### OSSAE-OKR BANGALORE ZONE

### E-BODHINÍ(NEWSLETTER)



Vol 6: 2017 September

(for private / internal circulation)

### **Message from Thirumeni**

29th September 2017

#### **BLESSINGS!**

Some of you must have attended the Bangalore Zone's Sunday school camp Nuhro 2017. The attendance this year was less than expected, probably due to the long vacation both children and parents had together. Looks like most people has given priority to family vacation than the Sunday school camp.

Sunday school camp is a unique experience, mostly organized at serene locations surrounded by nature, away from the city noise. Primary purpose of a Sunday school camp is spiritual enrichment of the children. We always try to get the best resource persons to handle the sessions.

It is also a time you get independence to manage your own life independently, of course under the supervision of elders. There is a strict schedule of classes, prayers, liturgy, games music etc. to train you to lead an orderly and disciplined life. Children get opportunity to lead the prayers, anchor the sessions and enrich their talents.

Present generation has their own issues, which many a times are not well handled by your parents. the Sunday school camp try to fill this lacunae by addressing the issues faced by the current generation.

True spiritual life is a life of repentance, the culmination of all these session is to enable you to identify your weaknesses, fears and to grasp that God Almighty give grace to be victorious. You share your issues in confession and get rejuvenated in Holy communion.

Not to forget all the leisure you are going to have with music, games, good food, good friends and mentors you are going to have. Blessing to all those who have used the opportunity to attend the camp this year and urge others to plan and not to miss the camp next year!

May God Almighty bless you!

- Seraphim Thirumeni

**H.G. Dr. Abraham Mar Seraphim,** Metropolitan, Bangalore Diocese



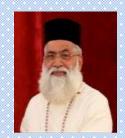
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Your Word
is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path.

Psalm 119:105

### Message from Vice President Achan,



Fr. T K Thomas Cor-Episcopa Vice President - Bangalore Diocese

"So, then, be careful how you live. Do not be unwise but wise, making the best use of your time because the times are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is". Ephesians 5:15-17

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings and Blessings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Time is a priceless commodity, it is a precious asset. We should spend it wisely in this world. Our welfare in this life and the life to come depends on how we use our time. If we waste our time in this life we cannot expect much wealth and prosperity in our life. Time when past, cannot be recovered. We possess so many things in this world that can be regained with some more pain or effort, but the time we spend can never be recovered back.

A person who has enough money, if he starts to spend it recklessly and waste it, surely we call him an insane or someone who is out of his mind. Time is more precious than money. So we must give careful thought to how we spend our time. Are we spending our time wisely? I was told about a boy who took two hundred selfies for a perfect one. We also spend too many hours watching television or browsing internets and using cell phones but find no time for prayer and Bible study. Mismanagement of Time and lack of discipline are the two most important reasons for our failures. Let us examine our time schedule, budget it properly and manage it wisely. Do not forget to set apart some time for prayer and Bible study as they are the vital tools for our Christian growth.

Wise use of time and resources as true Christians will be rewarded with prosperity in this world and a joyful eternal life in the world to come. The Bible exhorts us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age". Titus 2:12.May God help us to live according to His will.

I appreciate and congratulate the E-Bodhini editorial team and all the contributors of this edition for making it happen once again. May God bless us all.

With love and prayers

**Fr. T K Thomas Cor-Episcopa** Vice President, OSSAE-OKR, Bangalore Diocese 29-September-2017

### **Message from Diocesan Director**

"Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger". St. James 1:19

If you watch most of the 24x7 news channels, most of the time report of true facts do not happen, but what happens is discussion of the anchor with 8 to 10 panelists, all of them incessantly talking, not listening to others, interrupting others and not letting others speak. Continuous verbal assault has become the order of the day. Where one cannot speak, written communication of pictures, comments etc. take the place of speaking. This is what we see in social media, where everyone is an expert, scholar, philosopher and a visionary!

Secular world looks up to the one who speaks well. In debates, the winner is the one who dominates others with their views and voice. Even we consider the priest who speak a lot with great vocabulary as the most spiritual. This may not be true.

Our Lord's brother and Apostle thinks, this is not the right thing to do, you should be quick to grasp, i.e. quick to grasp what others say, what others need, and what are their concerns. Not your opinion, biases, anger, jealousy, insecurity etc.

Talking without thinking creates lot of problems in our daily life. We tend to spread the stories we hear without verifying the truth of matter, even if what we hear is true, spreading it may not do any good to the listener or the person about whom we talk.

Good Leaders liked by many, are good listeners. In many situations, listening to the others, console them. People want to share their problems, listening to them patiently itself, many a times cure their problem. Often, we talk to display our knowledge, our glory and to seek appreciation from men. We do not care about doing what pleases God. Psalmist says, "Be still, and know that I am God" Psalm 46:10. Stillness and Silence are related. Being still, not only conveys being silent, but also refraining from all thoughts and being present before God. Then only, we can experience the Holy presence of Almighty and have meaningful communion with Godhead.

Let us heed to St. James exhortation "be quick to hear, and be slow to speak"

May God Almighty, God of peace bless you!

Mr Kuruvilla Varghese Diocesan Director OSSAE-OKR, Bangalore Diocese

29-September-2017

### **Diocesan News**

### **Diocesan competition 2017**

Date: 18-Oct-2017, Wednesday

Venue : St. Thomas Orthodox Church, Bangalore East

Time : 9 am to 3 pm.

Annual examination / Inter- Diocesan competition 2016.
Toppers from Bangalore Diocese

### **OKR Class X Final Examination 2016**

GRADE A+,

Ryan Jacob Samuel, St. Mary's Valiyapally, Jalahalli, Bangalore

### **Inter-Diocesan Competition 2016 Winners**

PRATIBHA (First in Elocution), Jane ElizabethhVaidhyan, St. Mary's Valiyapally, Jalahalli, Bangalore

VIGNANI (First in Essay Writing), Elisa Thomas, St. Gregorios Cathedral, Hyderabad







### OSSAE-OKR Annual General Body Meeting (2016-17).

The Annual general body meeting of the Orthodox Syrian Sunday school Association of the East – Outside Kerala Region (OSSAE-OKR) for the year 2016-17 was held at St. Thomas Orthodox Theological Seminary (STOTS), Nagpur on 16th and 17thSeptember 2017.

H.G. Joseph Mar Dionysius, Metropolitan of the Kolkata Diocese, H.G. Dr. Abraham Mar Seraphim, President of the OSSAE-OKR, Rev. Fr. Dr.Reji Mathew, Director General of OSSAE and Rev. Fr. Dr.Bijesh Philip, Director of OSSAE-OKR gave leadership to the AGM. The Diocesan Vice-presidents, Diocesan Directors, Diocesan and Zonal Secretaries, Diocesan, Zonal and District representatives, District Inspectors, Headpersons, teachers and student who are winners of Examinations and art competitions participated in the event.

H.G. Dr. Abraham Mar Seraphim, President of the OSSAE-OKR felicitated the former president H.G. Joseph Mar Dionysius during the inaugural function. Rev. Fr. Dr.Bijesh Philip gave the welcome

address. The theme of this year's AGM was Communion and Community. H.G. Joseph Mar Dionysius introduced the theme and Rev. Fr. Dr.Reji Mathew gave the keynote address on the theme.

Rev. Fr. Thomas Oommen, Vice-president, Hyderabad Zone, Mr. Thomas George, OSSAE-OKR OVBS Secretary and Mr. Kuruvilla Varghese, Diocesan Director, represented Bangalore diocese at the event.





The executive committee of the OSSAE-OKR was held on 16th September, followed by the AGM. Rev. Fr. John Mathew presented the Annual accounts 2016-17 and the Budget for the year 2017-18. The event was concluded on 17th September with Valedictory function, where the winners of the annual examination and arts competition were felicitated. Mar Theodosius Memorial Award sponsored by St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox MahaEdavaka, Kuwait was also presented to the highest-Grade Holders of Class 10 and Class 12. H.G. Dr. Abraham Mar Seraphim gave the awards and mementos to the winners.

Ms. Elisa Thomas, St. Gregorios Orthodox Cathedral, Hyderabad received the Vignai award for winning the Essay writing in Inter Diocesan competition 2016. The Pratibha award for being first in Elocution was awarded to Ms. Jane Elizabeth Vaidhyan, St. Mary's Orthodox Valiyapally, Jalahally, and Mr. Ryan Jacob Samuel got the award for Grade A+ in Class 10 examination 2016. Diocesan director received the award on behalf of them

- Mr. Kuruvilla Varghese Director, OSSAE-OKR Bangalore Diocese

### **Zonal News - Bangalore**

### ORTHODOX SYRIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF THE EAST OUTSIDE KERALA REGION - Bangalore Zone

By the Grace and blessings of God Almighty, the Sunday School academic year 2017 commenced on 01st January 2017. Total number of students registered as on September 2017 for the academic year is 1474 with 244 teachers. It was decided that all the competitions of the year 2017 of Bangalore Zone including the Diocesan Level should be held before November 2017. Cut off dates were also mentioned for every event.

The Annual day of the Bangalore Zone Sunday Schools 2016 was held at St. Baselios Orthodox Church, Marathahalli on 19th February 2017 and our beloved Thirumeni presided over the meeting. Vice President Achen and Vicars of few parishes were also present for the entire event. Almost all the Sunday Schools performed different cultural programs. The hospitality and the sumptuous meal and refreshments provided by the host parish was excellent and special thanks to Rev. Fr. Moncy P. Chacko, the Vicar of the host parish, Managing Committee members, Head Mistress Mrs. Sheenu Mammen, Teachers and Parents. The efforts put forth by them is worth mentioning. E-Bodhini Vol. 5 was released during the Annual Day.

The Annual General Body Meeting 2016 was held at St. Dionysius Orthodox Church, Dasarahalli on 28th May 2017. Sincere thanks to our Thirumeni for His Grace's presence in the meeting. Vice President Very Rev. T.K. Thomas Corepiscopa and Diocesan Director Mr. Kuruvilla Varghese were present for the meeting. Special thanks to the Vicar of the parish, Rev. Fr. Skariah Mathew, Managing Committee members, HM, Teachers and Parents for helping us to hold the meeting. Thank the host parish for their pleasant hospitality and providing delicious refreshments on that day.

The essay competitions were held on 11th June 2017 at respective parishes for the Senior and Secondary level. The results of the competition was announced after evaluation of the essay scripts. Half yearly examination of all classes from Preparatory to Class XII was held on 30th July 2017 at respective parishes.

The Arts Competitions of Solo Singing, Elocution, Group Song and Quiz was conducted on the 25th August 2017 at two Districts of Bangalore Zone. District I competitions were held at St. George Orthodox Church, Indiranagar and District II competitions were held at Mar Gregorios Orthodox Church, Hebbal. The Group song was conducted as per the OKR rules this year with three groups namely BUDS, PREMIERS and TEENS resulting in 21 teams participating. In order to save time, solo singing and elocution competitions were held parallel. Both the districts' venue parishes made excellent arrangement for the smooth conduct of the competitions. The sumptuous breakfast, lunch, tea and snacks provided is worth mentioning. Special thanks to Vicars of both the host parishes for their dedication, guidance and support in making all the arrangements for the day. The Managing committee members of the host parishes require special mention for the whole hearted support rendered. Special appreciation to the HMs, AHMs, teachers and parents for the hard work put forward to make everything possible for the day. Coordination by the Executive Committee Members in assisting the Zone as Team of Coordinators, Team for Tabulation, Coordination with Judges, Grading Panel and the most difficult job of Time-keeping was done excellently by our HMs of different parishes and Office Bearers of Bangalore Zone. Special Thanks to Mr. Thomas George and Mr. Jose Varghese for their help in grading the competition results. Very Rev. John Thomas Corepiscopa, Rev. Fr. V.P. Idichandy Rev. Fr. Koshy Thomas, Rev. Fr. Bino Samuel, Rev. Fr. Shobin Daniel and Rev. Fr. Jacob Mathew were present during the competitions. Vice President of OSSAE-OKR Bangalore Diocese Very Rev. T.K. Thomas Corepiscopa was present at District 1 from the beginning till the end of the Competitions. Special thanks to Achen for timely guidance and support rendered to the Zone. Bangalore Diocesan Director Mr. Kuruvilla Varghese guided and supported District 2 during the competitions. For the first time the zone had invited 14 judges to judge various events at both the districts.

All the events have taken place as per schedule until now. The Sunday School Students Camp NUHRO 2017 is scheduled for the 29th, 30th September and 1st October 2017. The venue for the camp is finalized as Ecumenical Christian Centre, Whitefield. The Theme is finalized as ASK- Ask, Seek, Knock - St. Matthew 7:7.

The fifth edition of our E-Bodhini publication – was published during the Annual Day 2016 Celebration on 19th February 2017. Mr. Biju Prasad, Chief Editor of E-Bodhini has worked with sincerity and total dedication to consolidate the materials received from students and teachers of various sunday schools and to release this edition successfully.

We express our gratitude and acknowledge the encouragement, support and blessings of H.G. Dr. Abraham Mar Seraphim, Metropolitan of Bangalore Diocese and President of OSSAE-OKR. Our gratitude to Very Rev. T. K. Thomas Cor-Episcopa (Vice President, Bangalore Diocese) for leading and guiding us at all times. We thank all our Vicars,

Director, Office-bearers, Headmaster/mistress, Teachers, Parents and Students for their guidance and support throughout the year in all activities of the Bangalore Zone Sunday School.

2017 so far has been a blessed year as things are moving forward as we had planned and we thank God Almighty for the blessings and strength showered on each one of us.

The greatest gift that our church has to offer to the children is the strong faith that has been passed down through the generations. So let us all work together for the betterment of the Sunday school and guide and help our dear children to know and come closer to our Lord Jesus Christ. "For, from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen".

Thank you - Mrs. Lousy Biju 12th Sept. 2017

Zonal Secretary, OSSAE-OKR Bangalore Zone

## OSSAE-OKR BANGALORE ZONE Results of district level competitions (A+ Grade Winners & selected for diocesan level)

### Results of Essay Competition held on 11th June 2017.

Event	District	istrict Name of Student Category C		Church	Grade	
Essay	District 1	Susanna P. Yeldo	Senior	St. Gregorios O Cathedral SS	A+	
		Riya Thomas	Senior	St. Thomas OMESS, Blore East	A+	
		Richa Mariam Kurian	Senior	St. Thomas OMESS, Blore East	A+	
		Christal Biju	Senior	St. Thomas OMESS, Blore East	A+	
		Joel B Mathew	Senior	St. Joseph OCSS, Horamavu	A+	
		Namitha Sara Varughese	Senior	St. Joseph OCSS, Horamavu	A+	
		Sherin Johnson	Secondary	Mar Yuhanon Mamdana OCSS, KR Puram	A+	
		Sona Saju	Secondary	St. Mary's OCSS, Begur	A+	
		Angela Mariyam Eapen	Secondary	St. Mary's OCSS, Begur	A+	
		Namitha Sarah Biju	Secondary	St. Mary's OCSS, Begur	A+	
	District 2	Sona Yohannan	Senior	St. Gregorios OCSS, Mathikere	A+	
		Elizabeth Eldo	Senior	Mar Gregorios OCSS, Hebbal	A+	
		Ann C. Anil	Senior	Mar Gregorios OCSS, Hebbal	A+	
		Benita Biju	Senior	Mar Gregorios OCSS, Hebbal	A+	
		Tanya Ann Thomas	Senior	Mar Gregorios OCSS, Hebbal	A+	
		Reethu Lee Thomas	Senior	St. Mary's O Valiyapally SS, Jalahalli	A+	
		Natasha Rachel Sinu	Senior	St. Mary's O Valiyapally SS, Jalahalli	A+	
		Abel Mathew Skariah	Senior	St. Dionysius OCSS, Dasarahalli	A+	
		Steffy Mary Mathew	Secondary	St. Gregorios OCSS, Mathikere	A+	
		Jisha Mariyam G	Secondary	St. Mary's O Valiyapally SS, Jalahalli	Α	

### OSSAE-OKR BANGALORE ZONE Results of zonal level competitions

### Results of Solo-Singing and Group Song held on 25-Aug-2017.

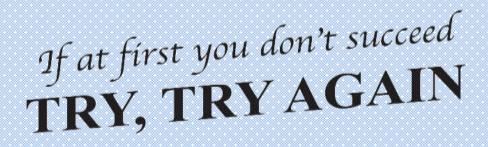
Event	District	Name of Student	Category	Church	Grade
Singing	District 1	Jaden Thomas Oommen	Sub Junior	inior St. Thomas O Maha Edavaga, Bglr Eas	
		Mishca Sarah Philip	Philip Sub Junior St. Joseph OC, Hormavu		A+
		Aleena Grace Alex	Sub Junior	St. George OC, Indira Nagar	A+
		Irene Raechel Roby	Sub Junior	St. Mary's OC, Begur	A+
		Thomas Koshy	Junior	St. Joseph OC, Hormavu	A+
		Ronel Alex George Junior St. Baselio		St. Baselios OC, Marathahalli	A+
		Sana Benzen	Junior	St. Gregorios O Cathedral, Hosur Road	A+
		-		St. Baselios OC, Marathahalli	A+
		Rhea Elizabeth Jaison			A+
		Maria Stephen	Intermediate	St. Gregorios O Cathedral, Hosur Road	A+
		Koshy Thomas C.	Senior	St. George OC, Indira Nagar	A+
		Joel Koshy	Senior	St. Gregorios O Cathedral, Hosur Road	A+
		Allan Jaison	Secondary	St. George OC, Indira Nagar	A+
		Ann Elsa Neel	Secondary	St. Mary's OC, Begur	A+
	District 2	Joanne Rachel Jinu	Sub Junior	Mar Gregorios OC, Hebbal	A+
		Neha Ann Mobin	Junior	St.Stephen's OC, Vijayanagar	A+
		George Roan Mani	Junior	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	A+
		Ashlin Vinod Samuel	Junior	St.Stephen's OC, Vijayanagar	A+
		Tiara Susan Kurian	Intermediate	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	A+
		Arpita Joshua	Intermediate	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	A+
		Rheya Ann George	Senior	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	A+
		Manna Abraham	Senior	St. Gregorios OC, Mathikere	A+
		Irine Varghese	Secondary	St. Dionysius OC, Dasarahalli	A
		Sherin Elizabeth Varghese	Secondary	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	A+
Group	District 1	Heizel Mariam Denny & Group	BUDS	St. Baselios OC, Marathahalli	A+
Song		Tania Elizabeth Manoj & Group	PREMIERS	St. Joseph OC, Hormavu	A+
		-		St. Thomas O Maha Edavaga, Bglr East	
		Sharon Elizabeth Thomas & Grp	PREMIERS		A+
		Anne Susan Varghese & Group	TEENS	Mar Yuhanon Mamdana OC, KR Puram	A+
	District 2	Ann Elsa Neel & Group	TEENS	St. Mary's OC, Begur	A+
		Aleena Yohannan & Group	BUDS	St. Gregorios OC, Mathikere	A+
		Joanna Jiju & Group	PREMIERS	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	A+
		Arpita Joshua & Group	PREMIERS	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	A+
		Sosanna A. Marett & Group	TEENS	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	A+

### OSSAE-OKR BANGALORE ZONE Results of zonal level competitions

(A+ Grade Winners & selected for diocesan level)

### Results of Elocution and Quiz held on 25-Aug-2017.

Event District		Name of Student	Category	Church	Grade
Elocution	District 1	Anna Prince	Junior	St. George OC, Indira Nagar	A+
		Thomas Koshy	Junior	St. Joseph OC, Hormavu	A+
		Adam G Alexander	Intermediate	St. Baselios OC, Marathahalli	A+
		Riona Elsa Thomas	Intermediate	St. Joseph OC, Hormavu	A+
		Koshy Thomas C.	Senior	St. George OC, Indira Nagar	A+
		Reyna Marion George	Senior	St. Baselios OC, Marathahalli	A+
		Namitha Sara Varughese	Senior	St. Joseph OC, Hormavu	A+
		Sheona T. Joseph	Secondary	St. George OC, Indira Nagar	Α
		Merin Mariya Neel	Secondary	St. Mary's OC, Begur	A+
	District 2	Denna Ann James	Junior	St.Stephen's OC, Vijayanagar	A+
		Rhea Thomas	Junior	Mar Gregorios OC, Hebbal	A+
		Angel Gibi John	Intermediate	St. Gregorios OC, Mathikere	A+
		Rheya Ann George	Senior	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	A+
		Ann C. Anil	Senior	Mar Gregorios OC, Hebbal	A+
		Jane Elizabeth Vaidhyan	Secondary	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	A+
		Rinla C. Mary	Secondary	St. Gregorios OC, Mysore	Α
Quiz	District 1	Riya Thomas	Senior	St. Thomas O Maha Edavaga, Bglr East	A+
		Koshy Thomas C.	Senior	St. George OC, Indira Nagar	A+
		Joel B Mathew	Senior	St. Joseph OC, Hormavu	A+
		Angela Mariyam Eapen	Secondary	St. Mary's OC, Begur	В
		Cyril K. Sunil	Secondary	St. Gregorios O Cathedral, Hosur Road	В
	District 2	Abel Mathew Skariah	Senior	St. Dionysius OC, Dasarahalli	A+
		Ann C. Anil	Senior	Mar Gregorios OC, Hebbal	Α
		Mariam Susan Mathew	Secondary	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	Α
		Binsu Sunil	Secondary	St. Mary's OV, Jalahalli	Α













Reumenical Christian Centre

### STUDENTS' CAMP NUHRO 2017

Date:

29th Sep to 1st Oct 2017

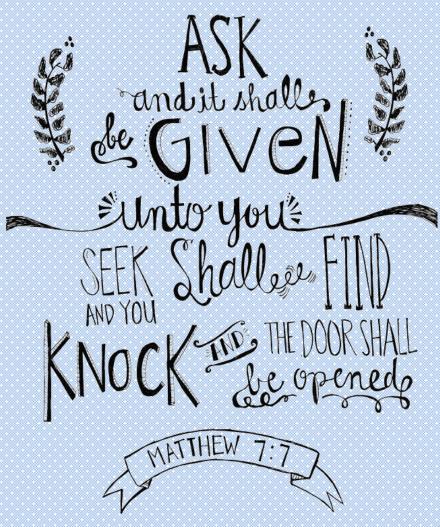
Venue:

Ecumenical Christian Centre, Whitefield, Bangalore

Theme: ASK

St. Matthew 7:7

V T.T ASK SEEK KNOCK



### Annual day of Bangalore Zone Sunday Schools 2016































Orientation program for class X/XII Students (MELTHO 2017)





### Annual General Body Bangalore Zone Sunday Schools 2016

















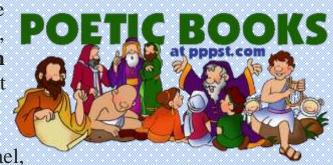
Bangalore Zone - District level arts competition - 2017







The poetic books of the Bible include Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and the Songs of Solomon and follow the 17 historical books that comprise the first portion of the Old Testament. These five books contain the poetry of the nation of Israel,

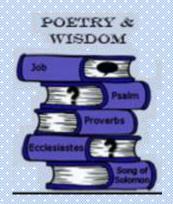


providing the reader with important stories, poetry and wisdom.

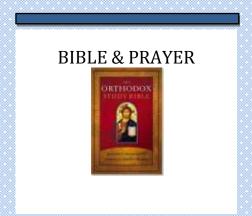
**Job** The story of the trials and patience of a holy man of Edom. Satan attacks a righteous man named Job, and Job and his friends argue about why terrible things are happening to him.

**Psalms** - A collection of sacred poems intended for use in the worship of Jehovah. Chiefly the productions of David.

A collection of 150 songs that Israel sang to God (and to each other)—kind of like a hymnal for the ancient Israelites.



**Proverbs** - The wise sayings of Solomon. A collection of sayings written to help people make wise decisions that bring about justice.



"PRAYER changes everything."

Anonymous

**Ecclesiastes** - A philosophical exploration of the meaning of life—with a surprisingly nihilistic tone for the Bible. A poem respecting the vanity of earthly things.

**Song of Solomon** - A love song (or collection of love songs) celebrating love, desire, and marriage.

The more you read the Bible the more you'll love the Author

#### **OUR TEACHERS**



"No one should teach who is not in love with teaching." Margaret E Sangster



H.G.Dr. Geevarghese Mar Osthathios Metropolitan

Birth:

December 9, 1918

Birthplace:

Cherukole,

Mavelikara, Kerala

Entered into eternal rest:

February 16, 2012

### H. G. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Osthathios Metropolitan (Sabharathnam)

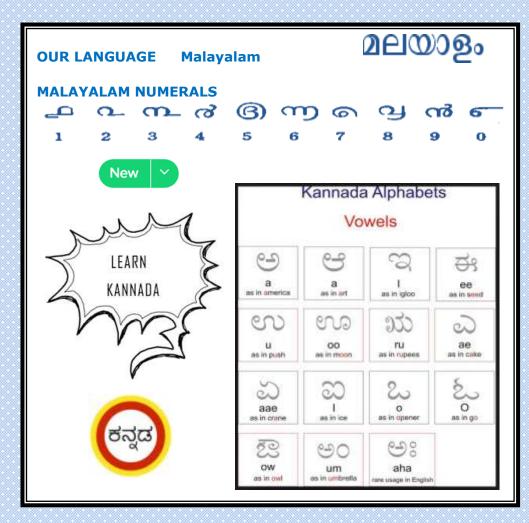
Geevarghese Mar Osthathios Metropolitan of the Malankara Orthodox Church is widely known in India and abroad as a prophet of social justice and as a propagator of the Universal Religion of Love. He was born in Cherukole, Mavelikara, Kerala in 9<sup>th</sup> December 1918. His former name was M V George. He completed high school education in his native place and theological education from Leonard College, Jabalpur and Union seminary, New York. He secured MA from Drew University, New York and honorary Doctorate from Serampore University, Calcutta, India. He taught in Orthodox Theological Seminary Kottayam for over fifty years. He was ordained as 'Korooyo' in 1948 by HG Augen Mar Thimotheos Metropolitan. HH Baselious Geevarghese II ordained him as a priest at Devalokam in 1956. He was ordained as the Metropolitan in Niranam St Mary's Church 16<sup>th</sup> February 1958.

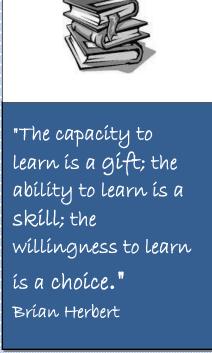
In 1958 he founded St Paul's Ashram and Children Home. He is the founder of Mission Training Centre, mavelikara which gives training to lay missionaries of love and evangelism. He also started more than 40 humanitarian institutions, movements and projects all over India for poor people, HIV positive patients and their children, cancer patients, leprosy patients and their children and orphan, old age homes for men and women.

Ordained as a Deacon on 9 AUGUST 1947, as priest on 10 May 1956. Elected by the Malankara Syrian Christian Association as a Metropolitan on 2 Oct 1974. Professed as Ramban on 2 Oct 1974. On 15 Feb 1975 consecrated as Metropolitan

He is the Senior faculty member of the Orthodox Theological Seminary, Kottayam., President of the Mission Board of the Church and the Director of St. Paul's Mission Training Centre, Mavelikara. He is the founder of a good number of charitable programmes, mission centers and institutions which include Marriage Assistance Foundation, Sick Aid Foundation, Save A Heart Foundation, House Building Aid Fund, Mission Training Centre, M.G.D Ashram & Balabhavan Karunagiri, St Pauls Asram Puthuppady, Haripad Mission Centre, Yacharam St.Gregorios Balagram, Bethanya Bhavan, St.George Balikagram Pune etc... He is a world famous theologian, profound writer, orator, and owner of a very versatile personality. He has written about 59 books of which 13 are in English. He is also a poet who has written more than fifty songs.

He has participated in so many national and international conferences as a leader, preacher and a resource person. He was the member of Faith and Order Commission and World Mission and Evangelism and was the advisor of the WCC assembly in Nairobia in 1975.





LETS LEARN



# BASIC DOCTRINES OF OUR CHURCH ... handed over by our fathers. Translation of MATHOPADESHA SARANGAL

by St Geevarghese Mar Dionysius.

"It is highly essential that those who belong to a religion should learn the faith and precepts of that religion."

Let's Recap!

### ABOUT HOLY BAPTISM

Baptism is the first among the Sacraments. Other sacraments shall not be received before receiving Holy Baptism.

- (1) Through baptism, one gets sonship (of God) and becomes
- (2) eligible for remission of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- (3) And for the fellowship in the company of the children of God.
- (4) But sacraments like baptism shall be received with devotion and faith;
- (5) because, sonship and love of God are obtained through faith.
- (6) Things like Chrism, olive oil and water which are used in sacraments like baptism, actions like making the baptizand confess the faith, laying of hands,

breathing on the candidate, making the sign of the cross on the forehead etc, signify the graces which are received from God, and also things we are obliged to believe in and act upon, and those things that Christ did, as well as the invisible operations of the Spirit of God. This is called ''Mamoodeeso'' (baptism) which means 'bathing' or 'washing', because those who receive baptism with true faith and devotion are washed clean of defilements, with water.

- (7) It is also called "light", since, by this, one is made to move from darkness of ignorance, and approach the divine light.
- (8) Baptism is also called 'rebirth', since those who are born again from the womb of baptism, are children of grace. Since all humanity is condemned to punishment by God, not only due to sins of actions, but also due to the original sin; and that forgiveness of sins and grace of God are obtained through baptism.
- (9) The grace of baptism shall not be denied to little children. There shall be an assigned mediator in baptism for the following purposes to show their deep desire for the salvation of children, to stand as representatives of children and to do things like confession of faith on their behalf, in the baptism of little children, to be persons responsible to teach children true faith and the like.
- (10) There is only one baptism for the remission of sins. therefore, if a person, after being baptised, forsakes his faith in Christ, but later believes and comes back, it is not necessary to baptise him once again. He should be received back solely on the basis of his repentance. However, the baptism conducted by heretics who have discarded the true faith of the Church, and those who do not have the lawful laying of hands in ordination, is to be reckoned as lacking perfection. Instead, as prescribed in the Hoodaya Canon, the faith position of each heretic shall be examined, and accordingly, some are only to be anointed with Chrism, with the prayers of anointing with oil; some others are only to be made to abjure their heresy; and some others are to be baptised using the entire order of service.

#### Chapter 6

- (1) Gal. 3:27 As many of you as were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 29. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise. John 3:5 (2) Act. 22:16. And now why do you delay? Get up, be baptized, and have your sins washed away, calling on his name. Act. 2:38 "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of Holy Spirit."
- (3) I Cor.12:13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.
- (4) Act. 8:36, 38 and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! what is to prevent me from being baptised?" and then Philip baptized him.
- (5) Gal. 3:26. for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.
- (6) Rom. 6:3,4. Do you not know that all of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. 1 Peter 3:21. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good Conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. John 20:22. When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "receive the Holy Spirit." John 13: 14,15. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Act. 8:17. Then Peter and John laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.
- (7) I Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

- (8) John 3:3. no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above. Tit.3:5. but according to his mercy, through the water of re-birth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
- (9) Mark. 10:13,14,16. People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them when Jesus saw this. he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them. Gen. 17:10-14. (10) Eph. 4:5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism.



### **Chapter 7**

### ABOUT THE HOLY QURBANA (EUCHARIST)

Holy Qurbana is the Sacrament that makes us partake in The Holy Body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ as food and drink, for the well being and salvation of our souls. (1) Because the Word united with human nature, just as His humanity is called "God", the Holy Spirit dwells in the bread and wine offered in the Holy Qurbana, (2) Therefore it is to be believed that they are the 1 Holy Body and Blood of the Lord, according to His command that 'this is My Body, and this is My Blood', (3) Though the substance does not change in sight and taste, to become the Holy Body and Blood, (4) those who receive them with faith and devotion get remission of sins and eternal life as the fruit of the Holy Body and Blood of our Lord. (5) But those who partake of it, without discrimination and devotion shall be condemned (6) It is not only that the Holy Qurbana is participation in the Holy Body and the Blood of Jesus, (7) but also it is a sacrifice and offering according to the New Testament. (8) This sacrifice is more fruitful and glorious than sacrifices according to the Law and Old Testament like blood offerings which foreshowed that the one sacrifice of Christ to take place.

(9) By this, it is shown that the sacrifice of Christ, for the sake of salvation of the world has been accomplished; and it recalls his birth, public ministry, death, burial, resurrection etc. The articles like bread, wine, Tablet (portable Altar) etc; used in Holy Qurbana and actions like fraction (breaking of the bread) and elevation of mysteries, symbolise the articles and actions used by Christ in His one and only sacrifice. It is not authorised to give Body alone, or Blood alone to the people, without the 'fraction' service in which Body and Blood are mixed. (10) Since through the service of fraction, Blood is mixed in the Body and Body is mixed in the Blood, Qurbana can be dispensed either from the cup or from the chalice; and it is unnecessary to give twice, since Body and Blood are there in both. Those who receive the Holy Qurbana shall take Holy Confession sincerely, and receive it with true faith, devotion and prayer, and also preparing oneself with fasting, for the honour of the Holy Qurbana. (11) The bread that is used in the Holy Qurbana must be leavened, just as the bread used by Christ in his last supper was leavened. (12) Thus, through this, it is shown that Christ is the leaven that gives life to the whole world.

Chapter 7

- (1) Heb. 2:9. so that by the Grace of God he might taste death for everyone.
- (2) Mark. 14:22-23. While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body" Then he took up a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, mid all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many." John 6:55. for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Matthew 26: 26-28. Luke.22: 19, 20. 1 Cor. 11:24-29.
- (3) 1 Cor. 11:26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- (4) 1 Cor. 11:28 Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup. Matthew 26:28. for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. John 6:51,53,54,56,57 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Who-ever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh". So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day." Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me.
- (5) 1 Cor. 11:29-30 For all who eat and drink without discerning the body eat and drink judgement against themselves. For this reason many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.
- (6) 1 Cor.10:16. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?
- (7) Ma1.1:11. For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name is great among the nations, and in every place incense is offered to my name, and a pure offering; for my name is great among the nations, says the LORD of hosts. Matthew 5:23,24 So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother and sister and then come and offer your gift. Eph. 5:2. Christ loved and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
- (8) Heb 10:1 Since the law was only a shadow of the good things to tonic and not the true form of these realities. Heb.9:13,14 For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies I lose who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!
- (9) Luke. 22:19. Do this in remembrance of me. 1 Cor. 11: 20,24-26.
- (10) Rom. 6:9. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will lover die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Isa. 6:6-7 Then )1 the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." John 6:51.
- (11) Mark. 14:22. While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread. 1 Cor. 5:8 Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
- (12) Matthew 13:33. He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."\*
- \* The syriac word "Ammeera" here used for bread, is used for bread make with leavened dough, and not for making bread with unleavened bread (Patheera).

to be continued .....

### SYRIAC/GREEK WORDS (used in our worship)

KADEESANMAR: Saints
SAHADA: Martyr
SHYNO: Good - will
AHAI: My brethren

SRAPIKAL : Angels with six wings

.... to be continued



HARD WORK
beats talent
when talent doesn't
WORK HARD.
- Anonymous.

Annie Mary Jacob Class 5, St Gregorios Cathedral, Hosur Rd. My Prayer

I asked for strength,
I got difficulties

To make me strong.

I asked for wisdom,
I got probleme to solve.

I asked for prosperity,
I got brain to work.

I asked for courage,
I got dangers to wrercome

asked for favours,
I got opportunities.
I seceived nothing I wanted

But got everything I needed

My prayer has been answered.

— Annie

In the deep night,

lying on my leach,

I asked myself what life is

and I see that I do not know

lout I also see that it is
a voyal thing to be alive.

The great business of life is
to be, to do without and to

depart

Despite everything,

Sile is good.

Annie Mary Jacob

### Nidhiya Sara Joseph

Class 7,

St Gregorios Cathedral, Hosur Rd.



Psalm 147:8 "Who covers the heaven with clouds, who prepares rain for the earth, who makes grass to grow upon the mountains."

### Nature is Everywhere

Mine are the night and meaning.
The pits of air, the gulf of space.
The spentice sum, the gibbous moon,
The immunicable days

J hud in the solar glowy,

J am dumb in the pealing song,

the process on the patch of the towert,

ments mo t reduced int

Like every nous with a high and low	pitch
Like every song with a high and low Our lives are embedded with Ups and	Down,
Like surrise and sunset	
Our life is also the same.	
Not the moon without a patch,	
Or a beau without a black,	
How can use expect humans to	
Be super perfect?	
Never regret over what has happened	
But, look forward	
Forget the past which dominates us,	
And look to the future which we don	uinate.
Like the moon in the night,	
There is a light even in darkness.	
So let's bring out the light within	us to
Brighten our lives.	_
- Edlyn Grace Ja	cot.

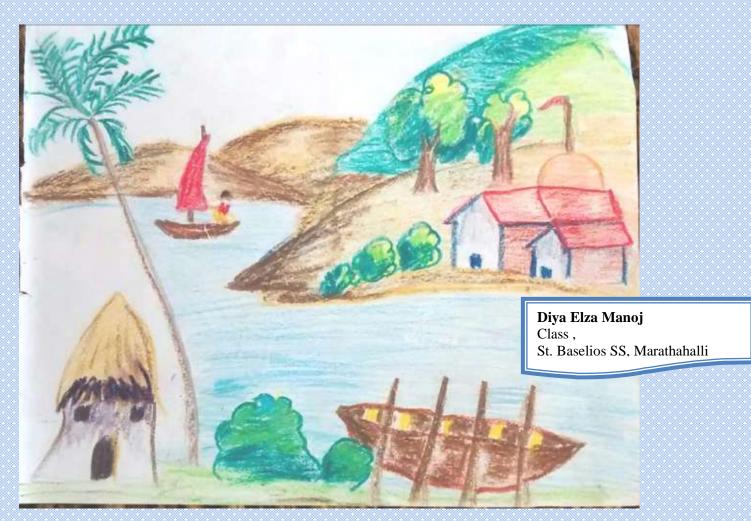
"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed."

Proverbs 16:3

**Edlyn Grace Jacob** 

Tlace 5

St Gregorios Cathedral, Hosur Rd.



### Bettina S Mathew

Class

St Gregorios Cathedral, Hosur Rd.

# danshter of the Ling 2 CORINTHIANS 6:18

### A Daughten

A daughter is a wonderful blessing.

A treasure from above.

She's laughter, warmth and special charm,

she's thoughtfulness and love.

A daughter brings a special joy, That somes from deep inside. And as she grows to adulthood, She fills your heart with pride.

With every year that passes, she's more special than before. Through every stage, though every age.

You love her even more.

No words can discribe the worm memories. The pride and gratitude, too. That comes from having a daughter, To love and to cherish ... just like you!

### HOLY MATRIMONY

Holy matrimony is one of the 7 sacraments?

of the orthodox church. Sacrament means an occasion or function presided over directly by God and the priest is just a facilitator.

Sacraments as per belief were instituted by Jesus and entrusted to the church. Marriage is considered as sacrament of service along with the Holy orders (priesthood).

Ephesians 5: 21-33 talks on the sacrament of matrimony. Matrimony is a sacrament made by Jesus Christ to sanctify (make holy) the lawful union of a christian man and christian woman. It makes sanctifying grace grows in their souls. It gives them special help to perform their duties as married people and to overcome the difficulties that may come into their married life.

Matrimonial ceremony consists of 2 orders.

- (1) Blessing of the rings equivalent to betrothal
- (2) Blessing of the crowns completes marriage.



So they are no longer two,

### But One

Therefore what GOD has joined together,

Let man not separate

--- Matthew 19:6 ---

Simon

Class 7.

St Gregorios Cathedral, Hosur Rd.

# Dead ducks dont

Many years ago, a wealthy man went duck huntin -g with a hired hand named Sam. They took a horse and carraige, and along the way a rine come off one of the wheels. As Sam hammered it back on, he accidentally but his finger. Instantly he let go with some bad words. He quickly fell to his knees, asking God's forgiveness. "Lord, it's difficult at times to live the Christian life", he prayed. "Som" said the man, "I know you're a Christian, but tell me why you struggle so, I'm an atheist, and I don't have problems like that "Sam didn't know what to say. Just then two ducks flew overhead. The man raised his gun and two shots rangout. " Leave the dead one and go after the wounded one!" he shouted. Sam pointed at the duck that was fluttering desperately to escape and said, "I ve got an answer for you now, Boss. You said my Christianity isn't any good because I have to struggle so. Well, I'm the wounded duck and struggle to get away from the devil. But you Boss, you're the dead duck!"

That insights Paul's description of Christian experience in Romans 7:14-25

Nidhi Binny

Class 7,

St Gregorios Cathedral, Hosur Rd.



Joel J Mammen Class 6

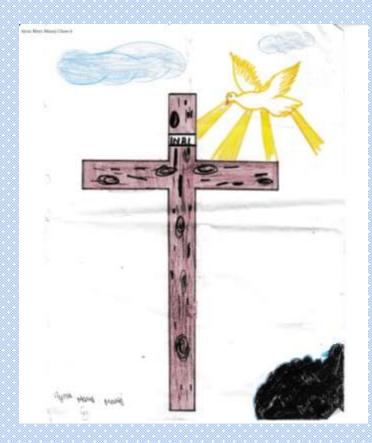
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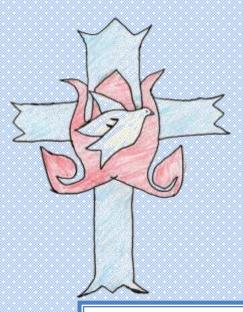


Joel J Mammen

Class 7

St. Joseph SS, Horamavu





Joel J Mammen

Class 7

St. Joseph SS, Horamavu

**Ayna Mary Manoj** Class 6

St. Joseph SS, Horamavu

### **Orthodox Liturgy**



The word liturgy means common work or common action. The Divine Liturgy is the common action of Orthodox Christians officially gathered to constitute the Orthodox Church (on the Lord's Day which is Sunday). It is the action of the Church assembled by God in order to be together in one community to worship, to pray, to sing, to hear God's Word, to be instructed in

God's commandments, to offer itself with thanksgiving in Christ to God the Father, and to have the living experience of God's eternal kingdom through communion with the same Christ Who is present in His people by the Holy Spirit. The Orthodox view their Church as being the living embodiment of Christ, through the grace of His Holy Spirit, in the people, clergy, monks and all other members of the Church.

### Theological significance of Holy Altar.

Holy Altars in the Bible were places of sacrifice. Beyond that function, Altars also were places of God's presence. The patriarchal narratives regularly record the building of an Altar at the site of a theophany, a place where God had appeared to an individual (Genesis 12:7; Genesis 26:24-25). It was quite natural to build an Altar and commemorate the appearance of God with a sacrifice. If God had once appeared at a site, that would be a good location for Him to appear again. Thus sacrifices would be offered there with the feeling that God was present and would accept the offering. With the building of the Solomonic Temple, the presence of God was associated especially with the ark of covenant. The Altar of burnt offering then came to signify more of a sense of reconciliation or mediation. The worshiper brought a sacrifice to the Altar where it was burned and thereby given to God. The acceptance of the offerings by the priest symbolized God's acceptance, manifest in blessings (Exodus 20:24) and covenant renewal.

### Materials used in the Holy Altar & theological significance

The Altar is the area at the east end of a church, usually behind an iconostasis (Altar screen). The Holy Altar has multiple symbolic meanings. First, it represents the Throne of God because through the sacraments celebrated upon this Altar God's saving and sanctifying grace is bestowed upon all people. It is also Golgotha, the place where Jesus was crucified, because it is upon this Altar that we reenact the Passion of our Lord and Saviour, and finally the Tomb of Christ because it is through Christ's death that eternal life was granted to all people. This final representation is highlighted in the resurrection Matins service celebrated every



Sunday because it is from the right or southern side of the Altar table that the morning Gospel is proclaimed, symbolising the angel announcing the risen Christ to the Myrrhbearers

Traditionally the Altar table is supported by either one or four columns. The single column represents Jesus Christ while the four columns represent the four Evangelists. An

Altar Table is located in the center of the Altar as one enters through the Royal Doors in the iconostasis. This table is often referred to as the Holy Table. The table is usually covered with a brocade covering, the color of which changes with the liturgical season.

- Atop the Altar table is the tabernacle; a miniature shrine sometimes built in the form of a church, inside of which is a small ark containing the reserved Sacrament for use in communing the sick.
- Thablitho (the portable altar); This is a piece of wooden slab upon which the paten
  and the Chalice are placed. It can also be made of marble slab. Wood is better. If
  it is wood, it should be made of tree which contains a kind of milky or oily
  substance, without this, the Holy Qurbana cannot be celebrated.
- The Cross; The Cross installed in the middle and top most part, signifies the budded staff of Aaron. It reminds that we are protected from Satan in a wondrous way
- Candles; Candles are lighted on the altar (Mathew: 5:14) Seven based on the golden lamb of Jerusalem Temple or 12 representing the apostles. It reminds us the saying of our Lord "I am the light of the world". John 1:8, 8:12.



- Chithola (The covering of the Altar); It is a beautiful covering decorating the altar.
   It represents the winding sheet in which the body of our Lord was wrapped at the time of burial.
- Chalice (Kasa); It is a cup of sacrifice, to keep wine, with a stand to handle.
- Paten (Peelasa); A flat plate of sacrific e to keep the bread.
- Spoon (Tharvodo); It is used to take wine to pour over the bread
- Viri Koottam (Group of coverings), Shooshepo (Sosaffa)
- Mkablono(Receptacle), Gmurtho (Small Cushion), Towel and Gospel Stand (Lectern) etc..are the other Materials used in the Holy Altar.

The worship of the Orthodox Church is saturated with verses from the Holy Bible. Symbols used by early Christians include, lamb, dove, fish, shepherd, vine, bread, cross and the like. The dove represents Holy Spirit, Christ is the Good Shepherd, and the Lamb of God. The symbolism of salt, lamp, etc... is educative for a Christian. They are parts of the Christian devotion. The cross speaks out the sacrificial acts of Jesus. Signing of the cross is also silent, but meaningful worship. So also the materials used in the Holy Alter have very strong theological significance.

Schenit Paul Class 11 St.Marys SS, Begur Allan Class 4 St. Joseph SS, Horamavu









**Hanna** Class 3 St. Joseph SS, Horamavu



Mishca Class Preparatory St. Joseph SS, Horamavu Aliza Class 2 St. Joseph SS, Horamavu

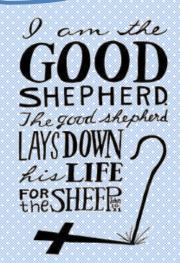


"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" Mark 11.9





Naina Class 3 St. Joseph SS, Horamavu



**Akshaya Elizabeth** Class 5 St. Joseph SS, Horamavu







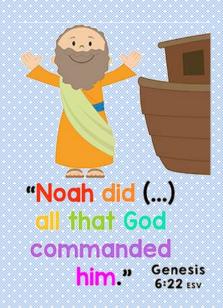
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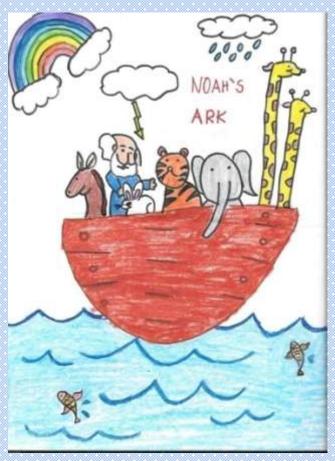


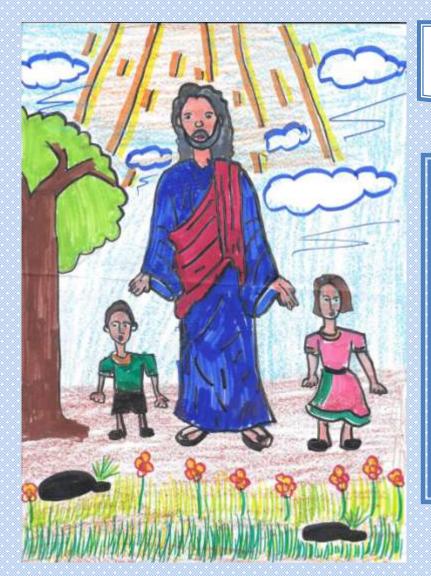
Iris Binu Abraham

Class 1

St. Baselios SS, Marathahalli







### **Austin Anil Thomas**

Class 3

St. Baselios SS, Marathahalli

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14





### **Austin Anil Thomas**

Class 3

St. Baselios SS, Marathahalli







Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' Luke 10:5 ESV

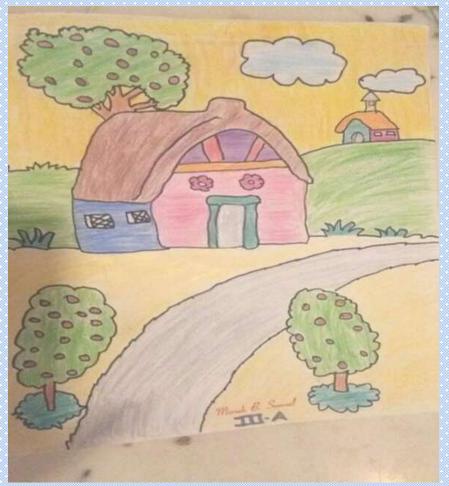
### Joel B Samuel

Class 5

St. Mary's Valiyapally SS, Jalahalli







### Mariah B Samuel

Class 3

St. Mary's Valiyapally SS, Jalahalli





### Sanah Grace

Class 3

St. Mary's Valiyapally SS, Jalahalli



### Sean Shinoi

Class Prep

St. Mary's Valiyapally SS, Jalahalli



### Pheba Biju

Class 5

St. Mary's Valiyapally SS, Jalahalli



### Adithya George

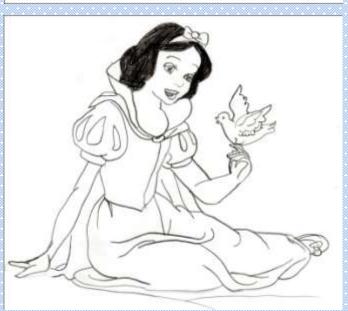
Class Prep

St. Mary's Valiyapally SS, Jalahalli











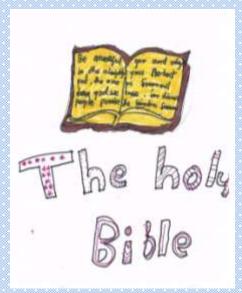
34



Do not pass by a man in need, for you may be the hand of God to them.

Ashley, Aleena, Amelia Class 3 St. Gregorios SS, Mathikere





is WRONG, even if everyone is doing it.

is RIGHT, even if no one is doing it.

Behold Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

John 1: 29





**Lydia Shibu** Class 3 St. George SS, Indiranagar

### It's a house of prayer

He entered the temple saying, its my Daddy's house. One by one from its courts, he drove them all out.

The Sellers and the buyers, he drove them all out. Dove sellers and money changers, he drove them all out.

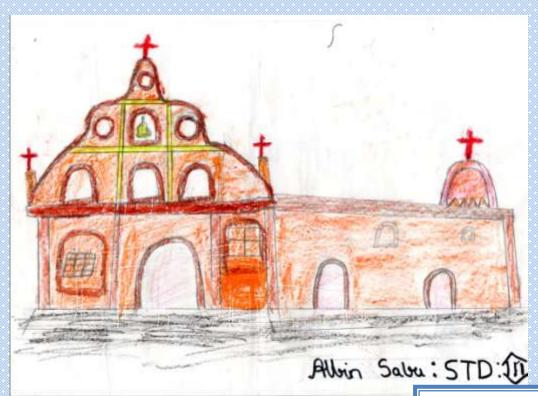
He upturned their tables, and threw their money out. He upturned the benches, and all the doves flew out.

He told them, It's my house, and shall be called a house of prayer. I can't let you make it, a den of robbers here.

As we enter the temple, let say its my Daddy's house. As he said it should be, let's keep it as a house of prayer. (Mathew 21 - 12,13)

> **Benita Biju** Class 9

Mar Gregorios SS, Hebbal





Albin Sabu

Class 3

St. Stephens SS, Vijayanagar

a greedy man and a sinless man were walking down the path. Suddenly the greedy man thought of a plan. He went in the middle of the groad and started showing up to all the people that he was only praying. He said that "Sord, Please liter to me I am not a sinner and I have not done anything wrong. While the sinless man

**Ashlin Vinod Samuel** 

Class 3

St. Stephens SS, Vijayanagar

Sord, listen to me, I am a sinner, Lord, please forgine all my sins that I have done. Who do you think the Lord listened to? Yes you are right, the sinless more. Now what did you leave forom this story? Yes, we should not loast by praying Ashlin V

Once upon a time a greedy man and a sinless man were walking down the path. Suddenly the greedy man thought of a plan. He went in the middle of the road and started showing up to all the people that he was only praying. He said that "Lord. please listen to me. I am not a sinner and I have not done anything wrong. While the sinless man went to the temple where nobody was there. He also started praying. He said that "Lord, listen to me. I am a sinner. Lord, please forgive all my sins that I have done".

Who do you think the Lord listened to? Yes, you are right, the sinless man.

How what did you learn from this story? We should not boast while praying.

Riddles rowns for Kids

when to the Temple where

nobody was there the also

started praying, he said that

and stores fluffy clouds and trees I always loves him and He loves me.

2. God made both of them and put in a igainst walled Eden but then a salar came and told them to sin against and Who were they both ?

3 He was called by God, to build a huge work, he was the only man good on Earth, but all the others were lad 4. God told him to go on a toup, He didn't know where he was going in he walked God showed him the way and his wife was Sarah. Who is he

father's name was Abraham. He movined Rebkah and they had two kids. facob and Esau Who is he?

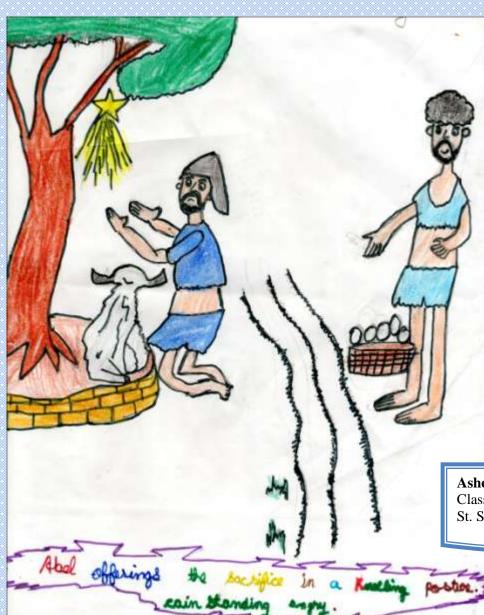
of Jacob had 11 sons, he loved all his sons, but the most he loved his 11 son. All his other sons were jedlow of him and put him in ia well. Who is he?

1. God 2. Adam and Eve 3. Noah 4. Abraham B. Asaas 6. Goseph

Ashin Vinod Samuel

Class 3

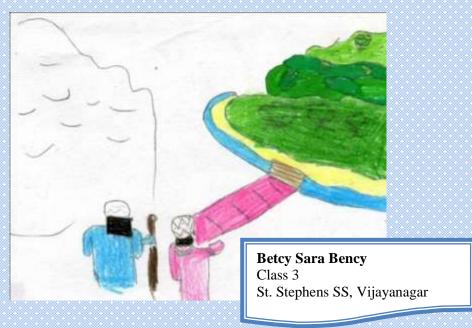
St. Stephens SS, Vijayanagar



By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead. (Hebrews 11:4 NIV)

Asher S Thomas Class 3 St. Stephens SS, Vijayanagar





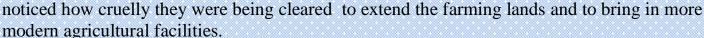
### Trees, God's boon to mankind!

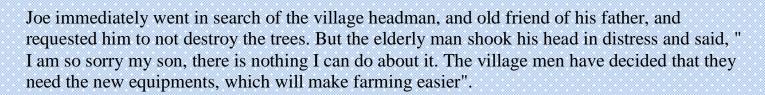
Sandra Mary Saji Class 11 St. Gregorios SS, Mathikere

It was a bright morning, as twenty-five year old Joe made his way towards the familiar woods. It was nearly seven years ago that he left his hometown to try for better education facilities and job opportunities in the nearby cities.

He felt a pang of excitement, as he thought of the lovely trees and of the lush green surrounding them. It was among them that he had spent most of his childhood. He recalled playing hide and seek among the trees' broad trunks and also squabbling with his friends for a ride on the swing that was tied to one of the branches.

But as he reached the particular spot, his joy faded into grief. The trees which had once provided him solace with their rustling leaves as the breeze blew past them, were being chopped down mercilessly! As he looked around in despair, he





Finally, Joe tried convincing the village folks to plant trees in other parts of the village instead of the ones that were being cut down, but they paid no heed to his words.

Joe's agony knew no bounds. These trees, his best buddies, were being killed right in front of his eyes and he could do nothing to help them.

As he thought deeply, he realized that there was still hope. He could plant "his own trees" where no one had the rights to hack him down. He began by planting saplings in and around his house. Slowly, as the villagers watches Joe, they realized his folly and seeing his determination they too decided to help restore God's beautiful creation back to its glory.

Thus, slowly yet steady, with help from the villagers, Joe was able to bring back the greenery that was once lost.

My dear friends, it is recorded in Geneses 1: 31 " God saw everything that he had made, and indeed it was very good". Hence it is our responsibility to preserve God's wonderful creation in all ways we can and hand it over to the future generation without any defects.



### BEING CHRIST-LIKE

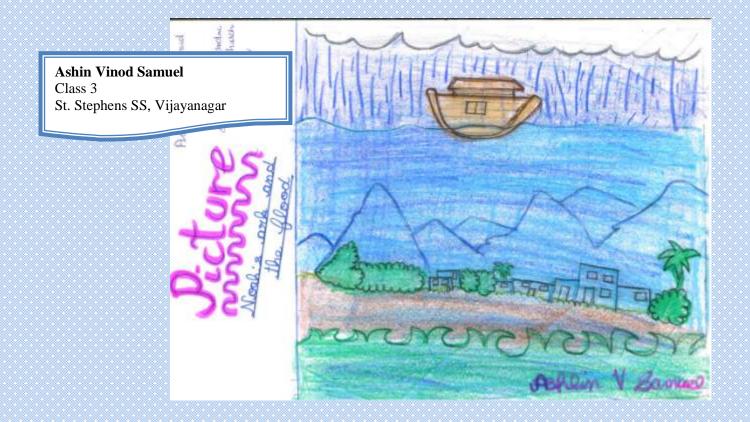
Being a Christian doesn't only mean being a follower of Christ - it means being like him, spreading his Word, praying every day and having faith in him. This is what makes one a true Christian. In our life we can be 'Christ-like' by replicating his actions and doings. We should be kind just the way He was - Forgiving just as he forgave, Loving just as he loved us, that he died on the Cross sacrificing his life for us: For me.

In this rat race called life, we often get our priorities misplaced. Although most of us may take a little time out of our busy schedules to say a prayer, we have to ask ourselves the question whether we make Christ the centre of everything we do. In our actions and our deeds, and our interactions with other fellow human beings, are we ambassadors of Christ, whose way of life shines a light and inspires others to be 'Christ-Like'.

Rebecca Alfred

Class 10

St. Stephens SS, Vijayanagar





**Anjali Shajan** Class 10 Mar Yuhanon SS, K.R.Puram

Father, into your hands



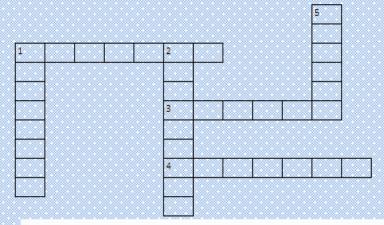
### Contribute articles -

Please send some interesting puzzles, articles, biblical games, quiz to be published in Kids Page.

Please send your answers at the earliest to the Zonal Secretary

### **Answers to Vol 5 Unscramble Puzzle** Twelve Disciples Anagram eeltvw twelve eefhimnes fishermen filoow follow cdeiilpss disciples acehpr \_ enst aejms acegill Galilee

### **Biblical Crossword**



#### Across

- 1. Name of Samuel's father [7]
- 3. Original language of Old Testament [6]
- 4. The person who baptized Saul (Paul) [7]

#### Down

- 1. Name which means "God is with us" [8]
- 2. The king who was the successor of Herod [9]
- 5. A disciple of Jesus Christ [6]

Daniel Sajan Class 5 & Grace Sajan Class 1 St. George OC SS, Indira Nagar

Down J. Emmanuel Z. Archelaus S. Andrew

> Across Across 3. Hebrew 4. Ananias

### **Activity:**

Find out the difference between Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant Bible?





s	н	D	н	A	N	0	J	
R	M	A	L	A	C	н	1	
E	1	N	1	J	0	E	L	
В	C	1	G	D	x	E	Α	
M	A	E	N	0	Α	E	E	
U	н	L	D	s	1	В	s	
N	Α	U	н	s	0	J	0	
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### NEWS ... EVENTS ... UPDATES from our Sunday Schools in Bangalore Zone

### St. Mary's Valiyapalli Sunday School, Jalahalli



**Mr. N.M. Achankunju,** born on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 1942, hails from Neeruvilayil family, Pullad, Thiruvalla. At the age of 21 he arrived in Bangalore and commenced work at Bharat Electronics Pvt. Ltd.

As his proud grandson, I would like to share my grandfather's life with each one of you.

He was one of the founding members of St. Mary's Orthodox Church, Jalahalli. Ever since the church began its Sunday school activities, he had been one

of its integral members. He has always encouraged me to attend the Sunday school classes and take part in its competitions. He was ever ready to help me prepare for the arts competition be it elocution, essay writing or singing. He has been serving the Sunday school of the Bangalore diocese for over 50 years, watching it grow and develop. Having served as Head Master for multiple tenures, he was later appointed as the District Inspector for Region II of the Bangalore district and serves this position till date.

He is also an ardent follower of the works of the late lamented His Grace Geevarghese Mar Osthathios, inspired by which he has invested time and energy in the Mission Board's services through the Trinity Charitable Association, NAMS Snehasadan and St. GregoriosDhayabhavan in an unending manner. My memories go back to the times when I was but a child and my grandfather taking me with him to Snehasadan and Dayabhavan on a regular basis. Time has changed but not him. He was honoured on numerous occasions for his services towards the sunday school and the mission board.

I am ever grateful to God for giving me a grandfather who has left no stone unturned in his efforts and dedication towards the church.

### Allen. J. Mathew (Class X)





SMOVP Sunday School children along with children from Snehasadan.

We St. Mary's Orthodox Valiyapalli Sunday School teachers and students are proud of you uncle. Thank you for grooming our students and teachers. Most importantly your love and prayers have always been a guiding light and motivation for us. We wish and pray for your health and many more blessed years ahead to continue this ministry. God bless you!

For SMOVP

Mrs. Nisha Mathew

Headmistress

### Mar Gregorios Orthodox Sunday School, Hebbal, Kempapura.













A pictorial glimpse of our Sunday school, OVBS, parish / sunday school visit by **H.G. Dr. Abraham Mar Seraphim**, Onam celebration.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



Contribute some interesting original articles and win some prizes.

We hope you'll join us.

### **Next Edition planned**

Tentative Date: Feb 2018.

Dear Students and Teachers,

Please use this opportunity to express and share your experiences, ideas and thoughts through your articles like news updates, short stories, notes, essays, poems, paintings, quotes, jokes, quiz, games, puzzles, message, etc at the earliest through your teacher/headmaster

Note: Please do mention your Name & Church and send articles to reach before 15-Jan-2018.

NOTE: Please feel free to share your ideas for themes for newsletters, suggestions, comments, observations, mistakes observed, omissions etc.

#### **Editorial**

Dear Friends in Christ,

It's a great opportunity to love and fear the living Almighty God and we are each called to do so in whatever way possible. As the Soutoro (Compline) prayers of Wednesday mentions "I have considered all things and I have not seen anything better than the fear of the Lord; blessed is he who has loved it. Joseph the just loved it and he became king in Egypt; Moses the great loved it and he divided the sea with his staff; Hananiah and his companions loved it and it delivered them from the fire. It is more desirable than gold and sweeter than the honeycomb; blessed is he who loves the fear of the Lord."

Friends, the scriptures rightfully says that "Fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom". This version of the Bodhini is an attempt by our young minds to exhibit their talents and skills. We pray that this will enrich each of its reader to be filled in the Fear and Unconditional Love of God through Jesus Christ.

We express our gratitude to our Sunday School Diocesan President H.G Dr. Abraham Mar Seraphim for his continued support and wisdom in guiding us. We thank the Bodhini editorial team, all the Sunday Schools of Bangalore Zone for being an enthusiast in contributing to this newsletter.

We positively seek more articles and talents showcased by our children and encourage the Sunday School Teachers to motivate and inspire the students as they always do. Finally with prayers I conclude that each of us will be passionate about the Fear and Love of Christ, which is much needed in this Digital Age!

"Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; And to depart from evil is understanding." Job 28:28

For and on behalf of Editorial Board of E-Bodhini. With love,

Ajoy Kandathil Joseph

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#### Editorial Board -

Region 1 – Mr. Thomas George, Mr. Jose Varghese, Mr. Ajoy Kandathil Joseph, Dr. Emma Mathews

Region 2 – Mrs. Sharon Rajesh, Mrs. Roshini K.K

Chief Editor: Mr.Biju Prasad

Very Rev. T.K. Thomas Cor-Episcopa, Mr. Kuruvilla Varghese, Mrs. Lousy Biju