



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

From The Pastor's Desk



A Christmas tree is a decorated tree, usually an evergreen conifer such as spruce, pine, or fir or an artificial tree of similar appearance, associated with the celebration of Christmas. The modern Christmas tree was developed in early modern Germany with predecessors that can be traced to the 16th and possibly 15th century, in which devout

Christians brought decorated trees into their homes. It acquired popularity beyond Germany during the second half of the 19th century, at first among the upper classes.

The tree was traditionally decorated with edibles such as apples, nuts, or other foods. In the 18th century, it began to be illuminated by candles which were ultimately replaced by Christmas lights after the advent of electrification. Today, there is a wide variety of traditional ornaments, such as garlands, baubles, tinsel, and candy canes. An angel or star might be placed at the top of the tree to represent the archangel Gabriel or the Star of Bethlehem from the Nativity.

The modern Christmas tree is frequently traced to the symbolism of trees in pre-Christian winter rites, wherein Viking and Saxon worshipped trees. [The story of Saint Boniface cutting down Donar's Oak illustrates the pagan practices in 8th century among the Germans. A later folk version of the story adds the detail that an evergreen tree grew in place of the felled oak, telling them about how its triangular shape reminds humanity of the Trinity and how it points to heaven.

Alternatively, it is identified with the "tree of paradise" of medieval mystery plays that were given on 24 December, the commemoration and name day of Adam and Eve in various countries. In such plays, a tree decorated with apples (to represent the forbidden fruit) and wafers (to represent the Eucharist and redemption) was used as a setting for the play. Like the Christmas

crib, the Paradise tree was later placed in homes. The apples were replaced by round objects such as shiny red balls. The first recorded Christmas tree can be found on the keystone sculpture of a private home in Turckheim, France dating 1576

In 2004, Pope John Paul called the Christmas tree a symbol of Christ. This very ancient custom, he said, exalts the value of life, as in winter what is evergreen becomes a sign of undying life, and it reminds Christians of the "tree of life" of Genesis 2:9, an image of Christ, the supreme gift of God to humanity.

He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree."

May God Bless you all
Fr. Suni Padinjarekkara (Vicar)



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: December 2019

December 8

ST. MICHAEL'S KOODARAYOGAM

December 15

7:30 AM	First Reading:	Num 22:20-35
9:00 AM	Second Reading:	Col 4:2-6
11:30AM	Holy Gospel:	Lk 1:26-38



7:30 AM	First Reading:	Gen 18:1-19
9:00 AM	Second Reading:	Eph 3:1-13
11:30AM	Holy Gospel:	Lk 1:57-66



BIBLE QUIZ # 32

1. "He who fears the Lord will have a happy end; even on the _____ he will be blessed" കർത്താവിനെ യേശുസ്മരണയ്ക്ക് അവസാനം ശുഭമായിരിക്കും. _____ ദിവസം അവൻ അനുഗ്രഹിതനാകും.
2. The judgement on Rome may happen in what time? റോമിന്റെ മേലുള്ള വിധി എത്ര നേരം കൊണ്ട് സംഭവിക്കും?
3. In the gospel of Mathew, when Jesus said "repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God", what did the Pharisees do? വി. മത്തായിയുടെ സുവിശേഷത്തിൽ സിസറിനുള്ളത് സിസറിനും കൊടുക്കുക എന്ന് യേശു പറഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ ചോദ്യകർത്താക്കൾ എന്ത് ചെയ്തു?
4. Who was thrown into the pool of fire? ആരാണ് അഗ്നിതടാകത്തിലേക്ക് എറിയപ്പെട്ടത്?
5. For both we and our words are in his hand, as well as all _____ and _____, _____ എന്ന പോലെ നമ്മളും നമ്മുടെ വചനങ്ങളും അവിടുത്തെ കരങ്ങളിലാണ്?

Name of the contestant
Family Name
Phone #

Quiz # 31

Selected winner: Tessa Siby Mecheril

Other Winners

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Simon Karickal | Anncin Jose Thannichuvattil |
| Lucy Karukaparambil | Alphons Jose Thannichuvattil |
| Elsy Neetukattu | Shirly Stany Cheruthanniyil |
| Elsy Athimattathil | Divya Stani Cheruthanniyil |
| | Elsamma Puzhakarottu |

6. What is the second death? എന്താണ് രണ്ടാമത്തെ മരണം?
7. "I long to depart this life and be with Christ" Why? എങ്കിലും എന്റെ ആഗ്രഹം മരിച്ച ക്രിസ്തുവിനോട് കൂടെ ആയിരിക്കാനാണ് കാരണം?
8. Do not be remiss in doing what? എന്തു പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നതിൽ നിങ്ങൾ നിരന്തരസാഹചര്യം എന്താണ് അടയ്ക്കാതെ ചെയ്യുന്നത്?
9. "If we acknowledge our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrongdoing". When? അവൻ വിശ്വസ്തനും നീതിമാനും ആകയാൽ എല്ലാ പാപങ്ങൾ ക്ഷമിക്കുകയും എല്ലാ അനീതികളിൽ നിന്ന് നമ്മെ ശുദ്ധീകരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും എപ്പോൾ?
10. "A _____ is the health of the body, but a depressed spirit dries up the _____". _____ ആരോഗ്യദായകമാണ് തളർന്ന മനസ്സ് _____ കെടുത്തുന്നു.

Bible Quiz # 31 Correct Answers.

1. അവർ രക്ഷ പ്രാപിക്കും
2. യൂദായിലേക്കും ജോർദാനു മറുകരയിലേക്കും
3. സെബാദ്വീ പുത്രന്മാരായ യാക്കോബും യോഹന്നാനും
4. വഴിയരികിൽ ഉരിക്കുകയായിരുന്നു
5. അവൻ കല്ലിന്റെ മറുകരയിൽ ഞെരുന്നെടുത്ത നാട്ടിൽ എത്തി
6. പത്രോസ് യാക്കോബ് യോഹന്നാൻ
7. അനേകം ചുങ്കക്കാരും പാപികളും
8. മണവാളൻ അവരിൽ നിന്ന് അകറ്റപ്പെടുന്ന കാലം വരും അന്നവർ ഉപവസിക്കും
9. അവന്റെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കപ്പെട്ടവരെ
10. എല്ലായിടത്തും ഘോഷി പ്രസംഗിച്ചു

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WEDDING BANNS



The marriage between **Ann Mariya Thampi** daughter of Thampi Mathew and Gigimol Thampi Keeaparaputhenpurayil from St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Forane Church, Houston, with **Jerin Baby** son of Baby and Jancy Baby Thattamattathil from St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Church, Chicago, is scheduled on 04 January 2020.

The marriage between **Justin** son of Thomas and Thressiamma Koithuruthil from St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Forane Church, Houston, with **Anvi John** Daughter of John and Alice Nellikattil from St. Joseph's Knanaya Catholic mission, Newyork, is scheduled on 01 January 2020.

The marriage between **Ashwin Shaji** son of Shaji Uthuppan and Sonia Shaji Chackalackal from St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Forane Church, Houston, with **Chinnu Sunny** Daughter of Sunny and Merly Kizhakkekuttu from St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Church, Koodaloor, is scheduled on 02 January 2020.

The marriage between **Johny James** son of James Mathew and Molly James Vadakkekara from St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Forane Church, Houston, with **Neenu Ann** Thampi Daughter of Thampi Jose and Usha Thampi Manthuruthil from St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic forane Church, Houston, is scheduled on 04 January 2020.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 07** *St. George Koodarayogam at the residence of Simon and Daisy Puthenpurayil @ 5 pm.*
St. Michle Koodarayogam at the residence of Tomy and Thressiamma Kochuputhenpura @ 7 pm.
- December 08** *St. Antonys Koodarayogam at the residence of Sabu and Mini Chirakuzhiputhenpura @5 pm.*
- December 08** *Parish council meeting after 9 am mass*
- December 22** *Sunday - General Body meeting at 10 am*
- December 22** **Priestly Golden Jubilee celebration** of Rev. Fr. Joseph Manapuram at 11.30 am mass
- December 24** **Tuesday - 7pm Christmas mass**
- December 25** **9.30 am Holy Mass**



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CONTRIBUTIONS & OFFERINGS

November 24

Sunday Collections	_____	\$ 1600.00
Annual Contributions	_____	\$ 3550.00
Building Fund	_____	\$ 1700.00

December 1

Sunday Collections	_____	\$ 1085.00
Annual Contributions	_____	\$ 3700.00
Building Fund	_____	\$ 0200.00



CHURCH OFFICIALS

VICAR

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OFFICE SECRETARY

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Johnson Vattamattathil 201-270-9360

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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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