



Newsletter St. Ignatius Sunday School Carrollton, TX- 75006

Quarter 1&2 2015



From the desk of the Clergy

Who Are We?

1 John 1:1-4 "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life. 2 The life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us. 3 That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full."

The first epistle of John was written as a ward against two groups: 1) false teachers and 2) former member of the Church who attack the faith of the remaining. It stresses the facets that Jesus Christ has revealed of the Father including light, love, and life. This is especially contrasted with the virtues of the world including darkness, hatred, and death. The epistle tells us of the role of baptism, chrismation, and the Eucharist in our Christian identity and its roles in promoting our communion and love with and of God, our fellowship and love with each other, and the importance of keeping the true faith.

This is a great introduction book for someone just learning about Christianity. Its first few verses serve almost as a banner, a representation/summation of what the faith represents. What is the basic theology that can be found in these verses? What does it say about Christ and His role?

I think most importantly, the verses share the biggest gift that faith has to offer: joy. Not just a mindless or childlike joy, but a complete "fullness of joy". What would the fruition of that verse mean in our lives? Is it something that we can share? And if so, are we doing so? Are we far too easily pleased with meaningless things in our lives? As you enjoy the coming months off, think about what makes you happy. Spend some time thinking about the basic theology in these verses. Understanding the privilege of a relationship to God the Father through Christ, our personal Savior is key! Identify occasions of joy in your life. Do we have similar feelings when dwelling on Christ? Lastly, figure out strategies to share the joy that comes with knowing Christ so that we incorporate it into our everyday life!

May God bless you, especially those of you who are graduating and safe travels this summer.

**V. Rev John Varghese Corepiscopa,
Rev Dr Renjan Achen
& Dn AbinV Puravath**

A note from your HM

It has been quite a journey together this past year. Looking back at pictures you can see changes in height, faces, etc. These are reminders to the Sunday School staff to make sure we utilize every valuable minute with you.

Summer time is always very exciting. You will have some memorable vacations, downtime with your families, biking, swimming, reading, hanging out with friends, sleeping in late and resetting your mind and body for the next year. I look back and feel really nostalgic about this great time in life which you are going thru now.

As you make your checklist of all the activities and goals you want to complete this summer, try to include the following also. Set a goal to grow more spiritually and write your progress in a journal. One of your key goals should be to actually connect and keep the connection with God strong.

We have talked in Sunday School how to use different Bible plans. Make it a point that before you graduate, you have completed reading the full Bible. You should have taken a commitment this year in Sunday School with your teacher. Your teachers will be passing the commitment to the next level teacher in order to monitor your progress. In addition, if you are not already practicing daily personal prayers, this is a great time to

start by allocating at least 15 minutes a day. This is different than your evening prayer. This is time where you spend on your own reading the bible, talking, confessing, interceding for others and yourself. As you know, we also have the Wednesday church chain prayer for which we have members of our parish taking turns praying for all 24 hours. This is something you should try hard to get involved in.

We also have the Sunday School competition coming up on August 29th. The topics should be released shortly after which you can start using your time to start preparing early to avoid the rush when school also restarts. The Regional competition will be held on September 20th so lets give it our best. Again, as mentioned before it is definitely great when we win. However, our clear objective is to learn new songs, speeches, bible verses, etc.!

And last but not least, have a blast this summer and make some good memories to cherish. On behalf of the Sunday School staff, let me wish you all a fun filled SUMMER!!!

Jeeth Thomas



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We're on the web!

www.stignatious.com/sundayschool.php

**Have any questions or concerns, please email
St.Ignatious.SundaySchool@gmail.com
or reach out to any Sunday School Staff**

Check out our Blogs which include Sunday
Lections (Bible Reading & Devotional)

<http://stignatious.com/blogs/category/sschool/>

10th Grade Centralized Exam Winners

Congratulations to Sonia Ninan and Shalet Baby for winning the Second and Third place in the American Archdiocese . We are so proud of you!!!



**Sonia Ninan
Second Rank**



**Shalet Baby
Third Rank**



10th graders with their teachers. Kudos to all of you for successfully passing the exam

Local Competition 2014 - Individual Champions



Noel Aramath - KG



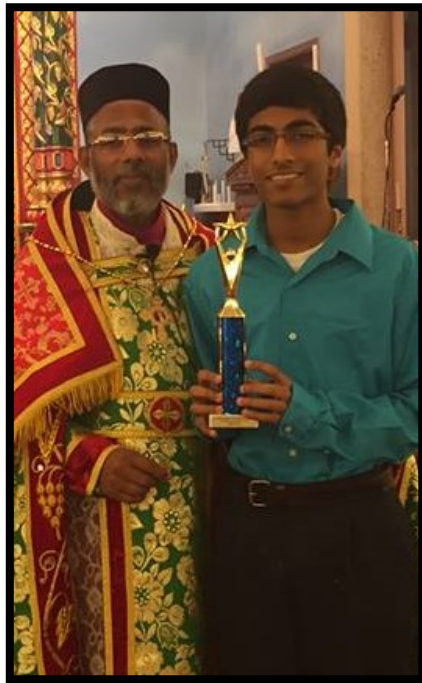
Kishone Zachariah - Primary



Riya Thomas - SubJunior



Anjali Philipose—Junior



Mathew Paul—Intermediate



Jacob Thomas—Intermediate

2014 Church Anniversary Pictures



"Mukkuva Dance" by PreK, KG & 1st Graders



Group Song by 2nd & 3rd Graders



Ten Commandments Musical Skit by 4th, 5th & 6th Graders

2014 Church Anniversary Pictures



Sin Chair Skit by 7th,8th & 9th Graders



Group Song by SundaySchool Teachers



His Holiness the Patriarch

His Holiness Moran Mor Ignatius Aphrem II became our patriarch on March 31st 2014. He was born on May 3rd 1965, in Qamishli, Syria. After he finished school, he went to Saint Ephrem's Theological Seminary in Atchaneh. Then, he became an assistant to the Archbishop Gregorios Yuhanna Ibrahim. His Holiness Moran Mor Ignatius Aphrem II was called Sa'id Karim at that time. Later, after he took his vows of a monk he changed his name, to Aphrem. After more years of education, he was appointed as Archbishop of the Eastern United States. When he got a higher position he oversaw the creation of eleven parishes, and created a youth organization. He also oversaw the Sunday School. When Patriarch Ignatius Zakka I was I passed away, Aphrem became the patriarch. And is now called His Holiness Moran Mor Ignatius Aphrem II. He visited India on February 7th for a pastoral visit.

Sofia Thomas

4th Grade

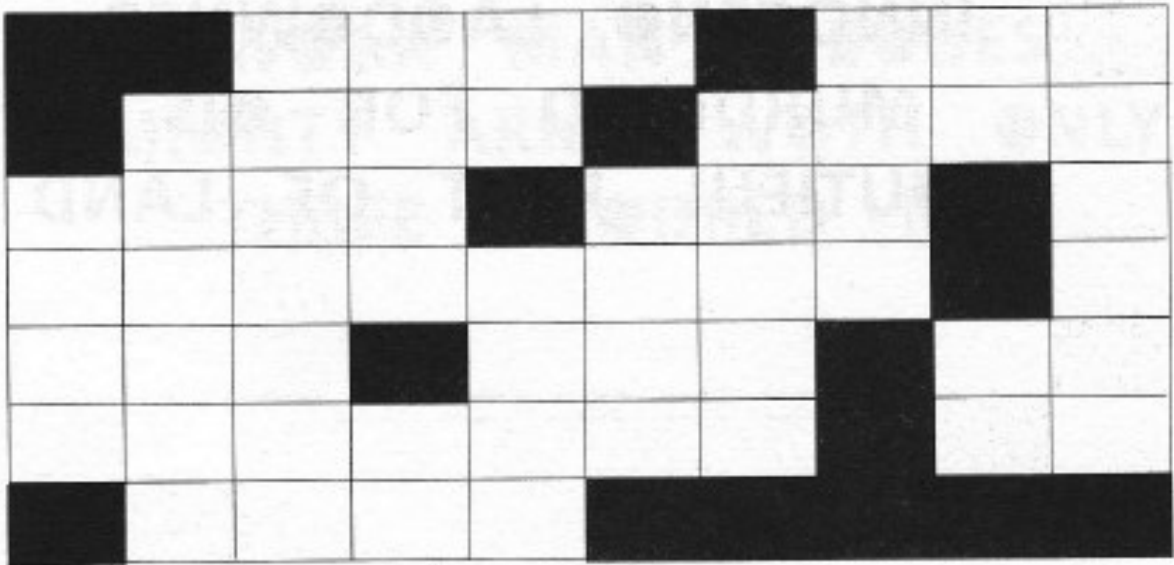


Bible Quotation Puzzles

Place the letter in each column in the following puzzle grid to form Words. The letters may or may not fit into the grid in the same order which they're given; black spaces indicate the ends of words. When a letter has been used, cross it off and do not use it again. When the grid has been properly filled in, you'll be able to read a Bible verse by scanning the lines of the grid from left to right.

Bible Quotation

PSALM 76:4



X	O	T	A	L	A	G	D	M	T
H	C	O	E	T	E	N	T	O	O
I	A	U	H	O	U	N	A	O	T
U	M	E	R	E	N	S	L	R	R
	P	N	L	I	H	E			F
	N	T	S	Y					E
		R							



Praying to Mother Mary

Do you know why we pray for Mother Mary? I do. Let me start with the story when Jesus turns water into wine. So there was a marriage going on in Cana in Galilee. During the marriage the wine is all done.

So this is when Mother Mary tells Jesus that the wine is finished. Then Jesus asked why do you want to involve me in this? Then Mother Mary tells the servants to do what Jesus tells them to do. Jesus tells the servants to fill the jar with water. So the servants filled it up to the brim of the jar. After that Jesus told them to take some of the water and give it to the Master of Banquet. By the time the Master of Banquet tasted the water it was turned into wine by Jesus Christ. This was the first miracle Jesus did ever publicly. Since Mother Mary interceded to Jesus on behalf of the family hosting the wedding, Jesus heard her request and did this miracle. This is an example of the power of intercession prayer. This is why we pray to Mother Mary for her intercession for us.

Avin John

4th Grade



Why do we Pray to Saints?

Why do we remember Saints in our church in general. Well, if you review history looking at people like Moses, God worked thru him to deliver his people from Egypt. Look at Mary, mother of God. At the wedding in Cana, when everyone had asked Jesus to help out the father of the bride groom since the wine had finished at wedding. Even though Jesus said it was not time yet, when she asked he listened and did the task. He performed his first miracle turning water into wine. When Eldo Mor Baselius Bhava came to Kerala, he needed help to get to Cheriyaipalli which is in Kothamangalam. He asked a Hindu farmer for help. The Hindu farmer stated that his sister was in pain trying to have a baby for a long time and he could not leave her and he had to also watch his cattle. Seeing the situation and praying to God, Bhava asked for some water, at which the man tried to climb a coconut tree nearby to get coconut. However after the saint prayed, the tree began to bend and he was able to reach and get 2 coconuts. Eldo Baselius Bhava then blessed it and gave it to the man and then Bhava took a stick and drew a circle all around the cattle. Bhava then told the man to give the coconut to his sister. The man left and gave it to his sister who drank it, she immediately gave birth to a healthy boy. After the Hindu man returned after one hour the cattle had not moved out of the circle. He took Eldo Basilius Bhava to the Cheriyaipalli church in Kothamangalam. When they arrived at Church the bell started ringing on its own. A lot of similar miracles happened and after the saint died, as the saint said he would give a sign when his soul left his body, the big cross outside the church lit up just after he died. Even today, we have so many miracles that happen when people request his help to pray to God on our behalf.

We pray or request to people like Mother Mary and other Saints since they have lived a life that we can learn from their lives and model ours. We always have to remember we can always talk to God directly, but we can also ask people close to God to also help us too. It won't hurt us, right? If I need something from my dad, I can ask him but sometimes it might be easier if my mom is also on my side and also asking for me.

Riya Ann Thomas

4th Grade

Sunday School Volunteers at FortWorth



On March 21st, 2015 our Sunday School Staff organized a service project which was indeed very unique. We met with one of the Friars of St. Benedict Mission in Fort Worth where we were first given a talk on the mission and then were led to the shelter where we prepared a lunch bag from food we brought from home thru donations from members of our church. One of the big lessons was not just the obvious need of food but also the compassion and taking a few minutes to talk to the less fortunate. Each bag contained chips, drinks, cookies, sandwiches, water etc. We made over 400 sandwiches which ran out very quick. It was truly a heartfelt experience for all the kids and volunteers



Easter Egg Hunt 2015



Easter Selfie



I got this...



We are ready....



Winners

Drop Two Puzzle

Remove two letters from each seven letter word in the left hand column to create a new five letter word (you may need to rearrange the remaining letters). Put the two dropped letters in the spaces to the right of the blanks. Then use these letters to spell out a phrase or sentence from the Bible.

LUKE

MICHAEL	Blood sucker	_____	1.	___	___	___
ARCHAIC	Official seat	_____	2.	___	___	___
GRENADE	Incline	_____	3.	___	___	___
ASHTRAY	Waste	_____	4.	___	___	___
FASTEST	Banquet	_____	5.	___	___	___
HEATHEN	Devoured	_____	6.	___	___	___
AVARICE	Slice turkey	_____	7.	___	___	___
LARGEST	Elaborate	_____	8.	___	___	___
BEASTLY	Leaven	_____	9.	___	___	___
REPLICA	Arrange	_____	10.	___	___	___
ENSURED	Sand hills	_____	11.	___	___	___
JESTING	Scorch	_____	12.	___	___	___
DEBOUCH	Diced	_____	13.	___	___	___

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

Know Your Teachers...



Jaimie Thomas



Hey everyone, my name is Jaime Thomas, and I am currently the secondary teacher for my 1st grade animals. I've had quite a few years of experience in our Sunday school organization, which I am so grateful for. I'm glad to announce that I've been accepted to the Nursing program at University of Texas at Arlington, can't wait to start! Some of my hobbies are dancing, singing with the radio, taking care of babies, and watching Netflix (haha)! I've been attending St. Ignatious for the past 21 years and I absolutely love it! I'm so blessed to be a part of our beautiful Cathedral!

Ashley Mathew



Hi, I am Ashley Mathew and I am the 9th grade teacher. My parents are Babu and Emily Mathew and I also have a younger brother, Shawn. I was born and brought up in this church, so I am quite thankful for the opportunity to give back through Sunday School and the Youth Ministries. I started teaching as a substitute soon after my High School graduation and about 4 years ago Mini Aunty offered me the change to teach 9th grade as the main teacher. It has been an amazing experience to not only help the next generation with their spiritual life, but also learn from them. I have completed my masters in Accounting and currently work as an internal auditor for the University of Texas System.

Stacey Ninan



Hi, my name is Stacey Ninan. I am a substitute for Sunday school. This is my second year being a part of the Sunday school staff and I love it. Last year I was one of the secondary teachers for kindergarten. I love to write, listen to music, and help others in any way I can. I will be graduating this December from UT Arlington with my Bachelors in Exercise Science. I will go on to graduate school to pursue my Master's and Doctorate in Occupational Therapy. It is my goal to work in the pediatric field of OT and have my own clinic. It's a true blessing being a part of the Sunday school staff. I get the opportunity to learn more about God's teachings and teach the younger generation what I've learned. The biggest gift is seeing a smile on a student's face which makes teaching even better.

Know Your Teachers...



Dona Padanilam



My family moved to Dallas in October 2007 when I was in 10th grade. I attended St. Ignatious Sunday School from then on and was taught by four incredible teachers who have helped to set a strong Christian foundation in my life: Paul Pathrose (10th), Reji Paul (11th), George Aramath (11th), and Mathew Aramath (12th). For the past 5 years since graduation, I have been teaching in Sunday School. I currently teach Qurbana songs during general assembly and am a secondary teacher for 8th Grade.

Nimmy Abraham



My name is Nimmy Abraham; I am 23 years old and I have been a member of St. Ignatious for as long as I can remember. I was a Sunday school student, taught by a number of wonderful Sunday School teachers, with the same group of classmates throughout the years. I graduated in 2010, went onto UTD for my biology degree, and am now pursuing a career in nursing. Since high school, I have been a secondary teacher for several classes: from middle school, to kindergarten, and now currently I am a secondary teacher for 2nd grade class.

Sunday School Staff

<u>President</u>	<u>Headmaster</u>	<u>Asst. Headmistress</u>	<u>Adviser</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
V. Rev John Varghese Corepiscopa	Jeeth Thomas	Mini Mammen	Rev Fr. Dr. Renjan Mathew	Jolly Kuriakose

<u>Pre-K</u>	<u>Kindergarten</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>4th</u>	<u>5th</u>
Asha Reji	Nina Abraham	Sini Paul	Ciney Skariah	Seena Abraham	Gigi Paul	Simi George
Babitha Mar-kose	Deepthy Zachariah	Jamie Thomas	Nimmy Abraham	Ruby Kurian	Priya Varghese	Angela Abraham

<u>6th</u>	<u>7th</u>	<u>8th</u>	<u>9th</u>	<u>11th</u>	<u>12th</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
Shiji Jacob	Binoi Skariah	Emily Mathew	Ashley Mathew	Paul Reji	Binu Aramath	Stacey Ninan
Anu Abraham	Alisha Paul	Dona Padanilam	Josh Mammen	P. C. Varghese	Babu C. Mathew	



SUNDAY SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS

2015

May

- ◆ May 3: Final Exam
- ◆ May 10: Teacher Meeting, Start of Sunday School Vacation
- ◆ May 17: Dessert Day

June 2015:

- ◆ July 6 to 10 (Targeted VBS Date)

August 2015:

- ◆ August 22: Sunday School Retreat and Confession before Opening
- ◆ August 23: Sunday School Reopening, Parent/Teacher Conference
- ◆ August 29: Local Sunday School Competition

September 2015:

- ◆ September 20: Regional Competition

October 2015:

- ◆ October 11: No Sunday School the week before the Church Anniversary Program for the Teachers/Students to use the time to prepare the kids for the programs from Sunday School
- ◆ October 18: St. Ignatious Perunnal (No Sunday School)

November 2015:

- ◆ November 15: 10th Grade Diocese Exam

December 2015:

- ◆ December 20: Winter Break - No Sunday School provided no makeup classes needed
- ◆ December 27: Winter Break - No Sunday School provided no makeup classes needed

Note: All Dates Subject to change depending on circumstances in the future.



We're on the web!

www.stignatious.com/sundayschool.php

Check out our Blogs which include Sunday Lessons (Bible Reading & Devotional)

<http://stignatious.com/blogs/category/sschool/>

*Have any questions or concerns, please email
St.ignatioussundayschool@gmail.com
 or reach out to any of the Sunday School Staff*

