

# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## Newsletter

February 2023

### From the Vicar's Desk



Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

"I am the Door" John 10:9

Jesus calls himself 'the door' of the sheep in John 10:9. In order to understand what Jesus was saying by calling himself "The Door", it's helpful to understand a little of ancient culture and shepherding. The image that would come to mind when the first century hearer listened to Jesus' words was a sheep pen in the countryside. This was where the shepherd would keep his flocks when the weather was good.

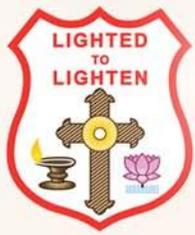
This type of sheep pen was simply a rough circle of rocks piled into a wall with a small opening which became a door through which the shepherd would drive the sheep in at night. Since there was no door to close - just an opening - the shepherd would keep the sheep in and wild animals out by lying across the opening. He would sleep there. He would literally be the door to the sheep.

So Jesus is telling us that he is not only the shepherd of the sheep but also the door of the sheep. He is helping us see that he is our protector and defender. He is our provider and shelter. He is reminding us that he is the way to safety.

Every door that God opens, closes is an extension of his role as 'the door'. Every door we encounter in our life is a reflection of Jesus' care for us- his provision, his protection and shepherding in our life. He is not only the door, he is your door. He is inviting you to be safe in Him.

In His service,

Sajiachen



# Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*

## Secretary's Note



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

It is a great privilege and honor to serve as the Secretary of the Parish for the year 2022, that the Lord has given me, I am humbled and honored by the trust and confidence bestowed upon me by the Parish. I thank our Vicar Rev. Saji Thomas Achen and former Vicar Rev. Dennis Abraham Achen for their leadership and Spiritual Guidance during this time. I am grateful for the support and cooperation from the Trustees and Executive committee, Also, I

thank all Church members for the support you gave, the leadership you took, and the dedication you have shown.

Above all, I praise the God Almighty for his Grace, Mercy, and Blessings, with his will, we accomplished everything.

Requesting your continued prayers and support, as I will be continuing as the Secretary for the coming year also. Giving thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus name.

With Prayerful Regards,

Philip Roy,

Secretary, MTCSF



# Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*

## Worship Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Celebrant(s)</b>
5 Feb	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Malayalam) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas
12 Feb	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Malayalam) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas
19 Feb	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (English) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas
26 Feb	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (English) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas

## Sunday School

Sunday's At 9:00 AM

## Bible study

Edavaka Mission Bible study

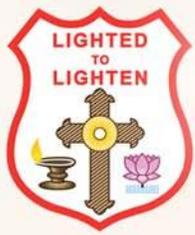
Sunday's at 9:15 AM



# Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*

## Area Prayer Groups Organization Meetings Events (In person or via Zoom)

- Friday Feb 3rd
  - Tri-Valley Area Prayer at 8:00 PM at the residence of Blessy & Roy Chacko
- Saturday Feb 11
  - Fremont Area prayer meeting at 6:30 PM via zoom
- Saturday Feb 18
  - Central Valley Area Prayer Meeting at 5:00 PM at the Residence of Valsa & George Zachariah's (Thampy) Residence
- Sunday Feb 19
  - Sevika Sanghom sandwich making for Homeless after ASR
- Saturday Feb 25
  - Sevika Sanghom cottage Prayer at 11 AM
  - South Bay & San Francisco **combined** prayer at 6.30 PM via zoom
- Sunday Feb 26
  - Sevika Sanghom intercessory prayer at Church after ASR
- Tuesday Jan 28
  - Senior Fellowship Prayer meeting at 5.30 PM via zoom



# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## Recurring Meetings Every....

Sunday 9:15 AM	Edavaka Mission Bible Study
Tuesday 9PM	Youth Fellowship Prayer call
Wednesday 8.00 PM	Western Regional Edavaka Mission meeting Via Zoom
1st Monday 5:30 PM	Diocesan Edavaka Mission prayer meeting Via Zoom
1st Thursday 8 PM	Western Regional Sevika Sangham meeting Via Zoom
1st Friday 8:00 PM	Tri-Valley Area Prayer Meeting
1st Saturday 10 AM	Edavaka Mission Fasting Prayer (Canceled for Feb)
1st Saturday 6:30 PM	San Francisco Area Prayer Meeting
2nd Saturday 11:00 AM	Yuvajana Sakhyam meeting
2nd Saturday 6:30 PM	Fremont Area Prayer meeting
3rd Saturday 11:00 AM	Choir Fellowship (Canceled for Feb)
3rd Saturday 5:00 PM	Central Valley Area Prayer Meeting
3rd Sunday	Sevika Sanghom Sandwich making for Homeless after ASR
4th Saturday 11AM	Sevika Sangham Cottage Prayer
4th Saturday 6:30 PM	South Bay Area Prayer Meeting
4th Sunday	Sevika Sanghom Intercessory Prayer after ASR
4th Tuesday 5:30 PM	Senior Fellowship Prayer meeting

## Special Events

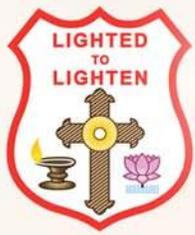
None



# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Baby Jacob, Feb 1	Reena Korah, Feb 7	David Sam, Feb 18
Anugraha Mathews, Feb 1	Benjamin Thomas, Feb 7	Aksa Bionu, Feb 19
Shaji Mathew, Feb 1	Annie Cherian, Feb 9	Sushmita Sujit, Feb 19
Mathew Thomas, Feb 1	Rajiv kochumman, Feb 9	Maya mathews, Feb 20
Cameron Philipose, Feb 2	Jibu John, Feb 11	Anita Sujit, Feb, 20
Prasad Kuruvila, Feb3	Nisha Thomas, Feb 11	Suvin Varghese, Feb 20
Jennice Thomas, Feb 3	Aju Philip, Feb 13	Blessy Alexander, Feb 21
Justina Mathai, Feb 4	Joanna Jubin, Feb 14	Daisy Jose, Feb 21
Mathew Samuel, Feb 4	Siby Samuel, Feb 14	Steve Kurien, Feb 21
Olivia Thomas, Feb 4	Jedediah Muthalaly, Feb 16	Blessy Roy, Feb 21
Saji Thjomas, Feb 4	Suma Mathew, Feb 16	Juli Tharakan, Feb 21
Joseph George, Feb 5	Ritu Mathews, Feb 16	Sincie Chacko,nFeb 24
Judy George, Feb 5	Charles Chacko, Feb 17	Rohan Roy, Feb 25
Binil Mathews, Feb 5	Mathew Mathai, Feb 17	Christine Samuel, Feb 25
Jibin Thomas, Feb 5	Nathan Mathew, Feb 17	Mithun Alexander, Feb 28
John Varghese, Feb 6	Kaithara george, Feb 18	Santamma John, Feb 28
Chloe Austin, Feb 7	George k. Philip, Feb 18	Abel Thomas, Feb 28



# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco



Taji & Bijou Abraham, Feb 1

Manju & Stanley Samuel, Feb 1

Sheba & Dinil Joy, Feb 2

Swapna & Mathew Jacob, Feb 3

Nisha & Sam Alex, Feb 5

Rency & Saju Joseph, Feb 5

Sosamma & Mavunkal Cherian, Feb 6

Libby & Reni Varghese, Feb 6

Pretha & Santosh P. Abraham, Feb 7

Rosamma & Raju Thomas, Feb 10

Smita & Binil Mathews, Feb 10

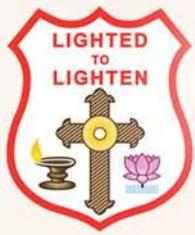
Mona & Riju Myladumkunnel Feb 11

Ansu & Sam John, Feb 12

Deena & Philip Alexander, Feb 15

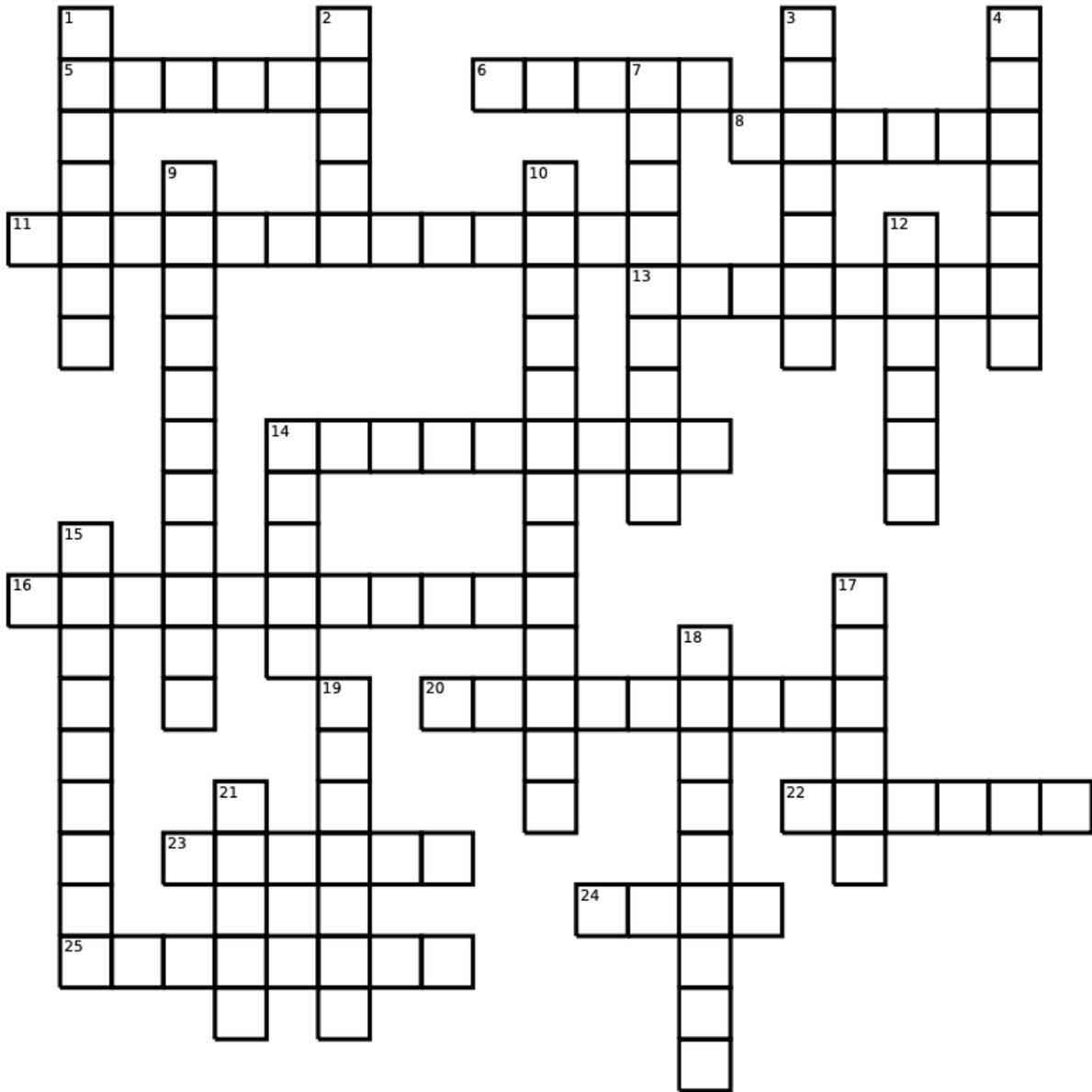
Sharon & Abin John, Feb 15

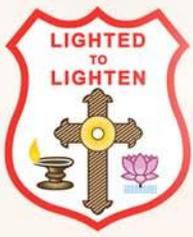
Juley & Binesh George, Feb 24



# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## Crossword Micah 5-7 NIV

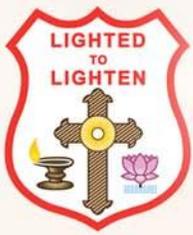




# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## Across

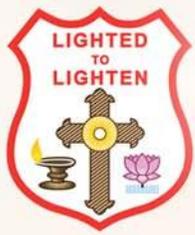
5. Even in the terrible conditions of his day, prophet Micah watched in hope, waited for His \_\_, and trusted that He will hear him. Phil. 2:15-16
6. The gentile nations will lick the dust like a snake, like creatures that crawl on the ground portraying total defeat and there is a connection to \_\_'s judgment in Gen.3:14. In the end, they will turn in fear to the Lord.
8. Which prophetess led the Israelites in praising God for His goodness? Ex.15:20
11. Micah praises God: "Who is a God like you, who pardons and forgives the \_\_ of the remnant of His inheritance. You do not stay angry forever, but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us"
13. The Lord asked the people who keep ill-gotten treasures, short ephah, dishonest scales, false weights, and rich men who are violent and liars, to heed His voice, otherwise, He will give them to \_\_.
14. The enemy nation of Israel will siege the city and will strike Israel's ruler. 2 Ki. 25:1-7. In this hopeless situation, Micah prophesies about a ruler's birth in \_\_, who will rule over Israel, whose origins are from ancient times. (Messianic prophecy). Centuries later, Magi from the east used this prophecy in Mat.2:4-5.
16. The Lord has a case against His people and asked them to plead their case before the mountains, hills, and the \_\_ of the earth, which would witness God's faithfulness to His people. In spite of all His righteous acts, Israelites disobeyed Him.
20. "When Assyrian invades our land we will raise against him seven \_\_ even eight leaders of men and He will deliver us from the Assyrians" (representative of Israel's enemies). Israelites didn't defeat Assyrians in history, so this refers to the future at the second coming of Christ. Seven and eight probably mean like three and even four expressions in Amos 1 & 2. It may also mean that they will have enough leaders to fight their enemies.
22. The Lord was not pleased with their external offerings when they didn't have a change of heart. He wanted them to act justly and to love mercy and to walk \_\_ with their God. Jer. 7:22-26
23. Instead of cursing, \_\_ blessed the Israelites.
24. \_\_ introduced Baal worship in Israel.
25. The earth will become \_\_ because of its inhabitants as the result of their deeds.



# Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*

## Down

1. Land of Nimrod. Gen.10:9-11
2. Micah expressed his disappointment that there was not one upright man. All men lie in wait to shed blood, the ruler demands gifts, the judge accepts bribes, the powerful dictate what they desire and the best of them is like a \_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_ was the Israelite's last camping place before they entered Canaan. Jos. 3:1;
4. The \_\_\_ of Jacob will be a blessing to many peoples like dew and showers on the grass from the Lord. They will be like a lion among the beast and their hand will be lifted up in triumph over their enemies.
7. Israel will be \_\_\_ until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. This refers to the near and distant future(second coming) of Israel's restoration. Is.11:11
9. Micah prayed to the Lord to shepherd the flock of His \_\_\_ and the Lord answered that He will show them His wonders as in the days they came out of Egypt and the enemy nations deprived of their power will be ashamed.
10. After the judgment, the Lord will restore His people and will bring them out into the light and they will see His \_\_\_.
12. The first place in Canaan that Israelites camped after crossing Jordan. Jos. 4:19
14. Who is the king of Moab who wanted to curse the Israelites? Num.22-24
15. Micah warned them of trusting a neighbor, friend, and their own \_\_\_.
17. Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt and \_\_\_ led them into Canaan.
18. On that day, the Lord will destroy their false securities like horses, chariots, and fortified cities; idolatry will be purged from the people; He will take \_\_\_ in anger upon the nations that have not obeyed Him.
19. Micah's confidence that God will not be angry forever with His people was that He would be faithful to the covenant He made with \_\_\_ and his descendants.
21. Israelite's first high priest



# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## MTCSF Choir at Ecumenical Christmas Service





# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## Trustees transfer of duties

