

**IMMANUEL MAR THOMA CHURCH,
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STAFFORD, TX 77477**

VICAR

REV. JOSEPH JOHN

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Immanuel Mar Thoma Church

Houston, TX



ANNIVERSARY

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

(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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE OCTOBER 2024

| | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|
| Oct. 06 | Voluntary Evangelist's Sunday: Every Marthomite is a witness to the Kingdom of God | | |
| 8:00 AM | English HQ assisted by Bethlehem area prayer group | 1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel | 2 King 7: 3-11 1 Thess. 2:1-12 2 Tim 2: 1 -13 Luke 9: 1- 6 |
| 10:30 AM | Malayalam HQ assisted by Edavaka Mission | 1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel | 2 King 7: 3-11 1 Thess. 2:1-12 2 Tim 2: 1 -13 Luke 9: 1- 6 |
| Oct. 13 | Yuvajana Sunday: Youth—Period of life with meaningful vision | | |
| 8:00 AM | G3 & English HQ assisted by YF | Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel | Dan. 1: 1-21 Eph 6:10-18 Phil. 3:7-14 Luke 19:1-10 |
| 10:30 AM | Malayalam HQ assisted by Yuvajana Sakhyam | Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel | Dan. 1: 1-21 Eph 6:10-18 Phil. 3:7-14 Luke 19:1-10 |
| Oct. 17 | Thursday Holy Qurbana | | |
| 10:00 AM | Malayalam Holy Communion | | |
| Oct. 20 | Day of the differently abled: All are created in the image of God | | |
| 10:30 AM | English HQ assisted by HOPE | Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel | Gen. 1: 24-31 2 Cor. 12: 1-10 Phil. 2: 25-30 Mark 3:1-5 |
| Oct. 27 | Family Sunday: Family—Celebration of Relationships | | |
| 8:00 AM | G3 CFF & English HQ assisted by CFF | 1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel | Gen. 45:1-15 Acts 16:19-34 Col.3:18-25 Luke. 2:41-52 |
| 10:30 AM | Malayalam HQ assisted by Carmel Area Prayer group | 1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel | Gen. 45:1-15 Acts 16:19-34 Col.3:18-25 Luke. 2:41-52 |

Harvest Festival & Annual Auction



Immanuel Mar Thoma Church

HARVEST

Festival & Auction

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 19**

@ IMMANUEL CENTER
STARTING AT 9AM

**FRESHLY PREPARED ONSITE
FOOD AND SNACKS
WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE**

Auction: Please bring at least one item from home and buy a minimum of one item through the auction. You may bring home grown vegetables, homemade pickles, snacks, pictures, arts, paintings, and so on to the auction. Items can be dropped off on Friday evening at the Immanuel center or you can bring them by 8:30 am on Saturday. We will also have a variety of food and snack items prepared fresh on-site for you to buy and enjoy.

IMMANUEL MIDDLE AGE FAMILY FELLOWSHIP (IMAFF)
12803 Sugar Ridge Blvd, Stafford, TX 77477



PLATINUM

OCT. 13
SUN. 5:00 PM
At Immanuel Center

A Charitable Fundraiser
ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAM WITH DINNER

***** Dance, Music, Skit & Various Entertainment Programs *****

| 2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE | | |
|---|----------------------------|--------------|
| OFFICE BEARERS | | |
| Vicar | Rev. Joseph John | 713.330.5299 |
| Assistant Vicar | Rev. Santhosh Thomas | 832.837.4721 |
| Vice President | Mr. Mathew T. Scaria | 281.857.5611 |
| Secretary | Mr. P.M. Jacob | 832.567.0745 |
| Treasurer | Mr. Joy N. Samuel | 832.606.5697 |
| Accountant | Mr. Johnny M. Mathew | 281.704.6901 |
| Lay Leader (Malayalam) | Mr. Jeffrin. C Varghese | 346.888.7189 |
| Lay Leader (English) | Mr. Ajel John | 281.854.8078 |
| AREA REPRESENTATIVES | | |
| Bethel | Mr. Mathews Varghese | 832.205.6860 |
| Bethlehem | Mr. Varghese Rajesh Mathew | 832.630.0748 |
| Carmel | Mr. Mathew P. Varghese | 832.771.4723 |
| Ebenezer | Mr. Jacob Kunnumpurathu | 713.254.9448 |
| Hebron | Mr. John K. Philip | 832.744.0271 |
| Horeb | Mr. Rajan Daniel | 832.628.5481 |
| Jerusalem | Mr. Abraham Komattu | 281.750.5837 |
| Salem | Mrs. Annamma Jacob | 832.332.1007 |
| Sehion | Mrs. Mariamma Abraham | 516.467.7926 |
| Sharon | Mr. Thomas Thyparampil | 832.488.0545 |
| Sinai | Mr. Philip Mathew | 682.246.1255 |
| Tabor | Mr. John Varghese | 281.746.0005 |
| CHURCH ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES | | |
| Choir | Mr. Bibin George | 713.922.8232 |
| Edavaka Mission | Mr. Alexander Jacob | 469.982.1576 |
| Senior Fellowship | Mrs. Sara Philip | 281.889.8566 |
| Sevika Sanghom | Mrs. Lata Mathews | 832.205.6861 |
| Sunday School | Dr. Anita Joy Thomas | 630.864.1375 |
| Young Family Fellowship | Mr. Ajay Thomas | 281.948.5114 |
| Youth Fellowship | Mr. Daniel Kalathoor | 281.967.0607 |
| Yuvajana Sakhyam | Mr. Christopher George | 832.851.3597 |
| 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 | - | - |
| 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. Sam Thomas | 832.868.5465 |
| Auditor | Mr. Aji Daniel | 214.995.4232 |

FROM THE VICAR'S DESK



Dearly beloved in Christ Jesus,

This month, we observe Family Dedication Sunday on the 27th, as per the Church Lectionary. Family is an integral part of God's plan for our lives. It is within the family unit that our joys and sorrows, achievements and setbacks, dreams and frustrations are shared, and our lives find meaning and relevance. When God ordains a man and woman to become husband and wife, and joins them together in the sacrament of holy marriage, they are endowed with great privilege and responsibility. They are called to know and love each other, and be subject to each other out of reverence for Christ (Ephesians 5:21). They are called to participate in the creative act of God by bringing forth children and nurturing them in the ways of God. Our homes become places not only of nurture and growth, but also a sacred space where faith is imparted. Faith education and spiritual formation should not be confined to children alone, but should extend to all members of the family, including elders. Regardless of our age or experience, we are continually called to grow in our Christian faith and strive to become better followers of Christ each day. It is essential to recognize that our leadership and participation in the church and public spaces gain true relevance and integrity only when they are underpinned by our authentic witness within our families.

Blessed families, loving couples and righteous children do not happen by chance. It takes God's abundant blessing and human initiative to build blessed families. We need to invest our God-given resources and creativity to nurture our families. Expensive gifts cannot substitute for the time, patience, love and care that we need to bestow on each other on a daily basis. The values and principle that are lived in a small circle of the family are what makes love and solidarity in the church and larger society possible.

"The family is a necessary good for peoples, an indispensable foundation for society and a great lifelong treasure for couples. It is a unique good for children, who are meant to be fruit of love, of the total and generous self-giving of their parents" - Pope Benedict XVI

Prayerful Regards

Rev. Joseph John

JUBILEE PROJECT UPDATE

Construction activities continue to progress on a fast paced schedule. The metal structure for the gymnasium has been completed. Insulation and roofing work are in progress and should be completed in the next few weeks. After this the focus will be on exterior walls and bricks. The Jubilee Hall structure is being completed after which roofing activities will commence. The bank loan for the project has been approved and will be closed in October. Please honor your pledges and commitments to the project so that we can minimize the loan.

Above all, please remember the project in your daily prayers.

[WWW.IMMANUELMTC.ORG](http://www.immanuelmtc.org)

We invite members to check out the updated church website with new features and functionalities at www.immanuelmtc.org. There are several new features like updated lectionary, Bible Verses in three different languages, various channels for our organizations, exclusive channels for media that include podcasts, video and photo galleries, exclusive section for our church history, and that of the North American Diocese.

THE BIBLE

The Bible has 3,566,480 letters, 810,677 words, 31,175 verses, 1,189 chapters, and 66 Books. The longest chapter is the 119th Psalm. The middle verse is in the 8th verse of 118th psalm. The longest name is in the 8th chapter of Isaiah; it contains 18 letters.

The word "and" occurs 46,627 times, the word "Lord" 1855 times. The 37th chapter of Isaiah and the 19th chapter of 2 Kings are alike. The longest verse is Esther 8:9, the shortest is John 11:35. Ezra 7:12 has all the letters of the alphabet except the letter J. The name of God is not found in Esther. The word "boy" occurs in the Bible three times and the word "girl" two times.

Christ is the key to the entire book.

AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

AREA PRAYER GROUPS

Jerusalem area prayer meeting is arranged to be held on Sunday October 6th at 6:30 pm at the residence of Mr. Siju Philip (ID # 538). Address: 17214 Milrig Ct., Richmond, TX 77407.

Sinai area prayer meeting is arranged to be held on Sunday October 27th at 6:30 pm at the residence of Mr. Santosh K. Cheriyan (ID # 679). Address: 2910 Brinson Dr., Fresno, TX 77545.

Jerusalem area prayer meeting is arranged to be held on Sunday November 10th at 6:30 pm at the residence of Mr. Vinod Abraham (ID # 508). Address: 17607 Murrayfield Ct., Richmond, TX 77407.



Immanuel Center

For all your Celebrations



MEMBERS RATE FROM \$350 (FELLOWSHIP HALL) AND IMMANUEL CENTER FROM \$1000

CLEANING AND SET UP EXTRA

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT
JOHN MATHEW 832 656 1836
JOHN VARGHESE 832 938 8664



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10/19 - Harvest Festival & Auction
- 11/17 - Parish Day
- 11/30 - House to House Christmas Caroling starts
- 12/24 - Christmas Carol Service
- 12/30 -12/31 – Year End Retreat



AN APPEAL FROM THE TRUSTEES

As every one knows, the sole source of funding for operating the church is through the generous donations of its members. We are in the 10th month of the year, yet it's worrisome that we have collected only 35% of the budgeted annual contributions. Out of the 515 families, just 300 families have paid any subscription at all.

Kindly do your part to support the church financially. Please pay your subscriptions and other dues now rather than wait till the end of the year.

ZELLE PAYMENTS

Email address for the transaction is:

Immanuelmtconline@gmail.com



OCTOBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



| | |
|---|--------|
| Naveen Varghese & Christina Jose | 3-Oct |
| Siju Philip & Nisha John | 4-Oct |
| John Kurien & Mariamma J. Kurien | 5-Oct |
| Jacob Thomas & Lally Thomas | 6-Oct |
| Mathew Jacob & Sumy Jacob | 6-Oct |
| Preven C. Jacob & Tina V. Philip | 7-Oct |
| Reji V. Kurian & Mini T. Luke | 7-Oct |
| Cecil Koshy Mathew & Lesiley Susan Mathew | 7-Oct |
| Dr. Abraham Chacko Jr & Priya Ann Chacko | 8-Oct |
| Zachariah Koshy & Grace Zachariah | 9-Oct |
| Shiju Pappachan & Anjaly Skaria | 10-Oct |
| Sam Rajan Daniel & Courtney Woodson | 12-Oct |
| Saji Mathew & Mereena Mathew | 16-Oct |
| Santhosh Paul Joseph & Roshini E. Joseph | 16-Oct |
| Varghese Koshy & Jessy V. Koshy | 17-Oct |
| John Joshy & Aleykutty Joshy | 18-Oct |
| Saji John & Anitha Philip | 18-Oct |
| Ricky Kuruvilla & Monica Mathews | 20-Oct |
| Philip Thomas & Susha Thomas | 20-Oct |
| Samuel K. Samuel & Mariamma K. Samuel | 21-Oct |
| Aswin Cherian Mathew & Evelin Mary Sam | 22-Oct |
| Oommen K. Mathew & Mariamma Oommen | 23-Oct |
| M. A. Varughese & Annas M. Varughese | 24-Oct |
| Toby C. Thomas & Jamie S. Thomas | 25-Oct |
| George Jacob & Reena Jacob | 26-Oct |
| Vinod Abraham & Manju Abraham | 27-Oct |
| Dr. Sajan K. Eapen & Dr. Julie C. Eapen | 27-Oct |
| Santhosh J. Kalathra & Jiny Kalathra | 28-Oct |
| Jacob John & Gemini Jacob | 29-Oct |
| V.J. Thankachan & Mariyamma Thankachan | 30-Oct |

ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Sunday School | Oct. 9:30 am: Sunday school starts |
| Senior Fellowship | Oct. 05: Prayer meeting @ 10 am Oct. 10: Pakalveedu Fellowship @ 10 am Oct. 17: HQ in Malayalam @ 10 am |
| Yuvajana Sakhyam | Oct. 13: YS Sunday Oct. 13-20: YS Varam |
| IMAFF | Oct. 18: Prayer meeting @ 7:30 pm |

EDAVAKA MISSION SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

Mission Sunday: October 6th: Members to assist during the service. A one-year Bible reading plan will be distributed during the service.
 Neighborhood Mission: October 10, 2024, at 3 PM
 Cancer Survivors Meet: Friday, October 11, 2024, at 6 PM
 Family Enrichment Program: Saturday, Oct. 12th, 9:30 AM to 1 PM
Speaker: Very Rev. Dr. Sham P. Thomas

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) October 6th - VOLUNTEER EVENT (Sandwich Event for Homeless). Calling students 4th grade and up. Please check Sunday School Weekly Email for details and sign up here: <https://forms.gle/oYmNBNMB3Rv7oFZb6>
 (2) October 13th - IMAFF FAMILY NIGHT. Calling students interested to participate in a dance. Please email sundayschool.imtc@gmail.com and Crystal.samuel22@yahoo.com to volunteer.
 (3) October 19th - HALLELUJAH NIGHT. Please email sundayschool.imtc@gmail.com to volunteer.

ONE CALL NOW

Apart from announcements during service and newsletters, we use **One Call Now** communication platform to disseminate key information regarding church service and other activities. If you are not receiving regular emails or voice calls from parish, please contact the parish secretary.

CONDOLENCE

1. Mrs. Aleyamma Samuel, 84 years old, sister of Mrs. Rachelamma Koshy (ID # 183) of the Bethel area prayer group and aunt of Mr. Joe Eapen, and cousin of Mr. T.V. Mathew was called to eternal rest in Kavungumprayar, Kerala .

The Vicars and members of the Immanuel Parish express our heartfelt condolences. May our thoughts and prayers comfort and console the families during this time of bereavement.



OCTOBER 2024 BIRTHDAYS



| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|----------------------------|-------|
| Rosie Mathew | 1-Oct | Stanley Jacob | 9-Oct |
| Anisha Philip | | Sheeba M. Varghese | |
| Ajo T Koruthu | 2-Oct | Shawn Samuel Oommen | |
| K. J. Abraham | | Neal Johny | |
| Addyson Hope Varghese | 3-Oct | Jesmi Jacob | |
| Varkey T. Varkey | | Sarah Marie Thomas | |
| John Kurien | | Ajo Thomas | |
| Nakul P. Joy | 4-Oct | Sachin Kulkarni | |
| Terish Mathew Thomas | | Annamma Abraham | |
| Susan V. Kattappuram | | Christina Ann John | |
| Varghese K. Idiculla | 5-Oct | Brady Varkey Mathew | |
| Samuel K. Samuel | | Christian Alexander Mathew | |
| Acsah Beth Joseph | | Mercy Varghese | |
| Sosamma Varghese | 6-Oct | Varghese T. Mathai | |
| Sherin M. John | | Benjamin M Ninan | |
| Joshua Dennis Mathew | | Lian Jacob | |
| Rony Johnson | 7-Oct | Yohannan Mathunny | |
| Jissan Cherian | | Angel Annie Philip | |
| Reyan Abraham | | Thomas Koshy | |
| Ishaan Joseph James | 8-Oct | Baizil S. John | |
| Nikhil Raphael James | | Belinda Roy Thomas | |
| M.M. Thomas | | Robin John Kaarikottu | |
| Jacob Thomas | 9-Oct | Sosamma Samuel | |
| Anoop Kayyalackal Varghese | | Naveen Varghese | |
| Sheena Abraham | | Shane V. Matthew | |
| Rupesh Koshy | 10-Oct | Sharon A. Matthew | |
| Gijitha Jacob | | Annamma Mathai | |
| Joe P. Varghese | | Evelyn Marie Mathew | |
| Rija Dena Roby | 11-Oct | Shogan Reni Kavalayil | |
| Shanthi Cherian | | Josiah Jacob | |
| Kuruvilla Velangadan | | Isabelle Ann Mathew | |
| Sara Chacko | 12-Oct | Cyril Thomas | |
| Aji Varghese | | Joel M. John | |
| Stephen Kattuvilath Varghese | | Mariam Vicky Varghese | |
| Chandler J. George | 13-Oct | Shibi Babu | |
| Timothy Ajay Thomas | | Reena George | |
| Daniel Varghese | | Febin Jose | |
| Anugraha Ann Jeffrin | 14-Oct | Acha Ann Grace Jacob | |
| Edwintom Joseph | | Leah Philip | |
| Sherline Rachel David | | | |
| Sonia Eapen Varghese | 15-Oct | | |
| Veena Benny Chacko | | | |



OCTOBER 2024 BIRTHDAYS



| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| Jewel Elise George | 17-Oct | Thomas Samuel | 24-Oct |
| Sosamma Mathew | | Manoj George | |
| Nidhin Mathew Varghese | | Julie Varghese | |
| Minal Thomas | 18-Oct | Jonah Mathew | 25-Oct |
| Biju J. Thomas | | Sosamma George | |
| Aannamma Daniel | | Jonah Mathew | |
| Crystal N. Samuel | 19-Oct | Lincy George | 26-Oct |
| Neethu T Kourth | | Christopher Chacko | |
| Shibu John | | Dr. Thomas Kannankara | |
| Jaeron George Mathew | 20-Oct | Sujith Kurian | 27-Oct |
| Chris Sajeev | | Angel Mary Roy | |
| Johan Sajeev | | Caleb George Eapen | |
| Sheela George | 21-Oct | Tony V. Philip | 28-Oct |
| Sneha M. John | | Magie M. John | |
| Mereena Mathew | | Riya Regi | |
| Ethan Joji | 22-Oct | Justin J. Samuel | 29-Oct |
| George P. Thomas | | Thomas Mathew | |
| Julia Vera | | Dannie N Jacob | |
| Selah Ann Jacob | 23-Oct | Dr. Varghese George | 30-Oct |
| V.J. Thankachan | | Gracy Thomas | |
| Saramma Rajan | | Riju Kuruvilla | |
| Caroline Suzanna Chacko | 24-Oct | Susamma Oommen | 31-Oct |
| Sindhu P. Mathew | | Ruby Varghese | |
| Thomas O. Keerikattu | | Shiney SusanThomas | |
| Mithun Mathew Thomas | 25-Oct | Daniel T. Mathew | 31-Oct |
| Anil K. Oommen | | Reuben Kurian Thoams | |
| Elias Koshy | | P.I. Cherian | |
| Shawn B. Varghese | 26-Oct | Daisy A. Philip | 31-Oct |
| Emarie Mariam John | | Dr. Anita Abraham | |
| Mathew Daniel | | Shiju Kuruvilla | |
| Amelia Arun | 27-Oct | Abel Philip | 31-Oct |
| Gena Ceana Abraham | | Ann Philip | |
| Dr. Tara Ninan | | Sherin E. Varghese | |
| Naysa Ann Shybu | 28-Oct | Emmanie Olivia Thomas | 31-Oct |
| Amy Mercy Sinu | | Jince Jacob | |
| Elizabeth Thomas | | Talia Mathew | |
| Neha Abraham | 29-Oct | Jacob K. Alexander | 31-Oct |
| | | Michele Mariam Jacob | |
| | | Tessy Eapen | |
| | 30-Oct | Shibu Thomas | 31-Oct |
| | | Joyce John | |
| | | Elijah Sunny Praveen | |