip (25)	Joshua Varghese (26)
Rohith George (28)	Rachel Isaac (28)
Sharon John (28)	Naveen Therathanath (28)
Jiju Jacob (30)	

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Aniamma & Mose Thomas (01)
Meera & Jiju Jacob (02)
Renu & Cherian Mathews,(05)
Mangala & Toji George (05)
Joanna & Shawn Mathew (09)
Shija & Johnson Mathews (10)
Pushpa & Deepak Cherian (11)
Ammal & Bertie Jackson (17)
Reenu & Sunil Cherian (21)
Sushama & Johnson Abraham (22)
Ivy & Jacob Kuruvilla (23)
Juno & Anish Thomas (25)
Leelamma & Varghese Thomas (26)
Shante & James Thomas (26)
Blessy & Roy Chacko (30)







Across

- 3 The sovereign Lord takes no ___ in the death of the wicked, but ___ rather that they turn from their ways and live.
- 6 The attitude of the exiles in Babylon was that they came to listen to the word of God, but they do not put them into ___. To them, Ezekiel was an entertainer!
- 8 Edomites harbored an ancient hostility and delivered the Israelites over to the sword at the time of their calamity saying "tear it down to its ___" Ps.137:7
- 10 ___ stood on the ___ towers of the ancient walls and blew the trumpet to warn the people for approaching enemies
- 11 The promises that God and would shepherd His sheep refers to the coming Messiah. 2Sam.7:12-16
- 12 Since Edomites did not hate bloodshed, bloodshed will pursue them. Edom means ___.

Down

- 1 ___ settled in the hill country of Seir. Gen. 36:8
- 2 Prophecy against the ___ of Israel: since they didn't search for the lost flock, they would be removed from tending the flock and He would look after His flock with justice. He would bring them back into their own land. Lk.15:4-7
- 4 In the 12th year of Israelites' exile in Babylon, a man who had escaped from ___ said, "The city has fallen". The Lord opened Ezekiel's mouth before the man came to him. Ez.24:25-27
- 5 The ancient hostility the Edomites harbored: Jacob tricked Esau to get the ___ and the blessing of the firstborn.
- 6 The covenant of ___ (state of harmony) is the restoration of the land of Israel to His people. Part of this covenant is the Lord would send down showers in season; "there will be showers of blessing"
- 7 The land of Edom would be desolate forever; its towns will not be ___.
- 9 Those who remained in the fallen city were thinking that they would possess the land given to the descendants of ___. But as in Jeremiah 27, the Jews who were not submitted to Babylonians would be destroyed by famine, sword, plague..

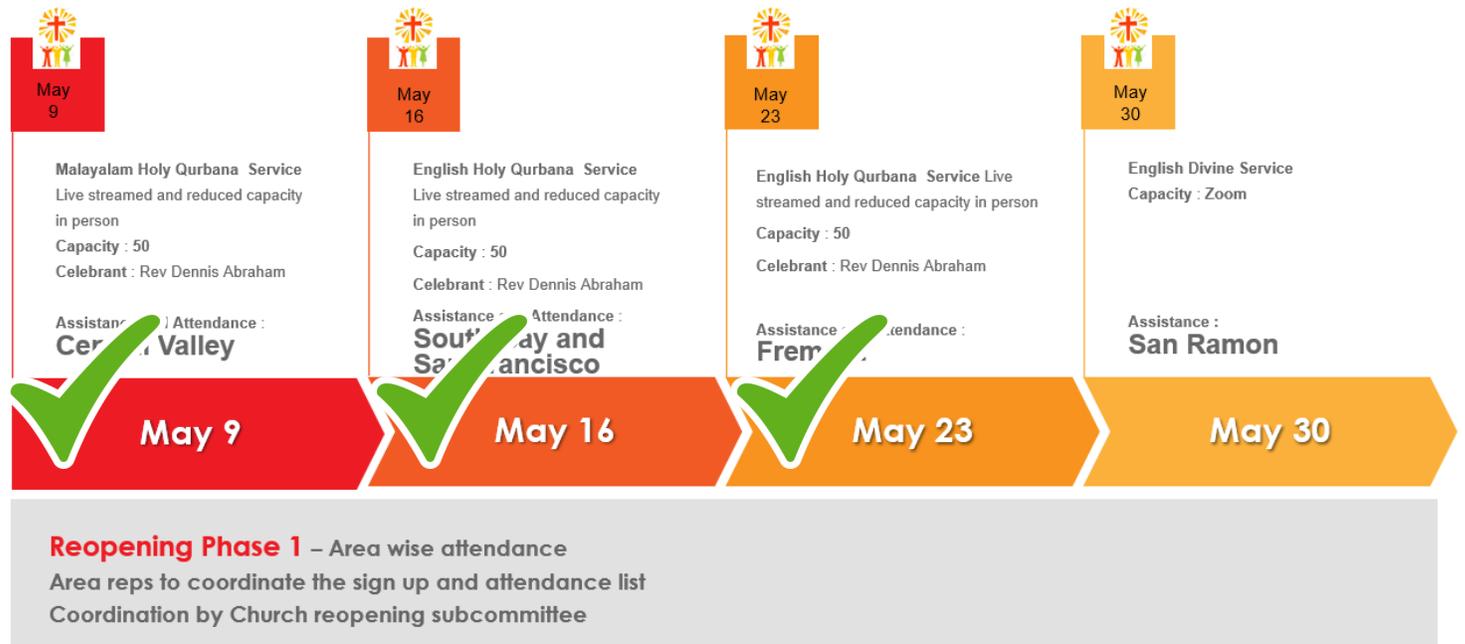
The Bible portion is from Ezekiel 33-35 NIV.

CHURCH CALENDAR

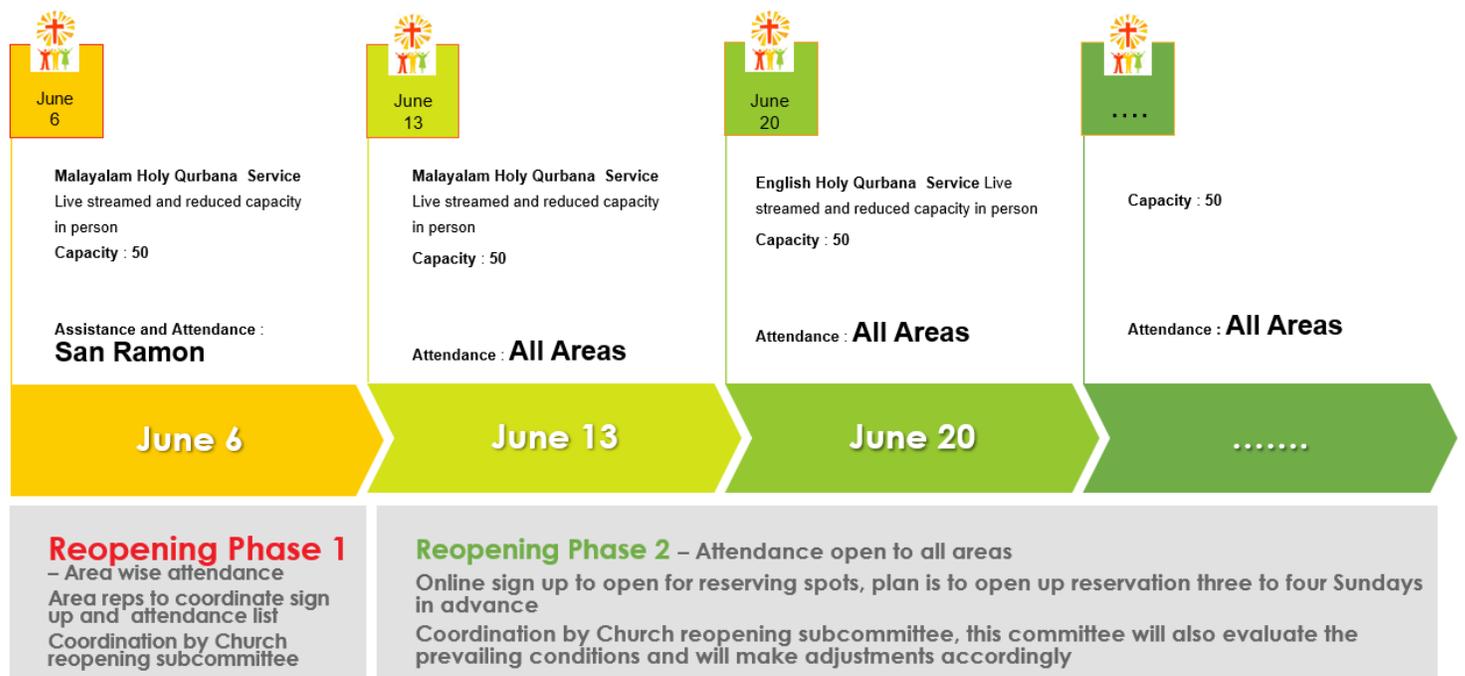
June 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Western Region Edavaka Mission meeting	Western Region Sevika Sanghom	San Ramon Area Prayer Group Meeting	Edavaka Mission Fasting Prayer	Student Sunday Bible study - Edavaka Mission Holy Communion Service - Malayalam
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Diocesan Edavaka Mission prayer meeting Youth Fellowship prayer call		Western Region Edavaka Mission meeting			Choir fellowship Central Valley prayer group meeting Fremont Area prayer group meeting	DSMC Sunday Environmental Sunday Bible study - Edavaka Mission Holy Communion Service - Malayalam
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Youth Fellowship prayer call		Beginning of the Fast of the Apostles Western Region Edavaka Mission meeting		VBS	VBS South Bay Area prayer group meeting San Francisco Area prayer meeting	Fathers' Day VBS Bible study - Edavaka Mission Holy Communion Service - English Sevika Sanghom intercessory prayer
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Youth Fellowship prayer call		Western Region Edavaka Mission meeting			Youth Fellowship Bible study Sevika Sanghom prayer meeting Yuvajana Sakhyam meeting	Bible study - Edavaka Mission Holy Communion Service - English Senior Fellowship meeting
28	29	30				
Youth Fellowship prayer call	End of the Fast of the Apostles + St. Peter's & St. Paul's Day	Western Region Edavaka Mission meeting				

CHURCH REOPENING

Church Reopening Timeline



Church Reopening Timeline



WARNING AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

The purpose of this Coronavirus Declaration & Release (“CDR”) is to inform all attendees of the risk of attending worship services due to the Coronavirus (“COVID-19”), a worldwide pandemic which can be a risk to the health and wellbeing of attendees. Depending on numerous factors, such as a compromised immune system, COVID-19 can be life threatening with a mortality rate that may be greater than the common flu.

By attending worship services at this church, you agree to take any and all necessary precautions including but not limited to the following:

- Follow all applicable Federal, State, or local laws and guidelines related to COVID-19 that may be amended from time to time;
- Take any and all reasonable precautions to protect yourself and others such as washing your hands with soap and water, applying hand sanitizer, or wearing a protective face mask to the extent recommended by health officials or required by law; and
- Maintain social distancing by maintaining a minimum of six (6) feet between yourself and other members who do not reside in your residence while on the Church premises.

By attending worship services at this church, you represent and warrant that, to the best of your knowledge:

- You do not have COVID-19 and are not experiencing symptoms including but not limited to a fever, respiratory complications, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing.
- You have not been in contact with anyone who was infected by COVID-19 within the last fourteen (14) days.
- You understand that individuals with COVID-19 can be asymptomatic and in attendance at this worship service.
- You understand the risks of participating in the worship service and agree to assume any and all risks of bodily injury or death, whether said risks are known or unknown at this time.
- In consideration for the Church permitting attendance and providing a worship experience for you, you hereby agree to forever release and discharge the Church, its subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, employees, officers, directors, owners, heirs, successors, assignees, and related companies from any and all claims, demands, debts, liabilities, obligations, costs, expenses, actions, or causes of action of every kind, nature, and description whatsoever including but not limited to wrongful death or negligence, whether known or unknown at this time, which relate to your attendance of this worship service.

In the event that you fail to abide by the safety precautions established above, the Church reserves the right to immediately remove you from the premises for the safety of staff and others.

Church reopening – What do I need to do



► Before Attending

- Please reach out to your area reps if you are interested in attending service
- Sign the liability release form and medical form from the area rep on or before Friday of the service
- Do not attend in-person service if not feeling well on the day of.

► Entering the facility

- Volunteers/Ushers at the sanitary station will check your temperature, it should be below 100.4 F
- Cloth or Surgical mask is a must, if you forgot one or have a different type of mask, one will be provided to you.
- Submit your signed release and medical forms if you have not already done so. If you forgot you will be provided one to fill out in person.
- You will be verbally asked to acknowledge the medical form questions before entering
- An Usher will guide you to a marked seating location within sanctuary
- Only families can sit together

Church reopening – What do I need to do



► During the service

- Face coverings must cover the nose and mouth at all times inside the facility.
- All books will be removed from the pews. Bring your own books and don't forget to take them back, object that are left/forgotten at the sanctuary will be quarantined.
- Avoid sharing of any items
- Avoid touching surfaces as much as possible
- Church access(entry and exit) only through front door
- Leave the facility if you do not feel well and inform one of the volunteers.
- Achen will provide directions for Kiss of peace, offertory and holy communion on the day of service

► After Service

- Do not congregate anywhere within or in the immediate vicinity of the facility
- Disperse in an orderly manner, look for directions from Ushers.
- Exit through the main entrance.
- No handshakes, hugs, and similar greetings that break physical distance
- Social hall will be closed and there will not be any after service refreshments.
- Group signing in close quarters is discouraged, Choir, Praise and Worship will continue remote

Church reopening – What do I need to do



► Miscellaneous

- Use courtyard only for restroom access
- only **One** person at a time in each restroom
- It is recommended that only fully vaccinated folks attend the service
- It is recommended that kids or infants do not attend the service as they are not vaccinated
- It is **highly recommended** that anyone volunteering for lay assistance in the Madbaha be a fully vaccinated person as Achen, lay leader and lay assistance will be operating in close proximity to each other.

Church reopening – Who should I talk to



► Area Reps

- Central Valley - Mrs. Elizabeth Varghese
- Fremont - Mr. Rajiv Kochumman
- San Francisco - Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas
- San Ramon - Mrs. Rakhe Mathew
- South Bay - Mr. Shino Kurian

► Church reopening subcommittee

- Convener: Mr. Kurien Idiculla
- Members: Mr. Shaiju Varghese
 - Mr. Mathew John
 - Mr. Michael Mathew
 - Mrs. Leelamma Phillip
 - Church office bearers

Church reopening – What am I signing (Legal)



CORONAVIRUS DECLARATION & RELEASE (“CDR”)

The purpose of this Coronavirus Declaration & Release (“CDR”) is to inform the members of the Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco (“Church”) of the risks associated with Coronavirus (“COVID-19”), a worldwide pandemic that can be a risk to the health and wellbeing of attendees. Depending on numerous factors, such as a compromised immune system, COVID-19 can be life-threatening with a mortality rate that may be greater than the common flu. By signing this CDR and participating in this service, you acknowledge that the Church has provided you with notice of the risks associated with COVID-19 as well as the potential for contracting the virus despite best efforts to abide by the below recommended guidelines.

Declaration

By signing this CDR you represent and warrant that you are voluntarily attending the Church, that you agree to take any and all necessary precautions including but not limited to the following:

- Follow all applicable Federal, State, or local laws and guidelines related to COVID-19 that may be amended from time to time;
- Take any and all reasonable precautions to protect yourself and others such as washing your hands with soap and water, applying hand sanitizer, or wearing a protective face mask to the extent recommended by health officials or required by law; and
- Maintain social distancing by maintaining a minimum of six (6) feet between yourself and other members who do not reside in your residence while on the Church premises.

In addition to the above, you are representing and warranting that, to the best of your current knowledge, you do not have COVID-19 and are not experiencing symptoms including but not limited to a fever, respiratory complications, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing. Moreover, by signing this CDR, you represent and warrant that, to the best of your knowledge, you have not been in contact with anyone who was infected by COVID-19 within the last fourteen (14) days. Notwithstanding the above, you also acknowledge that individuals with COVID-19 can be asymptomatic and unable to self-diagnose or otherwise disclose a potential for infecting others.

Release of liability

By signing this CDR, you represent and warrant that you understand the risks and ramifications associated with participating in the service and agree to assume any and all risks of bodily injury or death, whether said risks are known or unknown at this time. In consideration for the Church permitting attendance and providing a worship experience for you, you hereby agree to forever release and discharge the Church, its subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, employees, officers, directors, owners, heirs, successors, assignees, and related companies from any and all claims, demands, debts, liabilities, obligations, costs, expenses, actions, or causes of action of every kind, nature, and description whatsoever including but not limited to wrongful death or negligence, whether known or unknown at this time, which you may have against the individuals set forth above as a result of attending or otherwise participating in the services provided by the Church.

In the event that you fail to abide by the safety precautions established above, the Church reserves the right to immediately remove you from the premises for the safety of staff and others. If you have any questions, the Church encourages you to seek an attorney to review this CDR. By signing below, you agree, represent, and warrant that you have read the contents of this CDR, that you are understand its contents, and agree to comply with the safety precautions set forth herein.

Initial

Print Name

Signature

Date:

Name of Minor

Print Name of Parent or Legal Guardian

Parent or Legal Guardian's Signature

Date:

Church reopening – Prevailing condition



CDC Tier Status - Orange Tier(Alameda County)

Widespread (purple)

- Outdoor or indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities are strongly discouraged and must be limited to 25% of capacity

Substantial (red)

- Indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities must be limited to 25% of capacity

Moderate (orange)

- Indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities must be limited to 50% of capacity

Minimal (yellow)

- Indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities must be limited to 50% of capacity

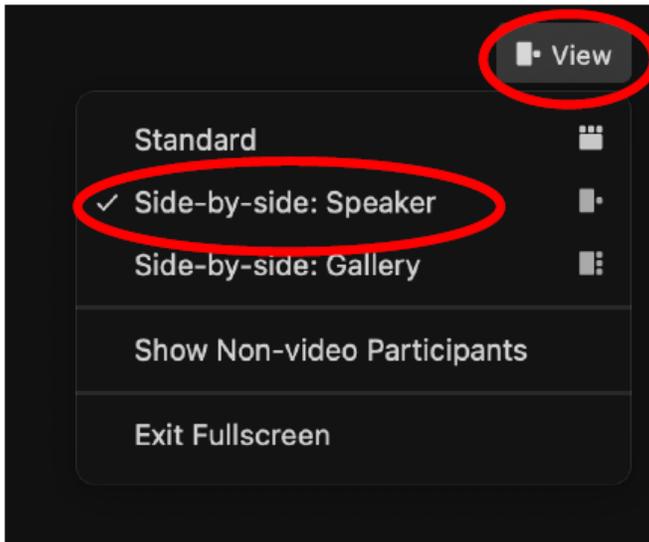
March 9

March 31

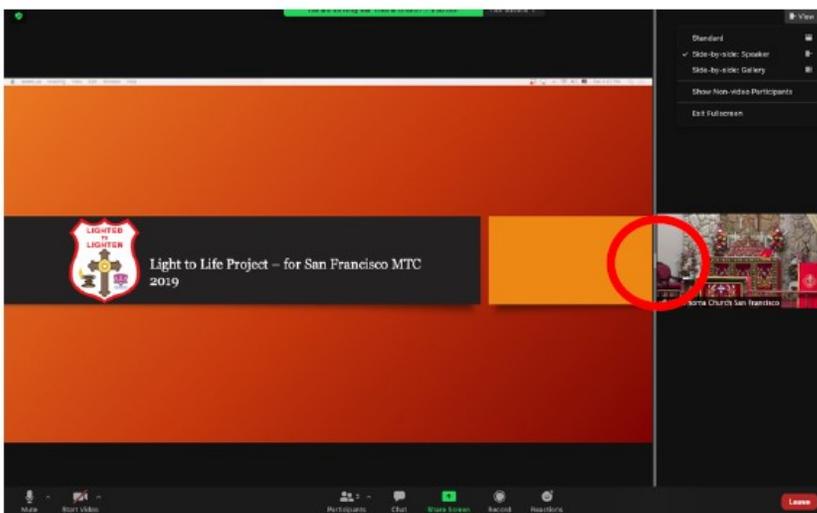
OPTIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR BETTER VIEWING EXPERIENCE IN ZOOM

Zoom – Split Screen Instructions

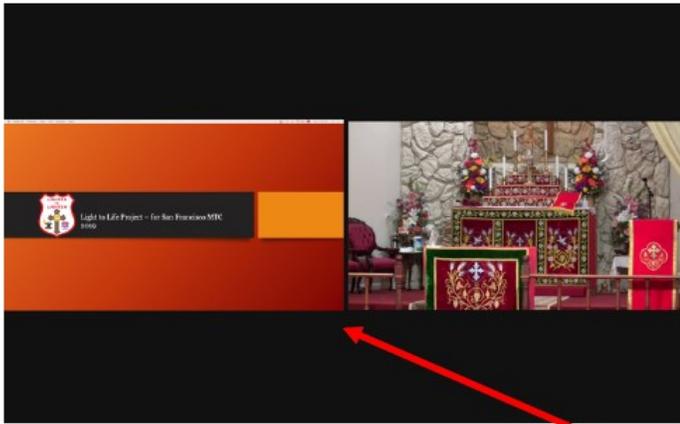
When a presentation is being shared, Click on **View** menu at the top, and choose **Side-by-side: Speaker**



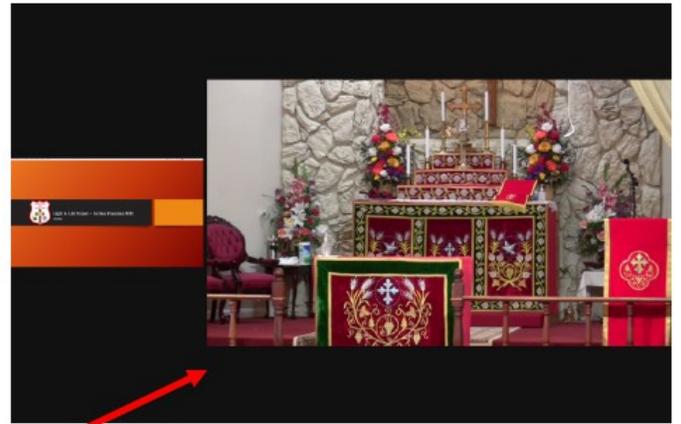
Once in side-by-side mode, move your mouse to the divider and slide the divider to set the ratio of screens



For best viewing results, move the slider to center (equal size) OR at 25% for slideshow



OR



Mar Thoma Church Of San Francisco Bay Area

Slider position

