



# LIGHTHOUSE

June 2020


Horeb Mar Thoma Church, Los Angeles

## 1 JOHN 3: 11-20

This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you. We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

*This is how we know what love is:  
Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.  
And we ought to lay down our lives  
for our brothers.*



1 John 3:16

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Due to COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines, all Worship Services, Sunday School classes, Prayer Meetings, etc. will be conducted online for the month of June.**

**Please find more information on Page 5.**



Dear Horeb Family,

Greetings in the most precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Hope this message finds all of you safe in His refuge, standing firm in faith, secure in hope, moving forward courageously, and doing well. When listening to Governor Gavin Newsom address the residents of California following Memorial Day, certain phrases stood out which have much significance in our life and witness in Christ, now more than ever:

- Be vigilant
- Be sober about the present realities
- Meaningful modifications
- Regard the vulnerable among us.

As COVID-19 restrictions continue to relax, may we not, along with it, become relaxed in our walk of faith, in our prayer life, in our devotion and love.

Church as the Body of Christ is a community redeemed by His blood, united by faith in Him, and empowered by His Spirit. As members of His Body, are we living each day in that understanding and striving towards the fullness of that experience? Are we yielding our lives to the power and leading of the Holy Spirit, who leads us to all righteousness and truth? Are we fostering the love of Christ, the spirit of unity and reconciliation with our fellow beings and with our environment, rather than the self-oriented, consumeristic living that has led to our present state? As the schools close out the academic year this month and our children and youths complete another year of education, let's pray that more than accumulating knowledge, they grow in wisdom to live more aware

of themselves and the world around them and to greater understand the meaning and purpose of their life in relation to God and the world. Our Ashlyn, Charissa, and Jaidon graduate from High School this year, and Shalomi is graduating from college. On behalf of our parish, I congratulate them and offer our best wishes and prayers to them in all their future endeavors. May it be for the blessing of our community and the world at large.

This month, we celebrate Father's Day on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. It's a time to highlight fatherhood and honor our fathers for the valuable life-lessons that they've imparted to us. Let us especially thank God for our spiritual father, The Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan, who enters into the 90<sup>th</sup> year of life on June 27<sup>th</sup>. Our Metropolitan Thirumeni's spiritual stewardship and dedicated service for the growth and development of the Mar Thoma Church has indeed been a blessing for us in the times past and most inspiring during these challenging times of the present. Let's continue to pray that Thirumeni be blessed with renewed strength and vision to guide our Church in God's great purpose in the times ahead.

As we look on ahead, let us move forward in the unity and wisdom that is ours in Christ...to seek His face together, to live by His Word, and join in His vision and mission for the world.

May the grace, mercies and blessings of the Good Lord be with us all.

Yours in Christ,

**Rev. Arun Samuel Varghese**

**Congratulations to this year's graduates,  
Ashlyn Chacko, Jaidon Thomas and Charissa Philip!**



**"2020 VISION"**

**By Ashlyn Chacko**

Is this how it's supposed to end? Thirteen years of school just to live out the best three months of it in quarantine. We learned at a young age that nothing is constant and change occurs all the time. Whether it's understanding that some friends last forever while others come and go, or whether it's building our morals and understanding right from wrong, we have all changed and are aware that change is inevitable. Right now, most seniors in high school are clueless about what our future upholds. All we want to hear is, "Everything is going to be alright". I would watch Disney Channel shows like Hannah Montana, Suite Life on Deck, or even High School Musical just anticipating for the day it'll get to be my turn. My chance to finally star in my own TV show filled with memories of my friends and I partying at Grad Night together, getting ready for prom together, and receiving our diploma together. For a class with 2020 vision, who could have ever seen that March 13th would have been our last day spent in high school. I would give anything to go back to that day and thank my teachers, hang out longer, and say my goodbyes. As a junior last year, I was lucky enough to have gone to prom and be a part of the graduation ceremony of 2019. My friends and I would always say, "Wow, this is going to be us next year". We don't know how good a moment is, until it's gone. Though it would be easy to sit in the corner and cry about COVID-19 ruining our year, I believe the class of 2020 should take this as an opportunity to learn. We need to remind ourselves that God will lead us to the right path, and our trust is in His hands. It may seem bad now, but He is the one who can tell us everything will be all alright. Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Until then, take the extra mile to remind your family you love them, to hug your friends a little tighter, and pray to God a little longer. Cherish every moment life gives you because you never know when it might end.



# THANK YOU TO ALL HOSPITAL STAFF

The Sunday School handmade several thank you cards and donated chocolates for the 300 employees working with COVID-19 patients at the Fountain Valley Regional Hospital.



# SONGS FROM HOREB'S VIRTUAL CHORUSES

Our Horeb Choir and Sunday School beautifully presented virtual chorus performances of the songs "Our God" and "Count Your Blessings." They can be viewed on our Horeb Mar Thoma Church Youtube Channel!



## JUNE CALENDAR

*All links to the Zoom worship services and teleconference info will be provided via email.*

TUE JUN 2	7:00pm - 8:30pm	Parish Prayer Fellowship/Bible Study - Zoom
THU JUN 4	8:30pm - 9:30pm	Western Regional Sevika Sangham Prayer - Teleconference info via email
SAT JUN 6	10:00am - 10:45am 6:30pm - 8:30pm	Sunday School Summer Session Begins - Zoom South Area Prayer - Zoom
SUN JUN 7	10:15am - 12:00pm 2:00pm - 3:00pm	Online Worship Service (English) - Zoom Sunday School General Body Meeting - Zoom
TUE JUN 9	7:00pm - 8:30pm	Parish Prayer Fellowship/Bible Study - Zoom
SAT JUN 13	10:00am - 10:45am 6:00pm - 8:00pm	Sunday School Summer Session - Zoom West Area Prayer - Zoom
SUN JUN 14	10:15am - 12:00pm	Online Worship Service (English) - Zoom
TUE JUN 16	7:00pm - 8:30pm	Parish Prayer Fellowship/Bible Study - Zoom
FRI JUN 19	7:00pm - 9:00pm	East Area Prayer - Zoom
SAT JUN 20	10:00am - 10:45am	Sunday School Summer Session - Zoom
SUN JUN 21	10:15am - 12:00pm	Online Worship Service (English) - Zoom
TUE JUN 23	7:00pm - 8:30pm	Parish Prayer Fellowship/Bible Study - Zoom
FRI JUN 26	7:00pm - 9:00pm	Parish-Wide Prayer - Teleconference info via email
SAT JUN 27	10:00am - 10:45am	Sunday School Summer Session - Zoom
SUN JUN 28	10:15am - 12:00pm	Online Worship Service (English) - Zoom
TUE JUN 30	7:00pm - 8:30pm	Parish Prayer Fellowship/Bible Study - Zoom



Horeb wishes a Happy 90th Birthday to Most  
Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan.

*Please take a moment to make contributions to the church via Zelle; this includes Sunday offertory, birthday and wedding offertory, subscriptions, etc. Donations can quickly be made via your mobile bank app or through online banking. The church email for Zelle is [treasurer@horebmtc.org](mailto:treasurer@horebmtc.org) or checks can be sent to our Treasurer, Abey Mathews.*

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