

Mar Thoma Church
of San Francisco

MTCSSF Newsletter

November 2023

From the Vicar's Desk



Dearly beloved in Christ,

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

"I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation..." Philippians 4:11-12.

I was delighted to find a spider web suspended outside our house. On a foggy morning, large drops of dew dangle like crystal beads from a spider web. What could be more beautiful?

A sense of wonder at the small things! How is that necessary in the consumerism, technology, and mass media-dominated world of today?

It's easy to get sucked into the world's way and to miss the many little blessings God scatters each day for us.

Two things that steal our sense of wonder:

—**Comparing ourselves with others** who seem to have more of what we want—more, more success...

—**A feeling of entitlement**—we deserve more than we're getting. After all, we have worked very hard and given so much.

Paul could have gone that route. He had worked day and night to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. He had sacrificed everything: home, family, career, comfort, even a wage. Yet, he was in prison while others were free to preach.

What was his response? "I have learned the secret of being content." (Philippians 4:11)

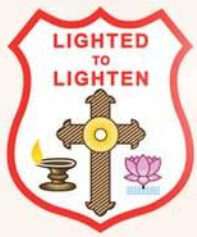
What was his secret? I think I know: a healthy sense of amazement at everything that God is able to accomplish through and for you. Every tiny miracle He sprinkles throughout your day, like a spider web outside your home.

The dates of our parish convention are November 10, 11, and 12. For the glory of God, let us gather on this gospel feast and be restored.

May God continue to bless you all.

In His service

Sajiachen



Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

Secretary's Note



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Praise the Lord for his presence, blessings and the guidance we received throughout our Worship services.

I appreciate the joy and comfort you gave me in the past month. I appreciate you encircling me with your presence and peace, giving me another month to start fresh, thanks to your mercy and grace.

October was an event filled month. We observed Edavaka Mission Sunday, Yuvajana Sakhyam Sunday, Youth Fellowship Sunday, and Family Sunday during this month. Thank you to all leaders of these organizations for taking the lead in conducting the special services and service assists. Thank you all parishioners for actively participating in the Harvest Festival and One Day Income offertory, which are the two most important sources of Church Income. I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for your active participation and financial support.

Remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (*Acts 20: 35*)

Looking forward to the Parish Convention to be held on Nov 10 - 12. The convention speaker Rev. Prince Varughese Madathileth, a PhD candidate in Practical Theology at Princeton University, is familiar to most of our parishioners as he was the guest speaker of our 2018 Family Retreat.

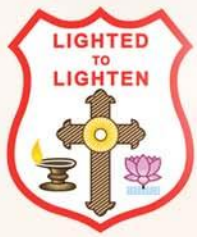
Lord, we ask for your wisdom, for your strength, and power to be constantly present with us during the coming days.

Requesting your continued prayers and support,

With Prayerful Regards,

Philip Roy,

Secretary, MTCSF



Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

Worship Schedule

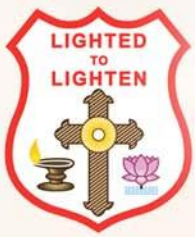
	Time	Service	Celebrant(s)
Nov 5	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Mal) Beginning with Praise & Worship World Sunday School Day	Rev. Saji Thomas
Nov 12	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Mal) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Prince Varughese Madathileth
Nov 19	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (English) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas
Nov 26	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (English) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas

Sunday School

Sunday School : 09:00 AM

Edavaka Mission Bible Study

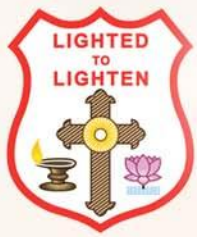
Bible Study: 09:15 AM



Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*

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

- Friday , Nov 3
 - Tri-Valley area prayer meeting at 8 PM at the Residence of Rekha & Shoby Cherian
- Saturday, Nov 4,
 - Edavaka Mission fasting prayer (Canceled)
- Friday, Nov 10,
 - Parish Convention 1st Day at 7.30 PM
- Saturday, Nov 11,
 - MTCSF Youth session at 3.30 PM
 - Parish Convention 2nd Day at 6.30 PM
- Sunday, Nov 12,
 - Parish Convention Concluding Session following Holy Communion Service
- Saturday, Nov 18,
 - Choir Fellowship at Church at 11 AM
 - Fremont, Central Valley, San Francisco & South Bay area combined Prayer at 6 PM via zoom
- Sunday, Nov 19,
 - Sevika Sanghom Sandwich making for Homeless at Church after ASR
- Tuesday, Nov 28,
 - Senior Fellowship Prayer meeting at 6.30 PM via zoom
- Saturday, Nov 25,
 - Sevika Sanghom Cottage Prayer at 11 AM via zoom
- Sunday, Nov 26,
 - Sevika Sanghom Intercessory Prayer at Church after ASR
- Tuesday, Nov 28,
 - Senior Fellowship Prayer meeting at 6.30 PM via zoom



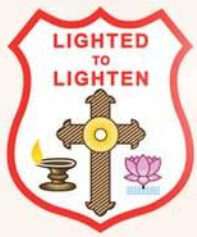
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Upcoming events, Nov & Dec

Sunday, Nov 5	World Sunday School Day
Sunday, Nov 19	Thanksgiving Celebration
Saturday, Dec 2	Christmas Carol Service Chief Guest Rev, Jinu John, Vicar MTCSV
Sunday, Dec 3	Christmas H2H Carol round begins

Recurring events

Sundays 9.15 AM	Edavaka Mission Bible Study
Monday's 9 PM	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 6:00 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 6:30 PM	Senior Fellowship Prayer meeting



Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Rijo Cherian, Nov 1

Krupa Jacob, Nov 1

Luke Muthalaly, Nov 1

Jomy John, Nov 3

Stanley Samuel, Nov 5

Reni Varghese, Nov 5

Jubin Jose, Nov 7

Jibu George, Nov 8

Jaden Viji, Nov 8

Biju Abraham, Nov 9

Albert Binu, Nov 9

Raichal Roy, Nov 10

David Sam, Nov 10

Annamma Thomas, Nov 10

Joel Varughese, Nov 10

Aniamma Cherian, Nov 11

Manju Panicker, Nov 11

Roy Thomas, Nov 12

Shawn Jacob, Nov 13

Hannah Mathews, Nov 15

Nikhil Roy, Nov 15

Shiju Thomas, Nov 15

Joshua Jacob, Nov 16

Ayden Philip, Nov 16

Jeremy Varughese, Nov 16

Eva Vurghese, Nov 16

Rhea Vurghese, Nov 16

Roy Chacko, Nov 17

Angeline Roy, Nov 17

Priya Samuel, Nov 17

Anu Samuel, Nov 18

Brad Varghese, Nov 18

Bella Feby, Nov 19

Anaya Jacob, Nov 19

John K. Mathews, Nov 20

Cherian Philip, Nov 20

Mirelle George, Nov 21

Mathew Jacob, Nov 21

Anitha Paul, Nov 21

Albin Shabu, Nov 21

Leena Isaac, Nov 22

Ian Jacob, Nov 22

Jyotika Abraham, Nov 23

Erin Johnson, Nov 23

Janessa Varghese, Nov 24

Sam George, Nov 25

Leena Jacob, Nov 25

Philip Roy, Nov 26

Sherly Issac, Nov 28

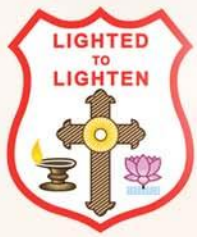
Aditi Abraham, Nov 29

Daniel Philip, Nov 29

Leelamma Varghese, Nov 29

Biju Varughese, Nov 29

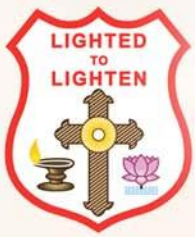
Emil Kurian, Nov 30



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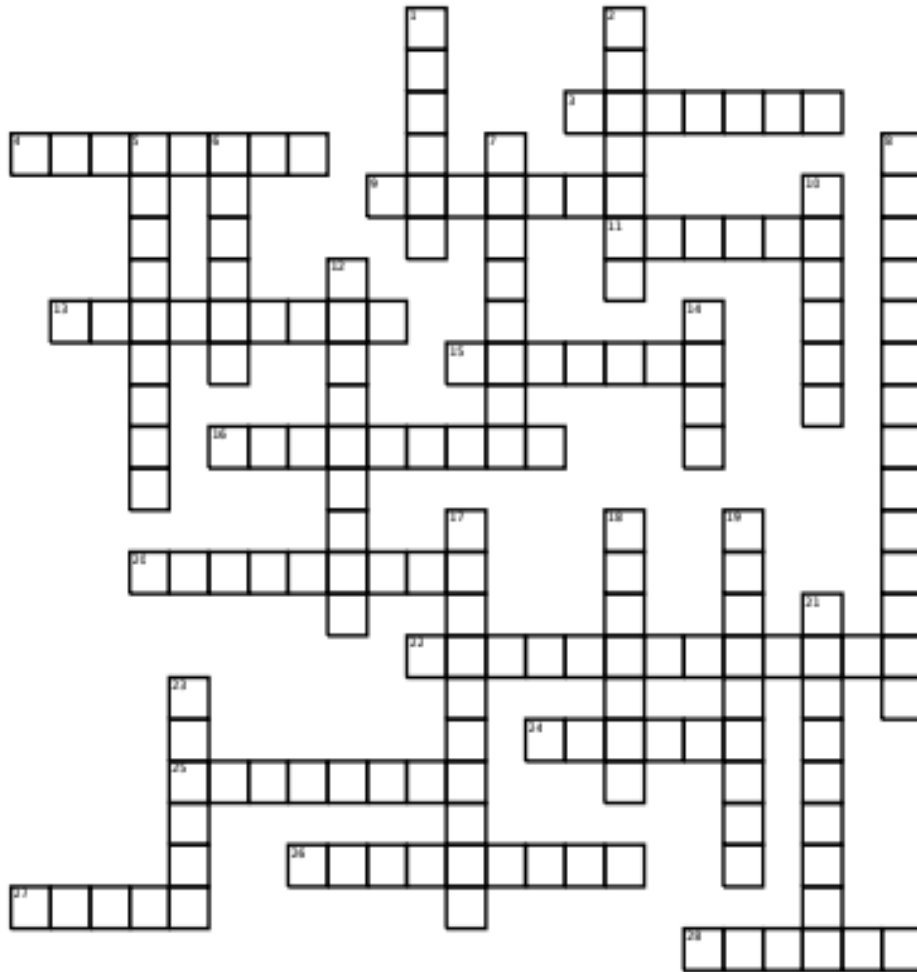


Leela & Mathew Thomas, Nov 1	Beena & Kuruvila Jacob, Nov 17
Silpa & Oommen Thomas, Nov 2	Ajni & John Chankaramangalam, Nov 18
Saumya & Aju Philip, Nov 2	Elizabeth & Joseph George, Nov 20
Susha & Kurien Varghese, Nov 5	Claudia & Ricky Roy, Nov 21
Beena & Bejoy Oomman, Nov 7	Maya & Vinu Mathews, Nov 22
Mary & Mathews George, Nov 11	Sherly & John Jacob, Nov 24
Santamma & Kaitara George, Nov 12	Raichal & Roy Philip, Nov 27
Mariamamma & Babu Ipe, Nov 13	Graceykutty & Abraham Kuruvila, Nov 28
Darly & Shabu Eapen, Nov 13	Sindhu & Jibu George, Nov 29



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Crossword Malachi 1-4 NIV

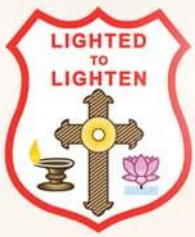


Across

3 The Lord wish the temple doors would be shut so that His people wouldn't light ___ fires on His altar.

4 The Lord told His people, "I am not pleased with you" We rather hear "well done, good and ___ servant " Mat.25:21

9 Last prophet of the Old Testament



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11 The Lord did not __ so the Israelites were not destroyed ..

13 The lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, and from his mouth, men should seek instruction because he is the __ of the Lord.

15 The Lord hates __. Gen.2:24, Mat.19:6

16 Bringing __ to the Lord Almighty is not a solution for those who break the covenant.

20 Israelites said that it is futile to serve God because the evildoers prosper and those who __ God escape.

22 In the second coming the Lord will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap and He will refine the Levites. Then men will bring offerings in ____.

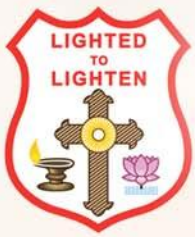
24 "Have we not all have one __?" Indicate the common brotherhood in the family of God.

25 The Lord was not accepting their offerings because they had broken the marriage __ Israelite men were divorcing their wives to marry pagan women.

26 Giving in the New Covenant: Does not mention a specific amount to be given. But according to 1 Cor.16:2 and 2 Cor. 9:6-7, we are to give regularly, sacrificially as the Lord has prospered us, not reluctantly or under __, in harmony with the principle of grace. for God loves a cheerful giver.

27 God __ Jacob, but hated Esau. [preference instead of abhorrence]. Gen 25:23. Even before they were born the sovereign God chose to bless Jacob. (Is.46:10) The Mystery of God's election is difficult, for our understanding is limited. Since God's election is not based on human effort, their disobedience can not nullify the elective purpose of God (Rom.9:10-16). Eph.1:4. His will is rooted in grace. The righteous God will reflect the free will of men.

28 Israelites robbed God in __ and offerings. Levites, widows, orphans, aliens, etc..depended on the tithes for their survival, and withholding it would hurt them and affect priestly services Deut.12:5-18



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Down

1 Malachi ends the book by pointing to the future. The Lord will send the prophet ___ before the great and dreadful day of the Lord to turn their hearts to God.

2 Malachi's writing style is different, which is a confrontational style (Didactic Dialectic) from other writing prophets. It has 3 elements: assertion, questioning, and responses. Ex: You have wearied the Lord with your words. How have we wearied him? By saying, "All who do evil are good in the eyes of the Lord" or "Where is the God of ___?"

5 A scroll of remembrance was written concerning those who feared the Lord and honored His name, His ___ possession.

6 "For I am a great king and my name is to be ___ among the nations.'

7 Judah had desecrated the sanctuary the Lord loves by ___ the daughter of a foreign god.

8 The messenger, who came to prepare the way for the Lord.

10 The seven questions addressed in this book are: "How have You loved us", "How have we shown contempt for your name?", "How have we defiled You?", "How have we wearied thee?", "How are we to ___?", "how do we rob You?", "What have we said against You?"

12 Malachi means "my ___"

14 Esau's mountain. Gen. 36:8

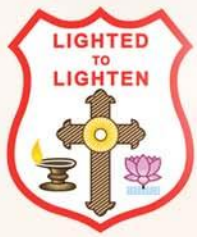
17 The material blessings for obeying the Mosaic Law regarding the tithe: There may be food in His house, abundant blessings will be poured out so that there won't be enough room for it, pests will be prevented from devouring the crops, and the vines will not cast their fruits prematurely. Their land would be a ___ land. Lev.27:30-33

18 When ___ sacrificed crippled or diseased animals, it showed contempt for His name. They have not set their heart to honor Him. Lev.22:19-20. We need to give our best to the Lord!!

19 In a marriage relationship, God is seeking godly ___.

21 Haggai, ___, and Malachi were the three post-exilic writing prophets

23 Even though the Edomites would rebuild the land that was crushed, the Lord would demolish it and it will be called the ___ land.



Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

Parish Convention Nov 10, 11 and 12

 **Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco Bay Area**
418 Junction Ave, Livermore, CA 94551

PLEASE PRAY & PARTICIPATE

PARISH CONVENTION 2023

NOV 10 Friday 7:30 PM	NOV 11 Saturday 6:30 PM	NOV 12 Sunday 10:00 AM (After Service)
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Main Speaker

Rev. Prince Varughese Madathileth
(Princeton Theological Seminary, NJ)

Youth Session:
Nov 11, Saturday, 3:30 - 5:30 PM

Divine Choreography in Chaos (Psalm 37:23-24)

Youth Session Theme- Crossroads: What to do when you don't know what to do

