



Mar Thoma Church
of San Francisco

MTCSF Newsletter

March 2024

From the Vicar's Desk



Dearly beloved in Christ,

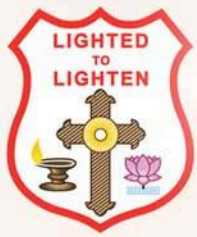
Every year, March is a month I look forward to. There are two aspects of March that I find meaningful. This month marks a change from the chilly winter weather to the promise of warmer days to come. This is the time of year when we observe daylight savings time, which begins on March 10th, by moving our clocks forward by one hour. Additionally, this year's first day of spring is March 19. The days get a little longer as the time changes, bringing with it more sunlight and daylight. Spring is also a wonderful time of year since it brings with it some nice changes to the natural world, such as the arrival of birds from their southern wintering grounds, the emergence of tree buds, and the growth of a variety of plants. March gives us hope of warmer weather to come.

This year we will celebrate the 40th Friday Holy Communion Service (Eng.) at 7:30 pm on Friday, March 22nd, Palm Sunday Holy Communion Service (Mal.) on March 24th, Sandhya Namaskaram (Mal.) on Monday, March 25th, Tuesday, March 26th, Wednesday, March 27th at 7:30 pm, Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service (Eng.) on March 28th at 7:30 pm, Good Friday Service on Friday, March 29th at 9 am, and Easter Sunday Holy Communion Service (Eng.) on March 31st at 7 am.

For those of us who practice faith, these are truly unique days. These days are fundamental to our beliefs; thus, we eagerly anticipate celebrating them. We have a living hope in our redemption, sanctification, a resurrected body, and eternal life with Him because of the events of these days that teach us about Jesus' death and resurrection. Let's celebrate like never before as these days of celebration draw near and remember what Jesus accomplished to deliver us from our sins and restore our relationship with God, our heavenly Father.

God Bless you all.

Sajiachen



Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

Secretary's Note



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

After two wonderful years as your Parish Secretary, I will be stepping down from the position by the middle of the month with mixed emotions. It has been a privilege to serve and share the Journey of faith with you during this time. Praise the Lord for his presence, blessings, and the guidance I received throughout my tenure. I am grateful for the joy and comfort the Lord has given me during these days. O Lord our God, for you have created joy and gladness, pleasure and delight, love, peace and fellowship. Thank you, Lord, for the blessings you have bestowed on my and my family's life.

Brothers and Sisters I am confident that I am leaving my duties with the right person. Our new Parish Secretary Mrs. Maya Mathews is a teacher by profession, an active participant in Church activities and long term leader in Sevika sanghom and Sunday School. It is my immense pleasure in congratulating her for taking the responsibility and volunteering her time. I request your continued cooperation and support for Mrs. Maya in fulfillment of this task. I wish you all the best and may God's blessings be showered upon you always.

I feel so lucky to have worked with such a talented group of people. I've learned and grown so much from each of them. I would like to thank Rev. Dennis Abraham Achen and Rev. Saji Thomas Achen whose support and spiritual guidance has been invaluable over the years. Most of all I would like to thank the members of our Church for their support and cooperation, they were my strength and courage.

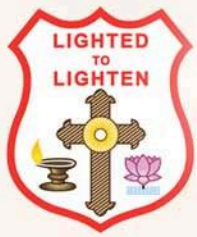
As the 2023 Parish Committee and all organization committees prepare their reports and accounts for approval and to handover their duties to the 2024 committee, I request your wholehearted cooperation during this transition. Lord, we ask for your wisdom, your strength, and power to be constantly present 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)
Mar 3	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Mal) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Geevarghese Kochummen
Mar 10	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Mal) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas
Mar 17	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Eng) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas
Mar 24	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Eng) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas
Mar 31	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Eng) Beginning with Praise & Worship	Rev. Saji Thomas

Sunday School

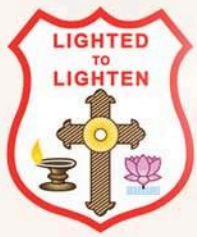
Sunday School : 09:00 AM

Edavaka Mission Bible Study

Bible Study: 09:15 AM

Passion Week Services

- Friday, Mar 22nd** : 40th Day Friday Holy Qurbana Service (Eng) at 7.30 PM
Sunday, Mar 24th : Hosanna Holy Qurbana Service (Mal) at 10 AM
Monday, Mar 25th : Sandhya Namaskaram (Mal) at 7.30 PM
Tuesday, Mar 26th : Sandhya Namaskaram (Mal) at 7.30 PM
Wednesday, Mar 27 : Sandhya Namaskaram (Mal) at 7.30 PM
Thursday, Mar 28th : Maundy Thursday Holy Qurbana (Eng) at 7.30 PM
Friday, March 29th : Good Friday Service, 1st & 2nd part (Mal) 3rd Part (Eng) at 9 AM
Sunday, March 31st : Easter Holy Qurbana Service (Eng) at 7 AM



Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

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

Recurring events

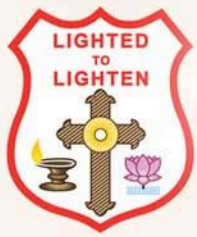
Sundays 9.15 AM	Edavaka Mission Bible Study
Tuesdays 9 PM	Youth Fellowship Prayer call
Wednesdays 8.00 PM	Western Regional Edavaka Mission meeting Via Zoom
1st Monday 5:30 PM	Diocesan Edavaka Mission prayer meeting Via Zoom
1st Thursday 8 PM	Western Regional Sevika Sangham meeting Via Zoom
1st Friday 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

03/01	Vipul Thomas	03/19	Rebekah George
03/03	Kristal Kurien	03/19	Ansu Ninan
03/03	Gia Mathew	03/19	Jinsu Varghese
03/04	Susan John	03/19	Justin Varughese
03/05	Jocelyn George	03/20	Eva Thomas
03/05	Sanil Shiju	03/21	Tonny Johnson
03/05	Jerrin Thomas	03/21	Natania Soby
03/06	Rhea Cherian	03/21	Vipin Thomas
03/06	Shanu Thomas	03/22	Jess Mathai
03/06	Valsamma Thomas	03/23	Isabelle Jacob
03/08	Rhea Biju	03/23	Ryan Reuben
03/11	Jordan Mathew	03/24	Harsha Alexander
03/12	Liju John	03/25	Renu Mathews
03/12	Kevin Stanley	03/25	Jonathan Roy
03/13	Pratheep George	03/26	Alvin John
03/13	Reuben Jacob	03/26	Susan Mathew
03/13	Saramma Philip	03/26	Mary Verghese
03/14	Emma Roy	03/27	Cherian Philip
03/14	Ricky Roy	03/28	Joshua Thomas
03/15	Jayden Varughese	03/29	Saju Joseph
03/16	Sheila Chandy	03/30	Noah George
03/16	Sunu Easow	03/30	Joel Jacob
03/17	Jonah Jacob	03/30	Jaya Kurian
03/18	Emma Jacob	03/30	Ponnamma Thomas
03/18	Issac Mathews	03/30	Neha Varughese
03/18	John Mathews	03/31	Daisy Mathew
03/18	Shante Thomas	03/31	Melbin Mathew
03/18	Christine Viji		

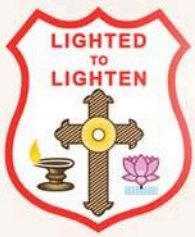


Mar Thoma Church *of San Francisco*



03/04 Grace & Sam George

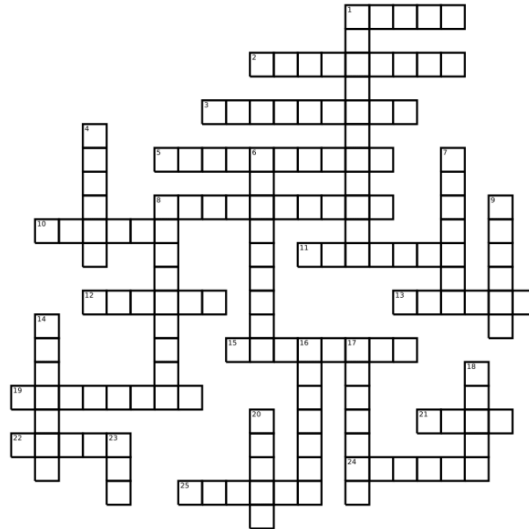




Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco

Crossword

Mt.4:1-16, Mk. 1:12-13, Lk. 4:1-13, Jn.1:19 - 2:25



Across

- 1 Jesus revealed His glory at the wedding in Cana and His disciples put their _____ in Him.
- 2 After the wedding in Cana, leaving Nazareth, Jesus went down to _____ with His family.
- 3 "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false"
- 5 The temple that was built under the leadership of _____ after the Babylon exile, was made more glorious than Solomon's temple by Herod. It took 46 years to complete it.
- 8 Jesus' first temple cleansing: Jesus drove all men selling animals, men sitting at the table exchanging money, scattered the money changers' coins, and _____ their tables.
- 10 On Jesus' way to Galilee, He found _____ and asked him to follow Him.
- 11 The first thing that Andrew did after he met Jesus was to tell his brother that he found the _____ and he brought him to Jesus.
- 12 _____ was one of the two disciples of John the Baptist, who followed Jesus and spent a day with Him. The other disciple may be John.
- 13 Jesus called Simon _____, which translates as "Peter", a "stone".
- 15 in John 1, Jesus was addressed by different names: Word, Light, One and Only Begotten who came from the Father, Jesus Christ, God the One and Only who is at the Father's side, Lamb of God, a man, Son of God, Rabbi, Messiah, Jesus of _____, Son of Joseph, King of Israel, Son of Man.
- 19 Jesus went to Jerusalem for the _____ festival. This was the first _____ after His baptism.
- 21 Jesus resisted the temptations by using the _____ of God. Satan has no hold on Jesus. He had no sin and He could not sin. 2 Cor. 5:21. The first Adam was tempted the same way (lust of the flesh, lust of the eye, pride of life) but he fell into the temptation.
- 22 _____ and His disciples were invited to the wedding in Cana in Galilee. Mary informed Jesus that they had run out of wine. The presence of Jesus doesn't guarantee the absence of problems but He helps us to overcome or strengthens us to go through it.
- 24 The role of Heaven's angels in Jesus' ministry: They announced His birth, ministered to Him in the wilderness, strengthened Him in Gethsemane, rolled away the tombstone, were present at His ascension, announced His resurrection, and they will accompany Him on His coming.
- 25 Jesus told Nathaniel that he shall see greater things. "You shall see heaven open and the _____ of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man".

Down

- 1 The significance of the first miracle: The abundance of wine symbolizes the blood Jesus shed for the _____ of sins of many.
- 4 John the Baptist recognized Jesus as the Messiah when the _____ in the form of a dove descended upon Him.
- 6 Philip, Peter, and Andrew were from the town of _____.
- 7 Jesus was tempted by Satan to change stones to bread, to jump off the temple thus the angels would lift Him, and to _____ Satan to receive the kingdoms of this world and their glory.
- 8 When the devil had finished tempting Jesus, he left Him until an _____ time.
- 9 When the priests inquired of who John was he confessed that he was not Christ, _____, or prophet.
- 14 "Everyone serves choice wine first and then the _____ wine after the guests have had too much to drink, but you have saved the best till now." The ordinary water changed into extraordinary wine when the servants obeyed Jesus..
- 16 Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil for 40 days and nights without eating. He was with the wild _____ and angels attended Him.
- 17 Many believed in Jesus after they saw the miraculous sign but Jesus would not _____ himself to them because He knew what is in a man.
- 18 Before Jesus began the public ministry, John testified about Him, "Look, the lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." Centuries before Isaac had asked, "Where is the lamb for burnt offering?"
- 20 Jews demanded a sign of His authority to cleanse the temple. Jesus answered, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in _____ days". Jesus' prediction about His death and resurrection.
- 23 Jesus asked the servants to fill _____ jars (holds 20 to 30 G) with water and take it to the master of the banquet.