

## St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Forane Church, Houston 6400 W. Fuqua Rd, Missouri City, TX 77489

### From The Pastor's Desk

### Role of Godparents



The role of the godparent for baptism is rooted in the role of the sponsor in the catechumenate, which originated in the early Church. Recall that until the year 313, the Church was under the persecution of the Roman Empire and had to be cautious in conducting its affairs so as to prevent pagan infiltration and persecution. Also, until the Middle Ages, the Sacraments of Initiation — baptism, holy Eucharist, and confirmation — were administered at once. The role of the sponsor then was to attest to the integrity of the person, oftentimes an adult, seeking admission into the Church as well as to assist him during the catechumenate in preparing for these sacraments and in living a Christian life. For infants, these sponsors would also make the Profession of Faith in the child's name and accept the responsibility of instructing the child in the faith, especially if the parents failed in this duty.

About the year 800 when infant baptism was truly the norm, these sponsors were called "patrinus," or "godfather." Traditionally, we identify the sponsor of a child for baptism as the godparent — godmother or godfather, but the technical term remains "sponsor."

According to the Code of Canon Law, "Insofar as possible, one to be baptized is to be given a sponsor who is to assist an adult in Christian initiation, or, together with the parents, to present an infant at the baptism, and who will help the baptized to lead a Christian life in harmony with baptism, and to fulfill faithfully the obligations connected with it" (No. 872). This statement clearly reflects the historical roots of the role of sponsor.

To be a sponsor, a person must be chosen by the person to be baptized, or by the parents or guardians of a child, or, in their absence, by the pastor or minister of the sacrament. The sponsor must have completed his sixteenth year unless the Bishop has established another age for sponsorship, or the pastor or minister judges that a just cause warrants an exception to the rule. He must be a Catholic who has received the sacraments of holy Eucharist and confirmation, and "leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken." Moreover, the sponsor cannot be impeded by some canonical penalty. Ideally, this sponsor at baptism should also be the sponsor for confirmation. Note that the mother and father of the child cannot serve as sponsors.

Here we should pause to clarify who qualifies as a Catholic godparent. A Catholic who does not practice the faith by regularly attending Mass or who is in an invalid marriage disqualifies himself from being a godparent.

Moreover, if a person is Catholic but antagonistic to the faith, i.e. has the attitude "I am a Catholic but..." and would not be a good example and witness to the faith also disqualifies himself. If a person is not striving to fulfill his own obligations of baptism and confirmation, he will not fulfill the responsibilities of helping another to do so.

As a pastor, I am truly perturbed each time someone comes by the rectory office and wants me to sign a sponsor's certificate and attest that he is a practicing Catholic when I do not recognize him, he has not registered in the parish and he does not attend Mass faithfully. In justice, I cannot meet such a request. Godparents should be faithful individuals who are ready to accept the responsibility of being a part of a godchild's life for the rest of his life.

What if someone would like to have a faithful Protestant friend as a sponsor? Technically, only Catholics can be godparents or sponsors. In all, godparents serve a special role in the life of the baptized person. Therefore, each parent should choose a godparent not just because of a blood relationship or friendship; rather, a godparent should be a trustworthy witness of the faith who will help the godchild attain salvation.

We have a class for all parents and those who want to become Godparents on this Sunday after 9am mass. I invite you all for the class and you will be given a certificate of completion if you attend the class.

May God Bless you all  
Fr. Suni Padinjarekkara

### HOLY MASS, NIGHT VIGIL & NOVENA TIMINGS

#### Holy Mass:

Monday – Friday - 7 PM. | **Saturday**- 9:30 AM.

**Sunday** | 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:30 AM

#### Night Vigil:

First Off Weekend Friday of the Month | 8 PM. to Midnight

#### Adoration

Every Friday | 9 AM -7 PM.

Monday – Friday | 6-7 PM. Saturday | 8:30 - 9:30 AM.

**Novenas : St. Antony Tuesday** | After 7 PM. Mass

**St. Jude Thursday** | After 7 PM. Mass

**Our Lady of Perpetual Succour**

**Saturday** | After 9:30 AM. Mass



**Holy Mass Timings**

**SUNDAY READINGS & ALTAR DECORATION: SEPTEMBER 2019**

**September 15**

**HOLY FAMILY KOODARAYOGAM**

**September 22**

7:30 AM	First Reading:	Deut 8:11-20		7:30 AM	First Reading:	Deut 9:1-6
9:00 AM	Second Reading:	Phil 2:1-11		9:00 AM	Second Reading:	Phil 3:1-11
11:30AM	Holy Gospel:	Mt 4:12-17		11:30AM	Holy Gospel:	Mt 17:14-21



**BIBLE QUIZ # 26**

1. When one does not work, yet believes in the one who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as \_\_\_\_\_? (പ്രവർത്തികൾ കൂടാതെ തന്നെ പാപിയെ നീതീകരിക്കുന്നവനിൽ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നവന്റെ വിശ്വാസം \_\_\_\_\_ ആയി പരിഗണിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു.)

\_\_\_\_\_

2. As water quenches a flaming fire, so \_\_\_\_\_ atones for sins.

ജലം അഗ്നിയെ കെടുത്തുന്നതു പോലെ \_\_\_\_\_ പാപത്തിനു പരിഹാരമാണ്.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What does "Yahweh-yireh" means?

യഹവെയിരേ എന്ന പദത്തിന്റെ അർത്ഥം

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ passes for grey hair, and an \_\_\_\_\_ is the attainment of old age. മനുഷ്യന്റെ \_\_\_\_\_ ആണ് നരച്ചമുടി. \_\_\_\_\_ ആണ് പക്വതയാർന്ന വാർദ്ധക്യം.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. How old was Abraham when Issac was born?

ഇസഹാക്ക് ജനിച്ചപ്പോൾ അബ്രാഹാമിനു വയസ്സത്ര ?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of the contestant

Family Name

Phone #

**Quiz # 25**

**Selected winner: Divya Stany Cheruthanniyil**

**Other Winners**

- |                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Elsamma Puzhakarottu  | Lucy Karukaparambil              |
| Elsy Athimattathil    | Anncin & Alphons Thannichuvattil |
| Alina Cheruvil        | Sherly Cheruthanniyil            |
| Simon Thomas Karickal | Flora Kudakasseril               |
| Tessy Siby Mecheril   | Elsy Neettukattu                 |

6. Which parable did Jesus say to teach rich one's life does not consist of possessions? മനുഷ്യജീവിതം സമ്പത്തുകൊണ്ടല്ല മനുഷ്യജീവിതം എന്ന് കാണിക്കാൻ യേശു പറഞ്ഞ ഉപമയേത്?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Who are the sisters of Lazarus?

ലാസറിന്റെ സഹോദരിമാർ ആരെല്ലാം ?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. According to St. Paul, what should God's chosen ones, holy and beloved put on? ദൈവത്തിന്റെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കപ്പെട്ടവരും വാത്സല്യ ഭാജനങ്ങളും പരിശുദ്ധരും എന്ന നിലയിൽ എന്തൊക്കെ ധരിക്കാനാണ് പൗലോസ് ശ്ലീഹ പറയുന്നത്?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. According to the book of Hebrews, people received the law on the basis of what? \_\_\_\_\_ വഴിയാണ് ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് നിയമം നൽകപ്പെട്ടത്?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. In which chapter of Habakkuk did he write the hymn according to Shigionot? ഹബക്കൂക്ക് പ്രവാചകൻ വില്യാപരാഗത്തിൽ രചിച്ച പ്രാർത്ഥനാഗീതം ഏത് അദ്ധ്യായത്തിലാണ്?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Quiz # 25**

**Correct Answers.**

- ബേതസൈദ
- ലിദായിലെ വിശുദ്ധരുടെ അടുക്കൽ വച്ച്
- സകല നന്മയിലും നീതിയിലും സത്യത്തിലും
- കർത്താവിന്റെ ദൂതൻ
- a-കർത്താവായിരിക്കും, b, നിന്റെ ദൈവമായിരിക്കും
- നീ എത്ര ഉന്നതനാണോ അത്ര മാത്രം വിനീതനാകുമ്പോൾ
- കർത്താവിനോടുള്ള ഭക്തി
- ആത്മാർത്ഥതയും വിശ്വസ്തതയും
- കർത്താവിന്റെ നിയമം
- സന്തോഷത്തിലൂടെ പ്രവർത്തന നിരതമായ വിശ്വാസം

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**September 15 :** Class on Sacraments of initiation after 9am mass.

**September 28 :** Audition for the applicants for Church Choir after the mass.

**October 25, 26 & 27 :** CHURCH MAIN FEAST

വരിയ പെരുന്താർ

### Koodarayogam

**Holy Family Koodarayogam** @ 5 pm in the residence of **Joseph Kannasseril** on September. 15, 2019.

**Ave Maria Koodarayogam** @ 7pm in the residence of **Johnson Vattamattam** on Sept. 15, 2019.



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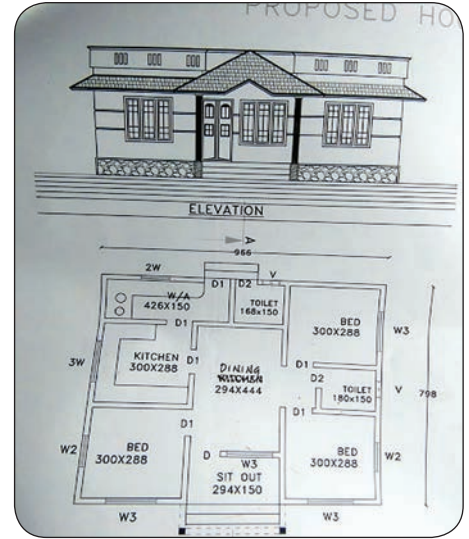
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**CONTRIBUTIONS & OFFERINGS**

**September 1**

Sunday Collections	_____	\$ 1742.00
Annual Contributions	_____	\$ 2850.00
Building Fund	_____	\$ 000.00

**September 8**

Sunday Collections	_____	\$ 1620.00
Annual Contributions	_____	\$ 4625.00
Building Fund	_____	\$ 0000.00



**CHURCH OFFICIALS**

**VICAR**

Fr. Suni Padinjarekkara(Office) 281-957-5264  
Cell 708-953-1912

**OFFICE SECRETARY**

Sr. Reji Philip 832-679-3702  
Stephen Edattukunnel 832-277-2153

**ACCOUNTANT**

Geemon Varikkattu 713-291-4027

**AUDITOR**

Suman Maruthachickal 281-437-6542

**TRUSTEES**

Johny Pathiyil 281-753-8980  
Baiju Pazhempallil 713-517-6445  
Roy Mangappallil 713-826-6489  
Johnson Vattamattathil 201-270-9360

**PRO**

Chatterji Aickareth 832-349-8798

**DRE**

Rarichen Chennattu 713-540-6363

**CONVENT**

Sr. Reji (Mother) 832-679-3702

**SACRISTAN**

Sr. Jossy Lukose 832-679-2049  
Thomas Athimattathil 713-540-3484  
Jose Thannichuvattil 434-466-2066

**CHOIR**

Jose Kuruppamparambil 281-746-8083

**BIBLE READINGS**

Sheeba Thannichuvattil 434-466-2059  
(For Malayalam Masses)

Tomy Chamakalayil 281-725-2224  
(For English Mass Only)

**FUNERAL COORDINATOR**

Jojith Kulathilkarottu 832-290-0391

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS CO-ORDINATOR**

Babu Parayamkalayil 832-971-0924  
Sr. Joicy Joseph 832-679-3724

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