

THE DELHI ORTHODOX CHURCH VOICE

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August 2017

The organ of St. MARY'S ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

C-3, Safdarjung Development Area, New Delhi - 110 016

Telephone : 2696 0242, 2686 4303

Website: www.smorthodoxcathedraldelhi.org, (smocdelhi.org)

Office Email: office@smocdelhi.org

Thought for the Month

“For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.”

Luke 6:43-44

Service Timings

Every Day	6.30 p.m. - 07.15 p.m.	Evening Prayer
All Saturdays	5.30 p.m. - 06.30 p.m.	Confession
	6.30 p.m. - 07.30 p.m.	Sunday Evening Prayer
All Sundays	6.15 a.m. - 07.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	7.00 a.m. - 08.30 a.m.	First Holy Qurbana
	8.45 a.m. - 09.15 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	9.15 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.	Second Holy Qurbana
Third Sunday	Frist Holy Qurbana in English	
All Tuesdays	6.30 p.m. - 07.30 p.m.	Evening Prayer and Intercession to St. Mary
1st & 3rd	7.30 a.m. - 08.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Sundays	8.30 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.	Holy Qurbana at St. George Chapel Aya Nagar

Meetings of Spiritual Organisations

1. Sunday School	All Sundays	9.00 a. m.
2. Youth League	All Saturdays	7.30 p.m.
3. M. G. O. C. S. M	All Sundays	9.00 a. m.
4. Marth Mariam Samajam	All Sundays	9.00 a. m.
5. Area Prayer Meetings	Venue & Time, as decided by each group	

Church Calendar

01 August	Soonoyo Nombu Begins (15 Day Lent) Memorial of H G Paulose Mar Pachomios OIC (Ranni Betheny Ashram)
06	The Feast of Transfiguration (Koodara Perunal) Memorial of H G Alexios Mar Theodosios OIC (Ranni Betheny Ashram)
07	St. Demetrios of Thessaloniki
12	Mar Assayel
13	First Sunday after Feast of Transfiguration (Koodara Perunal)
14	Feast of Prophet Micha
15	Shoonoyo Perunal Memorial of Patriarch Mar Ignatius Abded Massiha (Devalokam – Kottayam)
16	Memorial of Mar Ivanios Hidayathulla (Mulanthuruthi)
19	Memorial of H G Joseph Mar Pachomois (Mulamkulam, Karmelkunnu)
20	First Sunday after Soonoyo
24	St. Mathias the Apostle.
27	Second Sunday after Soonoyo
29	St. John the Baptist.
31	Memorial of H G Mathews Mar Ivanios (Pampady Dayara)

Bible Reading - August

06 August	Sunday Feast of Transfiguration Deuteronomy 16: 13-15, Exodus 19: 24-20: 06 Joshua 03: 01-17, Zechariah 14: 16-19, Isaiah 60:12-15,
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61: 01- 03, 1 John 02: 23-3: 01, Romans 11: 26 -36
St. Luke 09: 27-36

13 August **Sunday First Sunday After Feast of Transfiguration**
Deuteronomy 25: 13-16, 1 Samuel 02: 31- 36
Ezekiel 07: 01-04, James 04: 7-5: 06,Philippians 04:08-
20, St. Matthew 21: 28 – 32

15 August **Tuesday Assumption of Mother of God**
Exodus 19: 16-23, Joshua 04: 04-10, Isaiah 45: 14-19
Acts 07: 44-53, Hebrews 09: 03-12, St. Luke 11: 27-36

20 August **Sunday First Sunday After Assumption**
Exodus 14: 21-29, 1 Samuel 8: 04-10,Isaiah 43: 01-05
1 John 02: 22-29,Ephesians 06: 10-17, St.Mark10:35-45

27 August **Sunday Second Sunday After Assumption**
Genesis 06: 03-12, Ecclesiastes 07:01-03, Psalms12:
01-09, 2 Peter 03: 08-14,1 Thessalonians 05: 01-06,
St.Luke 11: 09-20

Vicar's Message

Dearly beloved

Greetings to all in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The month of August is highly esteemed for the parishioners, for we observe the feast of the parish and seeking the intercession of St. Mary, Mother of God. May her intercession be a great relief and fortress for us. Let us be enriched by the spiritual gifts. In this bulletin, I would like to deliberate on the topic, how we can build the spiritual capital for happiness.

Spiritual awareness is an important component in human development. Spirituality is relating to a higher power that is benevolent and good. Emotional people tend to align with a personal god. Intellectuals think of a transcendental Being that pervades the universe and beyond.

Children are born with a natural sense of the spiritual. Lisa Miller, psychologist, says spiritual awareness surges in adolescence. Teenagers commonly feel a loss of meaning, confidence and identity. Some try to fill the void with alcohol and drugs. A few cultivate their spiritual instincts. According to Miller's research, adolescents with a strong connection to the transcendental are 80% less likely to engage in substance abuse. A strong spiritual sense protects against depression.

Not everyone is born intelligent, has high IQ or access to education and wealth. But everyone has the spirit in equal measure. Once you tap into the spirit you soar above shortcomings and achieve perfection. This vast resource in human beings has been totally neglected.

In ancient India, everyone was exposed to spiritual knowledge at age seven. This led to the unique personalities or spiritually enlightened, who were kingly externally but sagely within. When they lost their spiritual wealth they lost their kingdoms! Spiritual values will empower people and give them a sense of direction. Their talent and energies will be used positively. Yet, there is little attempt at cultivating this most important advantage.

Sages prescribed different paths to the spirit to suit varied natures of people. The spiritual journey begins with an understanding of the world, the individual and the technique of right contact with the world.

The world is made of pairs of opposites. Pleasure – pain, joy – sorrow and honor – dishonor ...etc, are all inherent features of the world. Do you ride over them or succumb to their influence? The world is in a constant flux of unpredictable change. It would be foolish to depend on the world. Even the mighty ocean liner is rocked by the waves because it rests on them. A lighthouse is unaffected as it is anchored to the ocean bed. You may live in the world, enjoy its resources and transact with it but do not depend on it. Only the spirit is dependable, connect with it. Marvel at it. And the same world that is now traumatizing you will become enjoyable.

You know only the body, mind and intellect. Rise above their limitations to experience the power, serenity and bliss of atman, your real self.

To be spiritual you only have to change your thinking. Do not give up your business or family. Just discard foolish concepts and false notions. Shift from an attitude of taking to that of giving. Think of how you can add value to others, give, contribute, serve; you will receive much more in return. Grab you lose, give you gain. You will be happy and grow spiritually. At the emotional level, replace hatred, separateness and disgust with understanding, love and oneness. People will work with you, yielding success. You will be happy and desires will reduce. Intellectually, focus on the permanent. You will gain clarity and sharpness which will bring success and happiness. You will grow in to a towering personality.

May god bless us all.

Yours in His Service,
Shaji Achen.

News

St. Thomas Day: Youth League organized a “MarthomanSmriti” program on 16 July 2017 at St. Paul’s School Auditorium. **Adv. Kuriakose Varghese**, legal consultant in Sabha case addressed the gathering.

Soonoyo Nombu and Feast of Assumption of St. Mary: The lent for fifteen days in the name of St. Mary, the mother of God, will be observed from 1st to 15th August. The lent is one among the five canonical Lents of the Church which has to be observed by all in view of the preparation to celebrate the Feast of Assumption of St. Mary. Evening prayers and intercessory prayer will be conducted on all days.

Feast of Transfiguration (Koodara Perunal): Another important feast during the month is Transfiguration, which falls on Sunday 6th August.

Church Perunal: The feast of Assumption of St. Mary, the mother of God and the patron saint of our Cathedral will be celebrated as Parish Perunal on August 14 and 15, 2017. **His Grace Dr. Zacharias Mar Aprem** the Metropolitan of Adoor - Kadampanadu will be the Chief Celebrant. The notice of the detailed program of Perunal will be published separately.

Bible Convention and Devotional evenings for three days will be conducted in our church as part of the Perunal celebrations (Saturday, Sunday and Monday August 12, 13 & 14). On Saturday 12th **Rev. Fr. Leni Chacko**, Sunday 13th **Rev. Fr. Robins Daniel** and on Monday 14th August **His Grace Dr. Zacharias Mar Aprem** will lead the convention. All our members are requested to attend the Bible Convention with prayers and dedication.

Sunday school: Diocesan Sunday school day will be on August 6. Please contribute generously for the activities of the Sunday school through the cover collection.

Sunday school unit level cultural competition for the year 2017 will be held on August 27 immediately after the first Holy Qurbana at St. Paul's School. All our students are requested to participate in the competition.

Youth League: Our Youth League members are visiting the houses of our parishioners as part of the Youth Week programs with an aim to strengthen the spirit of unity and fellowship. All are requested to cooperate with them by contributing liberally to the various charity activities which is undertaken by the youth league. Under the "Snehadeepthi" Housing Project, SMOCYL has taken the initiative to build a house for a deserving poor family at Kallely in Kerala with a cost of Rs. 7 lakhs and the foundation stone was laid on 23rd June 2017 and the construction work is in full swing. SMOCYL is all set to do more such projects for the deserving poor families.

Youth League members are visiting destitute homes and serving food to the inmates. All our church members who celebrate their birthdays and wedding anniversaries and other special occasions are requested to join with the Youth League and support their charity activities.

Award/Consolation Prizes to the Board Exam Winners: Meritorious students of Class XII board examinations will be given prizes. All our students are requested to contact Church office/Youth League secretary for more details.

Youth Week valedictory function and Onam celebrations will be held on Sunday 10th September from 10.00 a.m. onwards at St. Paul's School. Those who wish to participate in the cultural programs may contact youth league office bearers

Prayer Meeting

August 06 Sunday:

1. Mount Horeb Prayer Group at 4.30 p.m.
Mr. Koshy M.C.
J-3/23 2nd Floor, Khirki Extn.,
2. St. Mark Prayer Group at 6.00 p.m.
Mr. Biju George
K-23 E, Sheikh Sarai, Phase-II
3. St. Luke Prayer Group at 7.30 p.m.
Mr. George K. Babu
125-C, Flat No. B, Dhankar Apts, Neb Sarai
4. St. James Prayer Group at 4.30p.m.
Mr.Varghese Cherian
RZ-D1/51A, 3rd Floor,
Street No-6, Mahavir Enclave

07 Monday : St. Mary's Prayer Group at 6.00p.m.
AIIMS Nurses Hostel

18 Friday : Mount Hermon Prayer Group at 7.30p.m.
Mr. P. C Baby
B-231, Chattarpur Enclave, Phase-III

- 20 Sunday
1. St. Thomas Prayer Group at 6.00p.m.
Mrs. K. P Thomas
Flat No. 26, LIG DDA, Motia Khan
 2. St. Paul's Prayer Group at 7.30 p.m.
Mr. Jose P.T
G-1, CWC, Palika Housing Colony
Lodhi Colony
 3. St. Athanasios Prayer Group at 4.30 p.m.
Mr. Sunil T. Mathew
A-23, 3rd Floor, Savitri Nagar
 4. St. Mar Dionysius Group at 6.00 p.m.
Mr. Viji
Qtr. No. 1024, Sector-VIII, R.K Puram

5. St. Peter's Prayer Group at 7.30 p.m.
Mr. John A.J
Qtr. No. 70, Type-III
Ayur Vigyan Nagar
- 21 Monday : St. Mary's Prayer Group at 6.00p.m.
AIIMS Nurses Hostel
- 27 Sunday
1. Mount Tabore Prayer Group at 4.30 p.m.
Mr. Babu K.K
C-4, Nakshatra Apts, Ward No.7
Mehrauli
 2. St. Andrews Prayer Group at 6.00 p.m.
Mrs. Cissy Koshy
397, Pocket-C, Sector-A,
Vasant Kunj
 3. St. George Prayer Group at 7.30 p.m.
Mr. Prince Mathew
203, SS Apartment, Phase-V, Aya Nagar
 4. Mount Sinai Prayer Group at 4.30 p.m.
Mr. T.O Thomas
Flat No.204, Tower 27
Commonwealth Games Village
 5. St. Mathew's Prayer Group at 6.00 p.m.
Mr. Thomas Viju
93, Country Wide Apts.
Gautham Nagar
 6. Mar Philoxenos Prayer Group at 7.30 p.m.
Mr. M.B Joseph
Qtr. No 14, Kamdhenu, IUAC
JNU Campus
- 28 Monday
1. St. Stephen's Hospital Chapel
Holy Qurbana at 5.00 p.m.
 2. AIIMS- Nurses Hostel

Obituary

Ms. Kunjamma George wife of late Mr. M V George K-23 E, Sheikh Sarai II left for her heavenly abode on 7 July 2017. Funeral was held at St. Thomas Cemetery Tughlakabad after the prayers at our church on 9 July 2017

Very Rev. M S Skariah Ramban

Former Delhi Diocesan Secretary Very Rev. M S Skariah Ramban left for his heavenly abode on 1 August 2017 at Kerala. He served in many parishes in Delhi diocese and worked as our Diocesan Secretary for more than 15 years. His life and work stands testimony to his valuable contribution to our Church and the Diocese. Funeral was held at St. Thomas Orthodox Church, Umayattukara, Chengannur, Kerala on 4 August 2017

May the God Almighty keep their soul in the heavenly abode and we extend our prayerful condolences to the bereaved family.

We remember their services to the Cathedral and thanking God Almighty for the life of them especially for their work and contribution to our Church and the Society.

Prayer

Lord Eternal and Creator of all things, Who of Thy inscrutable goodness called me to this life; Who bestowed on me the grace of Baptism and the Seal of the Holy Spirit; Who imbued me with the desire to seek Thee, the one true God: hear my prayer. I have no life, no light, no joy or wisdom; no strength except in Thee, O God. Because of my unrighteousness I dare not raise my eyes to Thee. But Thou said to Thy disciples, 'Whatsoever you shall ask in prayer believing, you shall receive.' and 'Whatsoever you shall ask in my name, that will I do.'

Wherefore I dare to invoke Thee. Purify me from all taint of flesh and spirit. Teach me to pray aright. Bless this day which Thee give unto me, Thy unworthy servant. By the power of Thy blessing enable me at all times to speak and act to Thy glory with a pure spirit, with humility, patience, love, gentleness, peace, courage and wisdom: aware always of

Thy presence. Of Thy immense goodness, O Lord God, show me the path of Thy will, and grant me to walk in Thy sight without sin. O Lord, unto Whom all hearts be open, Thee know what things I have need of. Thee are acquainted with my blindness and my ignorance, Thee know my infirmity and my soul's corruption; but neither are my pain and anguish hid from Thee.

Be with me, O Lord, at that dread hour and grant me the joy of salvation. Cleanse me from secret faults, from all iniquity that is hidden in me; and give me a right answer before Thy judgment-seat. Yea, Lord, of Thy great mercy and immeasurable love for mankind.

Amen

Vicar

Rev. Fr. Shaji George
C-3, SDA, Hauz Khas,
New Delhi-110 016
Tel: Res.26864303
(0) 26968984, 26511725
Mob.: 9999216364, 9868114451

Asst. Vicar

Rev. Fr. Pathrose Joy
St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral
Mob.: 7582000415

Secretary

Mr. Thomas Mathew
Villa No.19, 1st Floor Block IV
Eros Garden, Charmood Village,
Faridabad, Haryana
9810202133/9810141166

Trustee

Mr. Shaji Paul
J-141, SF, Saket, New Delhi
Mob.: 9868715454
9899306433

Church Office : Phone: 2696 0242

Aya Nagar : 65653587

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