



# Melbourne Orthodox Cathedral Bulletin

NOVEMBER 2023



ST. MARY'S INDIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, MELBOURNE.

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## VICAR'S DESK

Rev. Fr. Aji K Varughese

Dearly beloved in Jesus Christ,

This is the beginning of another liturgical year. The liturgical year begins with the sanctification of the church. On the following Sundays, we remember the major events in the life of Christ. The church celebrates Christmas and 25 days of Lent in preparation for it. Each believer's life is a journey towards heavenly Jerusalem. Our life and activities should strengthen this spiritual journey.

Carol groups from our church will visit our homes from November 18 onwards, heralding the message of the birth of our savior. The message given to the shepherds by the angels will reach our homes through the carols. It is the responsibility of the families to keep the message of peace in their homes. "But whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house.' And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you." (St. Luke 10:5-6). When our life is righteous, Christ is born. When families become righteous, the church gets sanctified.

There are many disturbing things around us. Wars happening around the world, sickness, and ill health, stress from jobs, fissures in familial relationships, etc. render our nights sleepless. Are we able to offer peace to our fellow beings? Let the 25 days of Lent be a journey towards that. Let us prepare ourselves for a righteous Lent period.

May God bless you all.

Yours loving

AJI ACHEN





### SEASON OF SANCTIFICATION

November 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 121st Memorial of <b>St. Gregorios of Parumala</b> 116th Memorial of <b>H.G. Kadavil Paulose Mar Athanasios</b> Metropolitan (Aluva Thrikkunnathu Seminary)		
5 <b>Koodosh Eetho</b> (Sanctification of the church) Beginning of the Liturgical year	6 57th Commemoration of <b>HG Vayaliparambil Geevarghese Mar Gregorios</b> Metropolitan (Aluva Thrikkunnathu Seminary).	7	8 27th Commemoration of <b>HH Mar Baselios Marthoma Mathews - I</b> Catholicos (Devalokam Catholicate Aramana).	9	10	11 Memorial of St. Athanasios of Alexandria
12 <b>Hoodosh Eetho</b> (Dedication of the church) <b>Feast of St. Gregorios at SMIOC</b>	13 Feast of St. John Chrysostom.	14 Feast of St. Philip the Apostle.	15	16	17	18
19 Sunday of <b>Revelation to Zachariah</b> (Father of John the Baptist)	20 12th Commemoration of <b>HG Job Mar Philoxenos</b> Metropolitan (Mount Tabor Dayara, Pathanapuram).	21 Commemorating the Entry of St. Mary to the Temple of Jerusalem.	22	23	24 207th Commemoration of <b>HG Pulikkottil Joseph Mar Dionysius II</b> 27th Commemoration of <b>HG Paulose Mar Gregorios</b> Metroplitan	25
26 Sunday of <b>Annunciation to St. Mary.</b>	27	28 Feast of Mar Jacob Baradaeus & Mar Dionysius Barsleebi.	29 Feast of Mar Jacob of Serugh.	30 Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle.ar Jacob of Serugh.		

## PRAYER MEETINGS

- 05 Nov - **ST THOMAS** Residence of **Mr. Anil Joy**, Lower Templestowe
- 12 Nov - **ST. KURIAKOSE** Residence of **Mr. Bobby George**, Mernda
- 19 Nov - **ST. DIONYSIOS** No Prayer meeting
- 26 Nov - **ST GREGORIOS** No Prayer meeting



## COUPLES FELLOWSHIP

Couples fellowship meeting was held on 22 Oct 2023 under the guidance of Fr. Aji K Varghese. Around 30 people attended the meeting. The meeting started with songs and Achen extended his views and thoughts about true love. In the meeting, there was a thought from the members regarding a family camping. The meeting concluded with a Christmas carols songs practice under the guidance of Lalu Abraham. Meeting concluded with prayer.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Requesting all of you to remember the following VCE students in your prayers - **Alex Idichandy, Chris Paul Geo, Chris Varghese Shibu, Evelyn Jacob, Isaiah Binu Varkey, Laura Grace Lalu, Leanna Kochummen, Nathaniel Sunil, Rhea Jiju, Reeba Iywan.**

Sunday school's final examination will be held on 12 November 2023, after the Holy Qurbana for all grades except Grades 10 and 12.

The final examination for Grades 10 and 12 will be held on 03 December after the Holy Qurbana.

## MARTHA MARIYAM VANITHA SAMAJAM

MMVS FAR EAST ASIA REGION conducted a quiz competition on 07 October. MMVS family expressing our hearty congratulations to all the participants and winners.

Our MMVS members secured three prizes in the competition



**Biji Mathew**  
3rd Prize



**Bindhu Susan George**  
4th Prize



**Smitha Varghese**  
5th Prize

MMVS monthly meeting is being held every second Sunday after Holy Qurbana. This month's meeting was held on 8th October. Mrs. Ashly Joy delivered an inspirational message based on the importance of prayer in our daily lives and stressed the importance of praying with an open heart and mind.

MMVS Central examination was held on 15th October after Holy Qurbana. Alongside is the MMVS member preparing themselves for the examinations. The next meeting will be held on 12th November.



## OCYM & MGOCSM

Throughout the month of July, SMIOC MGOCSM & OCYM have continued to meet for their fortnightly bible studies. The youth first start for the vespers and compline services, followed by a meditation on a theme, character, or portion from the bible.

On October 4, Rev. Fr. Aji K. Varughese conducted a study on 1 Kings 18 about Elijah on Mount Carmel, and on October 17, Joel Jacob conducted a study on perseverance.



# POEM - UNTO THEE, OH LORD

That I am a Christian, I am proud  
I will sing praises aloud  
Oh lord my saviour, I'll praise your name  
Never will I stoop with fear or shame

I am a Christian; I love your parables  
Stories of love, honesty, and your disciples  
Marriage of Cana, miracle of five loaves  
and two fish  
Those are the ones I cherish.

I am a Christian; I thank you every day  
I submit and surrender before you I say  
Oh Lamb of God you washed away my sins  
with your cleansing blood, Jesus my Prince.

I am a Christian; I kneel down before you  
with a broken heart and spirit unto you,  
strengthen me with your grace and power  
for you are my fortress and strong tower.

I am a Christian; I look unto your cross  
With tears in my eyes and a will to embrace  
You died for me, for I was a lost lamb  
You held my hands and took me home.

I am a Christian, our Lord is risen  
Blow the trumpets, my brethren  
He is the Messiah, Jehovah Jirah  
King of kings and Lord of lords

I am a Christian; I'll wear your armor  
and fight for you like a brave soldier,  
Will never be wishy-washy, I promise;  
Before you I bow, my Jesus.

I am Christian; I thank you for this gift of life  
though I have hardships and strife.  
What will I give you in return, my Lord?  
I promise to live for your glory till my last breath.



Mrs. Dona Merrin C Philip

## ST. GREGORIOS OF PARUMALA



Mr. Thomas Kurian

## ART CORNER - SUNDAY SCHOOL



Shreya Shine - Intermediate Drawing  
1st Prize

Alexia Elza Alex - Intermediate Drawing  
2nd Prize



Shawn Nirmal - Intermediate Drawing  
3rd Prize



# MISSION OUTREACH SERVICE

## GEELONG

Rev. Fr. Aji K. Varughese celebrated the sacrament of the Holy Qurbana at the Wesley Uniting Church, Geelong, on Friday 13 October 2023.



## UPCOMING SERVICES

Holy Qurbana along with **Feast of St. Gregorios** will be celebrated as below

**GEELONG** - 10 Nov 2023

**BALLARAT** - 17 Nov 2023

**BENDIGO** - 24 Nov 2023




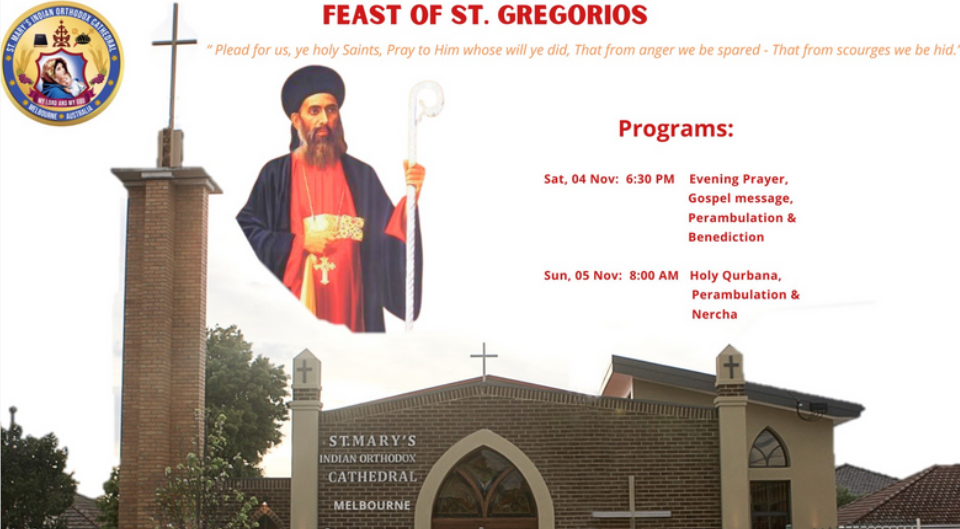
**ST. MARY'S INDIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, MELBOURNE**  
**FEAST OF ST. GREGORIOS**

*"Plead for us, ye holy Saints, Pray to Him whose will ye did, That from anger we be spared - That from scourges we be hid."*

**Programs:**

Sat, 04 Nov: 6:30 PM Evening Prayer, Gospel message, Perambulation & Benediction

Sun, 05 Nov: 8:00 AM Holy Qurbana, Perambulation & Nercha

*Joy to the world*

Christmas Carols Schedule

18, 19 November	02, 03 December
25, 26 November	09, 16 December

*Christmas Eve - 10 December 2023*



## CONDOLENCES

SMIOC Family extends its heartfelt condolences to the grieving families.



**Rev Fr Thomas Thekkil cor-Episcopa**  
 Date: 01/Nov/2023  
 Rev Fr Thomas Thekkil cor-Episcopa, was a senior priest of Chengannoor diocese. We will now miss his esteemed presence of celebrating the Feast of St. Gregorios at SMIOC - Melbourne.



**Mrs. Kunjukunjamma Panicker (82)**  
 M/o Mr. Thomas Panicker  
 Date: 02/Oct/2023











**Mr. K I David (76)**  
 F/o Mrs. Sona Vineeth  
 (W/o Mr. Vineeth Paul)  
 Date: 06/Oct/2023



**Mr. Oommen C Varghese (72)**  
 F/o Mrs. Susan Shine  
 (W/o Mr. Eapen Shine)  
 Date: 27/Oct/2023

## STAY IN TOUCH WITH US

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 MGOCMS & OCYM: @SMIOCYouth

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 Mr. Lalu Abraham, Mr. Roney Abraham, Mr. Thomas Panicker, Mr. Rejo Thomas.



**Koodosh Eetho - Sanctification of the church**



**St. Philip**