

**IMMANUEL MAR THOMA CHURCH,
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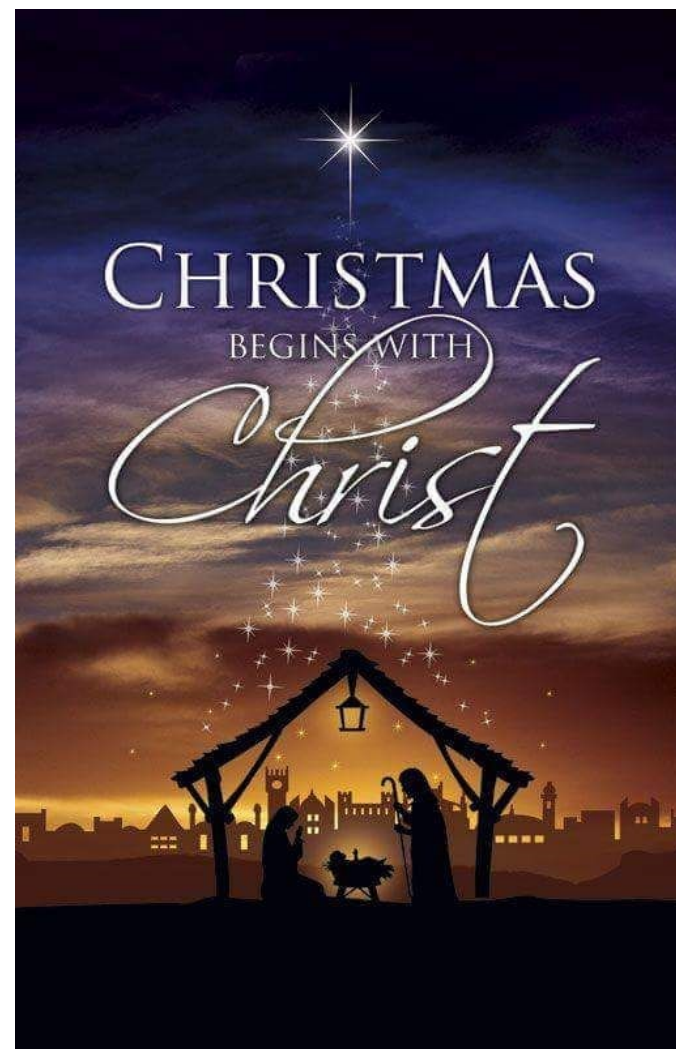
(This newsletter is for private circulation only)

Published by **P. M. Jacob**, Parish Secretary
For and on behalf of Immanuel Mar Thoma Church, Houston
Cell: 832.567.0745, email: secretary@immanuelmtc.org



Immanuel Mar Thoma Church

Houston, TX



**NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2023**

WORSHIP SCHEDULE DEC. 2023

Dec 03 The meeting that shares the good news of salvation			
8.00 am	English HQ assisted by the Sehion area prayer group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Gen. 33: 1-15 2 Cor. 1: 3-10 Rom. 15: 5-9 Luke 1: 39-45
10.30 am	Malayalam HQ assisted by the Sharon area prayer group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Gen. 33: 1-15 2 Cor. 1: 3-10 Rom. 15: 5-9 Luke 1: 39-45
Dec. 10 John The Baptist: Greatest among those born of woman			
8.00 am	G3 & English HQ assisted by YF	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Mala. 3:1-4 Acts 13:17-26 1 Cor. 4:1-6 Luke 1:57-66
10.30 am	Malayalam HQ assisted by the Sinai area prayer group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Mala. 3:1-4 Acts 13:17-26 1 Cor. 4:1-6 Luke 1:57-66
Dec. 17 Joseph: a man of higher justice			
10:30 am	English HQ assisted by Tabor area prayer group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Zeph. 3:14-20 1 Cor. 13:1-13 Rom. 14:13-19 Mat.: 1:18-23
Dec. 24 Coming of the Savior			
10.00 am	Malayalam HQ assisted by the Bethel area prayer group	Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Isa. 11: 1-9 1 John: 4:7-16 Acts: 3: 19-26 John 1: 14-18
Dec. 25 Birth of savior: Good news to all			
9.00 am	English HQ assisted by Bethlehem area prayer group	Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Micah. 5: 1-9 Phil.: 2: 5:11 Gal.: 4: 1-7 Luke 2: 1-14
Dec. 31 With Christ into the New year			
10.00 am	G3 & English HQ assisted by YF	Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	1 Sam.: 7: 1-12 Rev.: 21: 1:8 Rom.: 8: 31-39 Matt : 5-1-12
9.00 pm	Retreat / Malayalam HQ	Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	1 Sam.: 7: 1-12 Rev.: 21: 1:8 Rom.: 8: 31-39 Matt : 5-1-12

2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OFFICE BEARERS		
Vicar	Rev. Dr. Eappen Varghese	713.330.5299
Assistant Vicar	Rev. Santhosh Thomas	832.837.4721
Vice President	Mr. K.K. John	713.408.0865
Secretary	Mr. P.M. Jacob	832.567.0745
Treasurer	Mr. T.V. Mathew	281.499.7414
Accountant	Mr. John K. Philip	832.744.0271
Lay Leader (Malayalam)	Mr. Saji John	847.903.6505
Lay Leader (English)	Mr. Navid John	281.788.6233
AREA REPRESENTATIVES		
Bethel	Mr. Mathews Varghese	832.205.6860
Bethlehem	Mr. Varghese Rajesh Mathew	832.630.0748
Carmel	Mrs. Mariamma Oommen	281.734.7093
Ebenezer	Mr. K.T. Sajee	281.750.5141
Hebron	Mrs. Susmy Prasanth	713.923.0778
Horeb	Mr. Rajan Daniel	832.628.5481
Jerusalem	Mr. Daniel Varghese	908.591.3621
Salem	Mrs. Annamma Jacob	832.332.1007
Sehion	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	516.467.7926
Sharon	Mrs. Elizabeth Benni	832.462.9383
Sinai	Mr. Philip Mathew	682.246.1255
Tabor	Mr. John Varghese	281.746.0005
CHURCH ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES		
Choir	Mr. Derrick Kurian	832.744.1664
Edavaka Mission	Mr. Mathew T. Scaria	281.857.5611
Senior Fellowship	Mrs. Sara Philip	281.889.8566
Sevika Sanghom	Mrs. Lata Mathews	832.205.6861
Sunday School	Mrs. Bincy Puthenmadathil	832.215.2462
Young Family Fellowship	Mr. Ninan Philip Kalloor	281.995.8124
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Alan John	832.877.6873
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Sajan John	832.429.5353
DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY & MANDALAM MEMBERS		
Diocesan Assembly	Mr. Binu Pappachan	405.922.5716
Diocesan Assembly	Ms. Jewel Zachariah	832.334.8622
Diocesan Assembly	Mr. Siju Philip	516.503.5589
Sabha Mandalam	Mr. M.G. Mathew	281.857.3088
OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS		
IMC Administrator Scheduler	Mr. Zachariah Koshy	281.780.9764
IMC Facility Manager	Mr. John Varghese	832.938.8664
IMC Facility Manager	Mr. John P. Mathew	832.656.1836
Technology Director	Mr. Abraham Kurien	832.623.2330
AUDITORS		
Auditor	Mr. John Varghese	832.938.8664
Auditor	Mr. Aju John	832.846.0763



DECEMBER 2023 WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Nikhil George	Lincy George	8-Dec
Riju Kuruvilla	Leena Riju Kuruvilla	11-Dec
Regi C. Pappachan	Joice Regi	14-Dec
Aju Abraham John	Jopy Jacob	15-Dec
Mathew Zachariah	Rosie Mathew	17-Dec
Roy Thomas	Asha Roy	19-Dec
Raju John	Rebecca Raju	21-Dec
Robin M. Thomas	Dr. Sheila Mary Thomas	21-Dec
Monzy Mathews Anaghan	Dimple Monzy Mathews	22-Dec
Thomas V. Cheriyan	Elizabeth Thomas	23-Dec
Gigi V Mannil	Saleen V. John	25-Dec
Jim Sam Green	Simi M. John	26-Dec
Thomas V. Mathew	Achamma Mathew	27-Dec
Ajay Thomas	Anna George	27-Dec
Prasanth K Krasta	Susmy Susan Koshy	27-Dec
Varghese Kunchacko	Dolly Varghese	27-Dec
Thomas Daniel	Jainy Joseph Daniel	27-Dec
Shiju T. Abraham	Pamela Abraham	27-Dec
V.C. Abraham	Mariamamma Abraham	27-Dec
Jereesh T. John	Nisha Jereesh	27-Dec
Jacob John	Annamma John	28-Dec
Abraham Philip	Daisy A. Philip	29-Dec
Dijo Mathews	Cristelle Mary Mathew	29-Dec
Daniel Thomas	Aannamma Daniel	30-Dec
Oommen Zachariah	Marykutty Varghese	30-Dec
Varghese K. Oommen	Elizabeth Varghese	30-Dec
Reji Eapen	Sajini Reji	30-Dec
Varghese Rajesh Mathew	Sissimol Easo	30-Dec
Aby Joy	Mini Joy	31-Dec
John Jacob	Geethu Angel Jacob	31-Dec
Thomas P. John	Elizabeth Thomas	31-Dec
Thomas Chacko	Jessy Thomas	31-Dec

FROM THE VICAR'S DESK



Ink Pot
December

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Man's maker was made man, that He, Ruler of the stars, might nurse at His mother's breast; that the Bread might hunger, the Fountain thirst, the Light sleep, the Way be tired on its journey; that the Truth might be accused of false witness, the Teacher be beaten with whips, the Foundation be suspended on wood; that Strength might grow weak; that the Healer might be wounded; that Life might die. (Augustine of Hippo).

We are in yet another Advent. Our Lord is coming. Let's prepare for the Lord. Christmas is not simply a celebration. It defines our nature. It defines our salvation. It defines the meaning of our life. St. Athanasius of Alexandria said, "God became human, so that, human may become divine". The contemporary world, the world of sensual pleasures, presents a false account of the human and divine. In this context, the human nature that God manifests in Christ brings the natural human nature. To be natural means, to be as God intends, to be in the state in and for which God created us.

Incarnation is the identification of holiness with the natural state, which is clear perception. But the condition that we experience as habitual is opposite to clear perception; it is a state of bondage to images that are seen as the objects of the mind's satisfaction. God's revelation in Christ is the revelation of true human nature, which is not in bondage of objective world, but that has a clear vision of the world and life. We must acquire a clear vision of the world and life. This is the intention of incarnation. So do not stop in caroling, singing and celebration, but search for better human formation, better human qualities according to the will of God.

Let this be a time to think and meditate about our human nature. What kind of human being are we. What we should be. Let the journey to Bethlehem be a journey to the true human nature within us.

As we approach the end of 2023, let's thank God for the grace and mercies that we experienced throughout the year. Let's look forward to the new year 2024 with hope and goodwill. Let us dedicate ourselves, our families, and the parish once again to do the will of God.

We, both the vicars and our families wish you all, the Immanuel family a blessed Christmas and blessed New Year.

Rev. Dr. Eappen Varghese
Vicar

CALENDAR

December 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6 AM Prayer 10 AM Fasting Prayer and Advent Service	2 10 AM Senior Fellowship 5 PM Sehion area get-together
3 8 AM English HQ 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Malayalam HQ 1 PM House 2 House	4 6 AM Prayer 7:30 PM MTVEA Dio prayer	5 6 AM Prayer 7 PM Mal Choir Committee	6 6 AM Prayer 8 PM Bible Study	7 6 AM Prayer 7:30 PM Edavaka Mission Prayer	8 6 AM Prayer 10 AM Fasting Prayer 6 PM Horeb H2H	9 9:30 AM Sevika Sanghom 4 PM House 2 House
10 8 AM G3 YF English HQ 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Malayalam HQ 1 PM House to House	11 6 AM Prayer 7:30 PM MTVEA Center prayer meeting	12 6 AM Prayer	13 6 AM Prayer 8 PM Bible Study	14 6 AM Prayer 10 AM Pakal veedu 7:30 PM Edavaka Mission Prayer	15 6 AM Prayer 10 AM Fasting Prayer 6 PM House to House	16 9:30 AM Sevika Sanghom 11:30 AM Carmel Prayer Group Carol YFF Meeting 4 PM House to House
17 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM English HQ 1 PM House to House	18 6 AM Prayer 7:30 AM MTVEA Regional Prayer	19 6 AM Prayer	20 6 AM Prayer 8 PM Bible Study	21 6 AM Prayer 7:30 PM Edavaka Mission Prayer	22 6 AM Prayer 10 AM Fasting Prayer 5 PM House to House	23 5 pm Christmas Carol
24 10 AM Malayalam Service	25 9 AM English Service	26 6 AM Prayer	27 6 AM Prayer 8 PM Bible Study	28 6 AM Prayer 7:30 PM Edavaka Mission prayer	29 6 AM Prayer 10 AM Fasting Prayer	30 6 PM Year-end retreat
31 G3 YF 10 AM English Service 9:00 PM Retreat Malayalam Holy Qurbana						

Address Changes:

1. Mr. Philip Thomas (id # 522): 14918 Wood Swallow Way, Cypress, TX 77429.
2. Mr. Alexander Jacob (id # 630): 11319 Ashford Pond Dr., Sugar Land, TX 77478
3. Mr. Joy N. Samuel (id# 173): 2727 San Bernard Dr., Fresno, TX 77545

DECEMBER 2023 BIRTHDAYS

Mathew Jacob	23-Dec	Manoj Abe Varghese	28-Dec
Samuel K. George		Biya Aleena Mathew	
Sam M. George		Shobid Varghese	
Nataliya Lynn Thomas		Binta C. Varghese	
Abraham Joseph	24-Dec	Nora Sam	29-Dec
Dr. Anish G. Mammen		Elizabeth Cherian	
Carol A. George		Rio Ayun Roy	
Maya Grace Eype		Thomas John	
Aida Mary George	25-Dec	Justin K. Varghese	30-Dec
Joshni M. John		Caleb Dennis Mathew	
John Jesson	26-Dec	Princey Terish Mathew	31-Dec
Joseph Joseph		Ashley M. Jacob	
Sonia Babu		Arun M Jayaprakash	
Sion Samuel Alexander		Crisvin T. Sajee	
Donia Ann Kurian		Ethan Eapen Titus	
Binoy Puthenmadathil		Maggie Thomas Koshy	
Mathew Mammen	27-Dec	Thakadiyil V. Mathew	31-Dec
Soumya Mariam Oommen		Joel Zachariah Kalathoor	
Aaron Thomas Samuel		Bibin Abraham Thomas	
Reju Eapen		Abigail Varghese	
Dr. Anju Chacko		Abiya Mariam Lijoy	
Reeba Elizabeth George		Sheba A. Mathew	
Tom Mathew		Layla Susan Cherian	
Thomas V. Cheriyan		Ivana Rency	
Mila Ann Mathew			
Arianna Ann Thomas			
Maia Johny			



DECEMBER 2023 BIRTHDAYS



Robby T. George	12-Dec	Dr. Leenu Mary Abrahan	17-Dec
Peter V. John		Dr. Ronnie Abraham	
Sumy Jacob		John Joshy	
Johnson G.Varughese		Lally Thomas	
Aaron S. George		Jarren Chacko	
Noah Alex		Sophia A. James	
Aaden James Abraham	13-Dec	Binsu Oommen	18-Dec
Geethu Angel Jacob		Reni P Raju	
Alexander Bennykutty		Dr. Jessy Skaria	
Melvin M. Philip	14-Dec	Saramma M. Philip	19-Dec
Shan M. Prem		Nimmy Annie Abraham	
Sherly Philip		Vinson Thomas	
Jacob K. Chacko		Dona E. Varghese	
Mathew Arun Thomas	15-Dec	Joel J. Eapen	20-Dec
Justin J. Mathew		Vivek Samuel	
Aashna Susan Varkey		V.C. Abraham	
Amit John Joseph		Sonia Tom	
Leena Riju Kuruvilla		Justin Thomas	
Mohan John Thomas		Mullasari Abraham Joseph	
Thomas Abraham	16-Dec	Serah Sabu	21-Dec
Jeff Abraham		Shoba Sara Mathew	
Dr. Sajan K. Eapen		Shaun M. Varghese	
Sherin Ann Thomas		Linu Abraham	
Christopher George		K.John Abraham	
Kevin Santhosh		Tinish Thomas	
Anjaly Skaria	16-Dec	Shreya Anish	22-Dec
		Sruthi Anish	
		David Mathew George	
		Mathews K. Alexander	

CONDOLENCES

1. Mr. Thomas Mathew, 61 years old, brother of Mr. Mohan John Thomas (ID # 358) of the Tabor area prayer group was called to eternal rest in Dubai.
2. Mr. P.V. Mathew, 91 years old, father of Mr. Charly P. Mathew (ID # 257) of the Ebenezer area prayer group was called to eternal rest in Athikayam, Kerala.
2. Mr. Jacob Thekil, 69 years old, brother-in-law of Mr. Raju M. Karikottu (ID # 144) of the Sharon area prayer group was taken to his heavenly abode in Houston, Texas.
3. Mr. K.E. Eapen, 88 years old, father of Mr. Joe Eapen (ID # 203) of the Bethel area prayer group and brother of Mrs. Rachelamma Koshy (ID # 183) of the Bethel area, and cousin of Mr. T.V. Mathew (ID # 115) was called to eternal rest in Kavungumprayar, Kerala.
4. Mr. M. M. Varkey, 95 years old, father of Mr. Joseph Varkey (ID # 232) of the Horeb area prayer group was called to eternal rest in Niranam, Kerala.

The Vicars and members of the Immanuel Parish express our heartfelt condolences. Let us uphold the bereaving family members in our thoughts and prayers.

DEC BIBLE QUIZ QUESTIONS

Bible portion Proverbs 11 to 20 chapters.

1. Pride follows by ---- but with humility comes ----- . (Fill the gap).
2. Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a ----- to any people. (Fill in the gap).
3. What makes a face cheerful ?.
4. A man can avoid evil through the fear of whom ?.
5. What is the splendor of the old ?.

Answers for November Bible Quiz [Proverbs 1-10]

1. 1:7, 2. 6:27, 3. 9:8-9, 4. 10:3, 5. 10:1 .

ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School	Dec.: Sunday school starts @ 9.30 am Dec. : Service Project: Toy and Food Drive	
Sevika Sanghom	Dec. 9: Monthly meeting @ 9.30 am	
Edavaka Mission	Prayer Meeting @ 7.30 pm via Zoom (Every Thursday)	
Senior Fellowship	Dec. 02: Monthly Meeting @ 10.00 am Dec. 14: Pakalveedu gathering	
House To House Christmas Caroling	11/26/23 (Sun.)	Sinai area
	12/02/23: (Sat.)	Sehion area
	12/03/23: (Sun.)	Sharon area
	12/08/23: (Fri.)	Horeb area
	12/09/23: (Sat.)	Jerusalem area
	12/10/23: (Sun.)	Hebron area
	12/15/23: (Fri.) 12/16/23: (Sat.) 12/17/23: (Sun.)	Ebenezer area Salem area Bethel area
12/22/23: (Fri.)	Bethlehem area	

NEW JUBILEE PROJECT FUND- RAISING INITIATIVES

1. Donor Tree:

Church Members who have donated more than \$15,000 dollars towards the Jubilee Project will be recognized on a donor tree that will be featured on a wall in the Jubilee Hall.

2. Room Sponsorships: Church Members or church organizations will have the opportunity to sponsor a new Room. Sponsors will be recognized on a 15 x 12-inch plaque.

Available room:

Multipurpose Room (1) @ \$25,000 each.



DECEMBER 2023 BIRTHDAYS



Saramma Thomas	1-Dec	Abraham Mathai	5-Dec
Thomas Mathew		Zachariah T. Kalathoor	
Thomas Thyparampil		Zaryan Mathew Sibin	
Mathew Varghese		Sheen Reni Kavalayil	
Annamma M. G.		Victor Varghese	6-Dec
Thankachan N. Samuel		Mariamamma Chandy	
Darly Sam		John G Mathai	
Daisy Varghese		Binu Pappachan	
Andrew Ajit Koshy		Nevin Abraham	7-Dec
Fiji C. George		Dancy John	
Juliet S. Abraham		Siby Mathew baby	
Aleena Koshy		Binson B Thomas	
Elizabeth Benni		George Eapen	8-Dec
Hana Liz George	Reenu Sara Sam		
Sheril Mathai	Lisa Mathew		
Susan Thomas	Princy Prasad		
Marykutty Varghese	Pamela Abraham	9-Dec	
Jessy Thomas	Sneha Anish		
Shiju T. Abraham	Teena M. Samuel		
Sandy Eapen	Robin Thomas		
Isabella Marie Eype	Reena Joe Varghese	10-Dec	
Sreya Varghese	Shirin Mathai		
Benzy Thomas	Alina Varkey		
Sunila Abraham	Royce Chankurethu Samuel		
Gia Isabelle Abraham	Jiana Saira Kuruvilla	11-Dec	
Jomon Kurian Thomas	Kurian Varghese		
Mikhael Mathew Karikottu	V.M Georgekutty		