



## WEEKLY THOUGHTS - JANUARY 28, 2022

Dearly beloved,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

**Sunday, January 30, Fourth Sunday after Danaha Perunnal**

**Epistle Readings: Acts 18:1-4, 20:33-35 or St James 5:1-11, 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 or 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12 or 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15**

**Holy Evangelion, St Mark 6:1-6**

6. 1 He went away from there and came to his own country; and his disciples followed him. 2 And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue; and many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get all this? What is the wisdom given to him? What mighty works are wrought by his hands! 3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. 4 And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honour, except in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house." 5 And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands upon a few sick people and healed them. 6 And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.

### **Reflections:**

Jesus had to suffer rejections from his own people instead of people outside his community. He has said parables referring to rejection suffered by true owners or inheritors. It can happen to anyone at any time. There were leaders disowned or betrayed by their own disciples. How do we deal with rejections? Have we prepared for it? While we undertake projects, various missions, or carry out certain responsibilities, there are possibilities of rejection from the surrounding people. Are we mature enough to face disagreements? When we disagree, how convincingly we could do it without disrespecting the other person? Here, Jesus is seen let down by people when referring to his origin, family, parents. There have been examples regarding how people were disgraced because of their ethnicity, gender, or beliefs. Can we act as a community of healthy conduct when we deal with disagreements? Can we equip ourselves for facing such challenges if any come our way? Jesus himself overcame such troubles. We should act in a similar manner!

### **Feasts:**

**January 26, HH Baselios Marthoma Mathews II, 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary, entombed at Mount Horeb Chapel Sasthamkotta**

HH Baselios Marthoma Mathews II was revered and was called Angel Bava by the flock. Thirumeni's physical presence was so towering, radiant, influential and highly pleasing. His coolness in dealing with situations was exemplary. Thirumeni's sacramental offerings were always enjoyed by everyone and his sermons and speeches were really moving. He always stood for religious harmony and healthy ecumenical relations.

**January 26, HG Paulose Mar Athanasios, 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary, entombed at Thrikkunnathu Seminary Alwaye**

HG Paulose Mar Athanasios was called Valiya Thirumeni, who had led the Malankara church during a period of struggle. Thirumeni promoted monastic ideals and served the society through his strong leadership, simple life and dedicated ministry.



# ST. GREGORIOS ORTHODOX CHURCH OF TORONTO

(Since 1969)

6890 Professional court, Mississauga, Ontario, L4V 1X6, Canada



## **January 28, St Severios of Antioch**

St Severios (Severus) was the Patriarch of Antioch who stood for defending orthodox faith against Chalcedon propaganda. It was really challenging to take any position against the well-established power system of pro Chalcedonian parties. For us, the maneetha of Mar Severios which we chant in the beginning of Holy Qurbana would be enough to prove his theological contributions. Christology of Mar Severus is a branch in theological scholarship which shows the significance of this Holy Father.

## **Nineveh Lent**

Nineveh Lent shall begin on Monday February 7th, to finish on Wednesday February 9th. There will be a Lenten evening prayer on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at church starting at 6:30 pm. The Tuesday, February evening prayer will be followed by Lenten devotional talk. Additionally, Wednesday evening prayer shall be followed by Holy Qurbana. Let us look forward to observing the shortest but strongest lent.

## **Great Lent, Evening Prayer, Devotional Talks**

Great Lent will start on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> February. As we did last year, there will be daily devotional talks at church every evening after Lenten prayer. OCYM has agreed to initiate the google signup sheet for devotional talks. Please look for the google sheet and sign up at the earliest. We expect our members to participate as we did in the last year.

## **Condolence**

Our deepest condolence to Vincent Yohannan and his family with the passing away of Mrs Molly John, age 70 years, beloved wife of late K C John, beloved mother of Jessy Vincent and mother in law of Vincent Yohannan ( Directory Ref: V04), Karukaparampil House, Cherthala on Thursday, 27th January 2022. Jessy managed to travel to Kerala yesterday. The funeral service timing shall be updated. Please keep the departed soul and family members in prayer. May the ever loving presence of the Lord console the departed soul and comfort the family and friends during this time of loss.

## **SGOCT Parish Library and Book Club**

SGOCT parish OCYM has planned to launch a Parish Library & Book Club project with the support of other organisations and our members. We will be starting the project with tracking current stock and receiving books from donors. Reference books and other required books shall be purchased in due-course. We request our members who are fond of reading to support in setting up a useful library. We request our members who may be interested in donating books to look for the right books to donate, instead of using it to get rid of any books. Please feel free to contact the vicar on (416) 570 5610 for any clarifications or for expressing your willingness to support. We do believe that the library shall motivate our kids and youngsters to get equipped for their future through intense and voracious reading and it also helps our senior generation to get engaged in fruitful sharing time through the book club.

## **Prayer Meetings are to resume – February 05 Saturday 06:30 – 08:00 pm**

Weekend prayer meeting shall resume on February 05 Saturday at 06:30 pm at church followed by fellowship gathering through webex and shall be hosted by St Paul's Prayer Group. It will be open for all our members. The link shall be sent early beforehand. We request all our families to assure their participation. Please assure involvement and volunteering of kids too.



# ST. GREGORIOS ORTHODOX CHURCH OF TORONTO

(Since 1969)

6890 Professional court, Mississauga, Ontario, L4V 1X6, Canada



## Spiritual Organisations and WhatsApp Groups

All the spiritual organisations of our parish have created WhatsApp groups for regular communications and updates. We request all our members to join corresponding groups. If you are not already in, please reach out to organisational secretaries.

Gregorian Seniors Forum, G George: (416) 738 7765

MMVS, Beena Mathew: (647) 835 1521

OCYM, Suna Cherian: (647) 818 9376

Choir, Anand Joseph: (416) 276 5021

Acolytes, Cleemis Vaidhyan: (647) 308 2135, Anish Mathew: (647) 818 6125

MGOCSM, Emil Mathew: (647) 877 9272, Sandra Shaji: (647) 551 6563

Sunday School, Santhosh Varughese: (416) 258 2062

## MGOCSM Alumni

Our parish MGOCSM would like to reach all members whoever had any association with MGOCSM in India or elsewhere. Please inform whoever worked with MGOCSM. You can either send an email to [mgocsm.sgoct@gmail.com](mailto:mgocsm.sgoct@gmail.com) copying to the vicar at [fr.thomasjohn@gmail.com](mailto:fr.thomasjohn@gmail.com) or send a message/call to (416) 570 5610.

## Communicants Counting Machine, Wave your hand 'ONCE' please

All Sunday participants are requested to register their names at the entrance and as we enter the church interior. Please wave your hand once between the sensor poles of the counting machine if you are to take Holy Communion. Please do not wave if you are not taking Holy Communion. Thanks to everyone for your cooperation.

## Meetings ahead, In-Person & Virtual

January 28, Friday, Divyabodhanam, 07:30 – 09:00 pm

January 29, Saturday, SGOCT Acolytes & Choir Practice, 05:00 – 06:30 pm

January 29, Saturday, Evening Prayer at Church, 06:30 – 07:30 pm

February 04, Friday, MMVS Canada Regional Prayer, 08:15- 09:30 pm

February 06, Sunday, SGOCT Choir Monthly Meeting at church after the Holy Liturgy

February 06, Sunday, 'Pethurtha' of Nineveh Lent, Evening Prayer, 06:30 – 07:30 pm

February 07, Monday, Nineveh Lent Evening Prayer at church, 06:30 – 07:30 pm

February 08, Tuesday, Nineveh Lent Evening Prayer, 06:30- 07:30 pm, Retreat, 07:30- 08:15pm, live streamed through webex.

February 09, Wednesday, Nineveh Lent Evening Prayer, 06:30 pm, Holy Qurbana, 07:30 pm

## Liturgical Text for this Sunday

This Sunday, we will be using the Taksa of St James.

## Link to Sunday Holy Liturgy

Please see below the Link for Live Streaming

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDT7tcyQw1yZ1\\_yCG9AWStA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDT7tcyQw1yZ1_yCG9AWStA)



# ST. GREGORIOS ORTHODOX CHURCH OF TORONTO

(Since 1969)

6890 Professional court, Mississauga, Ontario, L4V 1X6, Canada



May the Gracious Lord keep us from all harm and heal the entire world.

Yours in Christ,

Thomas John Achen  
fr.thomaspjohn@gmail.com  
Mobile: (416) 570 5610