



Jeremiah 29:11-For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.



Herald of Hope

Durham Mar Thoma Congregation Quarterly Newsletter

Greetings,

Happy New Year 2025 from the editorial board!

As we enter into another year, we hope and pray that all the activities of the congregation is a blessing for our members, congregants and the community around us.

It is a natural time to reflect on the past and set goals for the future. But remember it is important that our goals are not just about achieving personal success or happiness, rather about honoring God and living according to His will.

We look forward to the events and memories of the coming year and anticipate wholehearted participation of everyone.

Jeni & Sherin

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Vicar's Message

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Psalms 103:1-2 -Bless the lord O, my soul; and all my inmost being, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord ,all my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

We are at the threshold of a New year. Let us thank the Almighty Lord for the manifold gifts and blessings showered upon us during the past year. Many had gone to their eternal home and many have come to this world. We have experienced many ups and downs in our life situations. We don't know what is in store for us in future. It may be hatred, isolation or melancholic situations. Before we face the challenges in life let's have a quick tour of "God's accomplishments"

The pay checks he has provided

The prayers he has answered

The blessings we received in every day life

Let us think for a while. Do we miss the batons of our fore father's, how they worshipped and honored God. The prayer of our mother at the early hours of the day, their favorite songs, the sincere tears flown from their cheeks. Always remember they are the spiritual foundations of our life and that will be stored in the precious vessels of our Lord. As we enter the new year let us join with Cardinal Newman in his famous poem:

Lead kindly light amidst this encircling gloom

Lead thou me on

Keep thou my feet , I do not ask to see the distant scene

One step is enough for me

Blessings and Prayers

Happy New Year!

Skariah Varughese Achen

Meet your new Office Bearers

Vice President

Mr. Abraham Jacob (Binu)

Secretary

Mr. Jerin Lalu

Trustees

Mr. Phillip Mathew (Babu) - Finance

Mr. Phillip Mathew (Sherry) - Accounts

Lay Leaders

Malayalam: Mr. John Thomas

English: Mrs. Maria Mathew (Suja)

Representatives

Choir - Mrs. Sheela Sajan

Sevika Sangham - Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas

Edavaka Mission - Mr. Cherian Mathew

Sunday School - Mrs. Susan Jacob

Celebrations and Events

Upcoming Birthdays

January

Shane George Sajan

Abraham Jacob (Binu)

Jetty John

Lourde Matthew (Lizzy)

Simeon Philip

Nathaniel Philip

Subin Dani

February

Sheela Sajan

Vinnie Philip

Philip Matthew (Sherry)

March

Susan Jacob

Elaine Varughese

Upcoming Anniversaries

January

Sherry (Philip Mathew) and Bincy

Jerin and Suja

February

Binu and Susan

Cherian & Lourde (Lizzy) Matthew

Upcoming Church Events

Bible Study: Sundays at 9.45 am

Sevika Sangom: Monthly

Edavaka Mission Prayer: Monthly

Bible Sudoku

- Firstly you will need to write in your 'starter' numbers. This is done by using the clues below, and the A-I and 1-9 co-ordinates on the top and side of the grid. F5 has been done for you already.
- 2. Once the starter numbers are in place, complete the Sudoku puzzle as usual

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
									1
									2
									3
									4
					2				5
									6
									7
									8
									9

★ For D1, G2, B3, I4, H7, F9:

- Josiah was ___ years old when he became king. (2 Kings 22:1)

★ For F5, A7:

- The 10 commandments were written on ___ tables of stone. (Deuteronomy 9:11)

★ For H2, D5, B6, E8:

- Og, king of Bashan, had a bed which was ___ cubits [$\sim 4\frac{1}{2}$ metres] long. (Deuteronomy 3:11)

★ For A4, I8:

- The number of times Paul was whipped with 39 lashes. (2 Corinthians 11:24)

★ For E2, C4, G5, D6, F8:

- The age of Joash when he began to reign over the kingdom of Judah. (2 Chronicles 24:1)

★ For A2, I3, F4, C5, G6, D7, B8:

- The number of days it took God to create heaven, earth and all in them. (Exodus 20:11)

★ For C2, H4, G8:

- The number of languages spoken before the building of the tower of Babel. (Genesis 11:1)

★ For B2, F3, A6, C8:

- Lazarus was dead for ___ days before Jesus raised him from the dead. (John 11:17)

★ For G1, D2, I6, H8, C9

- Noah had ___ sons (Genesis 6:10)

Gallery of Church Events



World Sunday School Day 2024



Sunday School- Kids to Kids Project



Thanksgiving 2024



House to House Carol 2024



Christmas Carol 2024



Sunday School Outreach