

## PARISH NEWS

**VOTE OF THANKS:** - We would like to thank Mr. Christopher Palmer and Mr. Issac Thangadurai for preparing the Christ Church Cathedral Online Sunday Worship Service for our Parishioners.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** - Due to the lockdown because of (COVID - 19), our joint VBS 2020 is postponed till further notice.

### **OBITUARY:**

Mr. Johnson Samuel son of Mrs. Rajmani Samuel brother of Mark Samuel fell asleep in Christ on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April 2020. May his soul rest in peace.

Mrs. Maureen Robinson wife of Rev. Canon J. E. Robinson fell asleep in Christ on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2020. May her soul rest in peace.

**ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE:** As you all are aware we are unable to have a Church Services, due to lockdown caused by Corona virus. In view of this, we are having an online Worship Service every Sunday and we request you to kindly follow the online Worship Service on every Sunday at 08:30 am and be blessed.

**SUBSCRIPTION:** Dear Parishioners, all those who wish to pay their Subscription / Thanksgiving / Church offerings can pay through online.

The detail of our Church account is as follows.

**Name of the A/c:** Christ Church Cathedral

**Account No:** 164701000000436

**IFSC Code:** IOBA0001647

**Branch:** North Civil Lines, Jabalpur Branch

Please write your name in remarks column while transferring the funds.

For any queries please contact  
Mr. Joseph Lazarus (Treasurer)  
9755593971

## CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, (C.N.I), JABALPUR



(Est. 1844)

Church Service- 8:30 am

Sunday School- 8:30 am

Rev. Bruce Thangadurai  
Hon. Presbyter-in-charge  
bruce\_scmi@rediffmail.com

926, North Civil Lines,  
Jabalpur-482001 (M.P.)  
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### CHURCH CALENDER FOR MAY - 2020

3 <sup>RD</sup>	MAY	2020	THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
10 <sup>TH</sup>	MAY	2020	MOTHERS SUNDAY
17 <sup>TH</sup>	MAY	2020	NURSES SUNDAY
24 <sup>TH</sup>	MAY	2020	SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
31 <sup>ST</sup>	MAY	2020	PENTECOST

### Presbyter's Message

#### “Proper Focus for Joyful Living” Philippians 1:27-30

Greeting to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

If we look at the letter that Paul wrote to the people of Philippi while he was chained in a Roman prison. Paul's letter is filled with an uncommon joy. In spite of his difficult circumstances Paul was joyful because,

- he saw rare opportunities to honor God in his difficulties
- his focus was not on his honor and comfort but on God's glory and the furthering of the Gospel message.
- he viewed death not as the enemy but as the doorway to eternal life and the reunion he has been longing for with His Savior Jesus Christ

As Paul concludes this wonderful section about living in difficult circumstances he gives us a focus for living that is simple yet so very important. And no matter where you are in your Christian journey you will be able to find some practical truth in Paul's words.

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Paul's philosophy for joy is simple . . ."conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel".

### **What This Means**

What does it mean to conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel? We could make a long list of what this might mean but let's look at what Paul says. He tells the Philippians that if they live their lives focused on living consistently with the faith he will see or hear certain things about them. **First**, he says he will hear that they **Stand Fast**. They will be people who are well anchored.

The first thing we need to realize is that we are in a battle. We will have to stand firm to hold our ground. As believers we will face opposition from many fronts. We will be attacked by competing philosophies. We will face opposition from the values and morals of the world. The person who lives consistent with the gospel, is a person who is standing firm in the midst of opposition.

But in order to stand, we must be anchored to the right place. Right living comes from right beliefs and not the other way around.

We must make sure we understand who Jesus is, what He did, how we find salvation, and what the Bible teaches.

**Second**, Paul says that those who are conducting themselves in a manner worthy of the gospel will **Contend as One**. Just as a team must work together to be victorious, so Paul feels the church needs to work together to be successful in the world.

We come from different backgrounds. We have different tastes, styles and interests. And we can let our differences divide us or we can let our common experience of grace in Christ unite us. Yes, in the quest for truth we may still debate issues . . . but our goal will not be to be "right", but to know Christ better. Our differences will not be the cause for division . . . they will provide opportunities to grow.

Christians fighting Christians only causes the world to turn away. But when Christians work together, the world takes notice. In the early church many people didn't understand the gospel, but what they did understand was that these people loved each other. If we conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel we will gladly set aside our ego for the purpose of advancing the gospel. We will overlook minor differences and discuss bigger differences in a spirit of love.

The **third** characteristic of people living in a manner worthy of the Gospel is that they will **Live Without Fear**. Christians living in a manner worthy of the gospel will not run away out of fear.

Saying we are afraid is basically another way of saying we don't trust God. When world events shake us the problem is that we really don't believe that God is in control. The person who lives every moment of every day consciously as a child of God, will not be afraid. They will be confident . . . not in their ability . . . but in His.

No matter where you are . . . you represent Jesus. Paul's counsel is simple: Represent Him Well.

### **How We Do This?**

It sounds so simple doesn't it? But it's not. At the end of this passage Paul gives us some help. I think he points out that much of this has to do with our attitude. Paul points to two things we need to realize.

**First**, we are **Privileged To Believe**.

Those of us who wear the name of Christ, should realize what a privilege and honor it is to be called a child of God.

We will live in a manner worthy of the gospel when we realize that to live this way is an honor. The honor we have been given should make us more determined than ever to live up to that honor.

The **second** attitude . . . the second privilege is much more difficult to accept. Paul says we not only have the privilege to believe . . . but the **Privilege To Suffer**. This is the way we should view Christ. We should love Him enough to suffer anything for the honor of His name. It is not a curse . . . it is a privilege to be able to demonstrate our love for Him. What an honor to think that others see Him in us.

Whatever the suffering that comes from being united with Christ , we should count it a privilege to stand up for Him.

### **What Happens When We Live This Way**

Paul say two main things will happen if we live our lives seeking to live in a manner that is worthy of the gospel.

**First**, We will Verify Our Salvation. The world looks at how we handle the tough times to find out whether or not our profession of faith is real or not.

**Second**, it is important that you understand that no believer is going to live a perfect life. Every believer will stumble on occasion. We are

people who are in the process of transformation. We must give each other time and we must cut each other some slack.

The second effect of Living in a manner worthy of the Gospel is that we We Will Draw Others to Christ. People of the world take notice of the emptiness that is in their own lives when they see the peace, joy, and contentment that exists in the child of God.

Jesus told his disciples,

“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. [Matthew 5:14-16]

When we live consistent with the gospel of Jesus Christ, our light shines and others can see . . . and will be drawn to the truth.

## CONCLUSIONS

So, having said all this, what do we do now?

**First**, we must take the time to reflect on the privilege and honor that is ours in being children of God. Many of us have grown up in the church. We take it for granted.. So, take some time to consider where you might be today if it weren't for His wonderful grace. Think about what your future would hold. Think about all the things you would have missed. Focus on the blessing that is yours to know Christ personally.

**Second**, do a personal inventory of your life. What practices are inconsistent with the gospel of Christ. What things dishonor his name? When you do, your fellowship with God will be richer and your joy will be greater.

**Third**, find some way to remind yourself of who you represent. Maybe it could be a Bible verse or plaque hung in strategic spots. Maybe it will be a pin you wear or a cross you carry in your pocket. Maybe you could put a Bible on your desk or carry a key chain with a Christian symbol on it.

Finally, make this a matter of prayer. Ask God to help you live out the gospel wherever you are. Ask Him to help you to reflect His goodness to others. Ask Him to change your attitude. Spend time thanking Him for His grace. As you build your relationship with Him . . . it will be easier to be consistent in your other activities

## BIRTHDAYS – MAY

1. Jasmine Gee, Sonia Patrick, Ruben Paul
2. Mayank Solomon Cak, B.D.Sahu
3. Ms.Priyadarshini Gaikwed, Ajinkya Bhaskar Shinde
5. Rafael Hogg, Nayan Kant Boro
7. Alicia Nishka Gupta E. C. Henry, Austin Chris Thangadurai
- 10 Christine Dhakey
13. Ernest Russell
15. Priyanka Thangadurai.
18. Patsy Chengapa, Dr. Mrs. Shoba Nelson
19. Abigail Ana Rao, Angel Christina Palmer
22. Sharon Thangaduari, Mayuri Nancy Cak
24. Angali Elias
25. Reem Gee
27. Meshach Thangaduari
29. M. R. Melville

*Wish you all a very Happy Birthday with God's Blessings*

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2. Vince & Asha Samuel
4. Leonard Peter & Anita Edbrooke, Rev Bruce & Priyanka Thangadurai
10. Vinay & Ankita Lal
- 12 .Sunil & Sonia Peter, Ramsay & Honorine Melville
15. Donald & Kim Peters, Rev. S. Abhishek & Mrs. S. A. Sudha
17. Sanjay & Harshlata Martin, Mayuri Nancy & Naveen Cak,  
Ernest Hubert & Nancy Rushton.
24. Mercy & Joshua Thangaduari
25. Albert & Beverly Rushton
26. Allan & Daisy Jones
28. Ernest James & Regina Kane

*We wish the Couple a Happy Long Married Life with God' Choicest Blessings*