

**IMMANUEL MAR THOMA CHURCH,
12803 SUGAR RIDGE BLVD.
STAFFORD, TX 77477**

VICAR

REV. JOSEPH JOHN

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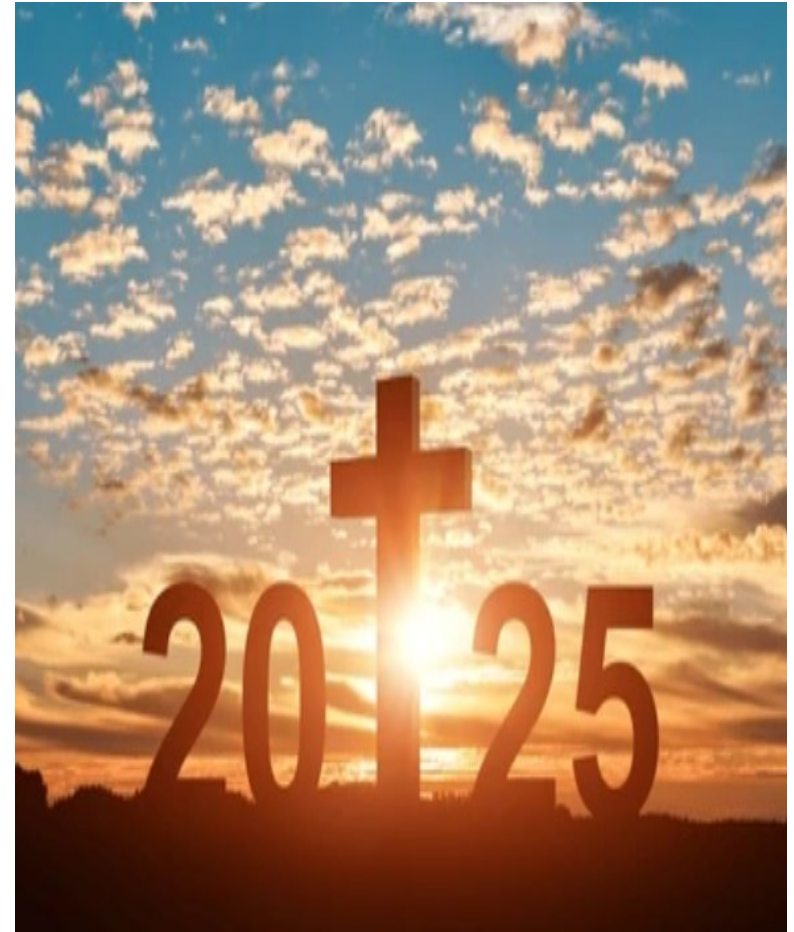
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Immanuel Mar Thoma Church

Houston, TX



Happy New Year!

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

(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 JANUARY 2025


Jan. 05 Mission outside Kerala			
8:00 AM	English HQ assisted by Bethel Area Prayer Group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Exod. 3:1-17 Acts. 16: 6-15 Rom. 10: 9--17 Luke 10: 1-11
10:30 AM	Malayalam HQ assisted by Bethlehem Area Prayer Group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Exod. 3:1-17 Acts. 16: 6-15 Rom. 10: 9--17 Luke 10: 1-11
Jan. 12 God of Peace			
8:00 AM	G3 & English HQ assisted by YF	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Micah. 4: 1-7 Rom. 5:1-11 Eph. 2:11-19 Matt 5:1-9
10:30 AM	Malayalam HQ assisted by Carmel Area Prayer Group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Micah. 4: 1-7 Rom. 5:1-11 Eph. 2:11-19 Matt 5:1-9
Jan. 16 Thursday Holy Qurbana			
10:00 AM	Malayalam Holy Communion		
Jan. 19 Ecumenical Sunday: The Church that needs to be one in Christ			
10:30 AM	English HQ assisted by Ebenezer Area Prayer Group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Zach. 8: 18-23 1 Cor. 1:10-18 Col. 3:9-17 John 17:13-23
Jan. 26 Christian Witness in the Public Sphere			
8:00 AM	G3 & English HQ assisted by CFF	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Amos. 5: 18-27 1 Pet. 3: 14-18 Col. 4:2-6 Luke 3:7-14
10:30 AM	Malayalam HQ assisted by Hebron Area Prayer Group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	Amos. 5: 18-27 1 Pet. 3: 14-18 Col. 4:2-6 Luke 3:7-14
Feb. 02 Medical Mission Sunday: Jesus who gives complete healing			
8:00 AM	English HQ assisted by Horeb Area prayer Group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	1 King 20: 1-11 Heb. 9: 11-14 James. 5:13-18 Mark. 5:25-34
10:30 AM	English HQ assisted by Jerusalem Area Prayer Group	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Epistle Gospel	1 King 20: 1-11 Heb. 9: 11-14 James. 5:13-18 Mark. 5:25-34

Year End Thoughts...

Very soon, the year 2024 will fade into the pages of history. As we are waiting the dawn of a new year, filled with hopes and dreams, let's reflect on the past year and thank God for all his steadfast love and faithfulness. The end of the year is an opportune time for us to celebrate the lessons we have learned, the growth we have experienced, and the memories we have made. When we review the successes we have achieved in the past as a parish, we can fully attest that God's hands remained real to us and that He alone guided us and directed our path. With a strong conviction, let's affirm what St. Paul wrote in 2 Tim. 1:12 "..... Because I know whom I have believed, I am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day".

The end of the year is a new beginning and a time to set new goals with respect to our relationship with the creator. Let's pause in God's presence to discern His will for us in our personal, family, and church life. Let's work together to lift our church to become a beacon of light and a place of rest and restoration to many inside and outside the church....Secretary, P.M. Jacob

HOPE Christmas 2024...



IMMANUEL MARTHOMA CHURCH
12803 Sugar Ridge Blvd, Stafford, TX 77477

HEAVEN'S OWN PRECIOUS EYES

HOPE CHRISTMAS 2024




MESSAGE:
REV. GEORGE OOMMEN
RTD. PROF. UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY BANGALORE

CHOIRS FROM VARIOUS CHURCHES ARE PARTICIPATING

PRESENTATION OF PLAY BY HOPE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2025 @ 6 PM



2025 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	832.929.3994
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 ASST. VICAR'S DESK



Dear Beloved in Christ

Greetings to you all in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

As we welcome the new year, let us first take a moment to thank God for His unwavering grace and blessings in 2024. The past year was a testament to His faithfulness, and as a parish family, we have much to be grateful for. I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who actively participated in the Christmas celebrations and all activities in connection with Christmas. Your involvement in all services, Carol singing, and other festive programs brought so much joy and truly reflected the spirit of Christ's love and unity. The decorations, music, and fellowship were not only uplifting but also a beautiful reminder of the light Jesus brings into our lives. Thank you for your commitment and dedication.

As we step into the new year, let us do so with renewed hope, faith, and purpose. The words of Lamentations 3:22-23 assure us: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness." These words remind us that God's mercy is fresh and sufficient for each new day, and as we begin this year, we can trust in His guidance and provisions. The beginning of a new year is a time for reflection and renewal. It is an opportunity to look back with gratitude and look forward with faith. While we may have faced challenges in the past year, we are reminded in Philippians 3:13-14: "Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." Let us leave behind anything that hinders our spiritual growth and press forward in faith, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

This year, I encourage each of us to make space in our lives for God to do something new. Let us prioritize time with Him—in prayer, worship, and the reading of His Word—so that we may discern His will for our lives. As a Parish family, let us strive to be a source of love, hope, and support to one another and to our community. May we become the hands and feet of Christ, reaching out to the lonely, the broken, and the weary with His love. Let us also remember that God has a purpose for us as individuals and as a Parish. In 2025, let us commit to growing stronger in our faith and being faithful stewards of the resources and opportunities He has given us. Together, we can make this year a meaningful one by serving others, sharing the Gospel, and living lives that honor God.

We both aches and families wishing each of you and your families a blessed, joyful, and Christ-filled new year. May the Lord's peace, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Him throughout this year. May His favor rest upon you, and may you experience His blessings in every area of your life.

In Christ's love and service,

Rev. Santhosh Thomas,
Asst. Vicar

JUBILEE PROJECT UPDATE

Construction activities are progressing per schedule. Exterior work for the gymnasium is on schedule to be completed by the end of December . Inside the gymnasium, mechanical and electrical work is underway as well as framing for the interior walls and doors. Waterproofing of the extension is being completed this week after which exterior work will be started. By mid January both of the buildings will be completed on the outside. Interior framing, electrical, and mechanical work are being finalized in the extension.

Please continue to support the project financially if you have not done so. Above all. keep the project in your prayers.

Personal Loans: So far, we have raised close to 1 million dollars by way of this well received, personal loan program. The committee has set a cut-off date of January 31, 2025, to receive any more personal loans. That is, if you still want to subscribe to this program, do so before January 31st, 25.

Donor Tree: Any family who has paid a total contribution of 15,000 dollars towards the jubilee Project is eligible for this recognition. \$15 K will include your room sponsorships and legacy brick donations. The cutoff date for this is February 28, 2025.

New Year Resolutions...

".....Just for today, I will live through this day, and not set far-reaching goals to try to overcome all my problems at once.

Just for today, I will be happy,. Abraham Lincoln said. "Most folks are happy as they make up their mind s to be." I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me.. I will chase them out of mind and replace them with happy thoughts.

Just for today, I will accept reality. I will correct those things that I can correct and accept those things that I can not.

Just for today, I will improve my mind. I will not be a mental loafer. I will force myself to read something that requires effort and concentration.

Just for today, I will do something positive to improve my health. If I am overweight , I will eat nothing I know will be fattening. And, I will force myself to exercise even if it's only walking around the block.

Just for today, before I speak I will ask myself, "Is it true?, Is it kind?" and if the answer to either of those questions is negative, I won't say it.

Just for today, I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will look as good as I can, talk softly, act courteously, and not interrupt when someone else is talking. Just for today, I will try not to improve anybody except myself.

Just for today, I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it, thereby saving myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

Just for today, I will gather the courage to do what is right and take the responsibility for my own actions.

To one and all, Happy New Year!"...Reprinted

JANUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (CONTD...)

Sunil Abraham & Jency Abraham	27-Jan
Saban P. Samuel & Kunjumol Saban	27-Jan
Mathew Daniel & Mariamma Mathew	28-Jan
Thomas Varghese & Susamma Thomas	29-Jan
Steve K. Joshy & Blessy Parayil Thomas	29-Jan
Rajan Daniel & Regeena Daniel	30-Jan
Charles Chacko Kuzhivila & Jaycee Charles	30-Jan
Ashwin George Jacob & Jilu Anna George	31-Jan

CONDOLENCES (CONTD...)

Mr. T.M. Verghese, 77 years old, co-brother of Mr. Koshy Thekethundiyl (ID# 183) of the Bethel area prayer group was called to eternal rest in Dallas, TX.

Mrs. Mary Mathew, 93 years old, elder sister of Mrs. Saramma Rajan (ID # 103), Mr. Mathai P. Koshy (ID # 109), and Mr. P.M. Jacob (ID # 101) was called to eternal rest in Amalloor, Thiruvalla.

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.

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.

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.

ZELLE PAYMENTS

Email address for the transaction is:

Immanuelmtconline@gmail.com



JANUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Sibi Varghese Chacko & Annie Varghese	2-Jan
Ajo Thomas & Roshu Thomas	2-Jan
Sai Pappachan & Solly Sai	2-Jan
Fiji C. George & Sindhu George	3-Jan
Thomas Mathews Koshy & Maggie Thomas Koshy	3-Jan
Kuruville Velangadan & Usha Kuruville	4-Jan
Sam Alexander & Sheryll Mathew	4-Jan
Tinish Thomas & Shery Cherian	4-Jan
Abraham G. Valavil & Jessy A. Valavil	5-Jan
Roy Chacko & Emmy Chacko	5-Jan
Abraham Mathew & Valsamma Abraham	5-Jan
Varghese K. Idiculla & Mercy Varghese	6-Jan
Tony V. Philip & Rani Susan Varghese	7-Jan
Rev. Jaison A Thomas & Sherin Ann Thomas	7-Jan
Sam Mathunny & Betsy Sam	9-Jan
Mathew Thomas & Sosamma Mathew	9-Jan
Bibi K. Samuel & Nisha Varghese	9-Jan
Isac Thomas & Mini S. Thomas	9-Jan
Benson Mathew & Dr. Julie Ann Mathew	9-Jan
Arun Kuruville Roy & Rosemin Mary John	10-Jan
Shibu A. Abraham & Annu Abraham	10-Jan
Varghese Thomas & Susan Varghese	11-Jan
Mevin John Abraham & Liny Chacko	11-Jan
Kunnel M. Mathew & Annamma Mathew	11-Jan
Rajiv N Jacob & Leny S Jacob	12-Jan
Thomas P Abraham & LillyKutty Abraham	12-Jan
Abraham Chacko & Sara Chacko	13-Jan
Mathai Ninan & Achamma Ninan	14-Jan
Abby Theckmuryil Thomas & Cissy George	15-Jan
Abraham Mathew & Ammini Abraham	15-Jan
Titus Eapen & Sheila Eapen	16-Jan
Sam Abraham & Susan Punnoose	16-Jan
Jacob Kunnumpurath & Aleyamma Jacob	17-Jan
Abraham P. Mathew & Susan Abraham	17-Jan
Peter V. John & Aleyamma John	17-Jan
Varghese Kalathoor & Beena V. Kalathoor	17-Jan
Smijo M. Mathew & Asha Serah Mathew	17-Jan
Shibu P. Varghese & Shibi Babu	17-Jan
Abraham K. Jose & Elsy Jose	18-Jan
Samuel K. George & Vidya E. George	18-Jan
Gino P. Abraham & Suma G. Abraham	18-Jan
Thomas M. Varghese & Marykutty Varghese	19-Jan
Joseph John & Annie J. John	20-Jan
Thomas Samuel & Latha Thomas	20-Jan
Shejo Joe Cherian & Reni P Raju	20-Jan
M.M. Thomas & Molykutty Thomas	21-Jan
George Philip & Annamma Philip	21-Jan
Jose K. George & Sobha Jose	23-Jan
Thomas A.S. & Mariamma Thomas	24-Jan
Bino Thomas & Mariamma Mathew	24-Jan
Ricku Philip George & Jeena Mathew Polachirackel	24-Jan
Thomas Mathew & Amminikutty Thomas	26-Jan
Thomas. P.A & Sherly Thomas	26-Jan
George Thomas & Mariamma Thomas	27-Jan

ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School	9:30 am: Sunday school starts Jan. 12: Sunday school Exam
Senior Fellowship	Jan. 04: Monthly Prayer Meeting @ 10:00 am Jan. 09: Pakalveedu Fellowship @ 10:00 am Jan. 16: HQ in Malayalam @ 10:00 am
CFF	Jan. 10: Prayer Meeting @ 7:00 pm Jan. 31: Prayer Meeting @ 7:00 pm
IMAFF	Jan. 17: Prayer meeting at the residence of Mr. Vinu Jacob @ 7:30 pm
YFF	Jan. 11: Prayer meeting at the residence of Mr. Ninan Kalloor (ID # 509) @ 11:30 am

AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

AREA PRAYER GROUPS	Sinai area prayer meeting is arranged to be held on Sunday January 5th at 6:30 pm at the residence of Mr. Cherian Mathew (ID # 639). Address: 3639 Lister Dr., Rosharon, TX
	Bethel area prayer meeting is arranged to be held on Saturday January 11th at 6:00 pm at the residence of Mr. Zachariah Kalathoor (ID # 373). Address: 22 Castillo Ln., Missouri City, TX 77459. Area representative to the managing committee will be elected during this mtg.

CONDOLENCES

Mr. Jayan Kurian, 57 years old, cousin brother of Mr. Aju Abraham John (ID # 455) of the Sinai area prayer group was taken to his heavenly abode at Varikkad, Thiruvalla.

Mrs. Liji Reji Thomas, cousin of Mr. Aju Abraham John, (ID # 455) of the Sinai area prayer group, was taken to her heavenly abode at Mumbai, India

Mr. Itty K. Cherian, 82 years old, father of Mrs. Sheena Thomas (ID # 530) of the Tabor area prayer group, was called to eternal rest in Bangalore, India.

Mr. GeeVarughese Pathicheril, 75 years old, brother of Mrs. Deenamma Jacob (ID # 191) of the Sharon area prayer group was called to eternal rest in Germany.

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.



JANUARY 2025 BIRTHDAYS



Baby Oommen	1-Jan	Ashley Mary Samuel	9-Jan
Merin Jose		Abraham Mathew	
Malachi Chacko Abraham		Shanah Abraham	
Jonah Abraham Ninan		Ciara Ann Oommen	
Alvin Joseph Sam		Ranjith J. John	
Angel Mariam John		Jincy Thankan Cherian	
Susan Samuel		Rachel Varughese	
		Dave Cherian Mathew	
Gracy Mathew	2-Jan	Eivan Sajan	10-Jan
Dr.Chris Cherian		Annamma Philip	
Mariamamma Kurian		Arun Varghese	
Mariamamma Thomas		Jicky Kuruvilla	
Ajay Phillip Mammen	3-Jan	Christian Simon Chacko	12-Jan
Sam Mathunny		Nivedh John Joseph	
Aleyamma George		Jaden Bobby Kalathoor	
Beena Valiaparambil		Benita Merin Mathai	
Sam Mathew	4-Jan	Harshal Thomas	13-Jan
Noelle Saranna John		Ruby Varkey	
Dr. Suraj M. Cherry		Ethan J Chacko	
Bibi K. Samuel	5-Jan	George C Philip	14-Jan
Jaison Thomas		Kanmony Mathew	
Abraham K. Jose		Preetha Kurian	
Aleyamma Samuel		Sam Mathew	
Evana Ann Abu		Nijani Phip	
Roy Jacob		Sonu E. Mathew	
Theresa Anne George	7-Jan	Alan Koshy	15-Jan
Jaycee Charles Chacko		Selena Patel Mathew	
Kaitlyn Philip		Aiden S. George	
Thomas Mathews Koshy		Steffi Mariam Alex	
Christina R. Anaghan	8-Jan	Mathew Philip	16-Jan
Calvin Chacko		Leena Thomas	
Aaron Varghese Jeffrin		Smilo Kuruvilla	
		Abhijit V. Roy	
		Micah Varghese	
		Liji Jacob	
		William John	



JANUARY 2025 BIRTHDAYS



K. K. John	17-Jan	Liam Mathew Samuel	23-Jan
Sanoj J. Eapen		Jewel Zachariah	
Joe Eapen		K. Johnson	
Rahul R. Varughese		Jiny Kalathra	
Hannah Elizath Eapen		Johanathan Joji	
K. T. Sajee		Johnson Samuel	
Girija Shaiji	18-Jan	Aleyamma Abraham	24-Jan
Jennifer Susan Chacho		Aleyamma Jacob Chacko	
Felix Abraham		Santhosh K. Varghese	
Leny S Jacob		Mathew C. Samuel	
Diya Elizabeth John		Twinkle Mariam Thomas	
Abhishek V. George		Kayla Ann Ninan	
Abraham K.M	19-Jan	Beena Joseph	25-Jan
Justin Mathew		Kayla Puthenmadathil	
Binoy George		Nicole Thomas	
Accamma A. Koshy		Nathan John Thomas	
Thomas P. Daniel		Anpu Mathews Varghese	
Andrew Terish Thomas		Varghis George	
Renu Thomas John	20-Jan	Jacob K Chacko	26-Jan
Regy T. Varghese		Abigail Leah Lijoy	
Gracious John		Isaac Easow	
Annamma Mathew		Aaron Thomas Vinod	
Abraham Mathew		Anieamma Joseph	
Annie Kuruvilla		Cissy George	
Shebin Chandy Thottiyil	21-Jan	Varghese Kalathoor	27-Jan
Sneha Varghese		John Varghese	
Hannah Thomas		Mariamamma Abraham	
Julia Sara Mathew		Remya Mariam Rency	
Joshua G. Abraham		Thomas Varghese	
Mariamamma K Varghese		Mathew O. Keerikattu	
Sam Varghese	22-Jan	Hannah Abraham	28-Jan
Annu Abraham		Julie P John	
C. C. Mathew		Joji Itty	
Susan Mathew		Ricku Philip George	
Leah Susan Mathew		Nishanth Samuel	
Raju M. Karikottu		Neha Mathew	
Dr. Judy George Chandy	29-Jan	Ann Kurien	29-Jan
Daniel philip		Seth Mathew Abraham	
Leah Philip		Arin Luke Koruthu	
Dijo Mathews		Jesslin Elizabeth Abraham	
	30-Jan	Jency Mathew	30-Jan
		Elias V. Samuel	
		Michael John Chirayil	
	31-Jan	Hannah Thomas	31-Jan
		Jimmy Abraham	