Volume-11, Issue:4

# Jubilee Voice

**Jubilee Malayalam Church (CNI)** 



Parish Messenger

## Thought for the month

Remember: Resurrection is a leap into a whole new way of thinking

## JUBILEE MALAYALAM CHURCH

**Register Number: E 8750** 

PLOT-3, SECTOR-7, SANPADA EAST, NAVI MUMBAI – 400 705 Website: www.jubileemalayalam.org

## **Programmes**

- **April 1:** Church Convention in church at 7pm
- April 2: Maundy Thursday service in Church first floor at 8pm
- April 3: Good Friday service in Church at 8am
- April 4: Family Retreat in Church at 9am-2pm
- April 5: Easter Service in Church at 5:30am
- April 5: Committee Meeting after the service at 7:30am in Church side room
- **April 11:** Women's fellowship meeting in Church at 4:30pm
- April 12: Holy Communion Service in Sanpada at 7am and Matins in Panvel at 11am
- **April 18:** Cottage prayer in the house of Mr. V.M.Y. John at 7:30pm
- **April 19:** Holy Communion service in Sanpada at 7am and Panvel at 11am.
- April 19: Cottage prayer in the house of Mr. K. O. John at 6pm
- April 26: Holy Communion service in Sanpada at 7am and Panvel at 11am.
- May 3: Combined Holy Communion Service in Sanpada at 3pm..
- May 3: AGM after the service at 5pm.

## Motto for the year 2015 "Be Holy because, I the LORD your God, am Holy" (Leviticus 19: 2)

### Message from the Presbyter

#### Dear Friends in Christ,

We are celebrating the resurrection of Jesus in the month of April. Lent season was a preparation time for us to remember Jesus' crucifixion and celebrating His resurrection. Jesus' resurrection was a foretold incident to the Disciples of Christ. But they could realize it only after the incident had happened. No one had ever come back to life after death in history of humankind that it was difficult for the disciples to believe in Jesus' resurrection ahead of time. Even they seem to have had doubts regarding the resurrected presence of Christ. Jesus had to prove that it was he, who stands in front of them after resurrection. It is natural for disciples to doubt. But after they had been convinced of Jesus' resurrection they had become bold witnesses later.

Admittedly, today we believe in Jesus' resurrection. But how does that belief become beneficial to us unless we study the teachings of Christ. It is with this intention that we studied the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew Chaps. 5-7) during Lenten season. Let me, once again, bring out the essence of the teachings of Christ that we meditated during Lent.

We started with the blessed condition (Chap 5). How do we become blessed or who are the blessed? It is those who go through troublesome situations in life and experiences the presence of God as the helper of those who struggles in life. It is those, who show regard, sympathy and mercy to others, whom God blesses since He is the source of all good behavioural qualities. It is those who stand for righteousness and Peace, which are Jesus' qualities, and those who stand for Jesus' name in the midst of persecution and insult, who would enter the kingdom of heaven because Jesus is our justice before God.

Jesus stands for the Law of God. He came to fulfill the Law of God on earth. When humans failed before the law of God, Jesus fulfilled it and He encouraged everyone to follow God's law and aim for perfection in life.

Then he clarified each law and brought out its essence. Anger is equivalent to murder and hating another person in heart and insulting him/her publicly amounts to the same. It means that relationship needs to be valued and held in high regard. Worship will become meaningful only if reconciliation happens. Thus Jesus emphasized the importance of human relationship with each other and with God in worship.

Lust that happens in heart is as important as the real action (Adultery). Therefore humans need to be careful of it as it originates in heart. Divorce for any reason cannot be justified as it destroys the Godintended purpose of marriage.

The concept of retaliation (eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth) need to be avoided. Give freely to those who want to forcefully take away your belongings. Love your enemies and pray for them as God provides essentials of life to both good and the wicked.

Jesus exhorted everyone to do religious piety for the father-in-heaven to see (Chap 6). Giving to the needy, prayer and fasting are the general three pillars of religious piety. But people do it for the approval of humans than God, Which Jesus criticized vehemently. Those who want human applause will not get reward from the father-in-heaven. Their reward is what they have received - human recognition.

Jesus taught that wealth is the major barrier that keeps one from serving God. Wealth takes away human effort, mind and full attention from seeking God in such a way that people will start serving only money. That means money will become their only purpose in life that they become totally disintegrated from the life and the kingdom of God. In the life within the kingdom of God, one work to get sufficient money for survival and not for flamboyance. Whatever extra income a person earns will be used for helping others, who are in need. It shows that people need to find time for seeking the life of God within the Kingdom rather than living for worldly concerns only. There are many other laws and life styles that we need to observe, which are written in Matthew chapter seven.

The life of Jesus on earth was the exemplification of all these qualities. That makes him to come back to life after death. Death as the consequence of sin had no control over him as he is the expression of God's Holy Laws. Now for us to participate in His resurrected life, we need to observe these laws of God as Jesus explicated. He is the helper of all those, who are eager to observe the laws of God. Failure on our part does not jeopardize the salvation process because Jesus is the fulfillment of Law and savior of all those, who are willing to follow the will of his father-in-heaven (Matt. 7: 21-23).

Therefore let us be awakened and do the will of our father-in-heaven and try to grow in the image of His Son Jesus. May God be with our effort and make Jesus' resurrection meaningful to us. Amen.

With love and prayers,
Rev. Varghese Enathickal V.
Email: presbyter.sanpadajmc@gmail.com

#### Members of the editorial board:

Dr. Jowin Jacob

Biju George

John P. Mathew

Binu Thomas

Lini Paul

P. K. Abraham

#### News & Notes

## **Previous Month Highlights**

**Lenten Prayers:** We could conduct Lenten prayers on every Monday and Wednesday in houses and Friday in Church at 8pm and 8:30pm respectively from Ash Wednesday onwards. Though on few houses attendance were very less, on an average 10-15 people attended Lenten house prayers including house members and around 25-35 people in Church.

**Women's Sunday:** Women's Sunday was celebrated on March 1, Sunday. Service started in the afternoon. Dr. Ms. A. P. Koshy delivered the word of God. She is the Parel church leader and an Evangelist among slum dwellers. She has her own registered trust for the purpose of this ministry. She talked about the role of various women leaders in the Bible in uplifting the society. Her ministry shows how God can use least among the women for transformation in society.

During the service, our women's fellowship members from Sanpada and Panvel presented one song each and prizes were distributed for the winners of various competitions held on Feb 17. Vanchika collection was also taken. Food stall was arranged after the service.

Total collection received on Women's Sunday is as follows:

Vanchika: 33440 Food Sale: 10020

**Panvel Worshipping Centre Anniversary:** 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Panvel worshipping center was conducted on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2015. They have really worked hard to present good programs. Children, youth, and elders have participated together to make this anniversary a good occasion. This year we had a good attendance from Sanpada. We appreciate worshipping centre members for their valuable effort.

Rev. Eldo Paul, the chief guest and Rev. N. C. David, our special invitee, attended this anniversary.

**Sunday School Anniversary:** Sunday school anniversary was conducted marvelously. Children were all set for the program and put good effort in bringing out their best. Teachers, Volunteers and parents have all supported them and children could creatively present their talents. Variety programs were presented; children from Panvel also have done well. We appreciate the coordinator (Mrs. Shelly Abraham), teachers and other members, who have helped in organizing the anniversary and making it a memorable event.

Mr. Don John Thomas, the chief guest for the anniversary, taught children song and valuable lessons. Children, who performed well in annual exam, Bible Quiz and various competitions, were given prizes and consolation prizes were also distributed. Annual Report was read by Mrs. Shelly Abraham and anniversary ended with fellowship dinner.

## **Present Month Programs**

**Church Convention:** Convention shall be held in Church on March 31 (Tue) and April 1 (Wed) from 7pm onwards. Preacher for this year is Rev. Abraham Kuruvilla, a retired priest staying in

Kodukulanji, after his excellent service in CSI North Kerala Diocese. He will be leading the family retreat and other services during Passion Week. His experience as a priest for more than 30 years and his preaching style will edify and enrich us spiritually. Let us pray for the convention and the whole week program that we have planned.

**Maundy Thursday:** Maundy Thursday service will be held in the first floor of the church at 8pm on April 2

Good Friday: Good Friday service shall begin at 8am in Church on April 3

**Church Retreat:** Church Retreat will be held on April 4, from 9am onwards. Lunch will be provided. The retreat will wind up soon after the lunch. All are requested to participate.

Easter Service: Easter service will be held on April 5 at 5:30am in Sanpada and 11am in Panvel

**Church Committee**: Church committee will be held on April 5 at 7:30am.

**Women's Fellowship Meeting:** Women's fellowship meeting shall be held in Jubilee church, Sanpada, at 4:30pm on April 11.

#### **Cottage Prayers:**

- **1.** Cottage prayer shall be conducted in the house of Mr. V. M. Y. John on April 18, Saturday at 7:30pm. Address: Plot No. 62/9, Ebenezer, Sector 28, Vashi. Phone: 9820236219.
- **2.** Cottage prayer shall be conducted in the house of Mr. K. O. John on April 19, Sunday, at 6:00pm. Address: F-15/2/2, Vrindavan CHS Ltd., Sector 4, Sanpada. Phone: 9820742205.

**Church AGM:** Church AGM will be held on May 3, Sunday, after the Church service. That day Church service will be held at 3pm.

**Trust Membership:** Jubilee Malayalam Church has now been registered under the Bombay Public Trust Act of 1950. We need to maintain a proper membership form of all members. Therefore a pink and white membership form is issued. All are requested to fill up the forms individually. Those, who are 18 years and above, need to fill up and sign in Pink colour form individually and pay subscription separately. Those, who are below 18 years, their names need to be filled up in white colour form by parents.

**Transfer of Presbyter-in-Charge and the arrival of the New Presbyter:** The present presbyter-in-charge is being transferred to St. Barnabas CSI Church, Ennooramvayal, Vechoochira. He shall leave with family on May 5, Tuesday. Rev. Binju Varghese Kuruvilla will be the new presbyter-in-charge and he along with Kochamma, Dr. Grace Nisha Ninan, and children (Abhishek, Nikshep and Junia) shall arrive here on May 14, 2015.

#### **Prayer Requests**

- 1. Mr. John P. Mathew- 9820456808 (for good health)
- 2. Mother of Mr. W. J. Mathai (022-27703681) for happy and peaceful old age.
- 3. Mother of Mr. Sudeep Philips (Mob: 8879640355) for good health.

- 4. Father of Rev. Reni Philip, Vakola church vicar.
- 5. Mr. Simon Philip- About his business. To set off to new heights.
- 6. Pray for the wife of Bishop Joshua, staying in Borivalli. She is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- 7. Mr. John Thomas, Panyel: It will take some more days for him to be discharged
- 8. Mrs. Mariam G. Thomas, came back after her eye treatment in Kerala and is now taking rest at home. Let us pray for her eye sight and good health.

**Thanksgiving:** Saramma Issac aunty came for the panvel anniversary in spite of tiredness after her treatment at hospital. But let us thanks God for enabling her to come to Church and continue to pray that God may give complete healing and keep her in good health.

#### **SUNDAY SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR APRIL 2015**

2<sup>nd</sup> April: Maundy Thursday

Theme: Jesus gives his disciples a new commandment and institutes the Lord's Supper

Jeremiah 31: 31-34 Psalm 116: 1-19 John 6: 35-39, 47-51

3<sup>rd</sup> April: Good Friday

Theme: The Victory of the Cross

Genesis 22: 1-18 Psalm 69: 1-15 Hebrews 10: 4-24 John 18: 1-19

5th April: Easter Day

Theme: The Lord is risen, he is risen indeed. Alleluia
Exodus 15: 1-2, 19-21
Colossians 3: 1-4
Psalm 118: 15-23
John 20: 1-10

12th April: Sunday after Easter

Theme: Joy and Peace, power and new life are given through the Resurrection of Christ

Acts 4: 32-35 Psalm 118: 19-26 1 John 1: 1-7 John 20: 19-31

19th April: 2nd Sunday after Easter

Theme: witnesses to Christ's Resurrection

Acts 5: 27- 42 Psalm 138: 1-7 1 John 2: 18-25 Luke 24: 36-48

26th April: 3rd Sunday after Easter

Theme: The Good Shepherd

Acts 8: 14-25 Psalm 23 John 1: 8- 2:5 John 10: 11-18

3rd May: 4th Sunday after Easter

Theme: God is love and we can only know him if we ourselves show love to others

#### **SCRIPTURE READING NAMES- SANPADA**

02.04.15 03.04.15 05.04.15 12.04.15 19.04.15 26.04.15 03.05.15	1st Lesson Mr. John P. Mathew Adv. Chandy Kurien Mr. W. J. Mathai Mr. Shaji Thomas Mr. George Joseph M Mr. Abraham Paulose Ms. Sarah B. George	Psalms Mrs. Rekha Varghese Mrs. Sinu Ashok Mrs. Aleyamma John Mrs. Betsy Mathews Mrs. Nirmala John Ms. Neha Varghese Mrs. Teena Josey	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson Mr. Monzy Thariyan Mrs. Molly B. George Ms. Grace Abraham Mrs. Amritha T. P Ms. Reeba Kurien Mr. Joseph Philip Ms. Tanya Ninan
02.04.15 05.04.15 12.04.15 19.04.15 26.04.15 03.05.15	PEACE Mr. & Mrs. Sabu Vargh Mr. & Mrs. Biju C Alex Mr. Bino Oommen Mr. & Mrs. Josey Oom Mr. & Mrs. V. M. Y. Joh Mr. & Mrs. Mitun C. Ro	men nn	ELEMENTS  Mr. & Mrs. John Samuel  Mr. & Mrs. Thomas George  Mr. & Mrs. Oommen George  Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Verghese Itty  Mr. & Mrs. T. G. Kurien  Mr. & Mrs. John Samuel
02.04.15 03.04.15 05.04.15 12.04.15 19.04.15 26.04.15 03.05.15	INTERCESSION Mrs. Shiny Sam Mr. Sajan George Mrs. Annamma John Mrs. Marina Chandy Mrs. Jibi Binu Thomas Mrs. Suja Bose	Mr. Re Mr. Re Mr. Re Mr. Re Mr. Re	OFFERTORY uben Kurien; Ms. Aneeta Rose Paul uben Kurien; Ms. Sanaya Shaji uben Kurien; Mst. Libin Yesudas uben Kurien; Ms. Lisa Thariyan uben Kurien; Mst. Alex Monzy T uben Kurien; Ms. Felisa Lee M. uben Kurien; Mst. Dan Koshy George

## **SCRIPTURE READING NAMES - PANVEL**

	1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson	Psalms	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson
05.04.15	Mr. Simon Philip	Mrs. Shiny Sabu	Ms. Dinsey Jacob
12.04.15	Mr. Solomon Samuel	Mrs. Sheena Johnson	Ms. Bijitta David
19.04.15	Mr. Babu K	Mrs. Shiney Sam	Ms. Steffi John
26.04.15	Mr. Ashok Abraham	Ms. Liji Babu	Mr. Jiji George Sam
05.04.15	INTERCESSION Mrs. Persis Jacob	PEACE Mr. & Mrs. W. K.	David
12.04.15	Mrs. Jolly David	Mr. & Mrs. K. K.	
19.04.15	Mrs. Bindu John	Mr. & Mrs. Sabu	
26.04.15	Mrs. Mariam Simon	Mr. & Mrs. Sam T	•

BIRTHDAYS			
02-Apr	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	Vashi	
04-Apr	Mast. Nathan Abraham Oommen	Kharghar	
05-Apr	Mr. W. J. Mathai	Nerul	
10-Apr	Mrs. Amritha T.P.	CBD Belapur	
12-Apr	Mrs. Betsy Mathews	Kharghar	
13-Apr	Mr. Shaji Thomas	Vashi	
16-Apr	Mrs. Shiney Sam	Kamothe	
18-Apr	Mr. Reuben Kurian	Nerul	
22-Apr	Mast. Eethan Jacob George	Nerul	
24-Apr	Mr. Abraham Paulose	Sanpada	
28-Apr	Mast. Jose Nathan Cherian	Nerul	
30-Apr	Ms. Neha Varghese	Kharghar	
30-Apr	Mrs. Ajitha Kurian	Vashi	
30-Apr	Mr. Joseph Philip	Sanpada	
02-May	Mrs. Teena Josey	Kopar Khairne	
03-May Ms. Tanya Ninan		Kopar Khairne	
03-May	Ms. Sarah B. George	Kopar Khairne	
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY			
12-Apr	Mr. & Mrs. Oommen George	Nerul	
17-Apr	Mr. & Mrs. Joju John K.	Sanpada	
22-Apr	Mr. & Mrs. Hans Thomas V.	Airoli	
02-May	Mr & Mrs John Samuel	Kopar Khairne	

## **Church Calendar 2015**

Church Convention	March31, April 1
Maundy Thursday	April 2
Good Friday	April 3
Church Retreat	April 4
Easter	April 5

#### **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND ECOLOGICAL CRISIS (cont....)**

#### 2. Limitation to human centered growth and development (Gen 11: 1-9)

Development in the form of the story of Babel tower tells us that if the development is not properly focused it is better to stop than inviting danger. In this section of Genesis, after the floods, humans have decided to build a city that reaches to heavens using bricks instead of stone and bitumen for mortar. The substance used here for building shows human development and achievement. But their achievement did not focus on the fruitfulness part discussed above. It was said in Genesis to be fruitful and then rule over fish, birds and every living creature on earth.

In the story of Babel Tower, human development programme did not consider other living creatures on earth. They were trying to make a name for themselves (Gen 11:4). In other words, their development programme was just human centered and not oriented towards God, who is the creator of all living beings. When God saved humans from the flood to continue their existence, it was not just humans that God saved but two of all kinds of living beings. As far as creation is concerned all major decisions of God included other living beings also as we can see in the creation story and the flood story of Noah. But today somehow we, humans, have lost that focus and invited ecological crisis bringing a dangerous situation of extinction of all living forms by our developmental program, which we have planned only for our own well being.

Today it has almost come to a point that unless a dramatic intervention of God happens, we cannot stop building human centered Babel towers.

#### 3. A Lesson to control our desires.

As God was leading Israel out of Egypt, in order to fulfill their desire, God gave them bread and meat to eat (Exodus 16). It is written that the Israelites ate manna for forty years until they came to a land that was settled. When God provided food, it was according to the needs of the people rather than their greed. Israelites said that in Egypt, they sat around pots of meat and ate all the food they wanted (Exodus 16:3). There was plenty and variety of food in Egypt as Israelites remembered. But when God provided them, sufficient quantity of same food was

available for forty years. People were supposed to take only what is needed for the day. Those who gather more did not find it useful since it got infected with maggots the next day.

There is a lesson we derive from this passage that earth's resources are only for our need and sustenance and not for our greed. Today environmental degradation happens because of the modern day development slogan, which says: Maximum production, Maximum consumption and Maximum profit. According to this slogan, development is measured in terms of money and profit making. More profit means more benefit and more developmental scope. So productions of goods are not according to the need of humanity but according to their wild irrational wishes and desires. We must know that desires would never be fully met in our life unless and until we decide to put a bridle on it. Buddha was right in identifying desire as the root cause of all sufferings. As desires multiply, we tend to do more ecologically destructive acts. Comfort and luxury have reached to a maximum level that we steal away comfort of the future generation by destroying their ecology. Therefore our responsible thinking on any human enterprises must take into consideration human need before addressing developmental ideas.

Are the development agenda that we are involved with useful for our sustenance? How many are getting benefit from it? Does it relate to the common need of humanity or only cater to the needs of few individuals, who are rich and influential? Here is where we need to curb our selfish interests in order to save earth's resources for our future generations. For that we need to have a concentrated effort from all quarters of the world. Human need must be considered in proportion to every one's needs rather than the needs of economically and politically powerful.

May God help us to be ecologically oriented in our thoughts, actions and needs in order to be fruitful and fulfill the purpose of God on earth in relation with His entire creation.

- Rev. Varghese Enathickal V.

#### **Members of the Parish Committee:**

Rev. Varghese Enathickal V		9820569403 (Mob)
Mr. Biju C. Alex (Hon. Secretary)	27723246 (Res)	9619894443 (Mob)
Mr. K O John (Hon. Treasurer)		9820742205 (Mob)
Mr. Bose K. Thomas		9594970356 (Mob)
Mr. Oommen George	27709304 (Res)	9820073241 (Mob)
Mr. K. K. Johnson	27743611 (Res)	9820248239 (Mob)
Mr. Ashok Abraham	27491706	9892386920 (Mob)

Mr. David James		9619483420 (Mob)
Mr. Monzy Thariyan	27814658-	9619608750 (Mob)
Mrs. Sara Oommen		9930996868 (Mob)

#### **Diocesan Council Members & Alternates**

Mr. Monzy Tharian	27814658-961	9608750	Mr. Da	vid James	9619483420
Mr. Thomas George	27412463-998	37014204	Adv. Cł	nandy Kurian	9821275735
Sunday School Superi	ntendent	Mrs. Shely Abr	aham	27750066	9821758209
Youth Coordinator		Mr. Biju Georg	e	27540490	9820373589
Youth Fellowship Seco	retary	Mr. Jim Joseph	Kurian		9967524520
Women's Fellowship S	Secretary	Mrs. Sera Bibi	Cherian	27526156	8691088188
Choir Convener		Mr. Sajan Geor	ge		9619629167
Choir Secretary		Mr. Mithun C. I	Roy		9769795644
Organist		Ms. Sharon Joh	ın	27540500	9769961641
Worshipping Centre C	Convener	Mr. W. K. David	d		9867802946
WC Sunday School Co	ordinator	Mr. A. C. Jacob			9869674251
WC Youth Fellowship	Coordinator	Ms. Dinsey Jac	ob		9022857762
WC Women's Fellows	hip Coordinator	Mrs. Shiney Sa	m		9869685678
WC Choir Coordinator	-	Mr. Binny John	ison		9619195358
Jubilee Church Careta	ker	Mr. Prashant			9967197118

## Presbyter-in-charge

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