



MELBOURNE MAR THOMA CHURCH

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

Make pleasing sacrifices to God

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Vicar Message

"You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you."

Isaiah 26:3

Dear Beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

We are deeply grateful for the warm welcome we have received since arriving in Melbourne. From the airport to our vicarage, God's love has been evident every step of the way.

Jesus Leads the Way

As Melbourne's winter gently wraps around us, let's find solace in the quiet moments. With each breath, may our worries fade like the rain washing away the city's streets. May we hold dear the warmth of loved ones and the joy of community.

Let's not forget to "Do good and share with those in need, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God" (Hebrews 13:16). May June bring us clarity, connection, and inner peace, as we trust in God's promise.

Wishing you a serene and inspiring June, guided by Jesus' love and light.

Here's a gentle reminder: As June marks the end of the financial year in Australia, kindly ensure that our subscriptions and other payments are remitted on or before June 30. Your prompt payment helps our church manage its finances effectively. Thank you for your cooperation and generosity.

Justice and Compassion in Action

Our team of dedicated professionals and volunteers work tirelessly to provide essential services, empower individuals, and foster a sense of community. We can be part of a movement that is making a real difference in the lives of others. Together, we can create a more just, compassionate, and equitable society.

Joyful Visits and Connections

We've been blessed to visit 50 families so far, meeting many of our elderly members who are a treasure to our community. We're grateful for the opportunity to connect with them and share God's love. Our house visits will continue, and we are thankful for the Prayer Group Representatives who are arranging these visits. Let's come together in prayer and support for one another.

Joining hands for leadership

As we prepare to elect office bearers for the 2025-26 term, we express gratitude to our current officials and executive committee members for their dedicated service. Our General Body Meeting is scheduled on 15 June Sunday, immediately after the Holy Communion service. The representatives from Organisations and Area Prayers should be elected within your respective organisations and areas by July 31st. Kindly inform the Secretary details of the elected representatives after their election. Let's ensure a smooth transition and effective leadership for the upcoming term.

Let us pray that the newly elected leaders affirm their faith in God, uphold the values of our church, and serve as a model to our faithful community. May they lead with wisdom, integrity,

and compassion, guided by God's love and grace. May God's blessings be upon our church and its leadership.

New Members - Joining our MMTC Family

We welcome Suku George, Jincy Rachel Mathew and their son Jaiden Suku George. May God bless this family as they join our community. Kindly uphold them in our prayers.

Prayer

Dear Loving Father,

As we step into June, we trust in your promise to keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast on you. Help us fix our thoughts on your love and faithfulness. May God's peace surround us, guiding us through life's joys and challenges.

Grant us clarity, connection, and inner calm as we journey together. May our trust in God deepen, and may we reflect his love to those around us.

With Love and Prayers,

Philipachen.

Vicar

Melbourne Mar Thoma Church

vicarmmtc@gmail.com | vicar@melbournemarthomachurch.org.au | 0401311688

Lectionary

Our church lectionary guides us through meaningful themes this June.
Through these meditations, may we deepen our faith and live as a model community,
proclaiming God's love and grace.

Apostles' Lent is being celebrated from June 16 to 29

Let us together make this a period of reflection, dedication, and passion continuing to be
inspired by the apostles' lives.

01 Jun	ദിവ്യസംഗീത ഞായർ: ജീവിതത്തെ ഉണർത്തുന്ന ദൈവിക സംഗീതം (ഉയിർപ്പിനു ശേഷം അഞ്ചാം ഞായർ); Sacred Music Sunday: Divine music that rejuvenates life (Fifth Sunday after Easter)	Lessons Judg 5:1-12 Rev 15:1-8 Epistle Eph 5:9-20 Gospel Luke 1:46-55 Evening Ps 98:1-9 Readings 1 Cor 14:15-19
08 Jun	പരിശുദ്ധാത്മാവേ, ഞങ്ങളെ പുതുക്കുക: പെന്തക്കൊസ്ത് പെരുന്മാൾ (ഉയിർപ്പിനു ശേഷം 50-ാം ദിവസം); പരിസ്ഥിതി ഞായർ; പട്കാരുടെ ചികിത്സാ സഹായനിധി സ്തോത്രകാഴ്ച; Holy Spirit, Renew us – Day of Pentecost (50th Day after Easter); Environment Sunday; Offertory for the Medical Aid Fund of clergy	Lessons Joel 2:28-32 Acts 2:1-21 Epistle Gal 5:16-26 Gospel John 16:7-13 Evening Joel 2:28-32 Readings John 16:1-11
15 Jun	ത്രിത്വ ഞായർ –ത്രിത്വം: സമൂഹത്തിനർ കൂടായ്മ (പെന്തക്കൊസ്തിനു ശേഷം 1-ാം ഞായർ); Trinity Sunday – Trinity: Fellowship of love (First Sunday after Pentecost)	Lessons Deut 6:1-12 2 Cor 13:1-14 Epistle Rom 8:26-30 Gospel John 10:22-30 Evening 1 Cor 12:1-11 Readings Gal 4:1-7
22 Jun	ലഹരി വിരുദ്ധ ദിനം – വിശുദ്ധിയിൽ സൂക്ഷിക്കേണ്ട ശരീരവും ജീവിതവും (പെന്തക്കൊസ്തിനു ശേഷം 2-ാം ഞായർ); De-Addiction Day: Body and life that need to be kept in purity (Second Sunday after Pentecost)	Lessons Prov 20:1-13 1 Thess 4:3-8 Epistle 1 Cor 6:9-11 Gospel Luke 6:39-45 Evening Prov 23:19-35 Readings 1 Thess 5:1-11
29 Jun	ശിഷ്യത്വം:ക്രിസ്തുവിനോടു കൂടെ കുരിശിന്റെ വഴിയിൽ; പത്രോസ്/ പൗലോസ് ശ്ലീഹന്മാരുടെ നാൾ; ശ്ലീഹാ നോമ്പ് വീടൽ (പെന്തക്കൊസ്തിനു ശേഷം 3-ാം ഞായർ); Discipleship: With Jesus, on the path of the cross; Day of Apostles St. Paul and St. Peter; Conclusion of Apostles' Lent (Third Sunday after Pentecost)	Lessons Josh 1:1-9 Gal 2:1-10 Epistle 2 Pet 3:14-18 Gospel Matt 20:25-28 Evening Num 21:4-9 Readings 1 Cor 1:18-31

June Services and Events

* Changes to the services and events schedule will be intimated closer to the date of each service/ event.

Please contact the Assistant Secretary if you wish to bring Altar Flowers

UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS	
01 JUN	MAL HOLY QURBANA 8:30AM, Choir Sunday Sunday School after service ENG HOLY QURBANA 3:00PM @ Blackburn Eastern Satellite Sunday School 2:00pm
08 JUN	ENG HOLY QURBANA 8:30am, Led by Youth Sunday School after service MAL HOLY QURBANA 4:00PM @ Bundoora Northern Satellite Sunday School 2:30pm
14 JUN	MAL HOLY QURBANA 9:30AM Ballarat Bendigo Mar Thoma Congregation
15 JUN	MAL HOLY QURBANA 9:00AM, Led by Seniors Sunday School 8:00AM ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING 11:00AM
21 JUN	ENG HOLY QURBANA 4:30PM PRAISE & WORSHIP, KARUNYA EDAVAKA MISSION YFF MEETING 6:00PM
22 JUN	MAL HOLY QURBANA 7:30AM ENG HOLY QURBANA 10:45am Led by Sunday School
29 JUN	ENG HOLY QURBANA 8:30am MAL HOLY QURBANA @3:00PM NORTH WEST SATELLITE SERVICE

Satellite Services



MELBOURNE MAR THOMA CHURCH

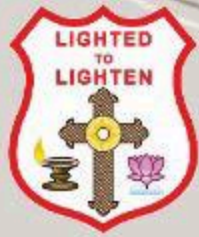
EASTERN SATELLITE SERVICE

SUNDAY JUNE 1ST , 2025

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 2.00 PM

**ENGLISH HOLY QURBANA SERVICE
AT 3.00 PM**

**THE AVENUE UNITING CHURCH
CNR THE AVENUE & BLACKBURN ROAD,
BLACKBURN**



*Melbourne Mar Thoma Church
Northern Satellite Service*

HOLY QURBANA SERVICE

SUNDAY, 8 JUNE 2025

Sunday School 2:30 pm

Service 4:00 pm

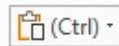
ST. PETER'S ANGLICAN
CHURCH, MONCKTON RD
BUNDOORA

Annual General Body

MMTC Voters list as of 29 April 2025 is as linked below. Please review and ensure your correct details are included in the Voters' list. **Please contact the Vicar if you have any queries about the Voters' List 2025.**

Please note that the Voters' List also shows the membership number of each family unit.

The Annual General Body meeting of Mar Thoma Syrian Church will be held on **Sunday, 15 June 2025, after the Holy Communion Service at 11:00 am.** The meeting will be recorded on Zoom.



Agenda:

1. Appointment of Recording Secretaries
2. Matters arising from the previous AGM & SGM
3. MMTC Cemetery Project Update
4. Election of Executive Committee Members for the next FY 2025 -2026.
5. Any Other Business

The following positions are open for election on the day.

- i. Vice President
- ii. Secretary
- iii. Asst. Secretary
- iv. Trustee Finance
- v. Trustee Accounts
- vi. Lay Ministrants
- vii. Internal Auditors
- viii. Karunya Secretary
- ix. Karunya Treasurer
- x. Child Safety Officer

Attendance at General Body meetings will be open only to members above 18 years of age as per Rule 18, Clause 4 & 5 of the MMTC Parish Constitution.

The Prayer Groups and Church Organisations to elect their representatives before 31 July 2025.

MMTC VOTERS LIST 2025

Trustees Note

Your generosity ensures that our church remains a beacon of light in our community and beyond. Together, let us continue to serve and uplift one another as we journey onward in faith.

Offertory Type	Suggested Contribution	Last date for payments for 2024-25
Family Contribution	\$300 per adult earning member	30 June 2025
Thanksgiving	as per individual preference	30 June 2025
Rassesa	\$5 per member over 18 years	30 June 2025
<u>Self Denial</u>	as per individual preference	30 June 2025
One day Income Offering	as per individual preference	30 June 2025
Christmas Donation	as per individual preference	30 June 2025
Building Fund	as per individual preference.	22 June 2025

As noted above, please ensure that your contributions for 2024-25 are transferred into the church accounts by **30 June 2025** to allocate it into the 2024-25 financial year. In order to receive a tax deductible receipt for your **Building Fund contribution** from National Trust Australia (NTA), you have to pay your Building Fund contribution by **22 June 2025**.

Prayer Meetings

PRAYER ZONE	DATE	VENUE
North A	7th June, Saturday 4:30pm	25 River Rose St, Greenvale Hosted by: Aji & Shine
South	7th June, Saturday 7:00pm	2 Hydepark walk, Mooroolbark Hosted By: Sharjan & Lincy
North West	14th June, Saturday 4:00pm	4 Saville Street, Burnside Hosted By: Nomis & Asha
North B	14th June, Saturday 7:00pm	42 Gledswood Avenue, South Morang Hosted by: Arun & Jovita
Central A	28th June, Saturday 4:30pm	28 Morotal Avenue, Ashburton Hosted by: Geku & Bindhu
Central B	28th June, Saturday 7:00pm	15 Lusk Drive, Vermont Hosted by: Manoj & Shiny

Sunday School

[Sunday School 2025 Registration Form](#)

Melbourne Mar Thoma Sunday School News

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven" - Matthew 19:14

1st June: *Classes at Main SS at 10:30 am, Classes at Eastern SS at 2 pm. (Special Offertory)*

8th June: *Classes at Main SS at 10:30 am, Classes at Northern SS at 2:30 pm.*

15th June: *Classes at Main SS at 8 am*

22nd June: *Classes at Main SS at 9:30 am*

29th June: *Classes at Main SS at 10:30 am*

SAVE THE DATE - JUNIOR STUDENTS RETREAT

MELBOURNE MAR THOMA CHURCH

Sunday School Junior Retreat

12 | 07 | 2025

9:30 am to 3pm

St Hilary's North Balwyn
16 Osburn Ave,
Balwyn North VIC 3104

Theme: Rooted Growing Deep, Reaching High

Leader: Mr Chris Varughese

Ages: Prep - Year 6



Youth



WORKING BEES

NEED A HAND AROUND THE HOUSE?

DONATIONS ONLY
(RAISING FUNDS FOR YOUTH CAMP)

- ✓ Cleaning the house
- ✓ Gardening
- ✓ Take out garbage and recycling
- ✓ Dog Walking
- ✓ Car Washing



Contact Noel: 0490798367

Sevika Sangham

SANGHAM EVENTS

DETAILS

Online intercessory prayer

Every Thursday @ 8pm

STEFM Badminton



STEFM BADMINTON TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

MMTC EOI - STEFM Badminton Tournament 2025

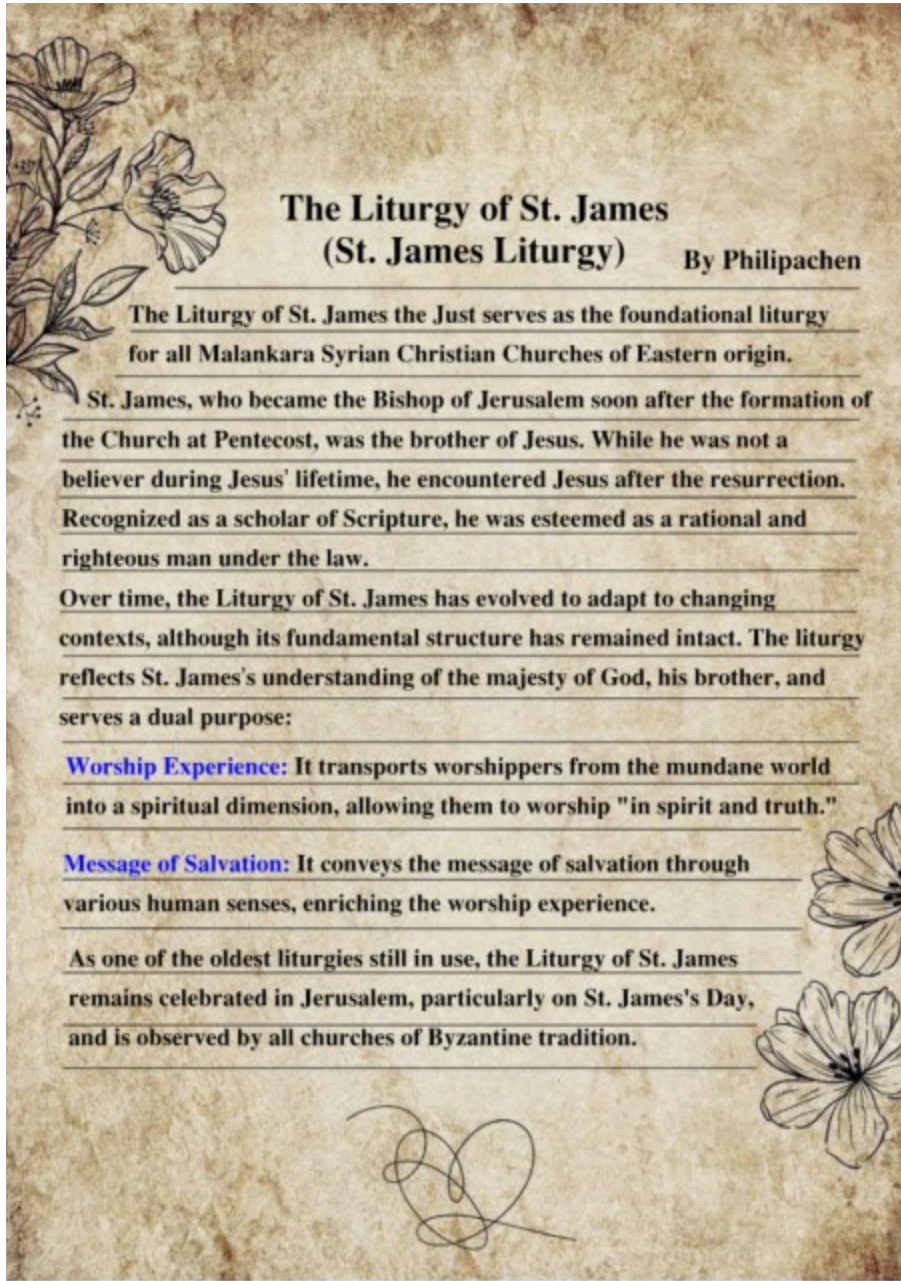
STEFM is organising a Badminton tournament for all associated Churches on 21 June 2025. Each church is allowed to register teams consisting of singles, doubles, mixed doubles, and senior teams in the prescribed registration form. Please click the link button below for complete details of the guidelines, registration form and format of the games. **Registration forms must be submitted before 8:00 pm on 15 June 2025.**

The tournament is organised by St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Melbourne.

MMTC BADMINTON COORDINATOR

The MMTC Badminton Coordinator will be **Mr. Roy George**, and he can be contacted on Mobile phone number 0406 711146. All those who wish to play for the MMTC Badminton team, please complete the expression of interest by completing and submitting the Google form below by 6:00 pm on Tuesday, 03 June 2025. No late requests will be entertained.

Words of Wisdom



The Liturgy of St. James (St. James Liturgy)

By Philipachen

The Liturgy of St. James the Just serves as the foundational liturgy for all Malankara Syrian Christian Churches of Eastern origin.

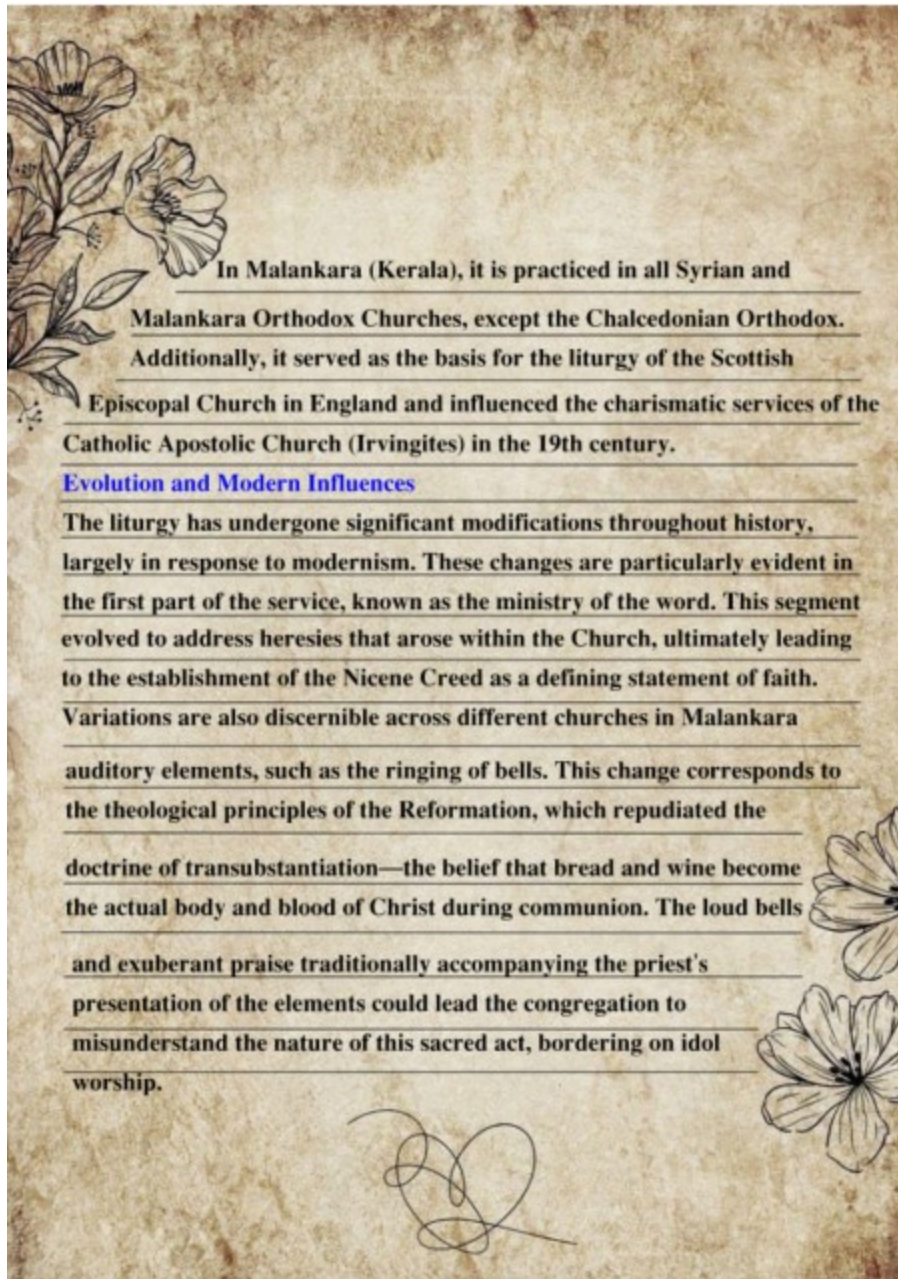
St. James, who became the Bishop of Jerusalem soon after the formation of the Church at Pentecost, was the brother of Jesus. While he was not a believer during Jesus' lifetime, he encountered Jesus after the resurrection. Recognized as a scholar of Scripture, he was esteemed as a rational and righteous man under the law.

Over time, the Liturgy of St. James has evolved to adapt to changing contexts, although its fundamental structure has remained intact. The liturgy reflects St. James's understanding of the majesty of God, his brother, and serves a dual purpose:

Worship Experience: It transports worshippers from the mundane world into a spiritual dimension, allowing them to worship "in spirit and truth."

Message of Salvation: It conveys the message of salvation through various human senses, enriching the worship experience.

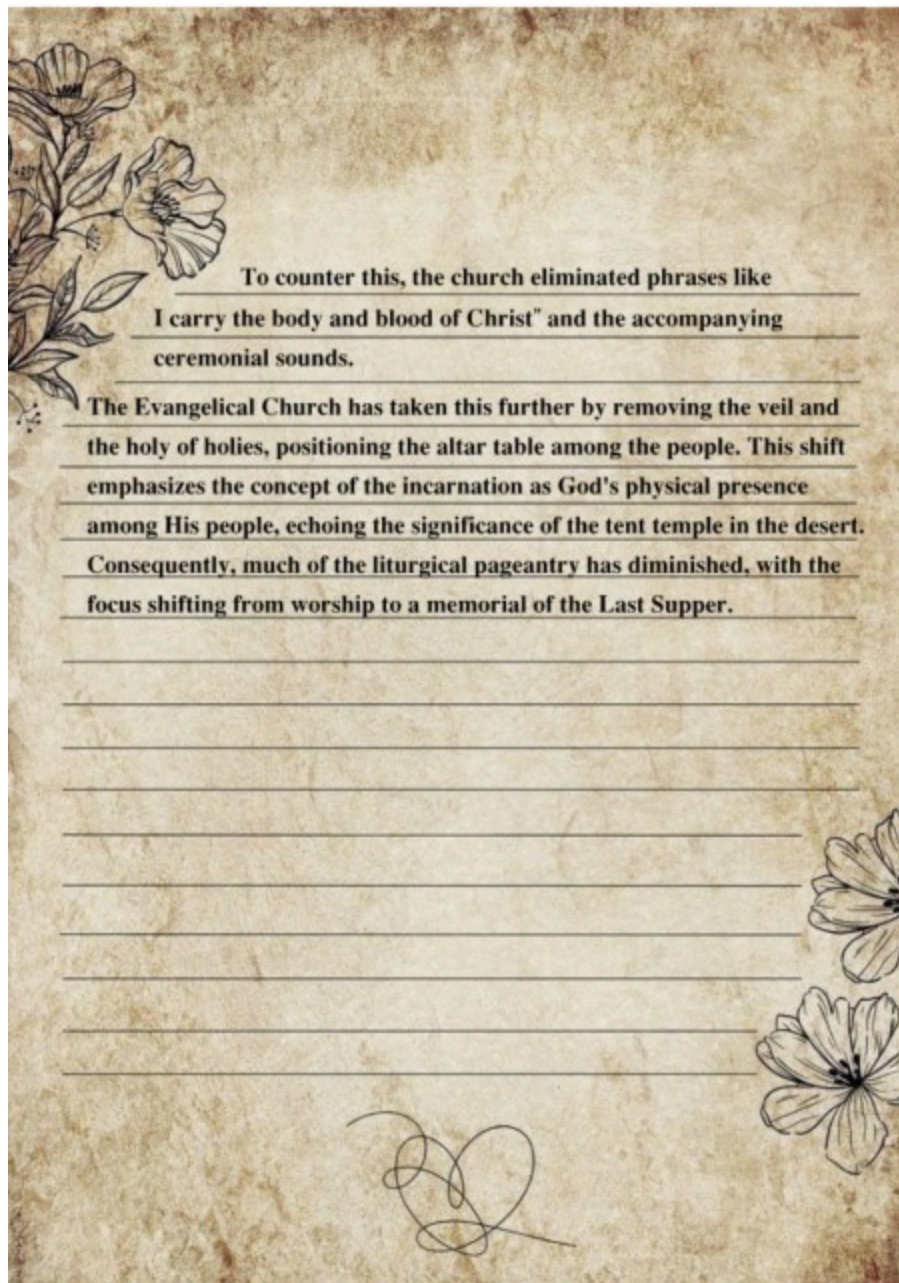
As one of the oldest liturgies still in use, the Liturgy of St. James remains celebrated in Jerusalem, particularly on St. James's Day, and is observed by all churches of Byzantine tradition.



In Malankara (Kerala), it is practiced in all Syrian and Malankara Orthodox Churches, except the Chalcedonian Orthodox. Additionally, it served as the basis for the liturgy of the Scottish Episcopal Church in England and influenced the charismatic services of the Catholic Apostolic Church (Irvingites) in the 19th century.

Evolution and Modern Influences

The liturgy has undergone significant modifications throughout history, largely in response to modernism. These changes are particularly evident in the first part of the service, known as the ministry of the word. This segment evolved to address heresies that arose within the Church, ultimately leading to the establishment of the Nicene Creed as a defining statement of faith. Variations are also discernible across different churches in Malankara auditory elements, such as the ringing of bells. This change corresponds to the theological principles of the Reformation, which repudiated the doctrine of transubstantiation—the belief that bread and wine become the actual body and blood of Christ during communion. The loud bells and exuberant praise traditionally accompanying the priest's presentation of the elements could lead the congregation to misunderstand the nature of this sacred act, bordering on idol worship.



Birthdays

Mrs. Neetu Abraham
Miss. Emily Mary Thomas
Mr. Biju John
Mr. Justin
Mr. Aswin Kurian Korah
Master. Aaron Nomis
Mr. Mammen Mammen
Mrs. Susan Thomas
Mrs. Annamma Abraham
Mr. Bobby Thomas George
Mr. Amal John Varghese

Mrs. Shobha Philip
Mrs. Susan Abraham
Mr. Joshua Binu Samuel
Mrs. Leena Smitha Borgavi
Mr. Koshy Mathew
Master. Nathan George
Mrs. Betty Thomas
Miss. Catherine Blessy Samuel
Mrs. Sini George
Mrs. Irene Alisha Abraham
Mrs. Sheena Jacob

Miss.Evelyn Ann Varughese	Mr.P M John
Miss.Emily Mary Thomas	Mr.John Simon
Mrs.Shalin Mary George	Miss.Jaclyn Binu Samuel
Mrs.Sneha M Kuriyakose	Master.Immanuel Alan George
Mrs.Neethu Ann Joseph	Mr.Chris Jacob Shaj
Dr.Ashwin George Koshy	Mr.Ajith George Jacob
Mrs.Jerin C Varghese	Mrs.Shiby Varghese
Miss.Abigail Mariam John	Mr.Varghese David Kolath
Mr.Mohan Varkey	Mrs.Blessy Mathew
Mrs.Anuja	Mr.Jomy Jose
Miss.Ava Paulose	Mrs.Anu Koshy
Mr.Sony Abraham	Master.Sean Samuel Varghese
Master.Brian K Linu	Mrs.Veena Varghese
Mrs.Simi Abraham	Mr.Roney Varughese
Mrs.Reenu Acha John	Miss.Eva Mary Joseph
Mrs.Jisha Christopher	Mr.Praveen George Thampi
Mr.Raji Thomas	Miss.Amy Maria Benny
Mr.Joseph George	Mr.Justin Jubert
Mrs.Constance Varughese	Miss.Rebecca Thankam Varughese
Mrs.Gethi George	Mrs.Susan Abraham
Mr.Alexander George	Dr.Vidya Susan JAcob
Mr.Binosh V Thomas	Mrs.Seena Joseph
Mrs.Susan George	Master.Jeremy George Koshy
Mrs.ASHLYN SUBIN TOM	Mr.Jacob George
Miss.Sharon Ann Mathew	Master.Edwin Rejoy
Mrs.Joby George	Mr.Abraham C Abraham
Miss.Rhea Mariam Koshy	Miss.Merlin Ann Saju
Master.Sachin Thomas Mathews	Mrs.Susan Mathew
Mr.Jackson Thomas	Miss.Elisha Vini Alexander
Mr.Manu SAM	Mr.Shiju Varughese
Mr.Thomas K Leem	Miss.Michelle Mary Edel
Mrs.Akshatha Nyarse Parashuram	Miss.Aniyah Abraham Mathew
Mr.Bobin Peter Thomas	Mr.Thomas Mathew
Master.Shaun Thomas George	Master.Joel Aby Mathew
Mr.JOHN Y VALIYAVEETIL THOMAS	Mrs.Tara Maria Alexander
Mr.Jacob Varghese	Mrs.Tincy Annie Thomas
Mr.Roshi Thomas Thariyan	Mr.Eric Thomas Leem
Dr Mrs.Annie Bobby	Miss.Jesslyn Sara James
Mrs.Deepthi Ann Koshy	

Wedding Anniversary

Mr. Selex M Kulatrattu, Mrs. Anju Selex

Mr. Kelvin Thomas, Mrs. Anu Gracy George
Mr. Biju John Joseph, Mrs. Molcy Biju
Mr. Biju A George, Mrs. Neethu Susan Abraham
Mr. Kurian George, Mrs. Sumitha Jacob
Mr. Stany Simon, Mrs. Anuja
Mr. Thomas Joseph, Mrs. Suja Joseph
Mr. Sajan Samuel , Mrs. Lini Elsa Abraham
Mr. Jeevan Jacob, Mrs. Chinnu Rani Mathew
Mr. Bobby Jacob Oommen, Mrs. Alina Elizabeth Varghis
Mr. Varghese David Kolath, Mrs. Roshni Mariam Philip
Mr. Renin Thomas, Mrs. Mareena Renin
Mr. George T Mathew, Mrs. Joby George
Mr. Happy Varghese, Mrs. Pinkle Thomas
Mr. Alex Sen Varghese, Mrs. Reena Sen
Mr. Binu Koshy, Mrs. Anu Rajan
Mr. Varghese Zachariah, Mrs. Finu Varghese
Mr. Mathew Thomas, Mrs. Elizabeth Mathew
Mr. Easaw T Mathew, Mrs. Sheela Thomas

Yours in Christ,



Roy Jacob

Secretary

Melbourne Mar Thoma Church

Phone: 0408844183

Email: secretarymarthomachurch@gmail.com.

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Parsonage Address: [10 Layton Place Mill Park VIC 3082](#)

Vicar: Rev. Philip Mathew | Mobile: [0401311688](tel:0401311688)

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