

THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS FARMERS BRANCH

CHURCH

11550 LUNA ROAD
DALLAS, TX 75234
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PARSONAGE

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CARROLLTON, TX 75007
TEL: (972) 939.0699

Items to be included in the lifetimes should be submitted to the 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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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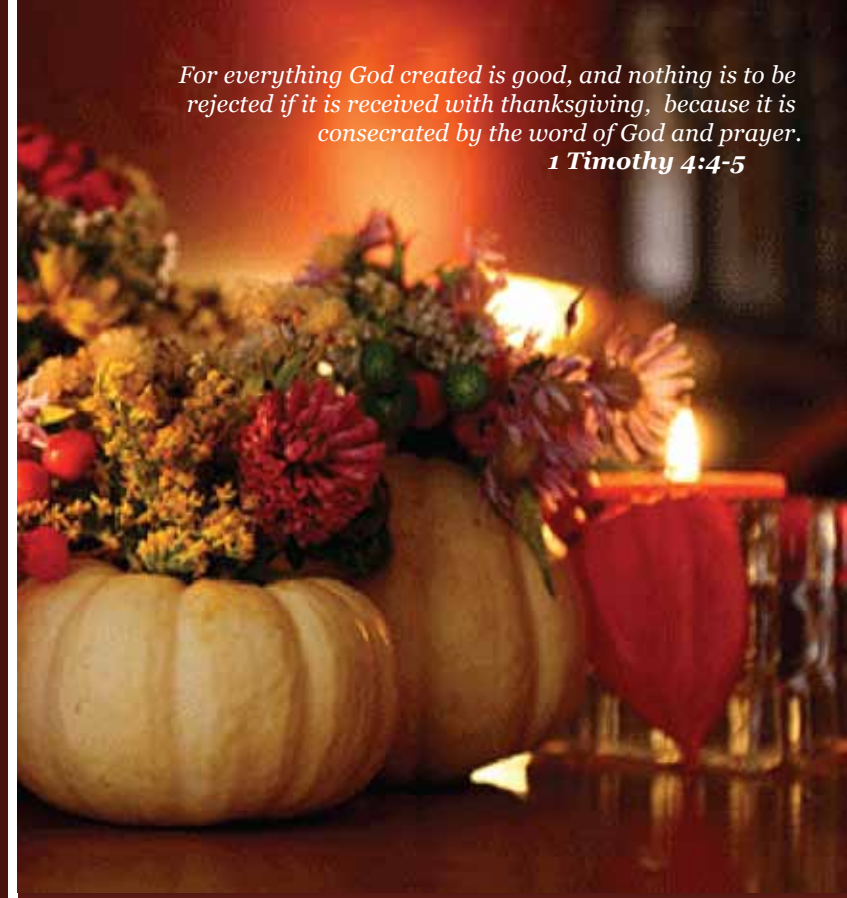


MAR THOMA LIFE TIMES

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS, FB

NOVEMBER 2011

For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.
1 Timothy 4:4-5



Happy Thanksgiving







The Mar Thoma Church of Dallas
Farmers Branch

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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



<p>Nov 6, 2011</p>  <p>Area: Coppell</p>	<p>9:00 AM: Sunday School 9:15 AM: Adult Bible Study 10:15 AM: Holy Qurbana (ENGLISH)</p> <p>WORLD SUNDAY SCHOOL DAY</p> 	<p>1st Lesson: Prov. 23: 15-26 2nd Lesson: Heb. 12: 1-13 Epistle: Eph. 6: 1- 4 Gospel: St. John 6: 1-14</p>
<p>Nov 13</p> <p><i>Festival of Unity of the communion Of the churches in India</i></p> <p>Area: Dallas/Mesquite</p>	<p>9:00 AM: Sunday School 9.15 AM: Adult Bible Study 10:15 AM: Holy Qurbana (ENGLISH)</p>	<p>1st Lesson: Eze. 37: 15-23 2nd Lesson: Eph 4: 1-16 Epistle: Acts 2: 43-47 Gospel: St. John 17: 17-24</p>
<p>Nov 20</p> <p><i>Annunciation of Zachgariah Hope to the World</i></p> <p>Area: FW & Mid Cities</p>	<p>9:00 AM: Sunday School 9.30 AM: Holy Qurbana (ENGLISH)</p> <p>PARISH GENERAL BODY MEETING</p>	<p>1st Lesson: Chro. 24: 1-19 2nd Lesson: Rev. 8: 1 - 8 Epistle: Heb. 5: 1-10 Gospel: Luke 1: 8-23</p>
<p>Nov 27</p> <p><i>Annunciation to Virgin Mary</i></p> <p>Area: Garland</p>	<p>9:00 AM: Sunday School 9:15 AM: Adult Bible Study 10.15 AM: Holy Qurbana (ENGLISH)</p> 	<p>1st Lesson: Zech. 2: 10-11 2nd Lesson: Eph 1: 3-14 Epistle: Gal 4: 21-31 Gospel: St. Luke 1: 26-38</p>
<p>Dec 4</p> <p><i>Visitation of Of Mary to Elizabeth Bearers of Good News</i></p> <p>Area: Irving North</p>	<p>9:00 AM: Sunday School 9:15 AM: Adult Bible Study 10:15 AM: Holy Qurbana (MALAYALAM)</p> 	<p>1st Lesson: Gen. 33: 1-17 2nd Lesson: 2 Cor 1: 3-11 Epistle: 1 Thes. 3: 6-13 Gospel: St. Luke 1: 39-45</p>

NOV. PRAYER MEETING SCHEDULE



Area	Date	Residence of	Time
Carrollton East	11-05 11-12 11-19 11-24	TBD TBD TBD Thanks Giving Service	6:30 6:30 6:30 9.30
Carrollton North	11-05 11-12 11-20(Sun) 11-27(Sun)	James T Abraham TBD Thomas Abraham(Shaji) Varghese Abraham(Mohan)	6:30 6:30 6:30 6.30
Carrollton West	11-05 11-12 11-19 11-26	Sabu Mathew TBD Rev. Minoy Kuruvilla(parsonage) TBD	6:30 6.30 6:30 6.30
Coppell	11-05 11-12 11-19 11-26	TBD Srish Sawakar TBD Cherian I John(Kunjumon)	6:30 7.00 6:30 7.00
Dallas/Mesquite	11-05 11-12 11-19 11-26	TBD Sajan K Mathew (Sunny) Mathew T George (Monachan) TBD	6:30 6.30 6:30 6.30
Fort Worth & Mid Cities	11-05 11-12 11-19 11-26	TBD Thomas George TBD TBD	6:30 6.30 6:30 6.30
Garland	11-05 11-12 11-19 11-26	TBD P M Abraham Babu C Mathew John Joseph	7:00 7:00 7:00 7:00
Irving North	11-05 11-12 11-19 11-26	TBD Reji & Susan Anil John TBD	6:30 6.30 6:30 6.30
Irving South	11-05 11-12 11-19 11-26	TBD TBD Joseph P Varghese TBD	6:30 6.30 7:00 6.30
Plano	11-05 11-12 11-19 11-26	TBD Thomas M Mathews TBD TBD	6:30 7.00 6:30 6.30

What is LOVE really?

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another". 1 John 4:10-11

Today, more than ever, sex is a commodity. Sensuality and exaggerated sexuality shout at us on every corner. Love is sex, sex is pleasure...pleasure is all that matters. Like the Christians in Corinth, **we have two lifestyles to choose: God's or the world's.**

It is important to recognize and reject the world's pattern of love:

We must understand that all the world's deceptions flow from the belief that love is primarily for the fulfillment and comfort of self. The world poisons love by focusing first and foremost in meeting one's own needs.

Love is primarily a feeling. When we make our feelings the most important measure of love, we place ourselves at the center of importance. If actions don't communicate love, feelings mean nothing.

The world tells us love is beyond our control. This thinking has found its way into our language, e.g. "falling in love", "we're madly in love with each other". Such statements in part remove personal responsibility. That is, we may think of love as something beyond our control and thus excuse ourselves from having to behave responsibly.

*As Josh Harris rightly states, "The world takes us to a silver screen "this is love". God takes us to the foot the cross and cries, "this is love". **God always defines love by pointing to His Son.** (1 John 4:19; Matt. 16:24)*

God's pattern of love:

Christ taught that love is not for the fulfillment of self but for the glory of God and the good of others. John 15:13. True love is selfless. It gives; it sacrifices; it dies to its own needs. (if you can't do this, then you are not ready for marriage).

Christ showed that true love is not measured or governed by feeling. He went to the cross when every emotion and instinct in His body told him to turn back. (Mark 14:32). Christ wants us to have the same attitude. He did not say, "If you love me, you will feel warm, cascading sensations of religious emotion." Instead he told us, "if you love me, you will obey what I command" (John 14:15) *True love always expresses itself in obedience to God and service to others.*

Jesus' example also shows us that love is under control. He chose to love us. He chose to lay down his life for us. We need to throw out the misconception that love is some strange "force" that tosses us around against our will like leaves in the wind. True love is not in reckless or selfish behavior – we choose these behaviors. Let us not be enslaved to sinful desires (1 John 2:16) and our passionate lust (1 Thess. 4:5)

Love must be sincere (Rom. 12:9) There is nearly always a hidden agenda in worldly love: What can you do for me? What can I get from you? John 13:35. We have an incredible responsibility to reflect Christ's love on earth.

The wrong mindset today: Many of us have fallen prey to the idea that we can and should pursue romance for its own sake. In other words, "I'll become intimate with you because I'm prayerfully considering marriage". This attitude is not fair to the other person and is terrible preparation for marriage.

May God Almighty strengthen to follow His pattern of love in our life and thus lead lives pleasing to Him!

Your brother in Christ,
Jaisen Achen 214-604-6678



VICAR'S MESSAGE - NOVEMBER

FAITHFUL: This is not a word that receives a great deal of attention anymore. In fact, it is a tragedy that society today seems more familiar with its negative counterpart **UNFAITHFUL**. Sadder still is the context in which the term "unfaithful" most often appears: **MARRIAGE**. Last month writing was read by most specially those who are at the threshold of marriage, thus this month even though it's a month of thanksgiving as well as preparing for the Advent season, yet I am continuing my thought of Marriage. Even though, God instituted marriage and both (Adam and Eve) loved each other but as soon as they were caught, they blamed the 'other', forgetting that the 'other is the extension of self'. In the garden of Eden, God never gave a choice to any of them to leave other, but both were thrown out of the garden. Happy to note that both stayed together. The struggle to establish superiority among themselves started between man and women in a later stage.

In a world where we live divorce is a very common phenomena. 45-50% of the first marriages end in divorce, but there are few who has taken it as way of life. Career, complex status, competitive mind and selfishness has taken place in the place of love, caring and trustworthiness. Marriage which is a bond between two imperfect people is often forgotten and a concept of thinking is developed "**I am always right" and "you are always wrong"**.

How are we to find some glimmer of hope, some picture of godly faithfulness, fidelity and enduring marriage covenant? Scripture is filled with glorious example of sound marriages. Yet, the love stories in the Bible are often downplayed by believers in search of a more "theological" message. What these well-intentioned readers may miss, however, are the rich tales of godly love and commitment that so faithfully represent the love of God for His people.

In the scriptural account of Abraham and Sarah, we see a partnership of two people determined to follow God's plan, no matter how outrageous it may seem. (Gen.21:1-7) With Jacob and Rachel, we witness love's endurance and steadfast commitment despite obstacles that linger for years. (Gen.29:14-30) And, if we want to see a story of love and faithfulness in the face of uncertainty and social pressure, we need to look no further than the gospel account of a carpenter named Joseph and a young bride, Mary.

This all examples challenges the modern society which claims that they are educated, cultured and civilized, but runaway and seems to be broken when responsibilities and trails hits their family boat. The greatest force in the universe is love, which always originates with God, thus dependence to Him and faithfulness to Him will help and guide one to be faithful to "Partners as well as to oneself." The competitive and superiority complex struggle goes away.

Let me conclude by the words of Von Rad ... "She was not created by toe, if so you can crush her, nor created from the skull, otherwise you can lift her up to head, rather she was created from the rib, which is close to heart, thus Husband and wife relationship is between heart to heart "

Let these words help us to understand that husband and wife are two side of same coin, made for each other to fulfill His purpose in this wilderness journey.

Happy Thanks giving to all.. Minoy Achen.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS.....

Date	Name	Prayer Group
1	Rachalamma Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
	Dr. Molly Zacharia	Fort Worth Mid Cities
2	Mariamamma Mathew	Plano
	Jerry Thomas	Coppell
	Varughese P. George	Irving South
	Sumi John	Carrollton East
3	Joseph G Karamvellil	Irving South
	Vimal Varghese	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	O C Thomas	Irving North
4	Mariamamma Mathew	Carrollton East
5	Babu Rajan	Coppell
7	Julie Sara Abraham	Carrollton North
8	Noel S Kovoov	Plano
9	Mini Mathew	Carrollton North
	Noel George Abraham	Irving North
10	Christy Mathew	Coppell
	Abraham Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
	Alex T Jacob	Coppell
	Lisa Jacob	Coppell
	Annie G Samuel	Carrollton West
	Renil Samuel	Carrollton North
11	Neethu Chacko	Dallas / Mesquite
	Arun Jacob Mathew	Plano
	Elizabeth Andrews	Fort Worth Mid Cities
12	Paula Sarah Alexander	Dallas / Mesquite
	Siljo Kuruvilla	Irving South
13	Lalamma Varghese	Coppell
	Cyril Mathew	Carrollton North
	Rev. Minoy N Kuruvilla	Carrollton West
	Nithin Mathew	Irving North
	Seena Sunil	Carrollton West
	Liny Philipose	Garland
	Sunij M Abraham	Garland
M A Philip	Irving South	
14	Dr. Roy Mathew	Coppell
	Shalin Varghese	Carrollton West
	Diana Jacob	Plano
	Zita Samuel	Irving South
	Baby K Samuel	Carrollton East
	Snoby G. Varughese	Irving South
15	Renji P Mathew	Coppell
	P S George	Carrollton East
	Nicole Sara Abraham	Irving North
	Suma Princely	Carrollton North
16	Justin C. John	Coppell
	Gelta George	Carrollton West
17	Shaju Chacko	Plano
	Nevin Chacko	Garland
	Zachry John Joseph	Coppell

Diocesan Counseling Workshop Venue & Schedule

Rev. Dr. Joe Joseph Kuruvilla, (Southeast region Youth Chaplain) an eminent counselor and dynamic speaker with years of experience, will be leading the Southwest regional workshop series, titled "Cracking the Code: Live the Life You Deserve"

"Cracking the Code: Live the Life You Deserve"

Coordinator: Rev. K.P. Thomas

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	ATTENDEES
*Thursday, November 17, 2011	7pm-9pm	St. Paul's MTC, Mesquite	Sunday School Teachers, Executive committee members and organizational committee members are expected to attend this meeting
*Friday, November 18, 2011	9:30am	Mar Thoma Church of Dallas, Carrollton	Senior Citizen meeting: All seniors over the age of 55 are urged to attend this meeting
Friday, November 18, 2011	7pm-9pm	Sehion Mar Thoma Church Mesquite	All youth fellowship and young family members are expected to attend this meeting <i>Child care will be provided with registration fee</i>
Saturday, November 19, 2011	9am-4pm	Mar Thoma Church of Dallas, Farmers Branch	All youth fellowship and young family members are expected to attend this meeting <i>Child care will be provided with registration fee</i>

REGISTRATION

There is NO Registration or Fee for the workshop sessions to be held on Thursday, November 17, 2011 or for the Senior Citizens meeting.

A \$10 registration fee per person and \$10 child care fee will be collected for the Workshop sessions beginning Friday, November 18th, 2011 through Saturday, November 19th, 2011.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2011!!! PLEASE CONTACT YOUR VICAR IN ORDER TO REGISTER!

Nov. 2011 Wedding Anniversaries



Date	Name	Prayer Group
1	Koshy Mathaikutty & Gracy Mathew	Irving South
	Dony Daniel & Sindhu Kalluvilayil	Carrollton North
2	Mathew Chacko & Molly Mathew	Coppell
7	K T Andrews & Aleyamma Andrews	Fort Worth Mid Cities
8	Vettolil Varghese John & Rachel John	Carrollton North
10	Mathew Varghese & Elizabeth Mathew	Garland
	Tiju M Varghese & Reeja Varghese	Irving South
	Jayan Varkey & Maya Varkey	Carrollton North
12	George Pulinthitta & Elsamma George	Carrollton West
13	Mathew P John & Mercy Mathew	Carrollton North
16	Shibu Mathew & Suby Mathew	Garland
17	George V Skariah & Marykutty Skariah	Irving South
18	Sunny Jacob & Annamma Jacob	Dallas / Mesquite
	John Itticheria & Aleyamma John	Dallas / Mesquite
20	Dr. Tim Thomas Issac & Trina	Garland
	Jaymon John & Susan B Thomas	Carrollton North
	Babukutty C. Skaria & Jessy Thomas	Irving South
	Thomas Chacko & Leelamma Chacko	Carrollton North
21	Benny Thomas & Anuja Thomas	Plano
	Rajan Varughese & Shaly Varughese	Irving South
23	Eapen Thomas & Sosamma Eapen	Carrollton East
	Babu C Mathew & Saramma Mathew	Garland
24	Rev. Thomas P Varkey & Marykutty Thomas	Irving South
	Joji Mathew & Smitha Mathew	Carrollton North
25	Roy Varghese & Anu Varghese	Garland
	Mammen Koshy & Mariamma Koshy	Coppell
26	Thomas V Thomas & Alice Thomas	Carrollton North
27	George Varghese & Lamma Varghese	Coppell
28	Mathews K Skariah & Lilly Mathews	Carrollton West
	John Cherian & Molly Cherian	Garland
29	P S George & Chinnamma George	Carrollton East
	Sunny Abraham & Sali Abraham	Carrollton East
	Sali Abraham	Carrollton East
	V A Alexander & Rani Alexander	Carrollton North
	Varghese Abraham & Mariamma Abraham	Carrollton North
	M Philipose & Mariamma	Garland
30	Satish Skariah & Lena	Irving South
	Bijo K Abraham & Anu	Dallas / Mesquite
	Thampy Abraham & Mini	Irving South

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS.....

Date	Name	Prayer Group
18	Saramma Mathew	Garland
	Shiny Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
	Jeffrey Abraham	Garland
19	Rachel Anna Mammen	Plano
	Manoj Thomas	Carrollton West
	Depu Thomas Abraham	Coppell
20	Lindsey Thomas	Coppell
	Mariamma Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
	Valsala Jacob	Coppell
	Emily Mary Joseph	Carrollton North
21	Subhash Mathew	Coppell
	Marykutty Skariah	Irving South
22	Joshy Mathew	Carrollton East
	Joseph George	Carrollton East
	Aleena Kurien	Carrollton West
	Chacko N Mani	Garland
	Stanley Joseph	Garland
23	Jijo George Mathew	Carrollton East
	P I Cherian	Coppell
	Ryan Chandy	Irving North
	Steven Joseph	Garland
	Mariamma Joji	Irving North
	Suja S Varghese	Garland
24	Renee Zachariah	Plano
	Jerry Benjamin	Carrollton East
	Mathew T George	Dallas / Mesquite
25	Sheena Abraham	Garland
	Joseph M Varughese	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Anica Ann John	Garland
	Ginu George	Coppell
26	V T Abraham	Garland
	Soosamma Samuel	Carrollton East
	Lincy Samuel	Other Area
	Esther Joseph	Garland
	Renny Baby Easow	Fort Worth Mid Cities
27	Manju Varghese	Garland
	Binoy Varghese Thomas	Carrollton East
	Mathew K S	Dallas / Mesquite
28	Roy Varghese	Carrollton East
	Koshy T George	Irving North
	Thomas Abraham	Carrollton East
	John Thomas	Carrollton East
	Abraham Andrews	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Abraham Theckemury	Garland
29	John Kombikunnathu	Carrollton West
30	Varghese Abraham	Coppell
	Mathew V Thomas	Carrollton East
	Alex V Easo	Carrollton East
	Leah Mary Varghese	Irving South



**WISHING YOU ALL A VERY
HAPPY
THANKSGIVING**

Let's Take time to Thank God for his Constant Grace and also thank all the near and dear ones.

Please attend the special Thanks Giving Service on Nov. 24 at Church.
Separate service for Youths in the Fellowship hall

THANKSGIVING DAY CELEBRATION & LUNCH



ON
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2011
AT 9:30 AM Hosted by Parish Mission

24 hours 'CHAIN OF PRAYER' will start on 23rd Wednesday 8.00 A M and ends on Thursday @ 8.A M. The Funds needed for Neighborhood Mission will be collected during Thanksgiving Weeks. Each family is encouraged to donate \$ 25 towards this cause. Special sponsors are welcomed for mission supports. Prayerful participation of everyone is appreciated

 **FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK**

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Keep up with the Parish News

FOLLOW-UP MEETING OF 2011 FAMILY RETREAT



All participants of family Retreat 2011 are requested to attend this follow up meeting on December 10, Saturday from 10.00 AM to 12.00. PM
Lunch will be provided

DIASPORA

We celebrate November 20, 2011 as the Diaspora Sunday for the Diocese of North America and Europe. All the parishes should observe Diaspora Sunday by making special announcements, using the liturgy and giving an appropriate Sermon based on the theme; 'Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith' (Heb 13:7).

Yours in Christ's Ministry

Geevarghese Mar Theodosius
Diocesan Bishop

Address Change



#

Thomas Chacko
4149 Catawba Ave. Carrollton, TX 75010



Shaju Chacko, 5468 Burkett Dr. Frisco, TX 75034

Condolences



Raju Thankachan, older brother of Jose Thankachan of Carrollton North prayer group, passed away in Houston.

Joseph Abraham, 61 years old, nephew of Mr. P M Abraham of Garland Prayer group passed away on October 5th. in Dallas, TX.

Brother of Thresa Varghese from Irving South prayer group. Francis Joseph, 65 year old, older brother of Mrs. Thresa Varghese Irving South prayer group, has passed away in Kottayam on Thursday October 6.