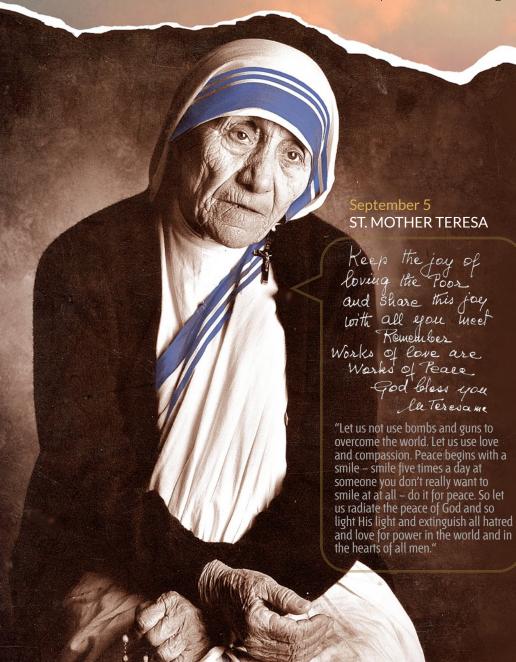
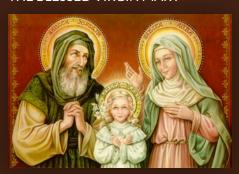
# ST. ALPHONSA

## SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



September 8 THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since the sixth century. A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year with September. The September 8 date helped determine the date for the feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's birth. However, the apocryphal Protoevangelium of James fills in the gap. This work has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child that will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story, like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.



#### **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

or the month of August, the Youth organized our annual Vacation Bible School for the younger kids. VBS took place August 11th through the 13th for kid's Pre- K through 6th grade. It turned out to be a successful event and a great experience for the younger kids. The youth coordinated the entire event and the adults worked with the youth to ensure a great turn out. On the last day of VBS, the younger kids performed a song to the parish and expressed the excitement they had from VBS. Words cannot capture the beautiful experience the kids had at VBS but we can confidently say that many hearts were brought closer to God.

n July 29<sup>th</sup>, our youth soccer team competed in a local soccer tournament against other churches and won first place. We are now in the final phase of the Year of Youth which focuses on building community. The youth is working along with the parents to help organize games and events for our church picnic which will be hosted on

August 26th. More events for the youth are being planned as we approach final phase of Year of Youth, so be sure to keep your eyes and ears open for future events at our parish!











#### **Youth Coordinators**

Ms. Stency Stephen Ms. Teena Vithayathil Mr. Alex Paranilam 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** 

**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** Mrs. Della Joseph Njaralakkattu

Mr. George Nirappukandathil

#### **4Life Ministry Coordinators**

Mr. Paul Mangalath Ms. Melanie Mavunkal

#### Social Work & Safe Environment

Mr. Joby K. Jose (Coordinator) Dr. Thomas Mathew (Facilitator) Mr. Roy Mathew (Facilitator)

#### **ECKC** Representatives

Mr. George Nirappukandathil 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

Cover photo © Michael Collopy, the author of Works of Love are Works of Peace, a photographic record of Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity. Used with author's permission.

#### Vicar

Rev. Fr. Seby Chittilappilly (630) 317-4837 sebyjchittilappilly@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**

Dr. Thomas Mathew Mr. George Thomas Eyalil

#### **Parish Council Members**

Mrs. Della Njaralakkattu Mr. George Nirappukandathil Mrs. Bindu Johnson Mrs. Manju James Perumattathil Mrs. Saly Joseph Kottaramkunnel Mr. Francis Kuzhippallil Mr. Joby K Jose

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

#### **Religious Education (CCD)**

Mr. Tison Thomas (Principal) Mrs. Elsy Bon (Assistant Principal)

#### **Eucharistic Ministers**

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

#### Accountant

Mr. Sebastian K. Jockey

#### **Auditors**

Mrs. Smitha Alappatt Mr. Jose Chirayath Mr. Henry Thomas

#### **Liturgy Coordinators**

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

#### Malayalam School

Mr. Saji Thayyil (Principal)

#### **Food Coordinator**

Mr. Benny Thomas

# **Message from the Vicar**

### ധനവാനും യാചകനും

ഒരിക്കൽ ഗുരു തനിയെ പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുകയായിരുന്നു. അതുവഴി പോവുകയായിരുന്ന ധനാഢ്യനായ മനുഷ്യൻ അത് കണ്ട് അവിടെ നിന്നു. പ്രാർത്ഥന കഴിഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ, അയാൾ ഗുരുവിന്റെ അടുക്കൽ ചെന്നു... ഗുരുവിനെ കണ്ടതിൽ സന്തോഷം അറിയിച്ചു.

Fr. Seby Chittilappilly

മനസ്സുവെച്ചാൽ ഇതെല്ലാം ആർക്കും ചെയ്യാവുന്നതാണെന്ന് ഗുരു മറുപടിയും പറഞ്ഞു.

സന്തുഷ്ടനായ ധനാഢ്യൻ തന്റെ കൈയിലുണ്ടായിരുന്ന പണസഞ്ചി ഗുരുവിനു കൊടുത്തുകൊണ്ട് പറഞ്ഞു: ഇത് സ്വീകരിച്ചു അങ്ങ് എന്നെ അനുഗ്രഹിക്കണം.

**ഗുരു:** താങ്കളുടെ പണം എനിക്ക് സ്വീകരിക്കാൻ പറ്റുമോ എന്നെനിക്കറിയില്ല... വീട്ടിൽ ഇനിയും പണമുണ്ടോ?

ആഗതൻ: ധാരാളം... ഇതിന്റെ ഒരായിരം ഇരട്ടി. ഗുരു: ഇനിയും പണം വേണമെന്ന് ആഗ്രഹം ഉണ്ടോ?

ആഗതൻ: തീർച്ചയായും! എന്റെ മനസ്സിൽ ചില പദ്ധതികളുണ്ട്.

അതൊക്കെ ശരിയാകാൻ അങ്ങ് പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കണം. ഗുരു: എത്രമാത്രം ധനികനാകണമെന്നാ ആഗ്രഹം?

**ആഗതൻ:** കഴിയുന്നത്ര! ഞാൻ പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നത്, പണം ഇരട്ടിക്കാനാ! **ഗുരു:** (പണസഞ്ചി തിരികെ കൊടുത്തുകൊണ്ട്) ഒരു ധനാഢ്യനും

യാചകരിൽ നിന്ന് പണം സ്വീകരിക്കാറില്ല.

ആഗതൻ: (സംഭ്രമത്തോടെ) ആരാണ് യാചകൻ... ഞാനോ?!

**ഗുരു:** അതെ... നിങ്ങൾ തന്നെ... തീർച്ചയായും നിങ്ങളേക്കാൾ ധനാഢ്യൻ ഞാനാണ്. എന്റെ ധനം സന്തോഷം നിറഞ്ഞ ജീവിതമാണ്... പ്രാർത്ഥനകളാണ്... നിങ്ങൾ പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നത് മതിവരാത്ത പണത്തിനു വേണ്ടിയും...

വീണ്ടും വീണ്ടും അതിനുവേണ്ടി യാചിക്കുന്നു.

താങ്കളെ യാചകൻ എന്നല്ലാതെ മറ്റെന്താണ് ഞാൻ വിളിക്കുക...!

ഗുരു നടന്നകലുന്നത് ആ മനുഷ്യൻ സങ്കടത്തോടെ നോക്കി നിന്നു!

"ഒരാൾ, ഉദാരമായി നൽകിയിട്ടും കൂടുതൽ ധനികനായിത്തീരുന്നു... മറ്റൊരാൾ, നൽകേണ്ടത് പിടിച്ചുവച്ചിട്ടും അയാളുടെ ദാരിദ്ര്യം വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നു!" (സുഭാഷിതം 11:24)

ഫാ. സെബി ചിറ്റിലപ്പിള്ളി (വികാരിയച്ചൻ)





THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

"That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen."

# READINGS - SEPTEMBER 2017

### Seasons of Kaitha | Elijah | Cross | Moses

Day/Date	Notes	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gospel Reading		
Friday, September 1	First Friday Eight-Day Fast Begins		Ephesians 4: 7-12	John 15: 18-25		
Saturday, September 2			1 John 2: 1-16	Luke 21: 5-6, 20-24		
Sunday, September 3	Seventh Sunday of Kaitha	Isaiah 33: 1–15 Bettina Shaju	1 Thessalonians 2:14–20 Rosemerin Vithayathil	Luke 18: 1-8		
Monday, September 4			1 John 4: 1-6	Mark 13: 14-23		
Tuesday, September 5	St. Mother Teresa		James 2: 14-17	Luke 14: 1-6		
Wednesday, September 6			Romans 14: 7-9	Mark 5: 1-13		
Thursday, September 7			2 Thessalonians 3: 6-12	Matthew 13: 10–17		
Friday, September 8	Nativity of Our Lady	Isaiah 43: 1-7	Revelations 12: 1-6	Matthew 1: 1-16		
Saturday, September 9			2 Thessalonians 3: 13-18	Mark 2: 13-17		
Season of Elijah   Cross   Moses						
Sunday, September 10	First Sunday of Elijah-Cross-Moses	Deuteronomy 6: 20–25 Andrea Shaji	2 Thessalonians 1: 3–10 Maria Nedumthuruthil	Luke 9: 35-43		
Monday, September 11			2 Corinthians 12: 1-6	Luke 12: 35-40		
Tuesday, September 12			Galatians 3: 15-20	Luke 9: 23-27		
Wednesday, September 13			Galatians 4: 8-11	Mark 12: 41-48		
Thursday, September 14	Exaltation of Holy Cross		1 Corinthians 1: 18-25	Luke 24: 13-27		
Friday, September 15			2 Timothy 2: 1-7	Luke 4: 31-37		
Saturday, September 16			Galatians 1: 24–29	Luke 15: 1-7		
Sunday, September 17	First Sunday of Cross	Deuteronomy 8: 11–20 Austin Jain	Philippians 2: 1–11 Austin Jain	Matthew 4: 12-17		
Monday, September 18			Philippians 4: 10-14	Matthew 5: 43-48		
Tuesday, September 19			2 Peter 3: 1-7	Matthew 23: 29–36		
Wednesday, September 20			1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 24: 29–36		
Thursday, September 21	St. Matthew the Apostle		Hebrew 11: 23-26	Matthew 9: 9-13		
Friday, September 22			2 Peter 1: 20-2:3	Matthew 15: 1-19		
Saturday, September 23	St. Padre Pio		1 Thessalonians 1: 4-8	Luke 8: 16-21		
Sunday, September 24	Second Sunday of Cross	Deuteronomy 9: 1-6 Trisha Tomcy	Philippians 3: 1-11 Jessica Cyriac	Matthew 17: 14-21		
Monday, September 25			1 John 5: 13-21	John 8: 39-47		
Tuesday, September 26			Romans 3: 1–18	Matthew 10: 26-33		
Wednesday, September 27	St. Vincent de Paul		2 Corinthians 13: 5-10	Matthew 21: 18-22		
Thursday, September 28			2 Timothy 3: 1-7	Matthew 8: 1-4		
Friday, September 29	Archangels		Titus 2: 6-10	Luke 11: 5-13		
Saturday, September 30	St. Jerome		2 Timothy 4: 6-8	Matthew 26: 6-13		

# SAINTS OF THE MONTH

### St. Mother Teresa By Agnes Koodaly



St. Mother Teresa's entire life was fully devoted to helping the poor, the sick, the needy and the helpless. Mother Teresa was born on August 26, 1910 as Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu. At the age of 18, she joined the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, known as the Sisters of Loreto, in Ireland. She received the name Sister Mary Teresa after St. Therese of Lisieux. She was a teacher in India for 17 years before she experienced her call to devote herself to caring for the sick and poor. Her order established a hospice; centers for the blind, aged and disabled. In 1979, she received the Nobel Peace Prize for her humanitarian work. We celebrate Mother Teresa's feast day on September 5.

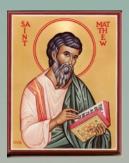
St. Padre Pio By Steven Johnson



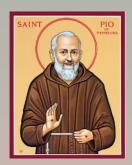
St. Padre Pio was born in Italy on May 25, 1887. At the age of 15, he joined the novitiate of the Capuchin friars at Morcrone and took the name of "Pio" in honor of Pope Pius I. He was known for his piety, charity, as well as the gift of the stigmata – wounds on the hands mimicking the wounds of Christ's crucifixion. Pope John Paul II recognized Padre Pio as a saint on June 16, 2002. His feast day is September 23. He is the patron of civil defense volunteers, adolescents, stress relief, January blues and the village of Pietrelcina.



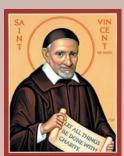
SEPTEMBER 13 ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM



SEPTEMBER 21 ST. MATTHEW



SEPTEMBER 23 ST. PADRE PIO



SEPTEMBER 27 ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



SEPTEMBER 30 ST. JEROME

#### WARD PRAYER - SEPTEMBER 2017

Please contact your Ward Representative to host Ward Prayer at your home.

Also watch for e-mail notifications for any changes in the schedule.

WARD	DATE/TIME	HOSTING FAMILY
St. Joseph	September 2 at 7:00 pm	Mr. Henry and Mrs. Sophy Plathottathil
St. Thomas	September 8 at 7:00 pm	Mr. Sebastian Jockey and Mrs. Binsimol
St. Mary	September 9 at 7:30 pm	Mr. Bijo and Mrs. Sherly Vithayathil
St. Jude	September 16 at 7:00 pm	Mr. Shaji and Mrs. Dolly Padiyanickal

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!					
Angelina Thayyil	September 3	Grace Vithayathil	September 11		
Alan Vithayathil	September 3	Anugraha Joy	September 13		
Verghese Thomas	September 8	Tom Michaels	September 17		
Kaitlyn Thomas	September 9	Sophia Pottackal	September 21		
Rose Leju	September 9	Anne Mathews	September 30		

### **FEAST OF ST. ALPHONSA**

Thirunal: July 29-30













Variety entertainment, award distribution and felicitation of graduates were highlights of the Saturday evening celebration











Pradikshinam, chendamelam, thalappoli ... a Sunday filled with piety and pomp

# CCD Updates For your review and attention:

- Please be at the church at 10:00 a.m. Any child who is late more than 10 minutes will be marked "tardy"
- St. Alphonsa Syro-Malabar Catholic Church offers a continuous CCD education program for students in grades Pre-K-12.
- All registered and active members of St. Alphonsa Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, Baltimore, MD, can register their children in the CCD program.
- If an address or phone number should change during the year, the Director of Religious Education should be informed immediately.
- All families are to park and escort their children to their respective class rooms. The safety of your child and all children is very important to us!
- No child is to be dropped off at the front doors for any reason. Please park in the parking lot and accompany your child to the respective class rooms.
- If the assigned class teacher is not in the class, please wait until the teacher arrives. Once CCD classes are over, please make sure your child is seated inside the church prior to the beginning of the Holy Qurbana.
- No running or playing is allowed in the parking lot. It is the responsibility of parents to make sure that their children are not playing in the parking lot.
- If anyone likes to visit a CCD class, please be sure to check with the teacher and the DRE and let them know when you would like to visit, as unexpected visits can disrupt classes. Students may not bring any friends or relatives to class.
- If a student loses his/her book it will be the responsibility of the parents to purchase a new book from the CCD office.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Tison Thomas, CCD Principal.



On behalf of St. Alphonsa Parish, we thank the following graduates and their families for sponsoring the 2017 St. Alphonsa Feast and Parish Day.

Mr. Andrew Thayyil (s10 Mr. Saji Thayyil & Mrs. Ronie Thayyil), Mr. Jonathan Cyriac (s10 Mr. Sunny Cyriac & Mrs. Mareena Issac), Mr. Kevin Johnson (s10 Mr. Johnson Kadamkulathil & Mrs. Bindu Johnson), Mr. Tony Thomas (s10 Mr. Tison Thomas & Mrs. Ansamma Thomas), Ms. Teena Vithayathil (d10 Mr. Tony Vithayathil and Mrs. Florance Vithayathil), Ms. Reeja Pereira (d10 Mr. Peter Perira and Mrs. Molly Perira), Ms. Christy Abraham (d10 Mr. Abraham Pulickal & Mrs. Chinnu Abraham), Mr. Babu George, Mr. Ginto Pottackal, and Mr. Nijo John.

#### Reporting child sexual abuse

Reporting child sexual abuse

Anyone sexually abused as a minor, or who knows about a case of sexual abuse of a minor should immediately report it to the civil authorities. Contact Department of Human Services -Child Protective Services in Maryland (Hotline: 1-800-332-6347) or Call 911.

When such sexual abuse has been committed by a cleric, religious, seminarian, diocesan or parish employee, or a diocesan or parish volunteer, it also should be reported to the Bishop of St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Catholic Diocese of Chicago through the Committee for Sexual Abuse Investigation at (630) 474-5172.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Parish Safe Environment Ministry members, Mr. Joby K. Jose, Dr. Thomas Mathew or Mr. Roy Mathew.

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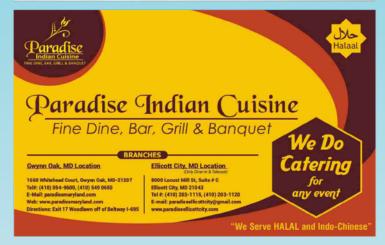


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