Dearly Beloved,
Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

November 01, 2026, Koodos Eetho (Sanctification of the Church)
Scriptural Readings:
• OT: Exodus 33:5-11, 1 Kings 6:1-8, Jeremiah 31:10-14, 22-26, Ezekiel 9:11, 10:1-5, 18-22, 1 Maccabees 4:36-51
• NT: 1 Peter 2:1-12, 1 Corinthians 3:16,17, 6:15-20, Holy Gospel St Matthew 16:13-20

'Sumoro' of the Gospel reading:
'He has built his sanctuary in the heights and founded it on earth forever.' (Ps 78:69)
'May God establish it forever. In your temple, it is in your grace that we have our hope.' (Ps 48:8-9)

Holy Gospel: St Matthew 16:13-20
13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesare'a Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men
say that the Son of man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Eli'jah, and
others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon
Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed
are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in
heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter,[a] and on this rock[b] I will build my church, and the powers of
death[c] shall not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever
you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in
heaven." 20 Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Reflections:
The weather is moving from warmth to cold. Yesterday it was raining. This morning it was windy with a speed of 13 km/h, humidity 77%, and a morning temp of 8°C warming to 12°C towards midday under cloudy skies. Humans adjust to climatic conditions and weather changes. In summer, wearing a winter jacket would feel like being in a furnace. Conversely, a winter outing in slippers, shorts, and a cotton top would be disastrous.

The Church also has seasonal changes to prepare believers for transitions and equip them with the appropriate ecclesial accessories. This coming Sunday will be the first day of the new season: the season of Nativity. It is called *'Koodos Eetho'*, which means the sanctification of the temple or church. In the liturgical calendar, the season begins with cleansing to clear the way for a new vision, enhancing and optimizing our faith system to receive revelations. It carries the Church through angelic visitations and heavenly announcements, ultimately leading to the manger to see the Child. There, we can offer Him praise with the conviction and complete reliance of the shepherds and the wise men. Concurrently, in the secular calendar, we see decorations everywhere that can look scary—skeletons, huge pumpkins with eyes and fangs—as if we are in a haunted world. Walking with the dead or the walking dead?! Culturally, this has a cathartic effect; perhaps horrifying images are meant to take away psychological fears and leave us feeling lighter.

Ecclesially and socially, these seasonal elements are provisions to prepare us for the expected

experience of the Divine. The human mind requires symbols, signs, settings, and environments to get ready for what is in the offing. Just as a citizen can ask what the government means to them, children can examine what their parents mean to them, and parents can do the same vice versa. Anyone can check what a relationship means to them to find clarity, conviction, and sustainability. Here in the gospel text, Jesus asks the disciples what they say or believe about Him. "Who am I to you?" is a question anybody might feel the need to ask at some point to get feedback or assurance. Yet Jesus Christ was not reliant on public or individual opinions. The reason He asked was likely to prepare the disciples to take over the ministry before He left the world. Without proper conviction and commitment, it is impossible to take on such responsibility; without knowing the vision and mission, it is impossible to lead a project. Christ personally called His disciples; they were not simply appointed into a pre-established system. It was a fellowship and a companionship. It was through their personal relationship with Him that they were to serve the Kingdom of God.

Throughout the Gospels, several profound declarations of faith are made. One is Peter's reply in this text: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Another is by St. Thomas: "My Lord and my God." John the Baptist gave the first messianic declaration: "Behold, the Lamb of God." Finally, the centurion at the foot of the cross announced: "Truly he was the Son of God."
On this foundation of faith and conviction, the Church has been built. Through faith Mary received the word that became flesh. In faith the disciples received bread and wine offered by Christ as His body and blood at the Last Supper table. It was with faith, church stood unshaken under persecutions and challenges. The same faith and conviction should lead us in the current time. It is not a mere institution but a way of life, a principle to follow, and a certainty about what one should be doing with their life. Through faith, we find our true purpose. Faith sanctifies everything, our commitments, relationships and everything we think and act.

FEASTS AND REMEMBRANCE:
November 01, All Saints Day (Halloween)

Clergy Demise: Rev Fr V J Oommen
Rev Fr V J Oommen, senior priest of the Diocese of Niranom, has been taken to heavenly abode. The funeral service was conducted on Friday October 30th at Paliyekkara Church, Thiruvalla. May the Lord comfort his soul. We thank God for the life of witness he lived.

Time Change: Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday November 01
November 01 at 02:00 am, clocks will turn back one hour to 01:00 am. Please reach church at 08:30 am for morning prayer, refreshed and energized with an extra hour rest and sleep!

Sunday Morning Prayer starts at 08:30 am.
According to the Semi Annual GBM decision, morning prayer will start at 08:30 am on Sundays.

Three new bishop elects ordained to Dayaroyuso (Ramban)
The newly bishop elects Rev Fr Shibu Venad Mathai (Very Rev Ramban Geevarghese), Rev Fr Samji T George (Very Rev Ramban Geevarghese) and Rev Fr Eldose Elias (Very Rev Ramban Eldose) have been ordained to Ramban (Monastic Order) on Tuesday October 27th at Parumala Church. We pray

that the Holy Spirit prepares and enables them to become good shepherds in His vineyard.

Thaalm 2026- OCYM Fest was remarkable! Sincere thanks to:
OCYM fest, Thaalam 2026 was a grand success. We had eight parishes in Toronto participate in the contests. All the presentations were excellent. Judges did a great job with their evaluation without leaving any concern or complaint. The energy and enthusiasm of youth members from various parishes transformed the venue. We had wonderful teamwork by OCYM members. We thank parish MC members, all the organizations, volunteers, generous sponsors, respected Achens, participants and judges. Praying that the Lord rewards everyone for their hard work and contributions.

November 01, Sunday- Sunday School Annual Day
Diocesan Sunday School annual day will be celebrated on Sunday November 01 after the Holy Liturgy. There will be a brief presentation by students, reflections from parents. All our respected teachers will be felicitated during the program. We keep Sunday School in prayer. May it continue lighting the hearts and souls of our children.

Congrats to Susan Benjamin
Hearty congrats to Susan Benjamin on being elected as Trustee English Public School Board, from Ward 5, Mississauga in the Municipal Elections held on October 26th. She has won a majority of 54 % and is being elected for the third term. May the Lord empower her further to serve the wider society. Wishing that or parish community will have more leaders emerging to serve the society here in Canada. May her victory inspire our members in offering their talents to serve the world around.

Wear a Poppy, Revere the Veterans
Poppies are available at both church entrances, with collection boxes. Please pick one and wear it in honor of veterans. Please donate. We are there to support veterans and their families.

UPCOMING FEASTS & EVENTS:
November 01, Koodosh Eetho Sunday, Sanctification of the Church, Perunnal 'Kodiyettu' after the Holy Qurbana
November 08, Hoodos Eetho Sunday, Dedication of the Church
November 07 Saturday & 08 Sunday, Feast of St Gregorios
November 22, Sunday, Parish Annual GBM (Tentative), Please reach out to the parish office to see any payment due, Holy Confession validity for eligibility

Pray for Peace in the Middle East and Gulf
The recent developments have caused more worries and fears about the long-lasting impact on life in the West Asia region. It has already affected thousands of people working there. Many have lost jobs, cost of living is going high with the oil price hike, companies are issuing termination letters, the situation is becoming scarier. We fervently pray for peace and cessation of attacks. Our prayers may work miracles through the Holy Spirit. May the Holy Spirit intervene and transform the minds of people in power.

Attention Please:
Parking: Please be considerate while parking our vehicles, only park at designated space. Leave reserved lots for the intended and kindly park within lines and markings leaving enough space for others to open their doors without scratching or hitting nearby parked vehicles.

AREA PRAYER MEETING:
If any family is willing to host prayer meetings, please reach out to the area coordinators or the parish office.

FOR OUR ATTENTION & TO NOTE:
Children, please occupy front benches during our Liturgical Services.
Kindly avoid crowding at the back of the church.
For assuring safety and undistracted worship space, we request all our members to proceed to the front rows except those that are reserved for children when we enter the temple. It could be uneasy for our volunteers to guide them to the front during the service as it might cause distraction and noise. We avoid crowding at the entrance and stair areas due to safety concerns.
Please be considerate of our senior members to help them find seats or while they try to access the washroom. A slip or a hit should be avoided in any circumstance.
Please be watchful at the shoe rack area, which is also the entrance to both washrooms.
We request parents to attend to their children not to pull the alarm lever at the back wall.
November 01, Sunday – in-person meetings/Events

- Sunday School
- Choir Monthly Meeting
- MMVS practice for Diocesan Carol Service. All women members are earnestly requested to join the song practice.

LIVE streaming: All services are Live Streamed and are available.
Holy Liturgical Text for this Sunday:
We will be using the Taksa of St James this Sunday.
May the Gracious Lord keep us from all evil and heal the entire world.

Next Week :
November 08, Hudos Eetho (Dedication of the Church, Temple)

Scriptural Readings:
• OT: Exodus 31:18-32:6, 1 Kings 6:1-8, Jeremiah 31:10-14, 22-26, Ezekiel 9:11, 10:1-5, 18-22, 1 Maccabees 4:52-59
• NT: Acts 7:44-53, Hebrews 9:4-14, Holy Gospel St John 10:22-42
'Sumoro' of the Gospel reading:
'Remember your church that you have owned and redeemed by the scepter of your inheritance.' (Ps 74:2)
'How lovely is your dwelling place O Lord of hosts. My soul longs and desires for the courts of the Lord.' (Ps 84:1)

Yours in Christ
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