

# THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS FARMERS BRANCH

## CHURCH

11550 LUNA ROAD  
DALLAS, TX 75234  
TEL: (972) 830.9300



## PARSONAGE

3621 CANYON OAKS  
CARROLLTON, TX 75007  
TEL: (972) 939.0699

Items to be included in the lifestimes should be submitted to the Secretary or Joint Secretary by the 3rd Sunday of each month. If information is incorrectly printed, please contact the Vicar and Secretary to make the corrections. Please feel free to contact the Vicar or Secretary with any questions or comments. Your feedback is appreciated.

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# MAR THOMA LIFE TIMES

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS, FB

FEBRUARY 2011

## God is Love

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

And now these three remain:  
faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is **love**.



## The Mar Thoma Church of Dallas Farmers Branch

11550 Luna Road, Dallas, TX 75234  
972.830.9300  
www.mtcdallasfb.org

# Worship



# Schedule



<p><b>February 6</b> <i>Jesus the Healer- Medical Mission Sunday</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>IRVING SOUTH</b></p>	<p>9:00 AM: Sunday School 9:15 AM: Adult Bible Study 10:15 AM: Holy Qurbana <b>(MALAYALAM)</b></p> 	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> 2 Kings 5:1-14 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Act 3:1-10 <b>Epistle:</b> Jam. 5:13-18 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Mark 7: 31-37</p>
<p><b>February 13</b> <i>Beginning of 116th Maramon Convention</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>PLANO</b></p>	<p>9:00 AM: Sunday School 9:15 AM: Adult Bible Study 10.15 AM: Holy Qurbana <b>(ENGLISH)</b></p>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Gen 4:1-15 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Jam. 1:19-27 <b>Epistle:</b> Rom 15:1-9 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Math 5:43-48</p>
<p><b>February 20</b> <i>God's pain about the People to be saved</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>CARROLLTON EAST</b></p>	<p>9:00 AM: Sunday School 9:15 AM: Adult Bible Study 10:15 AM: Holy Qurbana <b>(MALAYALAM)</b></p>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Isa 44:21-28 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Acts 20:17-28 <b>Epistle:</b> 2 Cor 2:12-18 <b>Gospel:</b> Mat. 9:9-13</p>
<p><b>February 27</b> <i>God's redeeming Love</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>CARRLTN. NORTH</b></p>	<p>9:00 AM: Sunday School 9:30 AM: Holy Qurbana <b>(ENGLISH)</b></p> <p>PARISH GENERALBODY MEETING</p>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Jer 18:1-10 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Phile. 8-22 <b>Epistle:</b> Eph 2:1-10 <b>Gospel:</b> St. John 3:16-21</p>
<p><b>March 6</b> <i>Beginning of Great Lent</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>CARRLTN. WEST</b></p>	<p>9:00 AM: Sunday School 9:15 AM: Adult Bible Study 10:15 AM: Holy Qurbana <b>(MALAYALAM)</b></p>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Isa 58:1-10 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> 2 Cor 5:11-21 <b>Epistle:</b> Col 3:1-11 <b>Gospel:</b> St. John 2:1-11</p>

# FEBRUARY PRAYER MEETING SCHEDULE

Area	Date	Residence of	Time
Carrollton East	02-05	Paul Varghese	6:30
	02-12	Mathai Panachakunnel	6:30
	02-20(Sun)	Bijili George	6:30
	02-26	John Thomas	6.30
Carrollton North	02-05	TBD	6:30
	02-13(Sun)	P T Mathew	6:30
	02-20(Sun)	John K Varghese	6:30
	02-26	Thomas V. Thomas	6.30
Carrollton West	02-05	Philip Thomas	6:30
	02-12	P.V. Thomas	6:30
	02-19	John Philipose	6:30
	02-26	Dr. Cherian Samuel	6.30
Coppell	02-06	Medical Mission Sunday	
	02-12	TBD	6:30
	02-19	Election Day	
	02-26	TBD	6.30
Dallas/Mesquite	02-06(Sun)	Sajan K Mathew	6:30
	02-12	Varghese K Varghese	6:30
	02-19	House Visit	5:30
	02-26	George Thomas	6.30
Fort Worth & Mid Cities	02-05	Tom Philip	6:00
	02-12	Zachariah Mathew	6:00
	02-19	Abey Mathew	6:00
	02-26	TBD	6.30
Garland	02-05	Chacko Mani	7:00
	02-12	Sunil M Varghese	7:00
	02-19	Cherian Alexander	7:00
	02-26	Mathew Pappy	7.00
Irving North	02-05	TBD	6:30
	02-12	Koshy T George	6:30
	02-19	Election Day	6:30
	02-27(Sun)	Joji George	6.30
Irving South	02-05	Eipe Skariah	7:00
	02-12	TBD	6:30
	02-19	House Visit	6:00
	02-26	George Varghese	7.00
Plano	02-05	Mathew Chanda Pillai	6:30
	02-12	Aby George	6:30
	02-19	Sunny Kovoor	6:30
	02-26	TBD	6.30

## Message from Jaisen Achen



**What keeps us from being spiritually fit? Do you ever feel like you lost direction? Do you know where you are going?**

God requires that we as Christians must "...throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (Heb.12:1).

Imagine you only ate food once a week?! How would that affect your health? Suppose an athlete only practiced for a couple of hours once a week? How would that affect his game?

It is the same way in our Christian life! If we are just training one day a week, it is very difficult for us to have the endurance to finish the race. As a Christian, Christ calls us to be "spiritually fit" athletes for Him.

First, the Christian athlete must have **clear vision of finish line**. It is as St. Paul said, "...I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing". (2Tim.4:7-8)

Secondly, to be a spiritual athlete one must have **discipline and perseverance**. We must constantly be working towards our goal. Just as one can't expect to run a marathon a week after training, spiritual athleticism involves patience and commitment. It involves denying yourself certain things you may want because they are not good for your training. There are constant hurdles that one will come across. They may seem insignificant at the time like missing church one Sunday, not taking time for reading the Bible, or not praying because you are too tired, not going to prayer meetings, etc. But when you add them up, they are all designed to keep you from training... to keep you from progressing toward your spiritual goal.

So, remember, you must be a Christian athlete and **train** in this way:

**Prayer**, is a unique experience where we confess our sins, dialogue and communion with him and God strengthens us through conversation and relationship with Him.

**Worship**, all our life and not just on certain days alone.

**Reading the Bible**, everyday as spiritual food and source of strength and endurance.

**Fasting**, denying the physical desires for the sake of the spiritual. "Man does not live by bread alone but, by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (Mt.4:4).

**Mission**, sharing the blessings God has given us with others so that we may be a blessing to all people. May God strengthen us all to be spiritual athletes for Him and as the faithful before



If you wish to donate Altar Flowers, please contact secretary or send an email to [secretarymtcfb@yahoo.com](mailto:secretarymtcfb@yahoo.com)

Altar Flower  
Dedication

## Vicar's Message



Rising gasoline costs, grocery prices and unemployment affect nearly everyone these days. People of all different walks of life are feeling the strain of our economy. In biblical times, the prophet Isaiah had a wonderful plan for dealing with the difficulties of life. He wrote, 'In repentance and rest you shall be saved, in quietness and trust is your strength?' (Isa.30:15)

But at the time when more work seems to be the solution to our problems, it's hard to think about resting. Can this advice help us today? *Certainly*. Rest is vital for spiritual renewal and growth. When the stress of our life tears at us, we can rest in the fact that God is God and there is no one like Him. He is infinite in wisdom and power. When problem arise and we cannot see clearly, the one thing that quickly restore a sense of peace is the realization that God is in control. No matter how uncertain life may appear, this truth provides a tremendous sense of strength and stability.

The Psalmist writes, "The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His sovereignty rules over all" (Ps.103:19) News of foreclosures, layoffs, and natural disasters seems to indicate the opposite-----that the Lord is not aware of our plight. But Scripture tells us otherwise. He knows what it will take to accomplish His purpose. Sometimes the greatest disappointment or tragedy can be the catalyst God uses for blessing and renewing hope----especially if the trial reveals a lack of faith on our part. While we cannot see the end of our hardship, the Lord can as He is Alpha and Omega. And He works all things together for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose (Rom.8:28)

Yes, Isaiah's words are as true today as they were when he wrote them: "The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tires... He gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might He increases power" (Isa,40:28-29) Remember, whatever you are facing, He will not abandon you but will bring hope and restoration as you trust Him. Let's move and face this new year with His power and wisdom.

Minoyatchen



## Our Church Mortgage Loan is Paid in Full By February 2011

**Finishing what we started. Preparing for our future.**

# PAID IN FULL

**Let no debt remain outstanding, except  
the continuing debt to love one another, for  
whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.  
(Romans 13:8)**

### MANDALAM AND ASSEMBLY ELECTION 2011—PROCEDURES (BALLOT)

- a) Election for one Mandalam Member for the term of 3 years
- b) Election of two Assembly Members for the term of 3 years
- c) Last date for Submitting the nomination in the nomination form is 6th Feb.2011 before 4 p.m.at 3621,Canyon Oaks, Carrollton ,TX 75007
- d) Scrutiny of nomination on 6th Feb.2011 Sunday at 5.30 p.m. at Church 11550,Luna Rd Dallas, Tx 75234 , candidates/proposer can be present at the time of scrutiny and last date of withdrawal 12th Feb on or before 5p.m..
- e) Declaration of the final names will be affixed on the notice board with Vicar's sign and announced on 13th Feb.2011 Sunday.....Sample copy of the ballot paper will be shown
- f) Election of both ( Assembly &Mandalam) or any one needed will be conducted on 19th Feb 2011 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. with a break of one hour of 1.30.p.m. - 2.30 pm. based on the 2010 published edavaka sangha list and counting of votes thereafter at church. The election will be conducted in the church choir room.
- g) No solicitation allowed in the church building and no campaign during election in the church building.
- h) Prescribed form B(1)and B(2) ,B(3) B(4) AND b(5)ATTACHED. All nomination and rest of the declaration on the above mentioned prescribed form only. For prescribed form contact church office.



### CHURCH ORGANIZATION NEWS

# Yuvajana Sakhyam General Body Meeting on Feb 6th.

# Choir General Body on Feb 13th

# South West Centre A Yuvajana Sakyam meeting at MTCFB on Feb 12

# Yuvajana Sakhyam cottage meeting on 20th Feb.after Church

**Thomas Varghese & Sophy**  
6744 Verde # 212  
Irving  
TX 75039

IRVING NORTH  
Prayer Group

**Aji Jacob Rajan and Diana**  
4029 North O'Connor Rd  
Irving  
TX 75062

IRVING NORTH  
Prayer Group



## Condolences



## George Varghese Valliathannikal, 67 years old, cousin of Varghese Aringada (papa Varghese) & George Aringada of Fort Worth Mid city payer group passed away in India on Jan 07 2011.

## Rev. Father P.J. Philip , father's brother of Nirmala Philip of Plano prayer group passed away in Kerala.

## Mr. Thomas K Mathew, 69 years old, father of Smitha Mathew (Wife of Joji Mathew) Carrollton North Prayer group passed away on January 25th, 2011 in Kottayam, Kerala.

# Feb. 2011 Wedding Anniversaries



Date	Name	Prayer Group
1	Suresh Kuriakose & Aleena Kurien	Carrollton West
	Abraham & Mariamma Abraham	Irving North
	Bijili George & Anju George	Carrollton East
	George & Elizabeth Thomas	Irving South
2	Baby K Samuel & Achamma Baby	Carrollton East
3	Abraham & Marykutty Jose	Other Area
5	Thomas Philip & Mariamma Thaimuriyil	Irving North
	Mathew Chanda Pillai & Susan John	Plano
6	Srish & Reena Sawkar	Coppell
8	Mathew K S & Sosamma Skariah	Dallas / Mesquite
10	K M Mathew & Aleyamma Mathew	Fort Worth Mid Cities
11	Jacob Mathai & Lizy Jacob	Carrollton North
12	Abraham & Annamma John	Carrollton North
	Joseph P & Thresiamma Varughese	Irving South
	P T Mathew & Kunjamma Mathew	Carrollton North
13	Varughese K Varughese & Sheela Chacko	Dallas / Mesquite
16	O. C. Abraham & Manorama Abraham	Other Area
17	Varghese Kuzhuvilil & Rachel Varghese	Fort Worth Mid Cities
18	Varghese Titus & Mary Varghese	Irving South
19	Varghese T. & Elizabeth John	Coppell
21	Dr. Varghese P & Ramani Samuel	Other Area
	Sanjay J & Bindu Cherian	Coppell
22	Cherian & Lila Alexander	Garland
23	Regimon K & Elcey Ninan	Carrollton North
24	John & Rachel Thomas	Carrollton East
25	John & Jaya Joseph	Garland
	Thomas Mathew & Mathri Kunnel	Garland
27	Sunny Mathew Nirakathu & Rachel Sunny	Carrollton North
28	Mathew Pappy & Dr. Gigi Mathew	Garland

- ❖ Parish Mission meets every Wednesday at 6:30 pm at Church
- ❖ Fasting Prayer every Friday at 10:00 am at Parsonage
- ❖ Young women's bible study at church on every Wednesday at 6.30

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER IN FEBRUARY



### Medical Mission Sunday

on February 6th.



### Maramon Convention

The 116th Maramon Convention is scheduled to be held from February 13th to 20th



### MANDALAM AND ASSEMBLY ELECTION

DATE: 19th Feb 2011 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(Break one hour from 1.30.p.m. - 2.30 pm)

VENUE: Mar Thoma Church of Dallas FB



### ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Please get your copy of the 2010 Annual

Report when it is ready for distribution this month



CHURCH MEETINGS ARE BRILLIANT

### ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

DATE: Feb 27th, 2011

TIME: After the Worship Service.

# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS...2011



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Date	Name	Prayer Group
1	Twinkle Susan Toby	Carrollton West
	Sony Raju	Garland
	Neetha G Samuel	Carrollton West
	Susy Joseph	Other Area
	Molly Mathew	Coppell
2	Aleyamma George	Dallas / Mesquite
	Joel S Kovoov	Plano
3	Abey Mathew	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Susan Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
	Anu Mathew	Coppell
	Jacob Mammen	Plano
4	Aleyamma Varghese	Irving North
	Mini Abraham	Garland
	Jaison John	Carrollton West
5	Cecil Pokudiyil Cherian	Coppell
	Chacko Jacob	Coppell
6	Thomas K Mathews	Plano
	Deenamamma George	Carrollton North
7	Isabel K Tom	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	John Itticheria	Dallas / Mesquite
	Philip Thomas	Carrollton West
8	Babukutty C. Skaria	Irving South
	Stemmon V Charly	Carrollton East
	Aylen Pensu George	Plano
9	Ayden John	Plano
	Saramma Varughese	Irving South
	Mariamamma Philipose	Garland
	O. C. Abraham	Other Area
10	Reena Sawkar	Coppell
	Reeni Mathew	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	George Skariah	Carrollton East
11	Merlin John	Irving North
	Alexy Jacob Troy	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Mini Varghese	Carrollton North
	Jacob Chacko Varghese	Fort Worth Mid Cities
13	Sheela Mariam Chacko	Dallas / Mesquite
	Stanley Somar	Carrollton East
	Jaison Ninan	Carrollton North
14	Molly Thomas	Carrollton West
	Rohan G Varkey	Carrollton North
	Sujan George	Carrollton North
	Dr. Gigi Mathew	Garland
15	Jibin Mathew Abey	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Ponnachen K Thomas	Carrollton East
	Alexander Varghese	Coppell
	Biju K. Mathew	Coppell
16	Cyril Varughese	Irving South
	Sosamma Thomas	Coppell
	Rubin Philip	Coppell
	Nigil Thomas Thaimuriyil	Irving North
	Nivin Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
17	Kaitlynn Susan Idichandy	Garland
	Sara Chacko	Carrollton West
	Maher Adam Ismael	Coppell
	Suja Thomas	Garland
	Nissi A Chacko	Garland
18	Justin Joseph	Coppell
	Maher Esmail	Coppell
	Mary Oommen	Other Area
	Johan S Kovoov	Plano

# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS...2011

18	Bijo K Abraham	Dallas / Mesquite
	Jason Jacob	Dallas / Mesquite
	Alex K Chacko	Carrollton West
	Leyah Grace Philip	Irving North
	Sheena R Abraham	Coppell
19	Laila O Thomas	Carrollton North
	Zane Koshy Samuel	Irving North
	Jincy Sunny Mathew	Carrollton North
	Shaun C Alexander	Garland
20	Viji Thomas	Irving North
	Tania Sara Bijili	Carrollton East
21	Salina S George	Carrollton East
	Nathan Varghese	Carrollton North
	Mariamamma Thaimuriyil	Irving North
22	Sharon Abraham	Garland
	Ashwin V Alexander	Coppell
	Lejoy Mathew	Garland
	Libin Mathew Abey	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Susy Philip	Irving South
23	Raju George	Dallas / Mesquite
	Iype Chacko	Other Area
	Nisha Skariah	Irving South
	Wesley S. Mathews	Coppell
24	Sumitha R Cherian	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Sunoj J Mathew	Irving South
	Sumitha Rachel Cherian	Fort Worth Mid Cities
25	George Varghese	Coppell
	Noah J Chacko	Plano
25	Biji Chacko	Coppell
25	Ricky Abraham	Irving North
25	Oommen Varghese	Carrollton East
25	Liju John	Dallas / Mesquite
25	Lauren A. Thomas	Carrollton West
25	Sophia Ann Mathew	Carrollton North
28	Reena Abraham	Carrollton North
28	Christian Biju Varghese	Coppell
28	Thomas Mathew	Garland
28	Stephen C Mathew	Carrollton East
29	Dr. Sumna Kuruvilla	Other Area