

ST. ALPHONSA

SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLIC CHURCH

5709 Oakland Road, Halethorpe, MD 21227 | Phone: (410) 247-0240

Web: stalphonsachurch.org



"St. Alphonsa is a blessing for all," said former Indian President Dr. Abdul Kalam while inaugurating a public meeting at Bharananganam as part of the canonization ceremony.

He had also written a poem on her titled "Suffering is God's Gift." St. Alphonsa accepted suffering with a smile. She knew that silence was the best ornament to wear at times of suffering and pain. Let us reassure ourselves like St. Alphonsa that "Nothing shall ever happen to us without the knowledge of Jesus."



St. Alphonsa Shrine, Bharananganam

"In a sense everyone is alike; there is no difference. But during times of hardships and sufferings, the good stands apart from the other." – St. Alphonsa

St. Thomas the Apostle

Patron Saint of
Doubters, Architects
and the Blind

Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20: 26–28)

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HOLY QURBANA SCHEDULE

Sunday | English: 9:00 am | Malayalam: 11:30 am

Monday | Malayalam: 7:30 pm

Tuesday – Friday | Malayalam: 8:30 am (Except First Friday)

First Friday | Malayalam: 7:00 pm

Saturday | Malayalam: 10:30 am

Youth News Column

For the month of June, the Youth worked along with the parents to help organize the CCD picnic. Parents and children of all ages enjoyed the one day event as they came together in fellowship. The youth would like to extend their appreciation to everyone that made this one day picnic possible. Currently the youth is working hard to plan and organize our annual Vacation Bible School for the younger kids. VBS will take place August 11th through the 13th for kids Pre- K through 6th grade. More information regarding VBS can be found in the flyer.

As summer is here, the youth is also getting ready to compete in various sporting events. There is a soccer tournament happening June 29th, where our youth will compete and represent our parish. We have also moved into phase two in the Year of Youth which focuses on building fellowship amongst the adults and youth within our parish. The picnic was a great way to start off this phase. More events for the youth are being planned as we approach the next phase of the Year of Youth, so be sure to keep your eyes and ears open for future events at our parish!



Flipping juicy burgers



Making delicious masala dosas



And it's about time to play competently.
Soccer Tournament on June 29, 2017



Enjoying sumptuous food

"Let your light shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your father in heaven."

Matthew 5:16

Youth Coordinators

Ms. Stency Stephen
Ms. Teena Vithayathil
Mr. Alex Paraniham
Mr. Jonathan Cyriac

Youth Representatives

Mr. Arun James
Ms. Melanie Mavunkal

Diocesan Regional Youth Coordinators

Mr. Arun James
Mr. Jubin Joseph

Youth Animators

Mrs. Sheeba Alousyes
Mr. Vinu Michael

Youth Choir Coordinators

Mr. Bennett Babu
Ms. Ann Mary Bon

Angel Voice Coordinators

Mr. & Mrs. Tomcy & Laura
Mr. & Mrs. Shaji George & Dolly

Church Music Coordinator

Mrs. Jain Alvin

Sports & Games Coordinator

Mr. Maijo Michael Payyappilly

Intercession Ministry Coordinators

Mrs. Sally Joseph
Ms. Melanie Mavunkal

Legion of Mary Coordinator

Mrs. Dency Mavunkal

Pilgrimage & Picnic Coordinators

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Mr. George Nirappukandathil

4Life Ministry Coordinators

Mr. Paul Mangalath
Ms. Melanie Mavunkal

Social Work & Safe Environment Coordinator

Mr. Joby K. Jose

ECKC Representatives

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Mr. Joseph Njaralakkattu

Family Apostolate Coordinator

Mr. Christi Baby Kanjirathinkal

Charity Ministry Coordinators

Mr. George Eyalil
Mrs. Manju James

Women's Forum Coordinators

Mrs. Bindu Johnson
Mrs. Solly Abraham

CML Coordinator

Mrs. Manju James

Media & Fine Arts Coordinator

Dr. Ginto Pottackal

Newsletter Chief Editor

Mrs. Saija Jose Chirayath

Vicar

Rev. Fr. Seby Chittilappilly
(630) 317-4837
sebychittilappilly@gmail.com

Kaikkarans

Mr. Jain Mathew
(443) 834-5967
Mr. Sunny Cyriac
(410) 370-7004
Mr. Tony Vithayathil
(443) 760-8449
Mr. Vinu Michael
(410) 318-9847

Parish Council Secretary

Dr. Sheeba Jose Paranilam

Pastoral Council Representatives

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Mr. George Thomas Eyalil

Parish Council Members

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Mr. George Nirappukandathil
Mrs. Bindu Johnson
Mrs. Manju James Perumattathil
Mrs. Saly Joseph Kottaramkunel
Mr. Francis Kuzhippallil
Mr. Joby Kizhakkethottam
Mrs. Sheeba Anil Alousyes
Mr. Tison Thomas
Mrs. Saija Jose Chirayath
Mr. Arun James
Ms. Melanie Mavunkal
Mr. Benny Thomas
Mr. Christi Baby Kanjirathinkal
Dr. Ginto Pottackal
Mr. Maijo Michael Payyappilly
Mr. Sebastian K. Jockey

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Mrs. Elsy Bon (Assistant Principal)
Mr. Saji Thayyil (Secretary & Registrar)

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Mr. James Bon
Mr. Jovy Vallamattom
Mr. Roy Mathew

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Mr. Sebastian K. Jockey

Auditors

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Mr. Jose Chirayath
Mr. Henry Thomas

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Mr. James Bon
Mr. Abraham Pulickal
Mr. Benny Vithayathil

Malayalam School

Mrs. Lincy Koodaly (Principal)
Mr. Saji Thayyil (Secretary & Registrar)

Food Coordinator

Mr. Benny Thomas

Message from the Vicar



സ്നേഹജാലകളുടെ മാസം

ഒരു സത്യാന്വേഷി ഗുരുവിനെ തേടുകയായിരുന്നു. പൂമുഖത്തിരിക്കുന്ന അദ്ദേഹത്തോട് അയാൾ പറഞ്ഞു: "ജീവിതവിജയം നേടാൻ ഉപദേശം തരിക."

അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞു: "മൂന്ന് കാര്യങ്ങൾ ഉടനെ ചെയ്യണം. അത് കഴിഞ്ഞാകാം ഉപദേശം." സത്യാന്വേഷി: "എന്തൊക്കെയാണെന്ന് പറഞ്ഞാൽ ഞാൻ അനുസരിച്ചോളാം."

ഒന്ന്: താങ്കളുടെ അമിതമായ ആവേശം നിയന്ത്രിക്കണം.
രണ്ട്: താങ്കളുടെ കാലുകൾ ശരിയായ ദിശയിലല്ല. എന്റെ കാലിന്മേൽ അമർത്തി ചവിട്ടുന്നതിനാൽ, എനിക്ക് നന്നായി വേദനിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്.
മൂന്ന്: ഞാനല്ല ഗുരു. അദ്ദേഹം അടുത്ത വീട്ടിലാണ് താമസിക്കുന്നത്...

നാമെല്ലാവരും ഒരു അന്വേഷണത്തിലാണ്. യഥാർത്ഥ ജീവിത സന്തോഷത്തിനും, വിജയത്തിനും. ജൂലൈ മാസത്തിലെ സമയ-ദിനങ്ങൾ ജീവിതത്തിന്റെ ചില സന്തോഷ ജാലകൾ ഒരുക്കുന്നുണ്ട്.

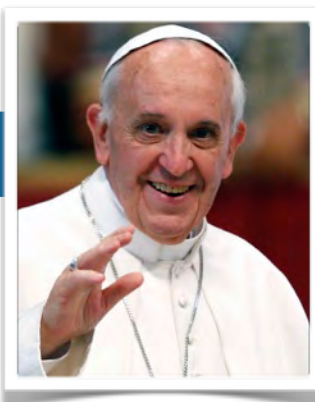
ഒന്നാമതായി, ആരാധനാക്രമ വത്സരത്തിൽ നമ്മൾ കൈത്താ കാലത്തിലാണ് എന്നത് തന്നെ. സഭയുടെ വളർച്ചാ കാലത്തെ സ്മരിക്കുന്നു. സഭാജീവിതത്തിൽ, നല്ല ജീവിത സാക്ഷ്യമുള്ളവരുടെ എണ്ണമാണ് പ്രധാനം. ആവേശമല്ല, വിശ്വാസ സാക്ഷ്യം.

രണ്ടാമതായി, സഭാ വിശ്വാസത്തിന് അടിസ്ഥാനമിട്ട മാർ തോമാശ്ലീഹായുടെ ദുക്റാന തിരുന്നാളാണ്. വിശ്വാസത്തിന്റെ നല്ലൊരോർമ്മയാണത്. മാർ തോമ്മായുടെ പാദമുദ്രകൾ, വിശ്വാസത്തിന്റെ ആഴമേറിയ വേരുകളായി തീർന്നതിന്റെ സ്മരണാദിനമാണത്. നമ്മുടെ കാൽപ്പാടുകൾ വിശ്വാസ വഴിയിൽ തന്നെയാണോ എന്ന് ആത്മപരിശോധന നടത്തേണ്ട പുണ്യദിനം.

മൂന്നാമതായി, ഇടവക മദ്ധ്യസ്ഥ തിരുന്നാൾ മാസം. വി. അൽഫോൻസാമ്മയുടെ ജീവിത സാക്ഷ്യത്തെ സ്മരിക്കുന്നിവിടെ. ഗോതമ്പുമണി പോലെ സ്വയം അഴിഞ്ഞു ഇല്ലാതായത്, അനേകരെ ക്രിസ്തുജീവിതത്തിൽ മുളപ്പിച്ചെടുത്തു... ക്രിസ്തു വളരണം ഞാൻ കുറയണമെന്ന വചന സാക്ഷ്യം. എന്തെല്ലാം നേടിയാലും, ഈശോയെ സ്വന്തമാക്കാത്ത ക്രിസ്തീയത കൊണ്ട് എന്ത് ഫലം!

തിരുന്നാളാശംസകളോടെ,

ഫാ. സെബി ചിറ്റിലപ്പിള്ളി
(വികാരിയച്ചൻ)



THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY 2017

"That our brothers and sisters who have strayed from the faith, through our prayer and witness to the Gospel, may rediscover the merciful closeness of the Lord and the beauty of the Christian life."

READINGS – JULY 2017

Season of Apostles

This season comprises 7 weeks from the day of the feast of Pentecost.
In this season we give importance to the working of the Holy Spirit.

Day/Date	Notes	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Gospel Reading
Saturday July 1			2 Corinthians 2: 12–17	Mark 1: 40–45
Sunday July 2	5th Sunday of the Apostles	Deut 1: 33–46	1 Corinthians 14: 1–12	Luke 12: 22–34
Monday July 3	St. Thomas the Apostle		Ephesians 2: 19–22	John 20: 24–29
Tuesday July 4			Colossians 2: 20–23	Matthew 11: 1–6
Wednesday July 5			Romans 5: 12–21	Mark 12: 1–12
Thursday July 6			2 Peter 1: 3–9	John 6: 60–63
Friday July 7	First Friday		1 Peter 3:14–18	Matthew 13: 24–30
Saturday July 8			Romans 7: 7–13	Mark 12: 38–44
Sunday July 9	6th Sunday of the Apostles	Isaiah 2: 1–5	1 Corinthians 10: 23–31	Luke 12: 57–13:5
Monday July 10			Romans 11: 30–35	Matthew 12: 33–37
Tuesday July 11	St. Benedict		Romans 8: 12–17	Matthew 5: 1–12
Wednesday July 12			2 Corinthians 1: 12–15	Luke 15: 8–10
Thursday July 13			Romans 11: 1–10	Mark 10: 46–52
Friday July 14			Romans 13: 1–6	Matthew 22: 15–22
Saturday July 15			2 Corinthians 11: 1–6	John 7: 14–24
Sunday July 16	7th Sunday of the Apostles Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Isaiah 5: 8–20	1 Corinthians 16: 1–14	Luke 13: 22–30
Monday July 17			2 Corinthians 2: 5–11	Matthew 12: 38–42
Tuesday July 18			Romans 13: 7–10	Mark 1: 29–34
Wednesday July 19			1 Corinthians 7: 17–24	Luke 16: 9–17
Thursday July 20			2 Corinthians 4: 1–6	Matthew 23: 13–22
Friday July 21			Romans 8: 28–39	Matthew 10: 37–42
Saturday July 22			1 Corinthians 7: 8–16	Matthew 19: 1–12

Season of Kaitha

The term 'Kaitha' means summer. It is the season of harvest. This season reminds us
of the growth of the Church as a result of the missionary activity of the apostles.

Sunday July 23	1st Sunday of Kaitha Feast of 12 Apostles	1 Kings 18: 30–39	1 Corinthians 1: 9–16	Luke 14: 7–14
Monday July 24			1 Corinthians 11: 17–22	Matthew 21: 28–32
Tuesday July 25	St. James the Apostle		Acts 11: 27–12:3	Matthew 20: 20–28
Wednesday July 26			Hebrew 11: 8–12	Matthew 1: 1–16
Thursday July 27			1 Corinthians 14: 13–19	John 8: 48–59
Friday July 28	St. Alphonsa		Galatians 2: 19–21	John 12: 20–26
Saturday July 29	St. Martha		2 Corinthians 6: 14–18	Mark 2: 1–12
Sunday July 30	2nd Sunday of Kaitha	Deut 4: 32–40	2 Corinthians 3: 4–12	Luke 15: 11–32
Monday July 31	St. Ignatius of Loyola		1 Corinthians 10: 31–11:1	Luke 14: 25–33

Saints of the Month

St. Thomas

By Alan Bon



St. Thomas, one of the twelve apostles of Jesus, is the Apostle of India. He is the courageous disciple who said, "Let us also go so that we may die with him." After his encounter with the risen Jesus where he proclaimed, "My Lord and My God," St. Thomas traveled to Parthia and later to India. He founded seven churches in India: Kodungallur, Kollam, Niranam, Nilakal, Kottamangalam, Kottakkayal and Palayoor. He was in India for 20 years preaching and converting the natives. He was martyred in 72 A.D. at what is now known as St. Thomas Mount in Mylapore. St. Thomas is the patron saint of India, theologians, and people struggling with doubt. While celebrating his feast, let us, St. Thomas Christians, pray for a deeper and more courageous faith in Jesus.

St. Alphonsa

By Jessica Cyriac



St. Alphonsa was born in Kudamalur, in the diocese of Changanacherry, India, on August 19, 1910. It was Fr. James Muricken, her confessor, who directed her towards Franciscan spirituality and she joined the Poor Clares Convent, which was devoted to living a life of prayer, community, and joy. Between 1930 and 1935, St. Alphonsa was in grave illness and mental suffering. During the novena to Fr. Kuriakose Elias Chavara, she was miraculously and instantaneously cured. But after a series of health problems, she finally died on July 28, 1946 at the age of 36. St. Alphonsa is the patron saint against illness. Her feast day is July 28.

WARD PRAYERS - JULY 2017

Please contact Ward Representatives to host Ward Prayers at your home.
Also watch for e-mail notifications for any schedule changes.

WARD	DAY/TIME	HOSTING FAMILY
St. Joseph	July 1 at 7:00 pm	Mr. Mathew and Mrs. Leela Mathew
St. Thomas	July 14 at 7:00 pm	Mr. Jose Abraham and Mrs. Alice Jose
St. Jude	July 21 at 7:00 pm	Mr. Tison Thomas and Mrs. Ansamma Tison
St. Mary	July 28 at 7:30 pm	Mr. Fino and Mrs. Shyni Augustine

Happy Birthday to You!

Alexin Thomas	July 7
Kevin Johnson	July 11
Pranav Moozhiyil	July 11
Matthew Vallamattam	July 19
Tom Mathews	July 30



JULY 3
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE



JULY 6
ST. MARIA GORETTI



JULY 16
OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL



JULY 25
ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE



JULY 31
ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

GOD THE FATHER

Every time I look at the beautiful landscapes, or gazing towards the sky, or staring at pictures of the universe, or the world, and all He created – I often ponder of an amazing God. A God who created the universe, including the small planet earth and in there – human beings. He loves the human beings above all creation and He communicates to man since the first day about His unconditional love. As a Father, He cares, guides and loves His children.

Even though the Jews, Muslims and many others claim that we worship the same God – there is a fundamental difference. The difference lies in the person of God. Jesus revealed to us and taught us the fundamental aspect of the Holy Trinity – that our God is a Father and Jesus is His Son. Christians, Jews, and Muslims believe in a God who is a creator and we all believe that we are all His creation. However, Jews and Muslims believe God

cannot be equal to human beings because God is a creator and we are His creation. Jews and Muslims believe that when we equate God to a mere creation, we dishonor and downgrade God's divinity. However, Jesus taught us that God did not care about His status as a creator, He instead humbled Himself, and conceived inside the womb of a woman and He Himself became a child. By giving Jesus to the humanity, Jesus is a brother to us, and God becomes a Father for us. Jesus repeatedly taught us about this loving Father, throughout His ministry.

Through Jesus, we become heirs of His divinity. God loves us unconditionally – because we are His children – and thus partakers of His nature. Jesus told us that this God – who is our Father – also want us to be with Him – that is where we belong. Jesus taught us of a God, who forgives, loves and cares about us.

MALAYALAM CLASSES 2017-2018

Learning a second language is a good mind medicine for kids. Per linguistic researchers, children who learn a second language can maintain attention despite outside stimuli better than children who know only one language. Our church is conducting Malayalam classes every Saturday to help the parishioners teach Malayalam to their children. According to Stephen Krashen, a pioneer theorist in language acquisition, second language learning is based primarily on the acquisition from interactions in the language and secondarily from the classroom learning. Hence, it is obviously important for us to continue to communicate with the kids in Malayalam as much as possible to enhance learning.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Seby Achan who is a great supporter of Malayalam classes at our church, and all the hardworking teachers who devote their Saturday morning and

beyond, for the success of Malayalam classes. Of course, without you, the parents and kids, our Malayalam school wouldn't exist. On behalf of Seby Achan and all Malayalam teachers, I would like to thank you for your arduous work, dedication and most of all for giving up your sleep-in Saturday mornings.

It's not too late to register for classes for 2017-2018, even though the early bird registration is over. If interested, please fill in the registration form which is placed in the front room outside the church and give it to Shaji Thayyil, Sunny Cyriac, or myself. We will place your child at an appropriate grade based on your child's level in Malayalam.

Malayalam school is scheduled to open on Saturday, September 9, 2017.

Lincy Koodaly



CCD ANNUAL DAY

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- ★ Transmissions
- ★ Tires/Wheels
- ★ Wheel Alignment
- ★ Engine Repair
- ★ Front and Back
End Repair
- ★ Maryland State
Inspection
- ★ And Much More!



DROP BEFORE CHURCH • PICK UP AFTER CHURCH

FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION IN PICTURES



ഒരു പ്രഹസനം | സൂക്ഷിക്കുക: വഴിയിൽ ഭക്തരുണ്ട്!

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