



Lighthouse

NOVEMBER 2019

A monthly reflection of Horeb Mar Thoma Church, Los Angeles
12741 Main Street, Garden Grove, CA 92840



Dear Horeb Family,

As we enter into the month of November, let me first offer praise and glory to the good Lord at this juncture of completing six months of ministry with the Horeb family.

Every year, November ushers in a time of looking back together with gratitude. Surely God's grace and mercies have been with us, renewing and strengthening us to keep moving forward and reach significant milestones in our journey.

Last month, we were able to celebrate our 7th Parish Day and truly blessed by Theodosius Thirumeni's presence with us. Thirumeni's words paved a way to greater understand how we as a church can work more for the Kingdom of God. This year's Parish Day would culminate in giving us a great reminder of how God is the Light that guides us amidst distress and darkness, as well as empowers us to be a light and blessing for others.

We begin November with All-Saints Day (Nov. 1), when we remember and thank God for those whose lives were a light for the world, whose dedicated faith and vision advanced God's mission to the world. And that mission is that all may be sanctified and reconciled to God, that all may be one, unified in the divine nature (John 17:20-23). This spirit of reconciliation and unity is what we'll commemorate with our brothers and sisters of St. Peter's CSI Church on CCI Unity Sunday, which will be observed on the first Sunday of the month.

When we reflect on who God has been and is in our lives, what God has done for us, how God has led us, and moreover, why God has done so, it should lead to a sense of God's expectation for us, of the *(Continued on Page 2...)*



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 3rd

Unity Sunday - GGUMC

Sunday, November 10th

World Sunday School Day - GGUMC

Sunday, November 24th

Diaspora Sunday & Thanksgiving Dinner - GGUMC

(Arun Achen's article continued...)

hope we have in God, and of total dedication to the will of God. As we observe World Sunday School Day on the second Sunday of the month, let us remember that to be as little children, to be the children of God – that is God's expectation of us, of the generations. And our children embody the hope of tomorrow. So, let's earnestly pray for and support the great ministry of Sunday School, for our teachers and students who will give leadership on that Sunday, and for all the children growing up in this world.

As we look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving together on Diaspora Sunday, let's not only look back and

thank God for the blessings, for all God's given in our lives; but let's also look around, look ahead, and ask all the more what we can offer in return and how we can reflect the love and grace of God we've experienced and be a blessing for others.

Requesting everyone's wholehearted prayers and participation for the General Body and Annual Elections on Sunday, November 17th and in this year's First Fruits Collection. Thanking God for all of you.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Arun Samuel Varghese



THANKSGIVING ALL YEAR

By Joana Thomas

It's the time of year where we look at the past year and thank God for all that he has done in our lives. We thank him for our education, our jobs, food, our homes and much more. But shouldn't we have this spirit all year long?

For example, in Luke, when Jesus heals the ten lepers after they cry out to him, one comes back immediately to thank him. "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?" he remarks. It couldn't have been because they immediately forgot about Jesus. It's hard to forget someone who has made your deepest desire come true, for them to be healed and part of society once again. But sometimes we're like this: quick to cry out to God for help, but not as quick to come back and praise him. Maybe it's because we forget or maybe it's because we credit our own wit. But for whatever reason, God blesses us with infinite grace and we don't give him praise until we see fit.

Furthermore, giving thanks to God is what his will is for us. In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, one of the most popular verses in the Bible, Paul says, "*rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*" Sometimes we take giving thanks as a good addition to our prayer lives, but not as important as confession or supplication, but it is God's will for us and he wants us to give thanks.



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Annual Convention

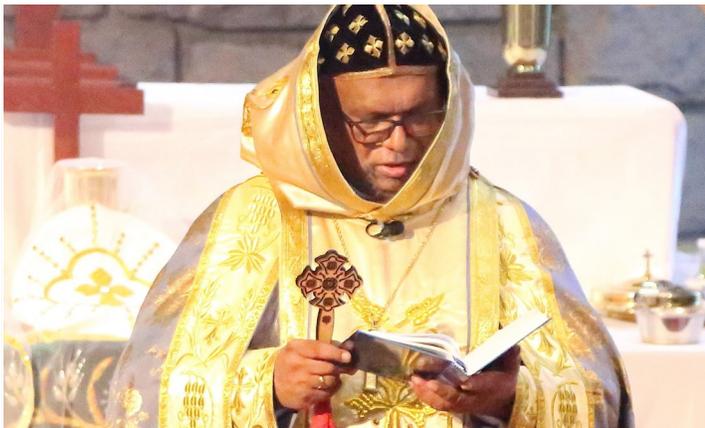
"Generating Faith to Regenerate Generations"

Speaker:
Dr. Thomas George



Parish Day & Thirumeni Visit

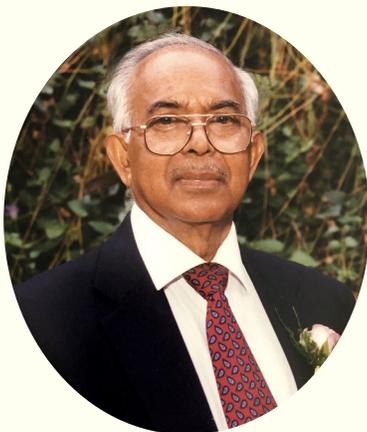
Horeb celebrated its 7th year as a parish with service led by Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sat Nov 2	6:00pm - 8:00pm	South Area Prayer - Seena & Binoy Abraham, Ladera Ranch
Sun Nov 3	2:30pm - 3:00pm	Praise & Worship - GGUMC
Sun Nov 3	3:00pm - 5:00pm	Holy Communion Service (English) - GGUMC; Unity Sunday
Sat Nov 9	6:00pm - 8:00pm	West Area Prayer - Nintoo & Varghese Jacob, Harbor City
Sun Nov 10	2:30pm - 3:00pm	Praise & Worship - GGUMC
Sun Nov 10	3:00pm - 5:00pm	Holy Communion Service (English) - GGUMC; World Sunday School Day
Tue Nov 12	7:00pm - 9:00pm	Parish Mission Bible Study - Annamma Mathew & Mathew Koshy, Cerritos
Wed Nov 13	8:30pm - 9:30pm	Western Regional Tele-prayer Conference - 515-603-3108; 638599#
Sat Nov 16	6:00pm - 8:00pm	East Area Prayer - Susan Thomas & Dr. Thomas Mathew, Brea
Sun Nov 17	2:30pm - 3:00pm	Praise & Worship - GGUMC
Sun Nov 17	3:00pm - 5:00pm	Holy Communion Service (English) - GGUMC
Sun Nov 24	2:30pm - 3:00pm	Praise & Worship - GGUMC
Sun Nov 24	3:00pm - 5:00pm	Holy Communion Service (Malayalam) - GGUMC; Thanksgiving Dinner
Sun Nov 24	5:30pm - 6:00pm	Mary's Kitchen Outreach - GGUMC, Room 20
Tue Nov 26	7:00pm - 9:00pm	Parish Mission Bible Study - Ann & Isaac George, Buena Park

Harvest Dinner



In Loving Memory of... **Abraham Philipose**

Mr. Abraham Philipose, father of Saji Abraham and Philip Abraham, passed away peacefully on October 24th, 2019 in Houston, Texas. He was a long time member of the Los Angeles Mar Thoma Church before moving to Houston. He is survived by his two sons and daughter-in-laws and three grandchildren.

We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. May God give them the strength and divine peace that surpasses all understanding at this time.