

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Adrian Britto (03/12)
Rev. Kurian Peter (05/12)
Salija Jose (06/12)
Jobin Benjamin (09/12)
Rohit Jacob (15/12)
Neil Douglas (15/12)
Ashok J Varkey & Rinju Mary
Abraham (17/12)
Thaju Mathew (18/12)
Kepha Kurian (20/12)
Ethan Douglas (24/12)
Justin S & Gracelin J (27/12)
James R & Dhanya R (29/12)

THIS MONTH AT CHURCH

01/12	9:15am - Sunday school 10:45am - Holy Communion
08/12	9:15am - Sunday school Exam 10:45am - Holy Communion
15/12	10:45am - Holy Communion
22/12	10:45 am- Holy Communion
29/12	<u>10:00am</u> Combined Holy Communion

Contact Us!

Web: www.melbournecsichurch.org.au **Email:** melbournecsichurch@gmail.com

Find us on facebook: @mcsichurch

ROSTER	THIS WEEK 22-12-19	NEXT WEEK 29-12-19	LECTIONARY NEXT WEEK
OT	Thaju	-	-
Psalm	Sherlin	-	-
NT	Merril	Anita	TBA
Prayers	Manoj	-	<u>MCSI ACCOUNT DETAILS</u> <u>A/C Name:</u> MELBOURNE CSI CHURCH <u>A/C No:</u> BSB 063-244 Acc 10662876
Kiss of Peace	Ben & James Robin	-	
Offertory	Ashish	-	
Communion	Ashok	-	
Before Service Dusting & Cleaning	James Rajesh & Dhanya	Ashok & Rinju	
Cleaning/Pack Up After Service	Ashish & Merrill	St Mathews & MCSI	

WELCOME TO MELBOURNE CSI CHURCH

334 High Street Ashburton VIC 3147

'22 December 2019'

4th Advent Sunday

Preparation: The Lord is Coming

Collect: Righteous and merciful God, we thank you for sending your son to identify Himself with us in our struggles and hopes. We are redeemed by our faith in Him. As He promised to come again to judge the living and the dead, help us to be diligent in our faith and prudent in our actions so that we will be with Him and He will be with us, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Old Testament: Micah 4:1-5

Psalms: 126

New Testament: 1 John 4:7-21

Gospel: John 4:21-37



SONGS FOR TODAY



Opening: Christhavarae, vandanekkunarin...(H57)

Message: The first Noel...

Offertory: Naeramaakum munnnel...(L186)

Closing: Kaanhum vare ini naam... (H362 1,2 &3)

Office bearers:

Priest in charge: Rev Kurian Peter (M:0447438900) email: rev.kurianpeter@gmail.com

Vice president: Renji Cherian (M: 0403375479)

Secretary: Rinju Abraham (M:0430787007) **Joint secretary:** Megha Kuruvilla (M:0452372007)

Treasurer: James Rajesh (M:0401552651) **Joint Treasurer :** Smitha Thomas (M: 0432361651)

Wardens: Justin Israel (M:0402433063) & Thaju mathew (M:0431655117)

Comm. members: Robin Varghese (M:0411981186)

PEW NOTE

Preparation : The Lord is Coming

1 John 4: 7-21

John the Evangelist is traditionally thought to be the author of the Gospel of John and the other two Johannine epistles. This epistle was probably written in Ephesus in AD 95–110. Jesus loved him specially among the twelve disciples and John knew what God's love is. We are all in preparation to welcome the Immanuel to our hearts and homes. The greatest preparation to do that is to make our love for God and to our fellow being, more genuine and appropriate.

Real love is Perfect (4:7-8)

The first reason we love is because it is the character of God. God is love and God's love is perfect. Human love can only be perfected in submitting to God's love. Love does not refer to feelings or being an emotionally soft person. Love is the denying of self for the gain of another. Love is not that we love him but he loved us. Love is not that we do things for God, but God has done so much for us. There are four kinds of words used for love in the Greek language. 1. 'Phile' means friend..its a love among the friends. 2. 'Storge' is another word denotes love among the family members...towards parents, children and siblings, 3. 'Eros' is another word which denotes love instinct between male and female (Erotic) . The forth word used for love is 'Agape' which always mean God's love which is unconditional. Jesus taught his disciples to love one another. To love your enemies. Do what is good for God and do what is good for your Christian family.

Real Love is sacrificial (4:9-11)

Our actions are controlled by what will bring gain to another person through the denying and sacrificing of ourselves. So if we are not loving people what we are admitting is that we are self-consumed and only act selfishly. Love is thinking about others and not thinking about ourselves. Relationships are destroyed when we think about how things affect us, rather than thinking about how our acts are affecting others. God reveals his love in the most dramatic and powerful way: the sending of Jesus, his only Son, to die on the cross so that we might live. Jesus reveals the heart of God. We see how great God's love is for every person. He loves us beyond measure. Or as the apostle Paul wrote, "...to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3:19) His love for us cannot be quantified.

Real love is expressive (4:12)

Verse 11 gives us the life instruction. "If God loved us in this way, we also must love one another." (1 John 4:11) What God did for us drives us to do the same for one another. No one has seen God but the love of God should be seen in us by loving each other. We cannot see God and the world cannot see God. God's love which originated in himself (vs. 7-8) and was revealed in his Son (vs. 9-10) is perfected in his people. God's love is perfected when it is reproduced in us and among us, the community of faith. Verse 19 makes that very point. We cannot think that we love God and hate our brother. We cannot love the unseen God if we do not love our visible brethren. This is the command: the one who loves God must love his brother. If we love God because of what he has done for us then we must love each other.

Kurian Peter Achen.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Let's pray for the continuing ministry of the church and for the spiritual and material wellbeing of all the members of our parish that each day God will grant us new grace to lead our lives in complete surrender to the divine.
- Let us pray for the worship services and other fellowships which bring us closer to God and as we encounter Christ, be commissioned to go into the world and live the gospel. As we take church to those who are in utter need of loving care and presence, lets pray for the ministry among the aged and those who deserve our care.
- Let's thank God for our Achen Rev. Kurian Peter and his family. Let us pray that God direct their ways and we as the church be benefited by their witness and ministering among us.
- Let us pray for the St Mathews congregation and for the continued fellowship we have with them.
- As we prepare for the Advent season, let us uphold various Parish events and services in our prayers – House Caroling, Christmas & New-Year services.
- Let us thank God Almighty for the past one year for His abundant Grace. Let us prayer for His continued protection and guidance in the new year.
- Let us pray for our families and friends we have left behind in India especially our parents and grandparents.
- Let us pray for all in need around us, for those feeling lonely, those looking for work, for those studying both in schools and in universities, for those staying away from home and for those who do not feel loved and wanted.
- Let us pray for our mission partner in Nepal. Mr. Phanindra Bhusal who is doing pioneering mission work in that nation and let us uphold his family also in prayer.
- Let us pray for our children and young people that we would be able to support their faith journeys in a meaningful way.



TAKE NOTE!!!

22/12/2019 06:30 PM – Carols at vicarage

24/12/2019 11:00PM- Combined Christmas Eve service

25/12/2019 07:30 AM – Christmas service (Malayalam)

25/12/2019 10:00 AM – Christmas service (English)

31/12/2019 10:00 PM- Year ending & New year service (Malayalam)

01/01/2020 09:15 AM – New year service (English)