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St. Peter's C.S.I. Congregation, Kuwait

Presbyter's Message

Dear brothers and sisters,

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

Christmas: A season of salvation, Luke 2:1-20

Christmas means different things to different people. To some it is family gatherings, good food and clothes. To others, it is to share love and exchange gifts. But the true meaning of Christmas is that it is a season of salvation.

The Saviour is born (1-7):

For all the OT Scriptures to be fulfilled, God chose a virgin and moved her to Bethlehem. All that Joseph could find was a lowly stable. Mary gave birth to her first-born son, where this child born in a lowly manger, was and is the Saviour of the world.

The Saviour is Christ the Lord (8-20). It is worth noting that the first announcement concerning the birth of the Saviour was not made to Herod the great, or the High priest or priests but to a group of shepherds.

The first words from God to man after a 400-year silence was, "Do not be afraid". That was a word they needed to hear for the dominant mood among men, then and now is fear. The fear was replaced by the joy of the good news (10,11).

At last, the long awaited Messiah and Saviour had come. So all of heaven broke loose as the angels sang (14). The birth of Christ was to the glory of God and for the salvation of man. That is the true meaning of Christmas!

Christmas was and is and will always be until Christ returns, a season of salvation.

"Heavenly hosts sing halleluia - Christ the Saviour is born"

"WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS"

*Jacob Achen
19-11-2008*

REGULAR PROGRAMMES:

Ladies' Fellowship: Friday, December 19th, 08:45 am at Diwaniya

Choir Practice: Every Wednesday 07:30 pm, at UIS, Abbasiya

Youth Fellowship: 1st & 3rd Friday – 03:30 pm

Sunday School: Every Friday 05:30 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

House To House Carols: **Salmiya:** December 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th
Abbasiya: December 10th, 11th, 14th and 15th
Other Areas: December 12th and 16th

Sunday School Christmas Program: Sunday School Christmas Program will be held on 26th December from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

Christmas Carol Service: Christmas carol service will be held on 20th December (Saturday) at 6:30 p.m. in the Church and Parish Hall.

HARVEST FESTIVAL:

God willing, this financial year's Harvest Festival will be conducted on 9th December 2008 from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm at the NECK premises.

A music competition of participating groups from all the KECF member churches is arranged. Winners will be awarded with 1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes. Other attractions include different delicious homely food stalls, variety stalls and games. Please bring your friends and relatives to enjoy the warmth of our Congregation's fellowship.

Christian music group from our congregation – VOICE OF GRACE and other individual singers will be enlivening the day with their pulsating, melodious songs. Youth movements' skits etc. are being arranged.

There will be prize for the highest seller of raffle coupons and those who sell five books are also eligible for special prize. Over and above this, each completed raffle coupon book, based on its serial number, stands a chance for a mega prize.

The harvest festival committee requests your wholehearted co-operation and prayerful participation for the success of this event. Your generous contributions and any positive suggestions are welcome. For further details, please contact the harvest festival General Convener **Mr. Varghese Koshy** at Res: 25635963 & Mobile: 99510774.

Joint Convenors of Harvest Festival:

Mr. Mammen Philipose – 25629243, 66432968
Mr. Mathew George – 25639405, 99180064
Mr. Bobben Mani – 24890875, 99263509
Mr. Benzon John – 25657137, 67066435

Event Managers:

Mr. Thomas T. Thomas – 25318232, 99513617
Mr. Zachariah Mathew (Santhosh Manganam) – 24753701, 66852487

St. Paul's C.S.I. Congregation, Ahmadi:

Harvest Festival - Harvest Festival' 2008/ 09: will be held at India International School, Mangaf on 5th Dec'08 (Friday). The thanksgiving Worship Service is scheduled at 7.30 am followed by Harvest Festival celebration.

Carol Service – This year's carol service is being conducted on 17th December 2008 at 8.00PM at the St. Paul's Church, Ahmadi.

CONDOLENCE:

We deeply mourn the demise of **Mr. C.V. Josey**, Father of Mr. Kochumon Josey. *May his soul rest in peace. Please uphold the bereaved family members in your prayers.*

BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER 2008

The Following members of our Congregation are celebrating their birthdays during this month. I request all of you to come forward for special prayers and blessing during the weekly worship service.

May God keep you in His loving care, for you to reflect His love in all you do.

Date	Name	
1 st	Mr Babu Mathew	
2 nd	Mr.Abraham Eapen	
	Mrs Suma M.Kuruville	W/o Mr.Monaji.M.Kuruville
3 rd	Mrs Jeena Merrin G	W/o Mr Jacob Samuel
	Saneej Mathews	S/o Mr K.M Mathew
4 th	Anurag James Jacob	S/o Mr . Santhosh Jacob
5 th	Mr. Anish Jacob George	
	Mrs. Mariam George P.	W/o Mr. George Podippara
	Ron Ninan Jacob	S/o Mr. W.N.Jacob
	Mrs. Mary Joseph	W/o Mr .Joseph John
	Mrs. Lovely Zachariah	W/o Mr Zachariah Mathew
	Royce Ninan Philip	S/o Mr. Philip M.Ninan
8 th	Mr. V.C. Kurien	
	Ms Giby A Varghese	D/o Mr.Vargheses Koshy
	Ms Sara Varghese	D/o Mr Mammen Varghese
9 th	Mr. K. I.Thomas	
	Mr Suresh Thomas	
10 th	Mrs Priya Thomas	W/o Mr Bijosh Thomas
11 th	Mrs Cecily Koshy	W/o Mr K.P.Koshy
	Mrs Vinsu Jerin	W/o Mr Jerin Jesu Varghese
	Mahiba Paul Samuel	D/o Mr Paul C Samuel
	Mr.Moby K. Mathew	
12 th	Olive Abraham	S/o Mr Chanady Abraham
	Anil Kuruvilla Varghese	S/o Mr George P. Varghese
	Mr. Cejo Johnson	
13 th	Jibin Issac Varghese	S/o Mr Issac Varghese
	Mrs. Annamma Thomas	W/o Mr.K.E.Thomas
	Ms.Rubina R.Chandy	D/o Mr Reji Chandy Koshy
	Mrs Vimi Mathew	W/o Mr Moby.K Mathew
	Mr.Samson Jackmol	

Date	Name	
14 th	Mrs Annie Mathew	W/o Mr K.M.Mathew
	Ms.Jinu Jacob	D/o Saramma Jacob
15 th	Mrs Annamma Thomas	W/o Mr.Thomas Philip
	Mr.A.A. George	
17 th	Mrs Susan Edward	W/o Mr A Edward
	Neville Nagesh	S/o Mr.T.N Nagesh
19 th	Mr.Abraham Timi T	
20 th	Mrs Priya Jacob	W/o Mr Jacob Mathew
21 st	Mr.Paul Varghese	
	Joel Kurien Vinod	S/o Mr Vinod Kurien
22 nd	Ms Bincy Koruthu	D/o Mr.Koruthu Varghese
	Shreya Lizy Thomas	D/o Mr. Thomas Stephen
23 rd	Theo John Mathew	S/o Mr.Mathew P. John
	Mrs. Annie Anil Mathew	W/o. Mr. Anil Mathew
24 th	Ms Nita Mariam Abraham	D/o Mr.Abraham Mathew
	Eden Koshy	D/o Mr Eugene. O. Koshy
25 th	Mr. George Mathew	
	Mrs Betsy Annie Jacob	W/o Mr Jacob Kurien
26 th	Mr Ajit Mathews	
	Mr.Samuel Mathew	
27 th	Mr. Jacob Mathew	
	Mr Mathew George	
28 th	Ms Alina Mathew	D/o Mr Mathew Thomas
	Ms Anju Sam	D/o Mr Sam T. Kuruville
29 th	Mr. Justin T. Varghese	
	Naethan Jacob Thomas	S/o Mr AbrahamTimi Thomas
31 st	Mr. C.V. Ipe	
	Mekha Johnson	D/o. Mr. Johnson Varghese
	Mrs Alice Prakash	W/o Mr Prakash Thomas

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER 2008

Date	Name
3 rd	Mrs & Mr. Biji Jacob Cherian
4 th	Mrs & Mr.Soman John T
5 th	Mrs & Mr.K.M.Mathew
12 th	Mrs & Mr.Samuel V Mathai
16 th	Mrs & Mr.Yohannan Abraham
17 th	Mrs & Mr.Selin Nelson
18 th	Mrs & Mr.Jiboy Chadapilla
20 th	Mrs & Mr. Santhosh Mathew
22 nd	Mrs & Mr.Aji John Mathew
23 rd	Mrs & Mr.Joseph Abraham
26 th	Mrs & Mr.Eugene Oommen Koshy
27 th	Mrs & Mr.Jacob Peter
	Mrs & Mr.Kurien T Mathew
	Mrs & Mr.Paul C Samuel
	Mrs & Mr. Philip M.Philip
28 th	Mrs & Mr.Sam T Kuruville
30 th	Mrs & Mr.Korah G Mathew

May your day be filled with happy memories of the past and bright hopes for the future.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	Time		Venue	Theme	
6 Sat	7:15 pm	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>Church & Ph.</i>	Word of God: the bread of life	2 nd Week in Advent
12 Fri	8:45 am	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>Diwaniya</i>	Word of God: the bread of life	3 rd Week in Advent
13 Sat	7:15 pm	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>Church & Ph.</i>	Hope of Salvation	3 rd Week in Advent
20 Sat	6:30 pm	Christmas Carol	<i>Church & Ph.</i>	Peace on Earth	4 th Week in Advent
25 Thu	6:30 pm	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>Church & Ph.</i>	God with us	Christmas
26 Fri	8.45 am	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>Diwaniya</i>	Stephen the Martyr	
27 Sat	7.15 pm	<i>Worship Service (English)</i>	<i>Church & Ph.</i>	Family: As God's Gift	1 st Sunday after Christmas
31 Wed	10:30 pm	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>Church & Ph.</i>	Trust in the Lord	Watch night and Covenant service
1 Thu	6:30 pm	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>Church & Ph.</i>		New Year

LECTIONARY FOR DECEMBER 2008

Date	1 st Lesson	Psalms	2 nd Lesson	Gospel
6 Sat	Isaiah 55:1-13	Ps:119:105-112	Romans 15:1-6	John 6:35-51
12 Fri	Zechariah 1:1-6	Ps. 19	2Timothy 3:10-17	John 8:12-20
13 Sat	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Ps. 43	1Peter 3:8-16	Mark 13:24-27
20 Sat	Isaiah 9:2-7	Ps:89:1-4,19-29	1Timothy 3:1-6	Luke 2:1-14
25 Thurs	Isaiah 11:1-9	Ps. 85:8-13	Colossians 1:13-20	Matthew 1:18-25
26 Fri	2 Chron. 24:20-22	Ps. 31:1-5	Acts 7:51-60	Matthew 10:16-22
27 Sat	Joshua 24:14-22	Ps. 128	Galatians 6:1-10	Matthew 2:13-23
31 Wed	Exodus 33:12-23	Ps. 90	1 Thess. 5:23-24	Luke 12:22-34
	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Ps. 145	2 Corin. 2:14-17	Matthew 14:22-23



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