



Introduction

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dearly beloved brothers and sisters in our Lord Jesus Christ,
Racial prejudice and discrimination:

The Sunday School staff and children, along with our youth were on a journey to being Anti Racist. I am thankful to Jamy. K Chamakalayil for taking initiative for such a journey with well-prepared classes and notes. Referring to the 2018 U.S Bishops pastoral letter on racism, the bishops said "it was a sad and undeniable truth that racial prejudice and discrimination continue to impact the lives and livelihoods of millions of U. S citizens. There is far too much evidence that prejudice has an impact in criminal justice matters, influencing not only the way individuals are treated but also the rates of incarceration" For weeks or months, we the people in the United States were listening to the court case and verdict of the tragic murder of George Floyd, 46, an African American, who died on May 25, 2020, while in police custody. He was arrested after a store clerk accused him of trying to pass a counterfeit \$20 bill, and Chauvin, who is white, restrained Floyd, pinning him to the ground by kneeling on his neck for about 10 minutes - all of which was captured on a bystander's video, that went viral and sparked local and national protests and riots.

A jury found former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin guilty of this murder. Our great nation lives in unity of diversity. There are people from each and every nation of the world. It is the duty of each and every citizen to maintain peace and tranquility.

Our parish stands as a witnessing torch in Woodside, very near to Manhattan. Just stand for 5 minutes outside the church. We can see all kinds of people - black, white, and different ethnic citizens. Let us show our love to them. Our Resurrected Lord calls us and encourages us to do so!

With greetings and prayers

Sincerely,

John Thomas Achen

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SMJH YOUTH NEWS



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Important Church Dates

- May 3: Memorial of Baselios Paulose I Catholicose (Pampakuda Cheriyaapally)
- May 13: Ascension of our Lord/Suloqo
- May 15: Feast of Saint Mary for good crops and harvest
- May 16: Commemoration of HG Yuhanon Mar Severios (Zion seminary chapel, koratty)
- May 19: Commemoration of HG Mar Divanasios III (Punnathara) Metropolitan (Kottayam Cheriyaapally)
- May 23: Feast of Pentecost - 50th day after Easter
- May 26: Memory of HH Baselios Marthoma Didymus I Catholicos (Pathanapuram Mount Tabor)
- May 28; Golden Friday (Friday after Pentecost)

GOLDEN FRIDAY ALSO KNOWN AS SWARNA VELLIYAZHCHA

THE CHURCH CELEBRATES THE FIRST FRIDAY AFTER THE FEAST OF THE PENTECOST AS GOLDEN FRIDAY. THIS IS BASED ON THE INCIDENT DESCRIBED IN ACTS OF THE APOSTLES CHAPTER 3 VERSE 1-10. THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES THE MIRACULOUS HEALING OF THE LAME MAN BY ST.PETER AND ST.JOHN. BOTH NAMES, PETER AND JOHN, WERE GIVEN A SYMBOLIC MEANING. PETER MEANS ROCK WHICH REPRESENTS FAITH AND JOHN REPRESENT LOVE.



The Ascension of our Lord occurs 40 days from resurrection. This is when Jesus was physically taken up to heaven in the presence of his apostles.



The feast of Pentecost is celebrated 50 days from resurrection/10 days from Ascension. The holy spirit descended upon the apostles and other followers of Jesus as described in Acts chapter 2.

English Qurbana Date : May 30 Upcoming Events

- MAY 2ND: FEAST OF ST.GEORGE
- MAY 9TH: MOTHER'S DAY
- MAY 13TH: SULOQO/ASCENSION
- MAY 23RD: FEAST OF PENTECOST
- MAY 29TH: BIBLE STUDY
- MAY 30TH: ENGLISH QURBANA



Message from the Youth Leaders

Hi everyone!

We are hoping that everyone was able to come out of the Great Lent with a greater faith and trust in our God. Remember that the Great Lent served as a way for us to sacrifice a part of ourselves and in turn give it to God. It served as a way for us to surrender more to Him and give Him control as He is in control. However, with the end of the Great Lent, we should take what we learned in truth and practice the will of the Father by believing in the one He sent. Let's attempt to continue this by seeking God and surrendering to Him every day. This month we will be celebrating the Ascension of Jesus Christ (Yeshua Hamashiach), after staying on earth for forty days after the Father raised Him from the dead. We will also celebrate the feast of Pentecost which takes place 50 days after the resurrection. Lastly, if you ever need someone to talk to about something going on in your life, you can contact any of the youth leaders through GroupMe or WhatsApp.

Sincerely,
The Youth Leaders

May Gospel Readings

May 2: 4th Sunday After Easter St. Luke 24: 13-35

In this scripture, it is revealed that complete faith is the belief that the Messiah suffered and died for our sins and would also reign in His glory. In this scripture, The Lord breaks bread in the same manner as the Last Supper indicating that all who commune with the Lord in His risen Body in faith will have their eyes opened to know Him.

May 9: 5th Sunday After Easter St. Luke 9: 51-62

In this gospel, Jesus reveals the commitment he expects from his followers. Jesus is looking for a different breed of disciples, who will not harbor second thoughts after committing himself to the cause. A true follower of Jesus will have no earthly ties to distract our commitment to God.

May 13: Ascension of Our Lord St. Luke 24: 36-53

Christ ascended from Bethany, near the Mount of Olives; where His sufferings began; where he was in his agony. Those that would go to heaven must ascend from the house of sufferings and sorrows.

May 16: Sunday before Pentecost (Monks's Sunday) St. John 17: 13-26

The Church in every generation participates in the life and glory of the Trinity. Christians enjoy two kinds of unity: with God and with one another. In this scripture, we see Christ praying for the Church, the ultimate goal of Christ's prayer is for the love of the Father to dwell in each person.

May 23: Pentecost Sunday (Sunday School Sunday) St. John 15: 1-14

Jesus calls Himself the true vine, which together with the branches constitutes a new and fruitful people of God. To abide in this vine is to abide in Christ and His Church. The figure of the vine and the branches shows or union with Christ in intimate and real.

May 30: 1st Sunday After Pentecost St. John 6: 26-35

This gospel reading implies that we need to place spiritual needs before our physical needs. The spiritual hunger can be met only with the spiritual bread that comes from heaven. Jesus is that bread. He is the one who offers forgiveness, peace, and freedom.

Special thanks to:

Editors:

Michael Mani & Ryan Jose

Youth Leaders:

- Vice President: Alvin Cherian

- Secretary: Emma Joseph

- Treasurer: Alex Mani

President: Rev. Fr. John Thomas

Church Leaders:

- Secretary: Mr. Monzy Mani

- Treasurer: Mr. Geevarghese Jacob

Youth Senior Advisors:

Blessy Tharian & Tharun Eapen

Zoom Links

EVENING PRAYER:

FRIDAYS AT 7:00 PM

DIAL +16465588656

MEETING ID: 847 9284 5934

PASSWORD: SMJH1999

ENTER # FOR THE PARTICIPANT IF DIALING

SATURDAYS AT 6:15 PM MEDITATION & 6:30 PM PRAYER

DIAL +16465588656

MEETING ID: 841 6201 2423

PASSWORD:11377

ENTER # FOR PARTICIPANT IF DIALING

SUNDAY SCHOOL GENERAL SESSION

SATURDAYS AT 5:30 PM

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/83091421672](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83091421672)

MEETING ID: 830 9142 1672

PASSCODE: 935461

BIBLE STUDY

ZOOM LINK WILL BE SENT VIA GROUPME/WHATSAPP

Prayer Requests

For the well-being of our church, and community, keeping our beloved bava thirumeni in prayers. Praying for INDIA's revival from the myriad outbreak of the pandemic and relief for those suffering from the pandemic world wide.

The church extends our condolences on the loss of Mrs. Annamma Idichandy, mother of our members Thomas Idichandy and Lizzamma Varghese. (Grandmother of Fr.Bobby Varghese, Brayana Varghese, Anish Thomas and Albert Thomas).