

Emmanuel C.S.I. Church, Philadelphia  
4937 Church Avenue,  
Feasterville-Trevoze, PA 19053

**Sunday school at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> - Malayalam Holy Communion**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> – English Holy Communion**  
**4<sup>th</sup> – English Holy Communion**  
**5<sup>th</sup> – Malayalam Matins**

**Teleconference Prayer – Wednesdays @ 8:30 PM**

**Fasting Prayer – Every Saturday @ 10:00 AM**

Contact Information:

**President: Rev. P. J. Jose: (215) 825-3305**  
**Vice-president: Mr. Koshy K. Varghese-(267) 312-5373**  
**Secretary: Mr. Cherian M. Abraham - (215) 620-7324**  
**Jt. Secretary: Mr. Ivan Patterthanam - (215) 720-5058**  
**Treasurer: Mr. Saju Issac Mathew - (215) 327-9875**  
**Web Master: Miss Reeba Ivan: (215) 353-6592**

[www.emmanuelcsi.com](http://www.emmanuelcsi.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/ecsopa>

Email: [emmanuelcsichurchpa@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelcsichurchpa@gmail.com)

**Newsletter of**  
**Emmanuel C.S.I. Church, Philadelphia**  
**March 2025**



**SPEAK OUT @**  
**EMMANUEL**

**(A monthly Publication)**

**4937 Church Avenue**  
**Feasterville-Trevoze, PA 19053**

### Importance days of the Church Calendar

Date	Event
03/05/2025	Ash Wednesday
03/29/2025	Women & Laity Retreat at H. V. Church
04/05/2025	<b>Family Night at Emmanuel</b>
04/13/2025	Palm Sunday
04/17/2025	Maundy Thursday
04/18/2025	Good Friday
04/20/2025	Easter Sunday
05/11/2025	Mother's Day
06/08/2025	Pentecost Sunday
06/15/2025	Trinity Sunday & Father's Day
07/20/2025	<b>Harvest Festival</b>
07/27/2025	<b>Harvest Festival</b>
08/03/2025	Mission Sunday Laity Sunday
08/09/2025	<b>Church Picnic</b>
09/07/2025	/Education Sunday
09/21/2025	Choir Sunday
09/27/2025	CSI Formation Day
09/28/2025	Senior Citizen's Sunday
10/05/2025	Laity Sunday
10/19/2025	Church Day
10/26/2025	Reformation Sunday
11/02/2025	Sunday school Sunday
11/09/2025	Unity Sunday
11/23/2025	<b>Thanksgiving Sunday</b>
11/29/2025	<b>House to House Caroling (Local areas)</b>
12/06/2025	<b>House to House Caroling (outside areas)</b>
12/--/2025	<b>Christmas Carol 21 or 28</b>
12/25/2025	Christmas Day
12/28/2025	Family Sunday
12/31/2025	Watchnight Service



From Achen's Desk

#### **Lent: A Time of Redemption**

Praise the Lord, God bless the Emmanuel family. Once again it is my pleasure to address the Emmanuel family through this month's newsletter.

Lent is not only a period of forty days of fasting before Easter, but also a period of 'spring' for spiritual renewal. Redemption is a concept derived from one of the most basic features of human life in society, the urge to exchange something in one's own possession for something possessed by another. All kinds of objects have been exchanged, normally with the conviction that what was received was equal to or even more valuable than what was given. The terms redemption, redeem, redeemer, and occur frequently in the Old Testament. From its basic meaning of buying back by paying a 'ransom', the term was extended to cover major deliverances of any kind whether or not a payment is involved.

Isaiah 58:1-14 contains the classic voice of prophecy as in Micah 6:8. God does not desire sacrifice of material things. He asks us to be just and merciful to our fellow human beings and to live in humble obedience to God. Prophet Isaiah vehemently condemns false religion as well as religious fundamentalism. A heart that is pure toward God cannot be indifferent toward other human beings in delivering others in Christ's name, we ourselves are delivered. In the last two verses prophet Isaiah reminds the readers of the importance of the Sabbath not in legalistic terms but in loving terms. If we claim to love the Lord, we should also love the Sabbath day. To the Jews Sabbath was part of God's original plan for every one as well as an integral part of the law.

*Continued on next page (2)*

St. John 2:1-11, the redemptive act revealed through the transformation of Jewish legal system into the supply of good wine out of water. Jewish legal system typified by the ceremonial Jars was partial and imperfect. The renewal of life and salvation to which all religious ceremonies point could not be achieved by legal means. The real meaning of Jewish religious customs is fulfilled and made new only by Jesus, who transforms the old ceremonial system into something which humans could experience. The church as a redeemed community tends to empower others, particularly the weaker section in the church and society to enjoy the privileges equally or even more than what they enjoy every day. Amen.

Yours loving,  
Joseachen

### *Wedding Anniversaries:*

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

Mr. Jubin Jacob & Dr. Mrs. Michelle Jacob      **03/15**



***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***

## Liturgical Colors for 2025

<b>December 25 – January 6</b>	<b>White</b>
<b>January 7 – March 4</b>	<b>Green</b>
<b>March 5 – April 19</b>	<b>Purple</b>
<b>April 20 – June 7</b>	<b>White</b>
<b>June 8</b>	<b>RED</b>
<b>June 9 – June 14</b>	<b>Green</b>
<b>June 15</b>	<b>White</b>
<b>June 16 – November 29</b>	<b>Green</b>
<b>November 3 - December 24</b>	<b>Purple</b>

### History of Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday's origins date back to the 11th century and are rooted in Jewish practices of fasting and penance. The tradition of marking foreheads with ashes in the shape of a cross is also ancient.

#### Early traditions

In early Christian traditions in Rome, penitents and sinners would be sprinkled with ashes, dress in sackcloth, and participate in a period of public penance.

They would be reconciled with the church on Maundy Thursday, the Thursday before Easter.

#### Modern traditions

The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made from burning the palms that were blessed on the previous year's Palm Sunday. The ashes are sometimes mixed with oil so they stay on foreheads longer.

The ashes symbolize mortality, mourning, and penance.

#### Lent

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day period of fasting and penance that leads up to Easter.

## Birthdays Greetings:

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

Mr. Rohan Nainan	03/04
Prof. Koshy Thalakal	03/07
Mr. Jeffrey A. Kunnel	03/11
Miss Genevieve Ann Jacob	03/20
Mrs. Jessy Koshy	03/20
Mrs. Mary John	03/20
Mr. Zach Abraham	03/26



*God's richest 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.*



There will be a special Prayer Meeting on Saturday, March 22nd at 5:00 PM at the residence of Mr. Kizhakayil and Mrs. Elsykutty Mathew. Everyone's participation is requested.  
Address: 117 Circle Drive,  
Chalfont, PA 19814  
Phone: 631-816-3986

## Lectionary for March 2025

**March 02 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Easter**  
**Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)**  
**(Women's Fellowship Sunday)**  
**Theme:** Remember and Celebrate the Ministry of Women  
**1 Lesson:** Judges 4: 4 - 16  
**Psalm** 132  
**2 Lesson:** Philippians 4: 1 - 7  
**Gospel:** Luke 8: 1 - 3  
**Lay Ministry:** Women's Fellowship Members  
**Fellowship Meal:** Womeen's Fellowship Members

**March 05 Ash Wednesday**  
**Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)**  
**Theme:** Cross: A Call to Vicarious Suffering  
**1 Lesson:** 1 Kings 17: 12 - 24  
**Psalm** 102  
**2 Lesson:** Philippians 2: 1 - 11  
**Gospel:** Mark 8: 31 - 38  
**Lay Ministry:** Church Committee Members

**March 09 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Easter-1<sup>st</sup> Sun in Lent**  
**Holy Communion Service (English)**  
**Theme:** Being with the Outcasts & Marginalized  
**1 Lesson:** Esther 4: 1 - 17  
**Psalm** 43  
**Lesson:** Acts 15: 12 - 21  
**Gospel:** Mark 1: 40 - 45  
**Lay Ministry:** Sunday School Children  
**Refreshments:** Womeen's Fellowship Members



### Lectionary for March 2025

**March 16** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Easter (2<sup>nd</sup> Sun in Lent)  
Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)

**Theme:** Releasing from the Burden of Sin

**1 Lesson:** 2 Samuel 12: 1 - 14

**Psalm** 32

**2 Lesson:** Acts 8: 9 - 25

**Gospel:** Mark 2: 1 - 12

**Lay Ministry:** Mr. Jacob Korah & Family

**Refreshments:** Mr. Jacob Korah & Family

**March 23** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Easter-3<sup>rd</sup> Sun in Lent  
Holy Communion Service (English)

**Theme:** Acknowledging Faith Beyond Boundaries

**1 Lesson:** Isaiah 44: 28 – 45: 08

**Psalm** 125

**Lesson:** Acts 10: 24 - 33

**Gospel:** Matthew 15: 21 - 28

**Lay Ministry:** Youth Fellowship

**Refreshments:**

**March 30** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Easter- 4<sup>th</sup> Sun in Lent  
Holy Communion in Malayalam

**Theme:** Transforming the Oppressive Structures

**1 Lesson:** Nahum 1: 1 – 15

**Psalm** 113

**Lesson:** Acts 4: 32 - 37

**Gospel:** Luke 13: 10 - 17

**Lay Ministry:** Mr. Chase Koshy & Family

**Refreshments:** Mr. Mathew Abraham & Family

### Lectionary for April 2025

**April 06** Passion Sunday  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Easter; 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent  
Holy Communion Service in Malayalam

**Theme:** Cross and a New Paradigm to Discipleship

**1 Lesson:** Genesis 26: 12 - 33

**Psalm** 92

**2 Lesson:** 2 Corinthians 11: 21 - 31

**Gospel:** Mark 10: 46 - 52

**Lay Ministry:** Mr. Mathew Abraham & Family

**Refreshments:**

**April 13** Palm Sunday  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday before Easter  
Holy Communion Service in Malayalam

**Theme:** Hosana: Lord Save Us

**1 Lesson:** Zecharia 9: 1 - 12

**Psalm** 118: 19 - 29

**2 Lesson:** 1 Timothy 4: 6 - 16

**Gospel:** Luke 19: 29 - 40

**Lay Ministry:** Russal Samuel & Family

**Refreshments:** Mr. Ipe Varghese & Family

**April 17** Maundy Thursday Service @ 6:30 PM  
Holy Communion Service in Malayalam  
Eucharist: Communion of Suffering  
Humanity

**1 Lesson** Exodus 12: 1 - 7

**Psalm** 116

**2 Lesson:** 1 Corinthians 11: 23 - 34

**Gospel:** Mark 14: 17 - 25

**Lay Ministry:**

**Refreshments:**

