

Savours Received

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Sarours Received

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SEENA THOMAS
SUNU GEORGE
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HANNA ANN







Monthly News Bullettin
St. Mary's Indian Orthodox Cathedral
Kingdom Of Bahrain
December-2011

Editorial Board

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ശാന്ത്വ്യുടേയും സമാധാനത്തിന്റേയും ദൂതുമായ് വീണ്ടും ഒരു ക്രിസ്മസ്സ് കാലം കൂടി വരവായി.

ജാതി്-മത വർഗ്ഗ വർണ്ണ ചിന്തകൾക്ക് അത്വ്തമായ്വ് മനുഷ്യ സമൂഹത്തിന്റെ തന്നെ ഐക്യവും, സ്നേഹവും സാഹോദര്യവും നിലനിന്നു കാണുവാനാശ്രഹിക്കുന്ന ഒൈവത്തിന്റെ മനസ്സാണ് സമസ്ത സൃഷ്ടി യേയും വ്വ്ണെടടുക്കുവാൻ ലോകത്ത്വ്ലേക്ക് താണിറങ്ങി മനുഷ്യത്വം സ്വീകരിച്ച ഒൈവപൂത്രൻ. മനുഷ്യ സമൂഹത്തെ വലയംചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടു്ളിക്കുന്ന വർഗ്ഗ വർണ്ണ ചിന്തകളുടെ ആധിപത്യത്തിൽ നിന്ന് വിടുതൽ ലഭിക്കുവാനും, സന്തോഷത്തിന്റേയും സമാധാനത്തിന്റെയും ഉറവ വറ്റ്ഷോകാതി്ക്കിക്കാനും രക്ഷകന്റെ ജനന പെരുന്നാളാഘോഷംമൂലം സംശതിയാ കട്ടെ എന്ന പ്രാർത്ഥനയോടെ ഏവർക്കും

എഡ്വ്റ്റോറ്വ്യൽ ബോർഡ്വ്നുവേണ്ട്വ്...

ക്രിസ്സ്മസ്സ് പുതുവൽസരാശംസകൾ...

സ്]ജു ജോൺ (ച്വ്പ് എഡ്]റ്റർ)









Dear brethren in Christ,

Once again a time of retrospection and thanksgiving is here with us as we come to the close of one more year in our life. The 2011 is passing with memories of an eventful year - memories of fear, memories of God's providence and care and also that of packages of celestial joy and proud

moments. The land also suffered a time of unrest and trouble for a short time, which by the grace of the Almighty could be made stable without much destruction and damage to the communities. The wise and benevolent rulers of the Kingdom braved the challenges and we are here for this Christmas only because of HIS Grace.

The month of December brings to us these thoughts:

December is the last month of the year. It begins with a lent known as Advent fasting to remind us to prepare our minds and lives to become the home for Jesus. Fasting is a life with Him. 'With Him' is He is with us: God with us is the experience of Immanuel.

It is the time to count the blessings from God and give thanks to Him. Jesus is the greatest blessing. It reminds us that He is the reason for thanksgiving. December is a time to give gift, because God sent His only begotten Son as a gift to the world to be the first Christmas gift. As He is with us, let us become precious gifts to others. Jesus became a homeless for the homeless. Let us now remember the poor and homeless.

The greatest wonder is that I am here to day. One does not know really whether one will be there tomorrow to give! The time to give therefore is now.

While giving, we must uphold the manner of giving as advised by our Lord. One has to ensure that the receiver does not feel humiliated, nor the giver feels proud by giving. Remember the words of the Lord:"...unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven." (St.Matt.5:20) and "... let not your left hand know what your right hand does." (St. Matt. 6:3) Charity without publicity and fanfare is the highest form of charity.

After all, what we give never really belonged to us. It was with us only for a temporary period. God expected us to handle it with an utmost trustworthy manner. How then, can one take pride in giving away something which really did not belong to him or her? Give then with grace and with a feeling of gratitude.

We may think that those who receive are subordinates. Let us own that feeling before God as we receive every blessing and favour from Him. But God make us feel blessed, happy and proud. Let us make others also feel the same when we share our benefits with them. May this season of Christmas and New Year be a time to renew and refresh our thoughts with a holier understanding and attitude towards our God and our brethren!

My family and me convey affectionate regards and good wishes of this Holy season and pray God Almighty to grant the peace of the God Incarnate to all our members and families in the coming year.

Glorified be HIS name for evermore.

jacobkoshyachen.









പ്രിയ സ്നേഹിതരേ,

നിങ്ങൾ തെരഞ്ഞെടുത്ത ഭരണസമിതി അതിന്റെ കാലാവധി പൂർത്തിയാക്കാൻ ദിവസങ്ങൾ മാത്രം ബാക്കി അതിരറ്റ നിൽക്കേ ദൈവത്തിന്റെ സ്നേഹിതരായ കൃപയാലും കരുണയാലും, ഓരോരുത്തരുടേയും സഹകരണത്താലും, സമാധാനപരമായ അന്തരീക്ഷത്തിൽ നിങ്ങൾ ഭരമേൽപ്പിച്ച ജോലി കഴിവതും ഭംഗിയായി നിർവ്വഹിക്കുവാൻ സാധിച്ചു എന്ന് വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. ഐക്യത്തിലും, സ്നേഹത്തിലും, പ്രാർത്മനയിലും ഊന്നിയുള്ള ഒരു പ്രവർത്തനം കാഴചവെയ്ക്കുവാൻ പുതിയതായി തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുവാൻ പോകുന്ന കമ്മറ്റിക്ക് കഴിയട്ടെ എന്ന് ആശംസിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. നമ്മുടെ ഇടവകയെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം വരും കാലങ്ങളിൽ ഭാരിച്ച ഉത്തരവാദിത്വങ്ങൾ ഏറ്റെടുത്തു നടത്തേ അവസരങ്ങളാണ് വരാൻ പോകുന്നത്. ഏവരുടേയും ആത്മാർത്ഥമായ പ്രാർത്ഥന മുഖ്യമായും ആവശ്യമായ സന്ദർഭങ്ങളാണ് കടന്നുവരാൻ പോകുന്നത്. പള്ളിയുടെ expansion മായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട് ശ്രീ എബ്രഹാം സാമുവൽ ജനറൽ കൺവീനറായുള്ള ഒരു കമ്മറ്റി ഇടവക പൊതുയോഗം തെരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുകയു**ണ്ട**ായി കമ്മറ്റിക്ക് എല്ലാവിധമായ ആശംസകളും നേരുന്നു.

കഴിഞ്ഞ മാസം നമ്മുടെ സെന്റ്. പോൾസ് സുവിശേഷസംഘത്തിന്റെ ഒരു വർഷം നീ**ണ്ട**ുനിന്ന ജൂബിലി ആഘോഷങ്ങളുടെ സമാപനം ഇന്ത്യൻ ക്ലബ്ബിൽ വെച്ച് വിവിധ പരിപാടികളോടെ വളരെ ഭംഗിയായി നടത്തപ്പെട്ടു ഇതിന്റെ വിജയിത്തിനായി പ്രവർത്തിച്ച എല്ലാ ഭാരവാഹികളോടുമുള്ള ഇടവകയുടെ നന്ദിയും സ്നേഹവും അറിയിക്കുന്നു. നമ്മുടെ കത്തീഡ്രലിൽ വെച്ച് കെ.സി.ഇ.സി. യുടെ ആഭിമുഖ്യത്തിൽ നടത്തിയ ക്വിസ് മത്സരത്തിൽ വിവിധ സഭകളിൽ നിന്നും പങ്കെടുത്ത വിജയികളായ ടിം അംഗങ്ങളെ അനുമോദിക്കുന്നു.

യിസംബർ 20, 21 തീയതികളിൽ സഭയുടെ കാവൽ ചിതാവായ വി. മാത്തോമ്മാശ്ലീഹായുടെ ഓർമ്മ ഇടവക കേതി പുരസ്സരം കൊ**ണ്ടാ**ടുന്നു. 20-ാം തീയതി വൈകീട്ട് സന്ധ്യാ നമസ്കാരം തുടർന്ന് അനുസ്മരണ പ്രഭാഷ ണവും റാസയും, 21-ാം തീയതി വി. കുർബ്ബാന, മദ്ധ്യസ്മ പ്രാർത്മന, നേർച്ച എന്നിവയും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കും. ആദ്യകാലം മുതലേ നമ്മുടെ ഇടവകയുടെ ചരിത്രത്തിൽ വളരെയധികം പ്രാധാന്യം സെന്റ് തോമസിന് കൊടുത്തിരുന്നു. അതിന്റെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തെ ഒട്ടും തന്നെ ചോർന്നു പോകാതെതന്നെ വി. തോമാശ്ലീഹായെ സ്മരിക്കുകയും, പെരുന്നാൾ കൊ **ണട**ാടുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നത് ആത്മീയമക്കളായ നാം ഓരോരുത്തരുടേയും കർത്തവ്യമാണ് എന്നു മനസിലാക്കി എല്ലാ ഇടവകാംഗങ്ങളും ഈ പെരുന്നാളിൽ സംബന്ധിക്കണമെന്ന് നിങ്ങളോട് സ്നേഹത്തോടെ ഓർമ്മിഷിക്കട്ടെ.

ഡിസംബർ മാസം 30-ാം തീയതി നടത്തപ്പെടുന്ന കത്തീഡ്രൽ ഡേ ഏറ്റം വിജയപ്രദമാക്കുവാൻ എല്ലാ ആത്മീയ സംഘടനകളോടും ആഹ്വാനം ചെയ്തു കൊണ്ട[°]

സ്നേഹപൂർവ്വം എബ്രഹാം ജോർജ്ജ് (കത്തീഡ്രൽ സെക്രട്ടറി)



Tribute to His Grace Job Mar Philoxenos

Metropolitan- Delhi Diocese (8th May 1939- 20th Nov 2011)

His Grace was the second Bishop of the Delhi Diocese ever since it was formed in 1975. In 1993, because of kidney failure, he had to undergo kidney transplantation. Despite his inclement health, on account of the operation, he performed his duties as Bishop of Delhi in an efficient and able manner. Blessed with a melodious voice, his renditions of Orthodox worship songs recorded in CDs and cassettes have been popularly received.

Born in an illustrious family, Thirumeni was the grand nephew of late H.H. Baselios Mar Geevarghese II, the Catholicos of the Malankara Orthodox church. His Grace got his primary education at St. John's School, Mepral (Kerala), and PMV School, Peringara. At the age of 16, he joined as a novice in "Mount Tabor Dayara" founded by His Grace Thoma Mar Divanasios at Pathanapuram. He was ordained as a Deacon on May 26, 1956 by his grand uncle, H.H. Baselios Mar Geevarghese II himself.



In 1962 he was ordained as a full deacon at Parumala and on May 11, 1972 as a priest. He continued with his studies and acquired Masters degree in English Literature from St. Joseph's College Trichy. In 1969, he was appointed as a lecturer at St. Stephen's college, Pathanapuram, administered by the Dayara. He steadily rose up in ranks to head the Department of English and later became the Vice-Principal of the College.

This celebate priest was appointed as Vicar of St. John's Orthodox Church, Mepral (Kerala) from 1974 onwards. On week days, he taught in College. Every Saturday he made it a habit to visit Mepral and conduct the Holy Qurbana at his home parish. He stayed in a room specially constructed for him at Padinjarae Veetil. He took an active

interest in the welfare of his congregation.

In 1989, the Malankara Association elected him as a Bishop of the Church. He was then installed as a Ramban on March 31, 1990 at St. Peters & St. Pauls Orthodox Church, Parumala. Consequently, he was ordained a Bishop of the Malankara Orthodox Church (also known as Indian Orthodox Church) on April 30, 1991 at Parumala Church. Delhi Diocese was his first assignment where he was appointed as Assistant Metropolitan. He took full charge of the Diocese after his predecessor Late His Grace Dr Paulos Mar Gregorios attained heavenly abode on November 24, 1996.

He was elevated as Metropolitan on August 27, 2002 at Devalokam, Kottayam (Kerala) by Catholicos His Holiness Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Mathews II. His Sundhroneeso (Enthronment) as metropolitan of Delhi Diocese was held on December 29, 2002 at St Mary's Orthodox Cathedral, Hauz Khas at Delhi.

His tenure as Metropolitan of Delhi Diocese witnessed a meteoric rise in the growth of the Church in Northern India. The Church established many schools and hospitals during this time and five churches were opened

in the National Capital and its vicinity.

His most significant contribution was to make the memory of his predecessor H.G Paulos Mar Gregorios immortal by organizing the Paulos Mar Gregorios Memorial Award. The recipients of the award have been eminent national and international personalities including His Holiness Dalai Lama, social activist Baba Amte, Father of White revolution V Kurien, Arya Vaidya Shala Kottakal founder PK Warrier, and statesman Karan Singh.

Thirumeni gave lead and mentorship to the Shantigram Social Service Project in District Mandavar, Haryana where the Church has established a school and medical clinic. Recently, under his guidance a self-help group for the womenfolk of Mandavar village was inaugurated by Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit at a grand function

organized at Thyagraja Stadium early this year.

Giving wings to the dream of Late H.G. Paulos Mar Gregorios, he started construction of a Retreat Centre at Aravalli Hills in District Sohna, Haryana, which now is popularly known as Shanti Giri Ashram. The first medical mission of the Orthodox Church in the heart of the Capital was established at Aaya Nagar on April 2, 2001 under Thirumeni's leadership.

Thirumeni was a revolutionary in many aspects and this was evident from several decisions he took during his tenure. His vision to cater to the needs of the outside Kerala youngsters and families led him to give shape to the Indian Orthodox Diaspora Movement, which later emerged as a full-fledged spiritual organization, besides the Sunday School, MGOCSM, Martha Mariam Samajam, AMOSS and Orthodox Christian Youth Movement.

History was again created when Thirumeni brought women in the Church to the forefront giving approval for inducting young women of the Church into the Youth League. To encourage their participation in Sunday worship,

Thirumeni issued an order allowing girls to read the Old Testament reading before the start of Qurbana.

Thirumeni was ahead of his times in every sense. He was instrumental in opening the Internet as a means to connect to millions of Orthodox believers across the world in an attempt to clear their doubts on issues of faith, Under his cheerful spirit and joyful face he always hid the pain and sorrow of his illness. Even in testing times, he conveyed his views on raging social and moral issues such as homosexuality, attack on Christians and need for world peace. As a strenuous worker of peace and unity among all religions, all Christian denominations and other religions condole the loss of a great soul. Together with them, each member of the Indian Orthodox Church join in this solemn moment.

An excerpt from Press release-Delhi Diocese Posted in the orthodoxherald.com 20.11.2011



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AREA PRAYER MEETINGS	AREA	PRA'	YER I	MEET	INGS
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Date	Time	Area	Address/ Venue
02.12.2011	4:30 P.M.	Riffa/ Sitra	Mr. George T Ipe
			Villa No: 541, Road: 3114
			Al Hajjyat- Riffa- 931
			Mob: 39452908, 17491819
02.12.2011	6:00 P.M.	Church (South)	Mr. A. V. George (Prakash)
			Flat No: 14, Bldg No: 220,
			Road No: 1111,Mob: 39442169
02.12.2011	6:30 P.M.	Church (North)	Mr. Varghese Mathew Vaidyan (Leji)
			Flat No: 12, Bldg No: 485,
			Road No: 1118, Block: 311,
			Mob: 39198389, 17242348
09.12.2011	7:30 P.M.	American Mission	Mr. Babu John
			Flat No:23 , Bldg No: 1470,
			Road No: 623, Block: 306,
			Mob: 33701801

ചരമാ

Riffa / Sitra Area - യിൽ താമസിക്കുന്ന Mr.Ivan Thomas ന്റെ സഹോദരി ഡോ. അനിത 51 വയസ്സ്. കർത്താവിൽ നിദ്രചാപിച്ചു. ശവസംസ്കാരം New York Albany Orthodox Churchൽ വച്ച് നടത്തപ്പെട്ടു.

Muharraq Area - ൽ താമസിക്കുന്ന Mr.Saji George ന്റെ മാതാവ് ചിന്നമ്മ ജോർജ്ജ് 80 വയസ്സ് കർത്താവിൽ നിദ്രപാപിച്ചു. ശവസംസ്കാരം കൊട്ടാരക്കര നെല്ലിക്കുന്ന് സെന്റ് ജോർജ്ജ് ചർച്ചിൽ വച്ച് നടത്തപ്പെട്ടു.

Riffa/Sitra Area - ൽ താമസിക്കുന്ന ശ്രീ. എം.വി. മാത്യുവിന്റെ ഭാര്യാമാതാവ് പൊടിയമ്മ 65 വയസ്സ് കർത്താവിൽ നിദ്രപാപിച്ചു. ശവസംസ്കാരം വാഴമുട്ടം മാർ ബർസൗമ്മാ ചർച്ചിൽ വച്ച് നടത്തപ്പെട്ടു.

Gudaibiya Areaയിൽ താമസിക്കുന്ന ശ്രീ. ജോൺ വർഗീസിന്റെ ഭാര്യാമാതാവ്. മാവേലിക്കര കാഞ്ഞിരംപറമ്പത്ത് അമ്മിണി തോമസ്സ് 75 വയസ്സ് കർത്താവിൽ നിദ്ര പ്രാപിച്ചു. ശവസംസ്കാരം മാവേലിക്കര പുതിയകാവ് ക്രൈസ്റ്റ് ചർച്ചിൽ വെച്ച് നടത്തപ്പെട്ടു.

ദു:ഖിതരായ കുടുംബാംഗങ്ങളോട് ഇടവകയുടെ അനുശോചനം അറിയിക്കുന്നു.



ACROSS

03 City where Jesus was born

- 06 A Gift brought to jesus
- 08 A Gift brought to jesus
- 09 Mary's husband
- 10 Jesus' mother
- 11 There was no room for Mary & Joseph at the _____
- 12 They visited Baby Jesus

DOWN Dear Sunday School Students,

- 01 Caesar _____ issued a decree that censes should be taken
- 02 They followed the star
- 04 King who wanted to kill Jesus
- 05 Jesus was born in a _____
- 07 City where Jesus grew up
- 08 Peace on Earth and _____ towards men
- 10 A Gift brought to jesus
- 13 Guiding light of the Magis

Kindly send in your crossword answers to marian@stmarybahrain.com
Names of those with the correct answers will be published in the Jan 2012 Marian issue.

Kindly Note: This is the last of the Crossword Series in the Marian Kids Column So please be sure that all you kids answer the same promptly.

> Thanks, Dipin Mathew (Editor)

Answers to Crossword (NOV)

ACROSS	DOWN
06 SARAI	01 SODOM
07 ABRAM	02 GOMORRAH
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	03 JACOB
08 REBEKAH	04 SARAH
12 ISHMAEL	05 HAGAR
15 CANAAN	09 ABIMELECH
16 KETURAH	10 ISAAC
	11 NATION
	13 EASH

14 LOT

<u>Correct Answers to Crossword (Nov)</u> mailed by

TANIA SUSAN SHAJI
SAYANEL P SUNNY
SNEHA P SUNNY
BINITA MARIAM GEORGE
RIYA SUSAN JACOB
PRIYA ANN JACOB
CHRIS ALEX LAJI
KEVIN ALEX LAJI
EBEL PHILIP



MARIAN DESK



'THE STORY OF SILENT NIGHT'

Father Joseph Mohr sat at the old organ. His fingers stretched over the keys, forming the notes of a chord. He took a deep breath and pressed down. Nothing. He lifted his fingers and tried again. Silence echoed through the church.

Father Joseph shook his head. It was no use. The pipes were rusted, the bellows mildewed. The organ had been wheezing and growing quieter for months, and Father Joseph had been hoping it would hold together until the organ builder arrived to repair it in the spring. But now, on December 23, 1818, the organ had finally given out. St. Nicholas Church would have no music for Christmas.

Father Joseph sighed. Maybe a brisk walk would make him feel better. He pulled on his overcoat and stepped out into the night. His white breath puffed out before him. Moonlight sparkled off the snowcrusted trees and houses in the village of Oberndorf. Father Joseph crunched through the snowy streets to the edge of the little Austrian town and climbed the path leading up the mountain.

From high above Oberndorf, Father Joseph watched the Salzach River ripple past St. Nicholas Church. In the spring, when melting snow flowed down the mountains and the river swelled in its banks, water lapped at the foundation of the church. It was moisture from the flooding river that had caused the organ to mildew and rust.

Father Joseph looked out over the Austrian Alps. Stars shone above in the still and silent night. Silent night? Father Joseph stopped. Of course! "Silent Night!" He had written a poem a few years before, when he had first become a priest, and he had given it that very title. "Silent Night."

Father Joseph scrambled down the mountain. Suddenly he knew how to bring music to the church. The next morning, Father Joseph set out on another walk. This time he carried his poem. And this time he knew exactly where he was going -- to see his friend Franz Gruber, the organist for St. Nicholas, who lived in the next village.

Franz Gruber was surprised to see the priest so far from home on Christmas Eve, and even more surprised when Father Joseph handed him the poem.

That night Father Joseph and Franz Gruber stood at the altar of St. Nicholas Church. Father Joseph held his guitar. He could see members of the congregation giving each other puzzled looks. They had never heard a guitar played in church before, and certainly not during midnight mass on Christmas Eve, the holiest night of the year.

Father Joseph picked out a few notes on the guitar, and he and Franz Gruber began to sing. Their two voices rang out, joined by the church choir on the chorus. Franz Gruber's melody matched the simplicity and honesty of Father Joseph's words.

When the last notes faded into the night, the congregation remained still for a moment, then began to clap their hands. Applause filled the church. The villagers of Oberndorf loved the song! Father Joseph's plan to bring music to St. Nicholas Church had worked.

A few months later, the organ builder arrived in Oberndorf and found the words and music to "Silent Night" lying on the organ. The song enchanted him, and when he left, he took a copy of it with him. The organ builder gave the song to two families of traveling singers who lived near his home. The traveling singers performed "Silent Night" in concerts all over Europe, and soon the song spread

throughout the world. Today, cathedral choirs and carolers from New York to New Zealand sing the simple song that was

first played in a mountain church in Austria on Christmas Eve nearly 200 years ago.











Announcement

Martyrdom of St. Thomas

20th Tuesday 7:00 PM Evening Prayer Followed by Rassa

21st Wednesday 6:15 PM Evening Prayer

7:00 PM Holy Qurbana, Special Prayer &

Nercha

Chistmas Service

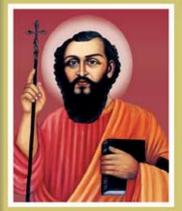
24th Saturday 5:30 PM Evening prayer

6:30 PM-9:00 PM Holy Qurbana followed

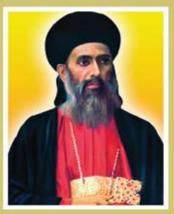
by special service of Nativity.



Savours Received



JOJI JACOB JIYA SARAH JITHIN JACOB JEFFIN JACOB



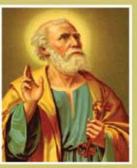
K JOHN VARGHESE & FAMILY



JOHNSON VALAYIL GIJA, DONNA MARIA & DUNE MARY



MICHELLE RENNI

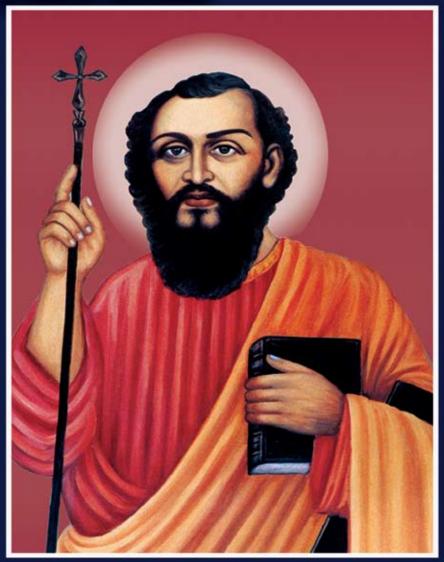


SAJI T SAMUEL & FAMILY



BINU M EAPEN & SHEENA BINU KEN EAPEN BINU KEVIN THOMAS BINU KRIPA S BINU

Favours Received



ST.THOMAS-PRAY FOR US

P.V. Paul & Family Sajan Paul & Family Sanjoy Paul & Family Bloo, Sajitha & Children