

**HOLY SERVICES, PRAYERS & MEETINGS**

Fridays : 06.45 am - 07.25 am Night Prayer, Morning Prayer  
 : 08.15 am - 10.30 am Holy Qurbana  
 Fridays : 07.00 pm - 07.30 pm Evening Prayer  
 : 07.30 pm - 09.00 pm Holy Qurbana  
 Sundays : 07.30 pm - 08.00 pm Evening Prayer  
 : 08.00 pm - 09.30 pm Holy Qurbana  
 Tuesdays : 05.30 am - 07.00 am Holy Qurbana  
 Wednesdays : 07.30 pm - 08.30 pm Evening Prayer &  
 Intercessory Prayer for St. Mary  
 Saturday, Monday, Tuesday : 07.00 pm - 07.30 pm Evening Prayer  
 Thursdays : 07.00 pm - 09.15 pm Holy Confession, Evening Prayer  
 Intercessory prayer to St. Thomas  
 Church Prayer Meeting & Choir Practice  
 Sunday School : 10.45 am - 12.10 pm All Fridays  
 Marth Mariam Samajam : 11.00 am - 12.20 pm All Fridays  
 M.G.O.C.S.M : 11.00 am - 12.20 pm All Fridays  
 Youth Movement : 11.00 am - 12.20 pm All Fridays

**AREA PRAYER MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY- 2014**

| DAY & DATE          | WEEK   | AREA  |
|---------------------|--------|---|
| 12-07-2014 SATURDAY | SECOND | <b>BUR DUBAI</b><br>Bony G. Chacko (B-286)<br>Lapaloma<br>Flat No. 601<br>Opp. Golden sand 1<br>Bur Dubai |

**SONAPUR PRAYER MEETING - EVERY FRIDAY EVENING AT EVERHOT CAMP@17 : 00 - 19 : 00 HRS**

**CHURCH OFFICE BEARERS - 2014**

|                        |                              |             |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| Rev. Fr. Shaji Mathews | <i>Vicar &amp; President</i> | 052 8711031 | frshajimathews@yahoo.co.in   |
| Rev. Fr. Lany Chacko   | <i>Asst. Vicar</i>           | 050 8379905 | frlanychacko@gmail.com       |
| Sunil C. Baby          | <i>Trustee</i>               | 050 6588970 | sunilcbaby@gmail.com         |
| Thomas K. Monichan     | <i>Secretary</i>             | 050 6742773 | thomas.monichen@alfuttaim.ae |
| Mathai Chacko          | <i>Jt. Trustee</i>           | 050 6542260 | mathaiem@eim.ae              |
| Kurian Philip          | <i>Jt. Secretary</i>         | 050 5259310 | kurianphilipdx@gmail.com     |

**ST. THOMAS ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT**

11th July - Pusthaka Pradarshanam  
 18th July - Regular meeting  
 25th July - Blood Donation Cam  
 Regular Meeting (10.45 am to 12.00 pm)  
**Divyabodhanam Class** - Every Monday 8 pm to 9.30 pm (To increase general awareness of the Bible, Church History & Basic Beliefs of the Malankara Orthodox Sabha.)  
**OCYM Job Cell** - Highly active Job Cell that matches job seekers with employers from a wide range of sectors.  
 (More Informations Contact Co-ordinator, Mr. Shiju Thankachan : 052 6901433)  
 Email : ocymdubai@gmail.com Website: www.stthomasocymdubai.org  
 Job Cell : jobcellocymdubai@gmail.com  
 More Informations Contact: Secretary Mr. Anto Abraham : 055 5468982

**MGOCSM**

Regular Meeting (10.45 am to 12.00 pm)

**MOMS**

Regular meeting will not be there during the month.

**The Bible**

|                       |                                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Letters               | 3,566,480                      |
| Words                 | 810,677                        |
| Verses                | 31,175                         |
| chapters              | 1,189                          |
| Books                 | 66                             |
| Longest chapter       | 119 Psalms                     |
| Middle verse          | 8th verse of 118 the psalms    |
| Longest name          | 8th chapter of Isaiah, verse 1 |
| The word God occurs   | 46,627 times                   |
| The Lord occurs       | 1855 times                     |
| The longest verse is  | Esther 8:9                     |
| The shortest verse is | John 11:35                     |

**ബൈബിൾ വായനാചരണം**

ഉല്പത്തി മുതൽ വെളിപാട് വരെ

15 ജൂലൈ 2014 മുതൽ 15 ആഗസ്റ്റ് 2014 വരെ

ദേവാലയത്തിൽ വെച്ച് നടക്കുന്ന ബൈബിൾ വായനാചരണത്തിൽ ഏവരും കൂടുംബമായി വന്ന് സംബന്ധിച്ച് അനുഗ്രഹം പ്രാപിക്കണമെന്ന് താല്പരപ്പെടുന്നു.

റവ. ഫാ. റ്റി.ജെ. ജോൺസൻ അച്ചന്റെ യാത്രയായത് സമ്മേളനവും റവ. ഫാ. ഷാജി മാത്യുസ് അച്ചനുള്ള സ്വാഗതവും



**NEW MEMBERS JOINED IN THE MONTH OF JUNE, 2014**

| NAME                  | CARDEX | MOBILE      | AREA                     | HOME PARISH  |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------|--------------------------|--|
| Lijo Mathew           | L-066  | 050-9503216 | Sharjah & Other emirates | Mar Lazarus Orthodox Valiyapally, Pathanapuram         |
| Tessy Elizabeth Koshy | T-291  | 050-2867796 | Karama                   | St. Tomas Orthodox Church, Delhi                       |
| Biby K. Babu          | B-330  | 055-1391816 | Horlands                 | St. George Orthodox Syrian Church, Thiruvan Vandoor    |
| Blaze Thomas          | B-329  | 055-6879330 | Sharjah & Other emirates | Mar Baselios Mar Gregorios Orthodox Church, Thiruvalla |

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**PARISH BULLETIN**

ST. THOMAS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL - DUBAI

15 ജൂലൈ 2014 മുതൽ 15 ആഗസ്റ്റ് 2014 വരെ

**വേദപുസ്തക വായനാചരണം**



The bible contains knowledge, wisdom, the mind of god, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of the sinner and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding; its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. It contains light and goodness, food to support you and comfort to cheer you.  
 Come to church, Read, hear, keep what it contains and you will always be happy and prosperous.

**SPECIAL DAYS & EVENTS**

- 3rd July - Feast of St. Thomas
- 5th July - Commemoration of Marthomma VII
- 5th July - Feast of the 72 Evangelists

P.O. Box : 2563, Dubai - UAE Tel : 04-337 1122, Fax : 04-335 2252 Email : stthomas@emirates.net.ae  
 www.stthomascathedraldubai.org



**Fr. Shaji mathews** Vicar & President

Glory to God Almighty

Dearly Beloved,  
By the grace of God I am here to be with you to work as one amongst you., I Bow my head before the God almighty for his wonderful plan for me to serve you all. Let us all work together with the grace of God for the edification of our church. As St. Paul in his letter to Philemon says, "Yes brother let me have an experience from you in the Lord" ( Philemon V:20). As psalmist says in Ps 37:3-5 "Hope in the Lord , and work goodness dwell in the land and you shall be nurtured by it's riches. And delight in the Lord and he will give you the request of your heart. Reveal your way to the Lord and hope in him and he will do it." Let these words may lead us in the coming years. I seek the prayers and intercession of all the holy fathers who have led our church. And also I remember all our spiritual fathers and lay leaders who worked tirelessly for this church. I also seek the prayers of our outgoing vicar Rev. Fr T.J. Johnson and wish him all success in his new assignment. Also I do seek cooperation of our Assist Vicar Rev Fr Lany chacko and of all our office bearers and managing committee members, and from all the Spiritual organization and from all faithful people. May the Triune God help and guide us to fulfill His divine plan.

With Prayer and love

Yours in Christ  
Fr. Shaji mathews

**Profile**

Name: **Fr. Shaji Mathews**  
D.O.B: 17/03/1961

Wife: **Mary Shaji**

Positions Held:  
Presently Sabha Managing Committee  
Member Since 2002 Onwards

Children:

**Adv. Abu John Mathew**  
(Pursuing L.L.m In London Queen Mary University)

**Aaron Joshua John**  
(1st Year Degree In Delhi University)

**Ann Rachel John**  
(12th Class)

Permanent Address:  
Valiyaparampil House,  
Kizhavalloor, P.o., Konni,  
Pathanamthitta, Kerala

Son of late Fr. V.J. Mathews Valiyaparampil  
Mother: Sosamma Mathew (Retd. Teacher)

Brothers:  
Adv. Alexander Mathew Valiyaparampil  
Adv. V. Philip Mathews



# My Lord and My God

**Fr. Lany Chacko**, Asst. Vicar

The feast of the Apostle Thomas (3rd July) is of special significance to us as St. Thomas is patron of our parish. "St. Thomas was a Jew, was born in Galilee and was called to be one of the twelve Apostles to accompany Jesus Christ on his mission to proclaim the kingdom of God. Hearing the good tidings of Jesus Christ, he left all and followed after him. Together with the other Apostles, he formed an intimate community with Jesus of Nazareth and shared all the joys and trials that accompanied him as he moved around the countryside to preach his message of love and unity. He was a dedicated but impetuous follower of Christ. Thomas was an impulsive type of man, zealous in reaching out to others, not afraid to ask questions and seek clarifications when required, who battled with his own resistance and doubts surrounding the extraordinary events of Christ's death and resurrection in Jerusalem.

Though St. Thomas appears in the Gospel of Mathew (10:3), Mark (3:18), and Luke (6:15) and the Acts (1:13), it is in the Gospel of John that his personality comes to its full stature. John the Evangelist in chapter 20 of his Gospel gives a graphic presentation of the mental struggle that this apostle went through before making his final declaration of faith in the Risen Lord. Saint Thomas is famous for his skepticism toward initial reports of Jesus' Resurrection. St. Thomas' unwillingness to believe that the other Apostles had seen their risen Lord on the first Easter Sunday merited for him the title of "doubting Thomas." Eight days later, on Christ's second apparition, St. Thomas was gently rebuked for his skepticism and furnished with the evidence he had demanded - seeing in Christ's hands the point of the nails and putting his fingers in the place of the nails and his hand into His side. At this, St. Thomas became convinced of the truth of the Resurrection and exclaimed: "My Lord and My God," thus making a public Profession of Faith in the Divinity of Jesus. Jesus' next comment was meant for us, "You believe because you have seen. Blessed are those who have not seen yet believe."

We have doubts in our faith. That is part of being a human being. Faith asks us to take a step, a leap actually, away from all that we can see, hear and sense, a step away from the limits of our rational capabilities and a step into mystery. This is a difficult step for all of us, but particularly difficult for us as our minds develops their intellectual prowess. But, now faith asks us to take a step into a deeper reality, into that which is beyond our intellectual capabilities, a step into knowledge.

Doubts in faith are normal. It takes courage and determination to say, "In spite of what others say, and in spite of my own questions, I still believe, Lord. I believe in your Word in the Bible. I believe that your Son became one of us as the Bible said He would. I believe that His sacrificial love on the cross earned for us the very life of God. I believe that no matter what my eyes see or don't see, my ears hear or don't hear, no matter what my mind can determine or what its limits are, you are still there for me, loving me, filling me with a joy that doesn't go away." And God, in His Mercy, sees us for whom we are, human beings with doubts, but also people who have experienced His Love and want more of it. We might feel bad about ourselves for having doubts, but His Mercy, His Divine Mercy, is so great that He sees us not as people with doubts, but as people who are searching for Him.

"St. Thomas, being once weaker in faith than the other apostles," says St John Chrysostom, "toiled through the grace and mercy of God more bravely, more zealously and tirelessly than them all, so that he went preaching over nearly all the earth, not fearing to proclaim the Word of God to savage nations." He was perhaps the only apostle who went outside the Roman Empire to preach the Gospel. It is a great lesson for people of all generations, but particularly those of our times, who are often assailed by questions and doubts about faith. It is a useful reflection for us particularly on the feast day of our patron saint Thomas which calls us to clarify and deepen our faith.

The Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle calls on us to embark upon a deep faith, exploring the ultimate truths that look beyond externals, and thus to grapple with the more complex issues of our world. Furthermore, it calls on us also to present the faith as an ultimate answer to the obstacles of disbelief. There are times when we may seek further the way of the Lord due to challenges in our lives. There are times where we may dismiss the hope of new life because the old life is too hard. St. Thomas was absent from the disciple who experienced the living Lord, and St. Thomas only comes to faith when he is in the company of believers who experienced the Lord together. We experience the Lord together in the Eucharist. We touch the Lord in bread and wine. We are sent forth together to bring this experience to those who are absent through our words, actions, and attitudes. It may take courage. It may take inquiring. It may bring on doubt. It will always require faith, and it can be done together.

As St. Gregory the Great tells us in a reflection

on St. Thomas, 'The true believer practices what he or she believes'. Often, in our world today, objections to true faith are based on a misunderstanding of what faith is. Believers must be more than unreflective followers; they must be more than ideologues, and they must be more than fideistic and fanatic adherents to religion'. For anyone who has ever been troubled by unbelief or doubt, the feast day of St Thomas the Apostle serves to call to mind the blessedness of the faith that believes without having seen.

May God Bless Us all  
Lany Achen

ഇടവകയെ മൂന്ന് വർഷക്കാലം ആത്മീയ പാതയിൽ നയിച്ച ഇടവക വികാരി ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട റ്റി. ജെ. ജോൺസൻ അച്ചന് ഇടവകാംഗങ്ങളുടെ സ്നേഹോഷ്മളമായ യാത്രയയപ്പ് നൽകി. 27 ജൂൺ 2014 വെള്ളിയാഴ്ച വി. കുർബ്ബാനയ്ക്ക് ശേഷം നടന്ന യാത്രയയപ്പ് സമ്മേളനത്തിൽ ഇടവക സഹവികാരി റവ. ഫാ. ലെനി ചാക്കോ അദ്ധ്യക്ഷത വഹിക്കുകയും, തുടർന്ന് ഇടവക മാനേജിംഗ് കമ്മിറ്റി, ഇടവക പ്രവർത്തകൾ, ആത്മീയ പ്രസ്ഥാനങ്ങൾ, സൺഡേസ്കൂൾ എന്നിവയെ പ്രധിനിധീകരിച്ച് അംഗങ്ങൾ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട അച്ചന് ആശംസകൾ നേർന്നു.

ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ജോൺസൻ അച്ചനും, കുടുംബത്തിനും എല്ലാ ആശംസകളും നേരുന്നു.

### ഇടവക പെരുന്നാളും പരിശുദ്ധ ബസേലിയോസ് മാർത്തോമ്മാ ദിവിമോസ് പ്രഥമൻ ബാവയുടെ അടിയന്തിരവും



### മലങ്കരയുടെ താപസ ശ്രേഷ്ഠൻ-ചിത്ര പ്രദർശനം

