



Message from the Vicar

IN THIS ISSUE

Beloved St. James Family members

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are going through a great Lenten season. For the Syrian churches the great lent for 50 days. Western churches it for 40 days that begins from Ash Wednesday to Easter. For a believer the lent is a time to rekindle certain relationships. It includes the believer's relationship with himself, relationship with others, relationship with the nature and other creation, and the relationship with God. Lent is also a time to study and meditate more on the Holy scripture. This is what God tells Joshua about keeping God's word "Keep this Book of Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful" (Joshua 1:8). We have to fight against many factors that negatively affect our spiritual life. We have before us the conditions of life that are exhausted by such struggles. But lent gives us the strength to face this without giving up.

'Keliko' is an ethnic group from South Sudan, bordering Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Uganda. Most members of this ethnic group are Christians. The Keliko people have a motto that means 'together we can'. South Sudan officially seceded from Sudan on July 9, 2011, making it Africa's youngest recognized country. This move to independence marked the end of decades of conflict, as well as a surge in determination to rebuild and move forward. For the Keliko it was a time to press into the translation work they started in 1985. But renewed civil unrest in South Sudan in 2016 forced many of the Keliko people to relocate to refugee settlements in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda. "Time went by. War came in." This is how Bishop Semi Nigo of the Keliko people of South Sudan described the delay in his church's long struggle to get the Bible in their own language. Decades earlier, Bishop Nigo's grandfather had courageously started a Bible translation project, but war and unrest kept halting the effort. Despite these hardships, the Keliko continue to persevere with joy, and many are passionately supportive of Bible translation. On August 11, 2018, the Keliko New Testament (with portions of the Old Testament) was officially dedicated! The ability to access God's Word in their language is finally a reality.

When peace is restored to South Sudan, Keliko believers anticipate returning home to impact their community, their neighbors and even their nation with the life-transforming power of the gospel. Like the Keliko people, may we never give up seeking the power and wisdom of Scripture. Let us make Lent a time to gain strength and spirit through God's Word.

In His Ministry

Ajith Varghese Achen

Church executive committee 2023

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	DATE	WORSHIP SERVICES: MARCH, 2023	TIME
Sun	5-Mar	Holy Communion Service (English)	10:15 AM
Sun	12-Mar	Divine Service (Malayalam)	10:15 AM
Sun	19-Mar	Holy Communion Service (English)	10:15 AM
Sun	26-Mar	Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)	10:15 AM
40 th Fri	31-Mar	Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)	7:00 PM

LECTIONARY-MARCH, 2023					
Day	Date	Lesson: 1	Lesson: 2	Epistles	Gospels
Sun	5-Mar	Jesus Christ who Forgives Sins, Third Sunday of Great Lent.			
		Isa 33:13-24	Heb 9:11-20	Col 2:8-15	Mark 2:1-12
Sun	12-Mar	Jesus Christ who Includes All, Fourth Sunday of Great Lent.			
		Isa 45:1-8	Acts 10:34-43	Gal 3:23-29	Matt 15:21-28
Sun	19-Mar	Jesus Christ who Redeems, Fifth Sunday of Great Lent.			
		Exod 3:1-10	1Pet 1:18-25	Rom 3:23-31	Luke 13:10-17
Sun	26-Mar	Jesus Christ who Leads to New Vision, Thirty-Sixth Sunday;			
		Ezek 37:1-14	Phil 3:7-16	Col 3:1-11	Mark 10:46-52
40 th Fri	31-Mar	Hunger to do the Will of God, Fortieth Friday			
		Num 11:4-15	Jas 1:12-18	1Thess 3:1-8	Matt 4:1-11



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: MARCH, 2023		
Dates	Name	Town
3-Mar	Jessie & Anoop Cherian	Orangeburg, NY
4-Mar	Sumi & Benjamin Chacko	Suffern, NY
15-Mar	Saramma & Chacko P. George	New City, NY


BIRTHDAYS - MARCH, 2023

Dates	Name	Town
2-Mar	Saramma C. Koshy (Julie)	Congers, NY
4-Mar	Chinnamma Mathews	Nanuet, NY
5-Mar	Reena J. Abraham	Poughkeepsie, NY
8-Mar	Angelina Elizabeth Daniel	Florida, NY
10-Mar	Jolly Tom	Congers, NY
11-Mar	Allen Ajay	Suffern, NY
11-Mar	Beena P. John	Spring Valley, NY
12-Mar	Steven V. Babu	Nanuet, NY
12-Mar	Josh Job	Flemington, NJ
12-Mar	Nikil K. Shoji	New City, NY
14-Mar	Daniel Thomas	Avenel, NJ
14-Mar	Mathews N. M. (Dharmishtan)	Suffern, NY
15-Mar	Hannah Binu	New City, NY
15-Mar	Eappen M. S.	Palisades, NY
16-Mar	Selwyn Alexander Jacob	Nanuet, NY
16-Mar	Timmy Yohannan	Valley Cottage, NY
19-Mar	Johnson George (Babu)	Bergenfield, NJ
19-Mar	Merry Jacob	New City, NY
20-Mar	Mariamamma Philip	Spring Valley, NY
21-Mar	Jinsey Jacob	Tappan, NY
23-Mar	Nia Joseph	New City, NY
23-Mar	Isaiah Zachary Abraham	Poughkeepsie, NY
27-Mar	Susan John (Usha)	Spring Valley, NY
28-Mar	Shaimi Jacob	New City, NY
29-Mar	Sherin Elsa Jacob	Nanuet, NY

Prayer Meetings.

Sinai area prayer group prayer meeting on March 4th Saturday at 7:00PM at the residence of Mrs. Chinnamma Mathews. 40 New Holland Village, Nanuet, 10954

Edavaka mission prayer meeting on March 10th Friday at 7:00PM at the residence of Mr. John K. Alexander. 34 Orchard St., Nanuet, NY 10954.

Sevika sanghom prayer meeting on March 17th Friday at 7:00 PM at the residence of Mrs. Beena John. 75 Rockland Lane Spring Valley, NY 10977.

St. James Marthoma Church Newsletter

March 2023

42 Fourth Street
Hillburn, NY 10901

Matthew 6:16-18

When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

