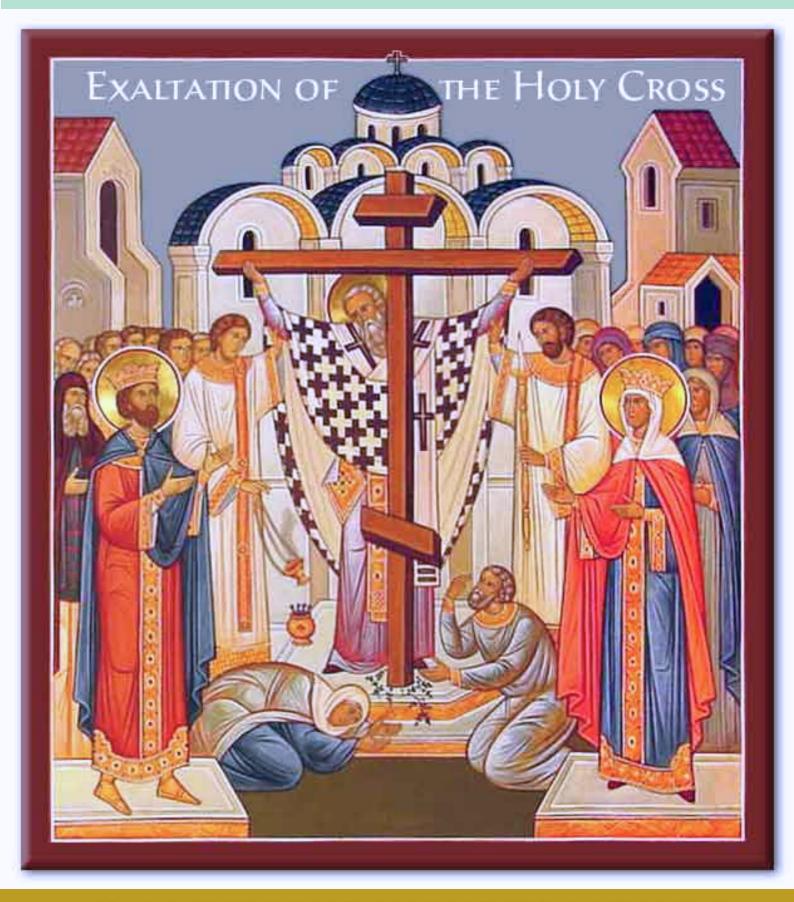


# **Melbourne Orthodox Cathedral Bulletin**

SEPTEMBER 2023



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#### VICAR'S DESK

Rev. Fr. Aji K Varughese



Dearly beloved in Jesus Christ,

Words can provide consolation; it can also inflict wounds on others. It can disgrace or destroy people. Unbridled tongue can break many relationships. We should first purify our hearts and minds from where our thoughts originate. "A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of" (St. Luke 6:45).

Expression of views and freedom of opinion are divinely bestowed on man. But if views are formed on the basis of envy, prejudice, immaturity, hatred or vengeance the fruits won't be virtuous. Though one may get happiness out of spreading scandals it will ultimately lead to the loss of peace for oneself.

Let us examine our thoughts and words. St. James 1:19 says "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry". Only those who carefully listen and scrutinize things critically can express their views without fear. We should evaluate people very carefully. If we recognize virtues and assimilate them into our lives, it will enable us to secure and strengthen our interpersonal relationships.

The parish expresses gratitude to all those who participated in the Perunal celebrations and cooperated with the harvest festival. The prayers and efforts of the parishioners are essential for the spiritual and the physical growth of the parish. I pray that the Holy Spirit will strengthen us and fill our hearts with the divine light of love.

May God bless you all. Yours loving AJI ACHEN

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## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

#### SEASON OF CROSS

# September 2023





			A Million			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 149th Commemoration of HG Yuyakim Mar Coorilos Metropolitan (Mulanthuruthy Caathedral)
3 3rd Sunday after Ascension	4	5	6	7	<b>8</b> Feast of the Birth of St. Mary, the Mother of God.	<b>9</b> Feast of St. Mary's Parents, Youyakim and Hanna.
10 4th Sunday after Ascension	11	12	13	14 Feast of the Holy Cross(Sleeba Perunal)	15 111th Anniversary of the Establishment of Catholicate in Malankara.	16
17 1st Sunday after Feast of the Holy Cross.	18	19	20	21	22	23  100th Commemoration of HG Alvarez Mar Julius Metropolitan (Panjim St. Mary's Church, Goa).
<b>24</b> 2nd Sunday after Feast of the Holy Cross.	25 129th Commemoration of Patriarch Mar Ignatius Peter III of Antioch.	26	27	28 26th Commemoration of HG Philipose Mar Theophilos Metropolitan (Aluva Thrikkunathu Seminary).	29	30

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#### ST. MARY'S FEAST & CHURCH PERUNAL



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### ST. MARY'S FEAST & CHURCH PERUNAL



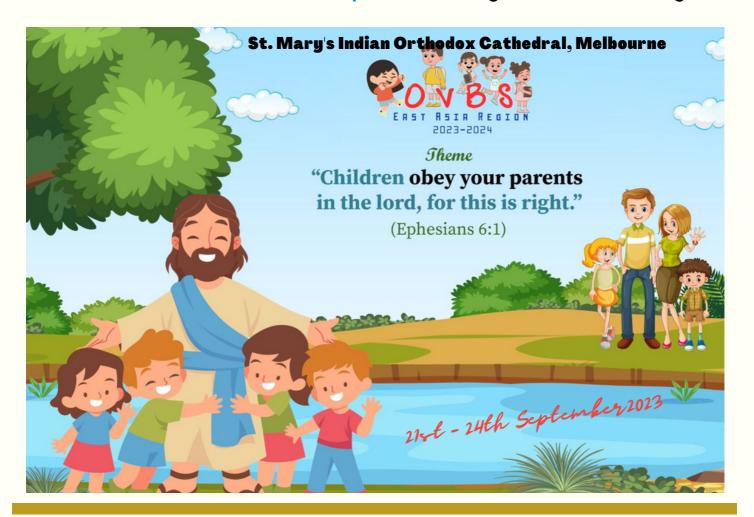
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#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school children actively participated in the Dormition lent, intercessory prayers, and the church feast. On August 6th Sunday school junior choir led the choir and assisted the Holy Qurbana.

OVBS 2023 will be held from September 21st to 24th at Cathedral. Looking forward to a fun-filled learning experience for all students.

#### OVBS-2023 - 21st to 24th September - Registrations have begun



#### PRAYER MEETINGS

03 Sept	- ST THOMAS	No Prayer meeting
10 Sept	- ST. KURIAKOSE	Residence of <b>Mr. Roney T Abraham</b> , Doreen.
17 Sept	- ST. DIONYSIOS	Residence of <b>Mr. Lalu Abraham</b> , Craigeburn.
24 Sept	- ST GREGORIOS	Residence of <b>Mr. Jacob Manuel</b> , Derrimut

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#### MARTHA MARIYAM VANITHA SAMAJAM

MMVS team participated in East Asia Region Shunoyo Lenten thoughts by sharing video message focusing on the theme of Mother Mary. Special thanks to Shiney Sajith and Sibi Nirmal for their participation.

MMVS team successfully participated in weekly intercessory prayer during Shunoyo Lenten Season followed by Psalms reading.



#### OCYM & MGOCSM

Throughout the month of July, SMIOC MGOCSM & OCYM have continued to meet for their for 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. Over the course of the Dormition Fast, the Intercessory Prayer was also held on these days in English. The meditations were led by Jessie Cheriyan on August 2, and Alfy Alex on August 9.

During the Harvest Festival Auction, the SMIOC MGOCSM & OCYM conducted a fundraiser sausage sizzle which raised in excess of \$800 in revenue. Team Youth also kept the kids entertained with activities throughout the duration of the auction, including painting, bowling, play dough, puzzles and a grand scavenger hunt.



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# ARTICLE - BLESSED MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



Mrs. Annamol Ashly

We honor Mother Mary with great reverence and devotion because she is the Mother of God. Mary is the model of perfect love and obedience to Christ. God preserved Mary from sin, and she conceived our Lord by the power of the Holy Spirit, bringing Christ into our world. Last month we celebrated the Dormition of the Mother of God and the first week of September we celebrate the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary exhibited great courage and character during Jesus' earthly life and ministry. She was a person of discipleship and faith, and the first true follower of Jesus. Mary was instrumental in calling the attention of Jesus to those in need.

The oldest title applied to Mary by the Church is Theotokos, a Greek term that means 'God bearer' or 'Mother of God'. The first mention of Mary is in the story of the Annunciation, which reports that she was living in Nazareth and was married to Joseph (Luke 1:26). Mary is an example for all followers of Jesus. At the Annunciation, Mary responded to God's invitation to be the mother of the Lord. She said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; may your word to me be fulfilled" (Luke 1.38). She is a central figure of Christianity. Mary is admired for her humility and motherly love. We strongly believe in her mercy and power to intercede for us with the Lord Almighty. We pray to Mother Mary in our daily prayers asking her to intercede for for us sinners at all times and at the hour of our death. Mary is considered by many to be the greatest of all saints because she was chosen and prepared by God to be the mother of His Son.

Mother's Day has a deep spiritual dimension. Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the greatest of all mothers. Motherhood has always been a sacred and noble vocation, but Mary raised it to an even greater stature when she became the Mother of God. As the mother who is "blessed among women and blessed is the child she will bear" (Luke 1:42), Mary gives us the clearest and most inspiring picture of what the ideal mother should look like, and every Christian mother would be wise to take her cues from the one who excelled at motherhood like none other.

Mary, Mother of God Pray for us.

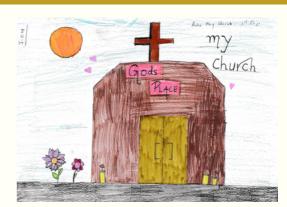
#### ST. MARY - MOTHER OF GOD





Mr. Thomas Kurian

#### ART CORNER - SUNDAY SCHOOL



Ruha Mary Skariah - Junior Drawing - 1st Prize

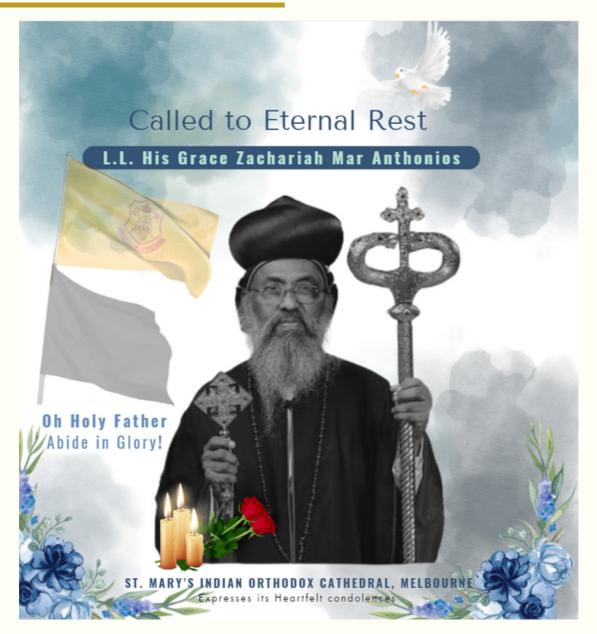


Evlyn Mariam Cherian Junior Drawing - 2nd Prize



Diya Elsa Nirmal Junior Drawing - 3rd Prize

#### HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES



His Grace was born on 19 July 1946 to Mr. WC Abraham and Mrs. Mariamma of the Attumalil Varambathu family, Punallor, Pathanamthitta. On the educational front, he took his BA from Kerala University, GST from Theological Seminary, and BD degree from Serampore University.

Fr Sacharia had a long stint at the Kollam Bishop House as the manager of it. He served many parishes including Nedumbayikulam, Kulathupuzha, and Kollam Kadeesa. He was elected to the post of metropolitan on 28 December 1989 and was ordained on 30 April 1991 by HH Baselios Marthoma Mathews I. He was given the charge of Kollam Diocese.

HG also served as the president of Martha Mariam Vanitha Samajam, the women's wing of the Malankara Orthodox Church. He was known for leading a simple life and did not visit any foreign countries or own a passport. After stepping down from the post of Bishop of Kollam Diocese, he was spending his life in Mar Anthonios Dayara at Mallappally.

"O Christ, who art - of Priests the Lord of clergy chief, Pray pardon, Lord those priests thy mysteries who served"

He entered into eternal rest on 20 August 2023 and was laid to rest in Mount Horeb Mar Elia Chapel Shastamcotta.

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#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

# St. Mary's Indian Orthodox Cathedral, Melbourne **FAMILY GET TOGETHER & ONAM - 2023** 09 Sep 2023 from 09:30AM When: Where: St. Mathews Parish - 95 William St, Fawkner VIC 3060 [Access Car Park via Lowson St] **Cultural Performances from Kids and Adults** Athapookkalam - അത്തപ്പൂക്കളം Maveli - മാവേലി Musical Chair - കസേര കളി Thiruvathira - തിരുവാതിര Vanchippattu - വഞ്ചിപ്പാട്ട് Lollies Picking - മിഠായി പിറക്കൽ Tug of War - വടം വലി, etc. Onasadhya - ഓണസ്സദ്യ

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#### **CONTACT US**

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Members: Mr. Aiju Alex, Mr. Ajay Oommen, Mr. Naveen Abraham, Mr. Reuben Iywan,

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

#### The Feast of Holy Cross



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