

Mar Thoma Church  
of San Francisco

# MTCSSF Newsletter

April 2023

## From the Vicar's Desk



Dearly beloved in Christ,

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

Resurrection represents new life, new hope, new beginnings.

Resurrection means there is hope in most desperate circumstances. Hope is at the heart of the resurrection message as the despair of Good Friday is followed by the joy of Easter morning. Hope is the belief that things are going to get better. It means that God is powerful and nothing is beyond His control. Resurrection reminds us that though evil men put Christ to death, they never got the final word. God gets the final word, so there is hope in the most desperate circumstances. When we hear about

the news which overwhelms us, resurrection reminds us that God is on His throne. He is in charge no matter how dark it gets in our life.

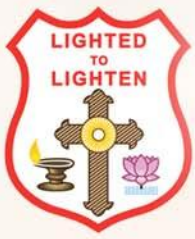
Resurrection means that God always keeps his promises. In Matthew 16:21-22 "From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

Peter did not hear the end of the message. All he heard was the part of the Son of Man going to suffer many things and be killed. Hence he responds, "Never, Lord! This shall never happen to you!" He didn't hear 'on the third day be raised'. He heard it with his physical ears but did not get the promise of resurrection. The disciples had to go through a lot of stress, anxiety, fear because they didn't really hear and lay hold of the promises of God. In a similar way we can avoid a lot of stress, anxiety, and fear if we remember that God always keeps his promises. Our life would be different, if we believed and laid hold of the promises of God.

Happy Easter and God bless.

Prayerful Regards,

Sajiachen



# Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*

## Secretary's Note



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

It's time to remember that God so loved the world that He Gave his only Son to save us from our Sins through his death on the Cross. Also it is the time to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Let the Joy of resurrection lift us from fears, weakness and despair to strength, happiness and rooted in Christ's faith.

Praying that the Lord fills all your Heart with peace and blesses you with his Grace on this Holy week and always.

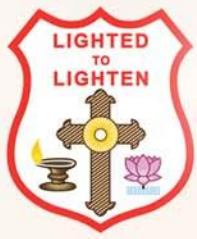
Let us spare this passion week for our God. Let us spend time for reflection, pray and be thankful for all the blessings he showered upon us. You are encouraged to attend all Passion week special services at church. So let us pray together, Lord, we ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present with us during this time especially to our Vicar Saji Achen, lay leaders and all with assigned tasks and all involved.

Requesting your continued prayers and support,

With Prayerful Regards,

Philip Roy,

Secretary, MTCSF



# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## Worship Schedule

	<b>Time</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Celebrant(s)</b>
2 April	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Malayalam) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas
3 April	7:30 PM	Sandhya Namaskaram (Mal)	Rev. Saji Thomas
4 April	7:30 PM	Sandhya Namaskaram (Mal)	Rev. Saji Thomas
5 April	7:30 PM	Sandhya Namaskaram (Mal)	Rev. Saji Thomas
6 April	7:30 PM	Maundy Thursday Holy Qurbana (English)	Rev. Saji Thomas
7 April	9:00 AM	Good Friday Service 1st & 2nd Part Malayalam 3rd Part English	Rev. Saji Thomas
9 April	7:00 AM	Easter Sunday Holy Qurbana (Mal)	Rev. Saji Thomas
16 April	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (English) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas
23 April	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (English) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas
30 April	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (English) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas

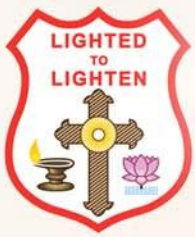
## Sunday School

Sunday's At 9:00 AM except on April 9

## Bible Study

Sunday's at 9:15 AM, except on April 9

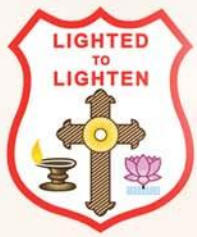




# Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*

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

- Saturday, Apr 1, 2023
  - San Francisco Area Prayer at 6:30 PM at the residence of Boby & Mathew Thomas
- Thursday, April 13 (Rescheduled)
  - Western Region Sevika Sanghom prayer meeting at 8 PM via zoom
- Saturday, Apr 15
  - Central Valley Area Prayer Meeting at the residence of Leena & Zachariah Jacob (Biji), 865 W Santos Ave, Ripon, CA at 5 PM
- Sunday, April 16
  - Sevika Sanghom Sandwich making for Homeless after ASR
- Saturday , April 22
  - Sevika Sanghom cottage Prayer at 11 AM
  - South Bay area prayer meeting at 6.30 PM via zoom
- Sunday, April 23
  - Sevika Sanghom intercessory prayer at Church after ASR

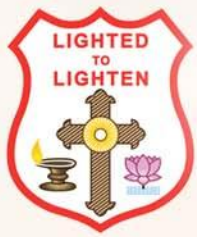


# Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*

## Recurring Meetings Every....

Sunday's 9:15 AM	Edavaka Mission Bible Study
Tuesday's 9PM	Youth Fellowship Prayer call
Wednesday's 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
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
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



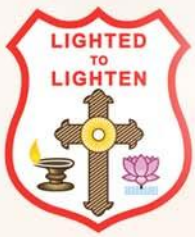
# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ashwathy Issac, Apr 01  
Sindhu Mathew, Apr 01  
Sheryl Cherian, Apr 02  
Naina Geno, Apr 02  
Jerril Jacob, Apr 02  
Sapna Cherian, Apr 03  
Hanah Edwin, Apr 03  
Anil Jacob, Apr 03  
Neil Johnson, Apr 03  
Jose Mathai, Apr 03  
Dinil Joy, Apr 04  
Lisha Paul, Apr 05  
Anjali Abraham, Apr 06  
Nathan George, Apr 06  
Jessica Samuel, Apr 06  
Boby Alex, Apr 07  
Regan Abraham, Apr 08  
Mathew Jacob, Apr 08  
Chacko Kuruvilla, Apr 08  
Roji Roy, Apr 08  
Hannah Abraham, Apr 09  
Justis George, Apr 09  
Ann Philip, Apr 09  
Matthew Tharakan, Apr 09  
Pothen Joseph, Apr 10

Andrew Kurian, Apr 11  
Yohan Saji, Apr 11  
Chacko Samuel, Apr 11  
Philip Thomas, Apr 11  
Mathews George, Apr 12  
Meena George, Apr 12  
Mathai Mathews, Apr 12  
Sujit Isaac, Apr 13  
Rency Joseph, Apr 13  
Rebecca Abraham, Apr 14  
Anu George, Apr 14  
Manish George, Apr 14  
Valsa Isaac, Apr 14  
Julia John, Apr 14  
Evan Alex, Apr 16  
Diana Sam, Apr 17  
Philip Mathew, Apr 18  
Vivek Cherian, Apr 19  
Nyla Mathew, Apr 19  
Bejoy Oomman, Apr 19  
Rachel Varghese, Apr 20  
Marykutty John, Apr 21  
Siju Oonunny, Apr 21  
Nisha Roy, Apr 21  
Raymond Roy, Apr 21

Jacob Varghis, Apr 21  
Sareena Cherian, Apr 22  
Rachel Eapen, Apr 22  
Bindu Edwin, Apr 22  
Rachel Jacob, Apr 23  
Annie Johny, Apr 23  
David Cherian, Apr 24  
Joshua Cherian, Apr 24  
Joel George, Apr 24  
Zachariah Jacob, Apr 24  
Leny Mathew, Apr 24  
Devin Thomas, Apr 24  
Rachel George, Apr 25  
Jijoe Vurghese, Apr 25  
Ryan Abraham, Apr 26  
Susan George, Apr 26  
Lesly John, Apr 27  
James Thomas, Apr 27  
Rebecca Abraham, Apr 28  
Naveen George, Apr 28  
Roy Philip, Apr 28  
Jaison Thomas, Apr 28  
Sagith George, Apr 30  
Rency Roy, Apr 30



# Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*



Anju & Soby Oommen, April 9

Varghese, Ancy & Jijo John, April 9

Susan & Kenny Mathews, April 16

Christine & Viji Thomas, April 18

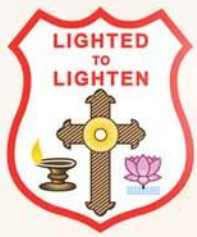
Sally & Thomas Philip, April 21

Renu & Mohan Konapozhil, April 23

Anu & Alex Samuel, April 25

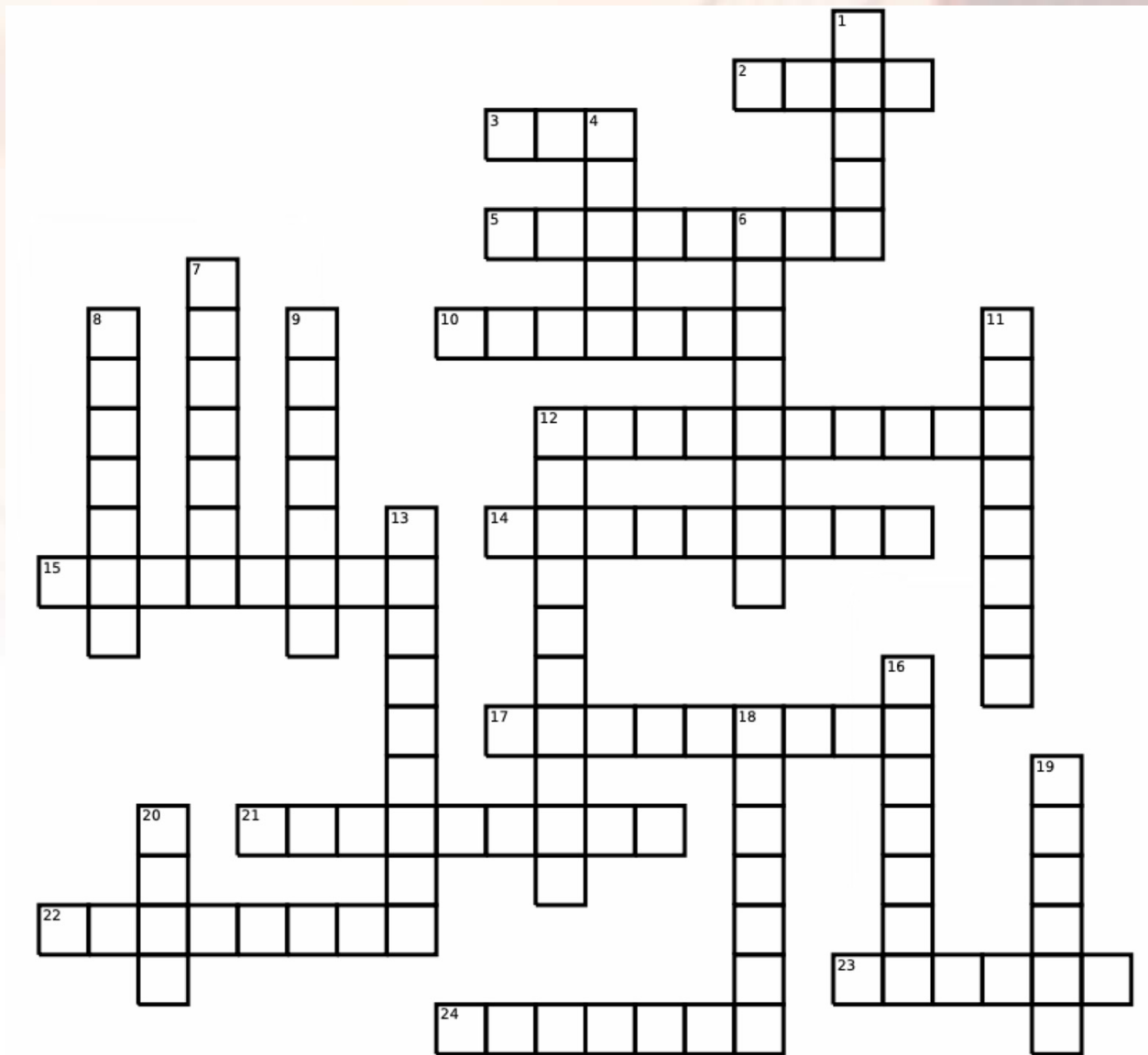
Juli & Santhosh Tharakan, April 26

Sally & Kurien Idiculla, April 28

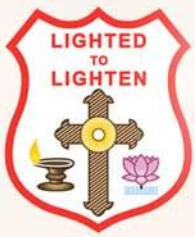


# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## Crossword Habakkuk 1-3, NIV







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## Across

### Across

2 Like a fisherman, Babylonians caught men like fish in their net and rejoiced and was \_\_\_.

3 Habakkuk was emotionally and intellectually wrestling with God, then he decided to wait patiently on the Lord to see what answer \_\_\_ to give to his complaints. (Ex.3:14-15)

5 "The sovereign Lord is my \_\_\_; He makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to go on the heights"

10 Having received the answer that \_\_\_ would be destroyed, Habakkuk understood that the sovereign God was using this nation to discipline Israel.

12 Babylonians made \_\_\_ and burned incense to their "nets", that is their military strength.

14 Habakkuk's second question to the Lord: "Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more \_\_\_ than themselves?"

15 Habakkuk's first question to the Lord is, "Why do you \_\_\_ wrong among the people of Judah?" How long must he call for help about the violence, destruction, and injustice?

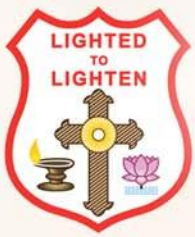
17 The second assurance of God in Hab.2: Though the world is filled with violence and injustice, one day the earth will be filled with the \_\_\_ of the glory of the Lord.

21 "The revelation awaits an \_\_\_ time. It speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay."

22 The leopards, wolves, and \_\_\_ are the three animals that God used to compare Babylonians' army strength.

23 In response to Habakkuk's second question, God replied to him "Write down the revelation (what will happen to Babylon) on tablets so that a \_\_\_ may run with it. (spread the message)

24 In Habakkuk 1:8 & 14-15, Babylonians are compared to \_\_\_ and fishermen. Jer. 16:16



# Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

## Down

1 Babylonians were puffed up and not righteous. The first assurance of God in Hab.2: "The righteous will live by his \_\_\_." The key verse of this book is quoted in Rom. 1:17; Gal.3:11; Heb.10:38

4 Knowledge of the Lord and His deeds filled Habakkuk with awe. He asked the Lord to renew the nation and in wrath remember \_\_\_.

6 The Lord answered Habakkuk's cries, "I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe even if you were told. I am raising up the ruthless Babylonians against His people". Apostle Paul quoted the same verse in Acts 13:41 to the unbelieving Jews because they rejected the word of God, he would turn to the \_\_\_ for their salvation.

7 In Hab. 3:3-15, Habakkuk recalled the omnipotence of God that led the Israelites out of Egypt through the wilderness into Canaan. His glory covered the heavens and His splendor was like the \_\_\_.

8 At the command of Joshua, Sun stood still over Gibeon and the moon over the valley of \_\_\_.

9 Habakkuk said, "we will not die". Probably he was thinking of the covenant that God made with \_\_\_. "I will make you into a great nation"

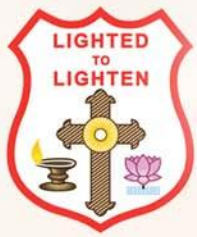
11 Habakkuk (621 - 609 B.C) was the last minor prophet to the Southern Kingdom before the Babylonian captivity (pre-exilic) in 606 B.C, just as Micah was the last prophet to the Northern Kingdom before the \_\_\_ captivity in 721 B.C.

12 Habakkuk began this book with a complaint to the Lord and after he received the revelation from God, he ends it with a song. \_\_\_ and Selah are musical terms.

13 Hab. 2:6-20 talks about God's judgment to Babylon (Dan.5:30) and the woes. Woe to him who piles up stolen goods and makes himself wealthy by extortion; woe to him

who builds his realm by unjust gain; woe to him who builds a city with bloodshed; woe to him who gives drink to his \_\_\_ till they are drunk; woe to him who says to wood, 'Come to life

16 The secret of triumphant living: "Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food .. yet I will \_\_\_ in the Lord". Phil.4:4



# Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*

18 Babylonians were a feared and dreaded people. Deut. 28:47-48. Because the Israelites didn't serve the Lord joyfully in the time of their prosperity, they will serve the \_\_\_ the Lord sends against them.

19 The third assurance of God in Hab.3: Empires may rise and fall, but the Lord is in His holy \_\_\_, let all the earth be silent before Him. He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

20 As for Babylonians, their god is their own strength (Dan.4:30). In his dilemma, Habakkuk acknowledged the nature of God, which are everlasting and \_\_\_.

