

Emmanuel C.S.I. Church, Philadelphia

Worshiping at
St. Andrews Episcopal Church
500 Somerton Avenue,
Philadelphia, PA, 19116

Worship Services at 11:00 AM

Sunday School at 10:00 AM

Malayalam Holy Communion
1st & 3rd Sundays

English Contemporary Service with H. C.
2nd Sunday

English Holy Communion
4th Sunday

Malayalam Matins Service
5th Sundays

Contact Information:

President: Rev. Bejoy Mathew Scaria (215) 825-3305
Vice-president: Mr. Russal Samuel (215) 677-8857
Secretary: Mr. Reny Eapen Mathew (215) 633-7676
Jt. Secretary: Mr. Anish Mathew (215) 303-8608
Treasurer: Mr. Shaji P. Oommen (215) 676-5182
Webmaster: Mr. Anand Mathew (510) 371-6771

Visit our Web Site: WWW.EmmanuelCSI.com

Email: Emmanuelcsichurch@gmail.com

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(Newsletter of Emmanuel C.S.I. Church, Philadelphia)



February 2016

❖ Reminders...

- No Cottage Prayer or Fasting Prayer meetings are scheduled for this month. If you are interested in hosting one at your house, please communicate with Bejoy Achen or the secretary.
- If you are interested in having a HOLY WEEK Prayer meeting (March 21, 22, 23) at your residence, please inform Achen
- Bible study for the Women's Fellowship will be held on every first and third Sundays after the service. All women's Fellowship members are requested to attend.
- Youth meetings will be held every 2nd Saturday at the Parsonage. All Youth members are requested to attend.

Women's Fellowship/Laity Fellowship meeting and QUIZ Competition:

We will be hosting the next Women's Fellowship/Laity Fellowship meeting and a Quiz competition for the region 1 and 2. The As soon as the date and the book selection is confirmed, it will be announced in the church. .



From Achen's Desk

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ, We are called to live in a world is running away. People are trying to escape realities they no longer wish to face and responsibilities they no longer want to discharge. Most of all, they are running from a God whose laws they refuse to obey. Even Christians have become restless, and in the challenging circumstances of life they have often plead that the God of their fathers does not require the same standards today. Thus, the only answer to the problems of modern man has been either rejected or ignored. As we know, the children inherited the nature of their parents. God is holy, therefore, as His children we should live holy lives, we are partakers of divine nature (2 Pet.1:4) and ought to reveal the nature in godly living.

God has given us a blessing; He has made us his children. However, along with this blessing he has also given us a great responsibility to live. We must obey Him. Just as a child desires to please his father so must we try to please our heavenly father by being obedient. Therefore, we must no longer live to the evil we had before we became Christian (Eph.12:2, Eph.2:1- 3). Having turned from our old sinful desires, let us be holy. To be holy two things are necessary. First, we must put off un-holiness; second, we must put on holiness (Eph.4: 22- 24). What this life is? It can be determined, says St. Paul, only by nature of the divine call of which it is to be worthy we are called to move from the new society to new standards, which God is calling, into two major characters. 1. It is one People. 2. It is holy people, distinct from the secular world, set apart to belong to God. God's people are called to be one people, and manifest their unity. Because they are called to be a holy people and must manifest their unity. Because they are called to be a holy people and must manifest their purity. Unity and purity are two fundamentals of a life worthy of their Church's divine calling. In a polluted world we are called to live a different life. Be holy, because I am holy, says the Lord (Levi. 11: 45; 19:2). We must imitate our heavenly father (Eph. 5: 1). Jesus said "be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly father is perfect" (Matth.5:48). We have been called to be God's children. Therefore, we must lead our lives worthy of that calling (Eph. 4:1). May our God help us to lead and keep a holy life, with whole heart and let us submit ourselves to the hands of God to fulfill his will in this Lent season.

In His Service
Yours Loving,
Bejoyachen.

Lectionary for February 2016

February 07; 7th Sunday before Easter

Malayalam Holy Communion

Theme: *Lent: A Time of Redemption*

1st Lesson Isaiah 58: 1-14

Psalm 6

2nd Lesson Romans 2: 1-13

Gospel John 5: 1-9

Lay Ministry: Mr. Koshy K. Varghese & Family

February 10; Ash Wednesday

Malayalam Holy Communion

Theme: *Cross: A Call to Vicarious Suffering*

1st Lesson 1 Kings 17: 12-24

Psalm 102

2nd Lesson Philippians 2: 1-11

Gospel Mark 8: 31-38

Lay Ministry:

February 14; 6th Sunday before Easter

English Holy Communion with Praise & Worship

Theme: *Being with the Outcasts & Marginalized*

1st Lesson Esther 4: 1-17

Psalm 43

2nd Lesson Acts 15: 12-21

Gospel Mark 1: 40-45

Lay Ministry: Youth

Paul spent the next 13 years learning the faith, part of the time living in seclusion in the Arabian desert. He visited Jerusalem probably twice (AD 37, 44) and dwelt at Tarsus and Antioch for some time. (Acts 11.) From Antioch, Paul set out on his first missionary journey (Acts 13–14.27; AD 47–49), on which he was accompanied by St. Barnabas and for a time by St. Mark. In general the method was to go from city to city preaching in synagogues and in marketplaces. Among the stops on this first mission were Cyprus, Antioch, and Derbe. Churches were set up, and as soon as the little Christian groups seemed strong enough the apostle and his companions would move on. Among their stops were Cyprus, Pamphylia, and Derbe. About AD 50 there was a council of the apostles at Jerusalem to discuss whether Gentile Christians should be circumcised, i.e., whether Christianity was to be a Jewish sect. St. Paul opposed the Judaistic group vigorously, and the council decided against them. (Acts 15; Gal. 2.)

On his second mission (Acts 15.36–18.22; AD 50–53) Paul, having quarreled with Barnabas, was accompanied by Silas. During visits to Philippi and Salonica they founded two churches that were to become great. They later sailed to Athens where Paul delivered his famous address on the "unknown god" in the market. (Acts 17.16–34.) From Athens, Paul went to Corinth. In the course of a long stay there he wrote First and Second Thessalonians (AD 52). Possibly about this time he also wrote his letter to the Galatians, although some scholars think this was the earliest of the epistles (written from Antioch), while others believe it was written later from Ephesus. At length Paul sailed to Caesarea in Palestine and visited Jerusalem again. He spent some time in Antioch.

The third missionary journey of St. Paul (Acts 18.23–21.26; AD 53–57) took him to Galatia, then Phrygia, and over to Ephesus. His two-and-a-half-year stay in Ephesus was one of the most fruitful periods of his life; in this time he wrote his two letters to the Corinthians (c.AD 56). He went to Corinth to help the Christians there, and he probably wrote the Epistle to the Romans there. Thence he returned to Ephesus and finally to Jerusalem. This was his last visit there (AD 57–59), for soon after he arrived he was arrested for provoking a riot.

After being held prisoner for two years and after hearings before the council of priests, before the Roman procurator Felix and his successor Festus, before Herod Agrippa II, and again before Festus, he appealed to Rome on his citizen's right. So he was sent to Rome under guard. (Acts 21.27–28.31.) On the way they were shipwrecked on Malta but finally landed at Puteoli (Pozzuoli). Paul was imprisoned (AD 60) in Rome but was allowed to conduct his ministry among the Roman Christians and Jews who visited him. Of his final fate tradition says that he was beheaded south of the city, near the Ostian Way, probably during the persecution of Nero. A lesser tradition claims that Paul was released after his first imprisonment and that he went East again, and perhaps also to Spain, before his martyrdom. Some scholars believe that Paul was executed after his initial imprisonment, probably AD 62. St. Paul's tomb and shrine are at the Roman basilica of St. Paul's Outside the Walls.

Other Elected Members

Auditor: Mr. Ivan Pattermthanam

Council Representatives: Mr. Jacob P. Korah
Mr. Cherian Abraham

Ecumenical Fellowship Representatives:

Mr. Koshy K. Varghese
Mr. Abraham Kunnel
Mr. Jacob Korah
Mrs. Susy George
Dr. Mathew Thomas

Retreat Coordinator: Mr. Ivan Pattermthanam

Picnic Coordinator: Mr. George Thomas

Event/Program Coordinator: Mr. Kuruvilla Oommen

Women's Fellowship Secretary: Mrs. Jessy Koshy

Women's Fellowship Treasurer: Mrs. Reena George

Saint Paul, (Saul) The Columbia Encyclopedia, 6th ed. | 2015

Saint Paul, d. AD 64? or 67?, the apostle to the Gentiles, b. Tarsus, Asia Minor. He was a Jew. His father was a Roman citizen, probably of some means, and Paul was a tentmaker by trade. His Jewish name was Saul. He was educated in Jerusalem, where he studied under Gamaliel and became a zealous nationalist; he was probably a Pharisee. The chronology of St. Paul's life is difficult, but there is general agreement (within a few years) on almost all details. The hypothetical dates given here are according to one chronological system.

Paul's first known contact with Christianity is his presence at the martyrdom of St. Stephen. Soon after this he got a commission from the chief priest to go to Damascus to help suppress Christianity there (AD 33). As he approached Damascus he suddenly saw a blinding light and heard Jesus ask, "Why persecutest thou me?" Paul was temporarily blinded and was led into Damascus, where he was found (on the Lord's direction) by the disciple Ananias. On regaining his sight, Paul was baptized and immediately began preaching. (Acts 8.1-3; 9.1-30; 22.3-21; 26.9-23; Gal. 1.12-15.)

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February 21; 5th Sunday before Easter

Malayalam Holy Communion

Theme: *Releasing from the Burden of Sin*

1st Lesson 2 Samuel 12: 1-14

Psalm 32

2nd Lesson Acts 8: 9-25

Gospel Mark 2: 1-12

Lay Ministry:

February 28; 4th Sunday before Easter

English Holy Communion

Theme: *Acknowledge Faith beyond Boundaries*

1st Lesson Isaiah 44:28 to 45:8

Psalm 125

2nd Lesson Acts 10: 24-33

Gospel Matthew 15: 21-28

Lay Ministry: Ivan Pattermthanam & Family

March 6; 3rd Sunday before Easter

Malayalam Holy Communion

Women's Fellowship Sunday

Theme: *Remembering and Celebrating Women's Ministry*

1st Lesson Judges 4: 4-16

Psalm 132

2nd Lesson Philippians 4: 1-7

Gospel Luke 8: 1-3

Lay Ministry: Women's Fellowship

March 13; 2nd Sunday before Easter

English Holy Communion with Praise & Worship

Theme: *Cross and a new Paradigm to Discipleship*

1st Lesson Genesis 26: 12-33

Psalm 92

2nd Lesson 2 Corinthians 11: 21-31

Gospel Mark 10: 46-52

Lay Ministry: Youth

Birthday Greetings:

The following members will be celebrating their birthday in the month of February. They are requested to attend the Thanksgiving prayer during the Service.

02/10 Mr. Jacob Russal
02/17 Dr. Benjamin George
02/17 Mrs. Elizabeth Anish Mathew
02/23 Mr. Ivan Pattermthanam
02/24 Mrs. Lena Cherian-George
02/24 Mr. Tony Mathew
02/27 Mrs. Tina Annie John

God's blessings be upon you as you celebrate yet another year on this journey with Christ and as you commit each day into the hands of the Lord.

Wedding Anniversaries:

Congratulations and best wishes to the following couples who will be celebrating their anniversaries in the month of February. They are requested to attend the Thanksgiving prayer during the Service.

02/11 Rev. Bejoy & Asha Kochamma

May you truly sense God's love as you celebrate your wedding Anniversary and see the future years together as memories to be made. **By M.S.Lowndes**

Church Committee for 2016 -2017

Vicar & President: Rev. Bejoy Mathew Scaria
Vice President: Mr. Russal Samuel
Secretary: Mr. Reny Eapen Mathew
Joint Secretary: Mr. Anish Mathew
Treasurer: Shaji P. Oommen

Committee Members:

Mrs. Susan Mathew
Mr. Maxwell P. Gifford
Mr. Prasad Philip
Mr. Saju Issac Mathew
Mr. Cherian Abraham

Choir Representative:

Mr. Aji Sam Mathew

Sunday School Representative:

Mr. Anand Mathew

Women's Fellowship Representative:

Mrs. Jessy Koshy

Youth Movement Representative:

Dr. Lena Cherian-George

