Dear Friends in Christ,

According to our church calendar, the World Sunday School Day is celebrated after the observation of Family Sunday. It speaks of the relationship between the two: family and children. Through wedlock a child is born in love and into love. God is the Creator, and therefore, God owns every life. At the same time, humans are called to be partners in creation with God with what God has given. Human beings are called for the right use of the divine gifts, and God the Creator shares in their joy.

A child is a gift of God to the parents and to the whole world. We read about baby Jesus in Luke 2: 40 that the child grew and became strong filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him. It is a God-given responsibility of parents to see that each child is nurtured in the above manner (cf. Luke 1: 80). When John the Baptist was christened, the people gathered and pondered, “What then will this child become?” This should be the question that the teachers should be asking when the parents send their children to Sunday School to come closer to Jesus. When the public had questions about spiritual life, Jesus pointed to a child and said, “…for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”

We hear lots of incidents where children are misused, abused, neglected, and forgotten. Malala Yousafzai, this year’s Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, is a teenager who lives and fights for the rights of female children’s education. She has found her vocation before she turned 18 years old. Can our homes and Sunday Schools nurture our children to find their vocation while they are in their adolescent years? May God help us!

–Mar Theodosius +

The MTC of Greater Washington hosted the XV Diocesan Sevika Sangham Conference of the MTC, Diocese of North America and Europe. The conference took place at the Holiday Inn from October 2-5, 2014 with 284 participants. The theme of the conference was, “Empowering Women and Enriching the Family,” which was based on the Nazareth family. Our Diocesan Episcopa Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius inaugurated the conference, and Rt. Rev. Thomas Mar Timotheos (Trivandrum – Kollam Diocese) did the Anugraha Prabhashanam. In addition to the bishops, Mrs. Seena Abraham (Boston), Mrs. Ann Mathew Yunes (Washington), Rev. Binoy J. Thomas (Diocesan Secretary), Rev. Thomas Samuel (Vicar of MTCGW), Dr. Laurie Wilson (Howard University Hospital), Dr. Selena Thomas, and Mrs. Jibi Binoy provided the necessary leadership to make this conference an enriching and empowering one for all the delegates. There were cultural programs in the inaugural meeting, talent show, singing sessions, and panel discussions.
Southwest Regional Sunday School Jr./Sr. Conference

1st Senior Fellowship Conference

The 16th Diocesan Yuvajana Sakhyam Conference took place from Friday, October 10 to Sunday, October 12, 2014 at Hilton Garden Inn, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada. The conference was hosted by St. Mathew’s Mar Thoma Yuvajana Sakhyam, Toronto, Canada. Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius Episcopa, Rt. Rev. Thomas Mar Timotheos Episcopa, Rev. Daniel Thomas, Rev. Shibu Mathew, Rev. Rajan Koshy, Rev. Dr. Thomas George, Rev. Dr. Philip Mathai and Rev. Mathew Baby led the various sessions with meaningful, challenging, and dynamic talks.

The First Diocesan Conference of the Senior Fellowship was held from Thursday, October 16, 2014 to Saturday, October 18, 2014 at the Detroit Mar Thoma Church. The theme of the conference was, “Churching the Diaspora: Faith Development and Stewardship.” Our Diocesan Episcopa The Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius inaugurated the conference and delivered the keynote address and gave leadership throughout. The Vicar Rev. C. K. Kochumon welcomed the delegates. The senior member of the Detroit parish Mr. O. C. Koshy offered the felicitation. The main talk on the theme was given by Rev. Dr. Ipe Joseph. The Bible Studies were led by Rev. John Matthew (Kuriannoor). There were panel discussions and paper presentations on various topics of interest and concern for the seniors. About 140 members from the US and Canada participated. It was a memorable occasion for every participant.

Mexico Mission: Holy Qurbana Services and Visits for 2014

June 2014 - Mr. Mathew Samuel (Dallas) & Mr. Sam Mathew (NY) stayed at Colonia Mar Thoma for 10 days and conducted prayer meetings, house visits and gave Christian fellowship and nurturing.

July 2014 - Rev. Binoy J. Thomas (Diocese) visited and celebrated Holy Qurbana along with the VBS and Medical team from Houston and Austin.

August 2014 - Rev. Philip Varghese (Diocese), Rev. Saju Mathew & Jason Varghese (Immanuel MTC, Houston); visited and celebrated Holy Qurbana

September 2014 - Rev. Aji Varghese, Mr. Sabu T. Cherian, Mr. Sajan Philip, Mr. Titus Samuel from Austin, visited and celebrated Holy Qurbana

October 2014 - Rev. John Oommen & Mr. Daniel P. George and Mrs. Susan George from Los Angeles visited and celebrated Holy Qurbana

UPCOMING EVENTS

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