



THE MAR THOMA CHURCH, ABU DHABI

Parish News Letter December - 2016



Theme for 2016-2017

LIFE'S TITHE FOR CHRIST December - Month of Tolerance

Sub Theme: CLARITY-CREDIBILITY-SOLIDARITY
-INVITING CROSS – IN WITNESSING CHRIST



DECEMBER

	M	T	W	T	F	S
4				1	2	3
11	5	6	7	8	9	10
	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

December Highlights

- Dec 9**
Birudh Exam Sunday School
- Dec 16**
Sunday School Annual Day-
Inter Prayer Group Volley Ball Tournament
- Dec 23**
Sunday School Registration 2017
- Dec 23**
Christmas Carol
- Dec 24**
Christmas HOLY QURBANA (MTC Mussafah)
- Dec 25**
Christmas HOLY QURBANA.
(St. Andrews Church)
- Dec 30**
Prayer Group Day "GLORIA 2016"
- Dec 31**
WATCHNIGHT SERVICE.

HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
All Fridays at 9.30 am
MTC, Mussafah

HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
Every Sunday at 8.00pm
St. Andrews Chapel

Ordinary Malayalam Service
Every 3rd Friday at 10.30 am
MTC, Mussafah

HOLY QURBANA (English)
Every 2nd Sunday at 8.00 pm
St. Andrews Church

HOLY QURBANA (English)
3rd Friday at 7.30 am
MTC, Mussafah

CHRISTMAS HOLY QURBANA
Dec 24th at 8.30pm
MTC, Mussafah
Dec 25th at 8.00pm
St. Andrews Church

WATCHNIGHT HOLY QURBANA
Dec 31st at 9.30pm
MTC, Mussafah

Opening Lines from the Vicar

Dearly beloved in Christ,

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, His love endures forever.”

Another harvest festival has passed away. It was a joyous occasion. Everybody's participation was there in this great event. All joined in one hand to make it a successful one. I take this opportunity to thank each one of you for the support, participation and enthusiasm shown in our Harvest Festival. By God's grace we could get Her Excellency Sheikha Lubna Al Qasimi, Honorable Minister of State for Tolerance, Government of United Arab Emirates as the Chief Guest. We are so proud to be blessed with her presence.



It was a time to learn with you on God's good gifts to us, and how we, too, might make an appropriate response. But some of you might feel that your life today is a bit like going along a wee, narrow, dangerous canal side road, and that you keep coming across signs of challenges, dangers, uncertainties and difficulties. When life is not so good, how can we feel grateful? In the Harvest festival, we give thanks not only because God given us good material things. We are even more grateful because we believe that there is a God, and that we know what our God is like.

Her Excellency declared the month of December as the month of Tolerance. To mark the occasion she handed over the flag of tolerance. During the event the honorable minister released doves as the symbol of peace and tolerance. We have chalked out many programs related with the observances.

As per the Parish Year Calendar we are going to study the sub theme: 'clarity-credibility-solidarity-inviting cross—in witnessing Christ.' The pattern of our mission is Christ's way. With the power of the Holy Spirit we must be involved in the ministry with much clarity of our identity. Our credibility should be reflected through the goals and objectives.

I am so glad to inform you that our transfer list has been published and we are posted to St. Thomas Schools, Mysore as the Senior Principal cum Manager. I think that I am not eligible for the same but it is all God's doing. I request your valuable prayers to move forward with the God entrusted mission. Our Isaac Achen is also moving to Bhopal (Delhi Diocese). May God help him to do the ministry fruitfully in the new place.

We are going through an advent season. 'The people walking in darkness have seen a great light on those living in the land of deep darkness, a light has dawned' (Isaiah 9:2). Yes...there is much darkness and deep shadow in the place where we are living. It would be very tempting—and no doubt much more positive—but hardly realistic—to overlook the background against which we are preparing to celebrate Christmas. Let us prepare to welcome Jesus Christ—the light of the World—in to our hearts, our homes, and our community at this Christmas. He is the one who will give renewed hope and purpose to our lives and our community if we put open wide our hearts in welcome. May the Lord accompany each one of us on our journey in 2017 so that we may walk in neither in shadow or darkness but in His light.

We wish you a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year-2017

Together in Christ's Ministry

Prakash Abraham Achen

Speech of H.E. Sheikha Lubna Al Qasimi

Declaration of the month of Tolerance & Harvest Festival-2016 of the Abu Dhabi Mar Thoma Church on Friday, 25th November 2016.

Esteemed Reverend Prakash Abraham, Vicar of the Abu Dhabi Mar Thoma Church, Other reverends, Distinguished Guests, Fellow brothers and sisters,

Greetings to you all.

Finally, all of you have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart and a humble mind (Peter 3: 8-11). With these profound touching verses from the Holy Bible, I would like to express my deep appreciation for inviting me to share with all dear worshippers this special event-Harvest festival and the Month of Tolerance.



I am indeed very happy to say how it is possible for people of different religions to live together, co-operate together, and simply be together on the soil of the UAE. Today I enjoy in front of me amazing tableau of tolerance, depicted with interfaith dialogue and communal harmony.

From this holy religious place, we all renew, in a spirit of love, harmony and empathy, our bonds of tolerance, co-existence and peace, as we all embarked on a spiritual journey of faith, to harness our joint co-existence, in a very distinguished and exemplary manner, bringing to the world the message of positivity in expressing our inner human values, to accept each other, regardless of our cultures, religions and differences.

Enlightened by the wise vision of our Leadership, the UAE stands firmly as an Incubator of Tolerance, based on the fundamental and solid pillars of mutual respect, openness, and true dialogue, connecting the peoples of the world, who live on this motherland the essence of their human values through understanding and great co-existence.

We in the UAE strongly believe in building meaningful human beings and nurturing humane values among all segments of the society, in a spirit of collaborative and positive interaction and responsibility.

This bountiful land is proudly home for more than 200 nationalities from all corners of the globe, people of goodwill who have opted to live and interact together, as members of the same humanity. It is of paramount importance for the UAE to continuously and sustainably guard and treasure these strong values, as no one is entitled to dehumanize another for professing different faith.

The UAE shines as an ideal cosmopolitan cradle of peaceful living, where convergence meets diversity, witnessed across its history and culture, as hatred, discrimination, fanaticism have no room here.

The family of man is not limited to a single race or religion, to a single city, or country; indeed all the faiths and religions of the world call for one path: the path of love and tolerance, for tolerance is a great power and virtue that will always burn brightly, away from the fires of fear, coercion or division.

It is with our openness and respect to each other that we build the bridges of a peaceful world to our future generations.

I believe it is possible; the choice lies within us, to live peaceably with each other; as fellow human beings. Let that be our purpose and our prayer, yours and mine, for ourselves, for our countries and for the entire world.

Thank you very Much

H.E. Sheikha Lubna Al Qasimi

SCHEDULED PROGRAMS

Date	Day	Time	Organisation	Location	Event Title
01-Dec	Thu	9.00 am	Yuvajana Sakhyam	MTC. Mussafah	Centre Kalamela
02-Dec	Fri	7.30 am	Sunday School	MTC. Mussafah	Regular Sunday School
02-Dec	Fri	7.45 am	Parish Mission	MTC. Mussafah	Fasting Prayer
02-Dec	Fri	8.00 am	Yuvajana Sakhyam	Bethel Hall,Mussafah	Regular Sakha Meeting
02-Dec	Fri	9.30 am	Parish	MTC,Mussaffa	HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
02-Dec	Fri	5.30 pm	Choir	St. Andrews Church , Lower Hall	Regular Choir Practice
02-Dec	Fri	6.30 pm	Parish Mission	MTC. Mussafah	Friday Prayer
02-Dec	Fri	7.30 pm	Parish Mission	St. Andrews Upper Hall	Friday Devotional Meeting
03-Dec	Sat	6.00 pm	Sevikha Sangham	St. Andrews Church , Lower Hall	Regular weekly Meeting
04-Dec	Sun	8.00pm	Parish	St. Andrews Chapel	HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
05-Dec	Mon	9.00 am	Sevikha Sangham	Member Residence, Mussafah	Regular weekly Meeting Mussafah
08-Dec	Thu	8.00 pm	Parish	MTC. Mussafah	Joint Prayer Meeting C1, C2,C3 , D1 ,D2,Central Hospital, Electra St.
08-Dec	Thu	8.00 pm	Parish	MTC. Mussafah	Hamdan St., Khalidhiya, Khalifa St., Madina Zayed, and Muroor Road
09-Dec	Fri	7.30 am	Parish	MTC. Mussafah	Make a pictureon the Canvas based on "Religious Tolerance"
09-Dec	Fri	7.45 am	Parish Mission	MTC. Mussafah	Fasting Prayer
09-Dec	Fri	8.00 am	Yuvajana Sakhyam	Bethel Hall,Mussafah	Regular Sakha Meeting
09-Dec	Fri	9.30 am	Parish	MTC,Mussaffa	HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
09-Dec	Fri	12.30 pm	Sunday School	MTC,Mussaffa	Birudh Exam , Sunday School exam for Juniors , Teachers Exam
09-Dec	Fri	5.30 pm	Choir	St. Andrews Church , Lower Hall	Regular Choir Practice
09-Dec	Fri	6.30 pm	Parish Mission	MTC. Mussafah	Friday Prayer
09-Dec	Fri	7.30 pm	Parish Mission	St. Andrews Upper Hall	Friday Devotional Meeting
10-Dec	Sat	3.00 pm	Yuvajana Sakhyam		Labour Camp Visit
10-Dec	Sat	6.00 pm	Sevikha Sangham	St. Andrews Church , Lower Hall	Regular weekly Meeting
10-Dec	Sat	6.00 pm	Sevikha Sangham	Susan Manoj Residece	Monthly meeting Banyas Area
11-Dec	Sun	8.00pm	Parish	St. Andrews Chapel	HOLY QURBANA (English)
12-Dec	Mon	9.00 am	Sevikha Sangham	Member Residence, Mussafah	Regular weekly Meeting Mussafah
12-Dec	Mon	8.00 pm	Parish	MTC. Mussafah	Harvest Festival Evaluation Meeting
13-Dec	Tue	8.00 pm	Senior Citizen	St. Andrews Church , Lower Hall	Monthly meeting (Mr. K Thomas Abraham host)
16-Dec	Fri	7.30 am	Parish	MTC,Mussaffa	HOLY QURBANA (ENGLISH)
16-Dec	Fri	10.30 am	Parish	MTC. Mussafah	Malayalam Ordinary Service
16-Dec	Fri	2.00 pm	Yuvajana Sakhyam	Al Forsan Stadium	Inter Prayer Group Volley Ball Tournament
16-Dec	Fri	5.30 pm	Choir	St. Andrews Church , Lower Hall	Regular Choir Practice
16-Dec	Fri	6.00 pm	Sunday School	MTC. Mussafah	Sunday School Annual Day
16-Dec	Fri	6.30 pm	Parish Mission	MTC. Mussafah	Friday Prayer
16-Dec	Fri	7.30 pm	Parish Mission	St. Andrews Upper Hall	Friday Devotional Meeting
17-Dec	Sat	6.00 pm	Sevikha Sangham	St. Andrews Church , Lower Hall	Regular weekly Meeting
18-Dec	Sun	8.00pm	Parish	St. Andrews Chapel	HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
19-Dec	Mon	9.30 am	Sevikha Sangham	Member Residence, Mussafah	Regular weekly Meeting Mussafah
23-Dec	Fri	7.30 am	Sunday School	MTC. Mussafah	Sunday School Registration 2017,
23-Dec	Fri	7.30 am	Sunday School	MTC. Mussafah	Creative Writing and Drawing for Teachers and Students (Tolerance Theme)
23-Dec	Fri	7.45 am	Parish Mission	MTC. Mussafah	Fasting Prayer
23-Dec	Fri	8.00 am	Yuvajana Sakhyam	Bethel Hall,Mussafah	Regular Sakha Meeting
23-Dec	Fri	9.30 am	Parish	MTC,Mussaffa	HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
23-Dec	Fri	8.00 pm	Parish	MTC. Mussafah	Christmas Carols
24-Dec	Sat	9.30 pm	Parish	MTC. Mussafah	CHRISTMAS HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
25-Dec	Sun	8.00 pm	Parish	St. Andrews Chapel	CHRISTMAS HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
26-Dec	Mon	8.00 am	Parish	St. Andrews Lower Hall	Christian Ecumenical Leaders Christmas Break Fast Fellowship
26-Dec	Mon	9.30 am	Sevikha Sangham	Member Residence, Mussafah	Regular weekly Meeting Mussafah
26-Dec	Mon	6.00 pm	Parish Mission+ CCC Cell	MTC. Mussafah	Counselling Course (Rev. Dr. George Varghese)
27-Dec	Tue	6.00 pm	Parish Mission+ CCC Cell	MTC. Mussafah	Counselling Course (Rev. Dr. George Varghese)
27-Dec	Tue	8.00 pm	Yuvajana Sakhyam	Bethel Hall,Mussafah	Cottage Prayer
28-Dec	Wed	6.00 pm	Parish Mission+ CCC Cell	MTC. Mussafah	Counselling Course (ENGLISH)
29-Dec	Thu	6.00 pm	Parish Mission+ CCC Cell	MTC. Mussafah	Counselling Course (Rev. Dr. George Varghese)
30-Dec	Fri	7.45 am	Parish Mission	MTC. Mussafah	Fasting Prayer
30-Dec	Fri	8.00 am	Yuvajana Sakhyam	Bethel Hall,Mussafah	Regular Sakha Meeting
30-Dec	Fri	9.30 am	Parish	MTC,Mussaffa	HOLY QURBANA (Malayalam)
30-Dec	Fri	5.30 pm	Choir	St. Andrews Church , Lower Hall	Regular Choir Practice
30-Dec	Fri	6.30 pm	Parish Mission	MTC. Mussafah	Friday Prayer
30-Dec	Fri	7.30 pm	Parish Mission	St. Andrews Upper Hall	Friday Devotional Meeting
31-Dec	Sat	9.30 pm	Parish	MTC. Mussafah	Watchnight Service

Christmas Carol Rounds – 5th, 6th, 9th, 10th, 12th, 17th, 19th, 20th.

PARISH CONVENTION



WORD OF GOD FROM THE BOOK OF REVELATIONS



USHERS FOR THE MONTH

Date	Day	Prayer Grp	Title	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Epistle	Gospel
02-Dec	Fri	Mussafa 2	Birth of John the Baptist.	1Kgs 19:1-21	Rev 10:1-11	Gal 1:11-17	Luke 1:57-66
04-Dec	Sun	Muroor Rd					
09-Dec	Fri	Madina Zayed Shabia	Annunciation to Joseph	<i>Isa 7:10-17</i>	<i>1Pet 3:8-16</i>	<i>Titus 2:11-15</i>	<i>Matt 1:18-23</i>
11-Dec	Sun						
16-Dec	Fri (Eng)	Khalifa Street	Our Lord Comes	<i>Isa 11:1-10</i>	<i>1John 4:7-21</i>	<i>Rom 1:18-17</i>	<i>John 1:1-14</i>
16-Dec	Fri (Ord Mal Serv)	Khalidiya					
18-Dec	Sun	D-2					
23-Dec	Fri	Hamdan	Yaldo-Feast of Nativity	<i>Isa 9:1-7</i>	<i>Heb 1:1-14</i>	<i>2Tim 2:18-23</i>	<i>Luke 2:1-20</i>
25-Dec	Sun	D-1					
24-Dec	Sat	Kaisthana Samithi	Christmas Service	<i>Micah 5:1-9</i>	<i>Collossians 1:15-20</i>	<i>1 Timothy 1:14-17</i>	<i>St. Luke 2:1-20</i>
31-Dec	Sat	Kaisthana Samithi	Year Ending. Taste and See the Lord is Good	<i>Deut 28:1-14</i>	<i>Heb 12:1-13</i>	<i>1Pet 5:6-11</i>	<i>John 7:37-39</i>
30-Dec	Fri	Electra	Circumcision of our Lord (Gazurtho).	<i>Gen 9:8-17</i>	<i>Heb 9:11-18</i>	<i>Gal 5:1-11</i>	<i>Luke 2:15-21</i>
01-Jan	Sun	C-3					
06-Dec	Fri	Central Hospital	Honouring the Body as Temple of God	<i>Ecccl 6:1-12</i>	<i>1Pet 1:13-25</i>	<i>Acts 6:1-15</i>	<i>Matt 5:21-30</i>
08-Dec	Sun	C-2					

HARVEST FESTIVAL GALLERY











Abu Dhabi Mar Thoma Church Parish Mission
In Association with CCC

COUNSELLING COURSE DECEMBER 26 - 29

Classes Conducted by
REV. DR. GEORGE VARGHESE

DIRECTOR, MAR THOMA COLLEGE OF COUNSELLING, KOCHI

Date: 26 - 29, Dec 2016
Venue: MTC, Musaffa
Time : 6.00pm - 9.00pm



Christmas Breakfast Fellowship

There will be a Christmas Breakfast Fellowship on Monday 26th Dec Monday at 8.00 pm at St. Andrews Lower Hall for all the Christian Ecumenical Leaders in Abu Dhabi. Lets thank the Lord for all the religious freedom and fellowship we enjoy under the wise and able leadership of our Beloved Leaders of UAE.

Christmas Carol Rounds

As part of Yuvajana Sakhyam , There will be Christmas Carols on 5th, 6th, 9th, 10th, 12th, 17th, 19th, 20th. of December 2016

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Name : Mr. Roy Sam Kurian
Contact No : 050-8356684
Home Parish : Salem Mar Thoma Church,
Kayamkulam
Roll No : K186
Prayer Group : Khalifa Street



Name : Mr. Abilash George
Contact No : 050-7309387
Home Parish : Poovathur St. Paul's Mar Thoma
Church, Varayannoor
Roll No : G223
Prayer Group : Khalifa Street



Name : Mr. Vivek P. Abraham
Contact No : 050-4812736
Home Parish : Ebenezer Mar Thoma
Church, Edamuri
Roll No : A262
Prayer Group : Khalidiya



Name : Mr. Thomas Varughese
Contact No : 050-3250537
Home Parish : Theliiyoor Salem Mar
Thoma Church, Valakuzhy
Roll No : V345
Prayer Group : Baniyas



Name : Mr. Binoy Varghese
Contact No : 055-6988716
Home Parish : St. Thomas Mar Thoma Syrian
Church, Santacruz(W), Mumbai
Roll No : V346
Prayer Group : Baniyas



Name : Mr. Abraham C. Mathew
Contact No : 056-4962658
Home Parish : Mar Thoma Valiya Pally,
Chengannur
Roll No : M526
Prayer Group : C-1



Name : Mr. Benson Abraham
Contact No : 050-9653014
Home Parish : St. John's Mar Thoma
Church, Vadaserikara
Roll No : A263
Prayer Group : Mussafah 1



Name : Mr. Varghese George Chirayil
Contact No : 056-4996356
Home Parish : St. Peter's Mar Thoma Church,
Manganam
Roll No : G224
Prayer Group : A-3



Name : Mr. Varghese George Chirayil
Contact No : 056-4996356
Home Parish : St. Peter's Mar Thoma
Church, Manganam
Roll No : G224
Prayer Group : A-3



Abu Dhabi Mar Thoma Sunday School Notice



Dec 2nd - Regular Sunday School at 7:30 am

Dec 9th - Sunday School Birudh Exam, Teachers Exam, Annual Exam for Juniors at 12:30 pm. Buses start at 11:15 am.

Dec 16th -Sunday School Annual Day at 6:00 pm. Buses start at 4:30 pm.

Dec 23rd - Registration for 2017 at 7:30 am

Creative Writing Competition and Drawing Competition on the topic "Christian Tolerance in the midst of Religious Pluralism" on Dec 23 at 7:30 am for Sunday School Students and Teachers as part of Parish Tolerance Month celebration.



OBSERVANCE OF THE MONTH OF TOLERANCE



Day & Date	Time	Program	In association with
To be announced Later		Tolerance Seminar in Parish Level	All Organizations
30/12/2016 Friday	6 pm	Gloria-2016: Theme will be " community Around the Manger & Religious Tolerance"	All Organizations & Prayer Groups
09/12/2016 Friday	7.30 am -2 pm	Make a picture on the Canvas based on "Religious Tolerance"	Parish Level
09/12/2016 Friday	5.30 pm	Yuva Vedi on Tolerance	Yuvajana Sakhyam
23/12/2016 Friday	7.30 pm-9 am	Drawing/Essay writing competition for Children & Teachers	Sunday school
20/01/2017	5.30 pm	Tolerance Eve-2017 (Bachelor's Get-together)	Yuvajana Sakhyam

- Seminar on Religious Tolerance
- GLORIA DAY (TOLERANCE SKIT, SONGS)
- Creative Writing Competition and Drawing Competition on the topic "Christian Tolerance in the midst of Religious Pluralism" (Sunday School)
- Bachelor Get Together in month of January as part of Tolerance Get Together.

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