



# മാലാഖാ ദൂത്

## ANGEL VOICE

ST. MARY'S KNaNAYA CATHOLIC FORANE CHURCH  
 6400 WEST FUQUA DR, MISSOURI CITY, TX 77489

[mutholath2000@gmail.com](mailto:mutholath2000@gmail.com)

[smkchouston.org](http://smkchouston.org)

[stmarytrustee@gmail.com](mailto:stmarytrustee@gmail.com)



NAMING OF JOHN

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

◆ 7:30 AM MALAYALAM MASS

◆ 9:30 AM ENGLISH MASS

◆ 11:30 AM MALAYALAM SOLEMN MASS

### 🔍 Readings ×

Sunday December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Annunciation

- Gen 18:1-10 God confirms the promise to Abraham
- Judg 13:2-7, 24 Birth of Samson
- Eph 3:1-13 Paul is called to witness the mystery of Christ
- Lk 1:57-66 Birth of John the Baptist



## VICAR'S MESSAGE

### PROMOTING ENDOGAMOUS MARRIAGES IN THE KNANAYA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Dear Parishioners,

We are filled with gratitude and joy as we witness the increasing number of endogamous marriages within the Knanaya Catholic youth in the United States. This positive trend is a testament to the vibrant community life and spiritual environment fostered in our Knanaya Catholic parishes and missions across the USA. The high volume of wedding banns announced in our churches and increasing number of attendances in the pre-marriage courses offered by Knanaya Catholic Region in the USA reflect this growing commitment among our youth to cherish and preserve our community's unique heritage.

#### **Faith-Based and Cultural Foundations of Endogamy**

Endogamy is not merely a cultural practice but has profound biblical and Jewish roots. In the Old Testament, we see patriarchs like Abraham and Isaac ensuring that their children married within their own community to preserve their faith and traditions (Genesis 24:3–4; Genesis 28:1). Similarly, the Jewish people upheld endogamous practices as a way to maintain their covenantal identity as God's chosen people. These examples highlight how marrying within one's community can serve as a means of safeguarding faith and heritage.

The Knanaya community's history is deeply intertwined with these traditions. Our roots trace back to the migration of Jewish Christians from the Chaldean Church in 345 AD. This community, led by Thomas of Kinai and Bishop Urha Mar Joseph, carried a legacy of faith, tradition, and endogamy as a means of preserving their faith, identity, values, and unity.

#### **Preserving Our Rich Traditions and Faith**

Endogamous marriages have helped maintain the continuity of the Knanaya community's rich traditions and Catholic faith. Our parishes in the USA provide an environment where our youth can interact with one another in faith-filled settings, similar to how previous generations grew up in Kerala. This has fostered not only loving connections but also spiritual and cultural formation among our young people.



## VICAR'S MESSAGE

The unique family bond and mutual support within our community are blessings we cherish. These qualities are deeply rooted in our practice of endogamy, which strengthens our sense of belonging and solidarity. The Catholic Church respects and supports the right of community members to marry among themselves, recognizing the role this plays in preserving cultural and spiritual identity.

### **A Call for Sensitivity and Mutual Respect**

While upholding the endogamous nature of our community, it is vital to remember that this tradition must never be a cause of hurt for others. The love and respect we show to non-Knanaya Christians are equally important in embodying the universal call to love and unity that Christ has given us.

The recognition of the Knanaya community's identity by the Catholic Church, through the establishment of separate eparchy in Kerala and Knanaya regions outside India, is a testament to the importance of our traditions. Let us honor this recognition by fostering a respectful spirit that reflects our Christian values.

### **Moving Forward in Faith and Unity**

Let us continue to uphold the beauty of our endogamous practices with a healthy and reasonable approach. By living out our faith and traditions authentically, we can inspire others to respect and love the Knanaya community. May our commitment to endogamy always be rooted in a desire to glorify God, preserve our heritage, and build strong families and communities.

With prayerful blessings,  
Fr. Abraham Mutholath  
Pastor



**Endogamy should preserve faith, heritage, and unity in Christ's love while respecting all.**







## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- [Homily on Luke 1:5-25 by Fr. Abraham Mutholath in Houston on December 1, 2024.](#)
- Koodarayogams, please do Christmas Carol. Intention is for altar renovation. Sponsors are welcome.
- We will celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Sunday December 15. Sponsors are welcome. Ladies, please use the shawl of Our Lady of Guadalupe on coming Sunday.
- Those who have not made annual contribution this year, please do so.
- Buffallo (പോത്ത) auction on Sunday December 15th after 9:30 A.M. Qurbana.
- Mission League is having a toy drive this month to give to children in need. Please bring them and deposit in the box of CML in the hallway.
- Youth Ministry Charity drive in December. Collecting clothes, non-perishable food items, household items, personal care items like soap, shampoos, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. Donation boxes will be available at the hallway during December.
- Youth Ministry meeting to plan our next year feast will be on Sunday, December 22nd after English Qurbana. All of the ages 15-35, whether married or unmarried, are welcome. Please invite your friends for that meeting.
- All Koodarayogams will have an opportunity to do Christmas Carol songs on Sunday, December 22nd after English Qurbana for five minutes each. The songs can be in Malayalam or English with maximum people participation. It will not be a competition.





## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **This year we will have competition on Koodarayogam basis for prayer space setting at homes. Please rearrange your prayer room or wall according to the directions given, take a photo and send to your Koodarayogam coordinator. The Koodarayogam executive will select the best from them and forward to the church executive. Prize will be given to the winners on Koodarayogam and parish level after the Christmas vigil Qurbana. All submissions shall be made on or before December 22nd.**
- **You are invited to bring Christmas cakewhen you come for Christmas vigil Qurbana on December 24th and that will be distributed to all who come to the church that day.**



## Christmas Carol Songs by Koodarayogams



**Celebrate the Spirit of Christmas with Us!**



**Date:** Sunday, December 22



**Time:** After the 9:30 A.M. Qurbana



**Venue:** St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Church, Houston

### Event Highlights:

- **Time Limit:** Maximum 5 minutes per Koodarayogam.
- **Not a Competition:** Let's unite to celebrate the joy of Christmas!
- **Involvement Encouraged:** Maximum participation from children, youth, and adults.
- **Dress Code:** Festive attire is warmly welcomed.

### How to Participate:

Register the names of participating Koodarayogams at the **Reception Desk**.

Let's come together as one community to celebrate the birth of Christ through melodious carols!

**Bring your voice, your spirit, and your heart to make this celebration memorable.**



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🎄 Share the Sweetness of Christmas! 🍰



### Offering Cake for December 24th Evening Qurbana

As we gather to celebrate the joyous birth of Christ on **Tuesday, December 24th**, we invite you to share in the spirit of community and love by bringing **cakes** to enjoy with our parish family after the evening **Qurbana**.

#### How You Can Participate:

- 🍰 **Bake or Buy:** Feel free to bring a cake or two made in your own unique style.
- 📝 **Register Your Name:** Sign up at the **Reception Desk** to let us know you're participating.

Your thoughtful contribution will help us share the sweetness and joy of Christmas with everyone in our parish family. Let's come together to make this celebration truly special!

🎅 **Thank you for your generosity and cooperation.**

Wishing you a **Merry Christmas** filled with love, peace, and happiness.



## 🏠 Prayer Space Competition 🙏



### Create a Sacred Space in Your Home this Christmas

As we celebrate the birth of Christ, let's renew our homes with a dedicated **Prayer Wall or Room**, a peaceful space for spiritual reflection, free from distractions. Let this Christmas be an opportunity to center our lives around faith and prayer.

#### Conditions for the Prayer Wall / Room

1. **Sacred Focus:** Include only statues and images of Jesus, saints, and religious items like the Bible, rosary, holy water, and candles. Decorations are acceptable if they enhance the sacredness of the space.
2. **No Personal Photos:** Avoid displaying photos of living or deceased family members in the prayer area.
3. **Alcohol-Free:** Ensure no display of alcohol in the house.

#### Competition Guidelines

- **Participation:** Organized on a **Koodarayogam** basis.
- **How to Enter:** Take a clear picture of your prayer wall or room and submit it to your **Koodarayogam coordinator or secretary via WhatsApp or email.**
- **Selection Process:**
  - Koodarayogam executives will choose the best prayer space from their group.
  - Selected entries must be emailed to [mutholath2000@gmail.com](mailto:mutholath2000@gmail.com) on or before **December 22** with the subject Prayer space competition.
  - The **Parish Executive Team** will select the top prayer wall or room from all submissions for the **First Prize.**
  - All Koodarayogam winners and the overall best prayer space will receive a **special prize** after the Christmas services.
- **Verification:** Koodarayogam and Parish Executives reserve the right to verify prayer spaces in person with prior notice.

#### Why Participate?

This competition aims to encourage every parish family to create or renew their sacred space, making prayer an integral part of our homes. It's a chance to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and invite the presence of Christ into our daily lives.

#### Let's Make This Christmas Extra Special!

We look forward to seeing your creative and reverent prayer spaces. Let's come together as a parish community to honor the season's spiritual significance.

🌲 Merry Christmas and prayerful wishes to all! 🌲



## Make Your Christmas Dinner Unforgettable With Organic Water Buffalo Meat!

*This Christmas, treat your family to a flavorful, organic Kerala-style delicacy while contributing to the growth of our parish. Here's your chance to enjoy premium water buffalo meat and support a great cause!*

Join the Excitement at Our Auction!

Location: St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Parish Grounds, 6400 W Fuqua Street, 77489

Date: Sunday, December 15th

Time: 10:30 AM



Important Details:

- Transportation and cleanup are the responsibility of the winning bidder.
- Winners must collect an official letter from church officials to claim the buffalo from the farm.
- The buffalo must be picked up from the farm before Christmas.

This generous gift comes courtesy of Mr. Sabu Mapilasseril.

**Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to make your Christmas feast extraordinary and support our parish mission!**

*See you at the auction!*





# WEDDING BANNS

- **Fabin Saju son of Saju and Meena Vattakunnathu from Holy Family Knanaya Catholic Church Atlanta with Selina Mary John daughter of Biju and Kavitha Pulickal from this parish to be held on January 18, 2025. (Third Bann)**
- **Anters Thomas Alexander, son of Alexander and Beena Mattappillil from St. Joseph's Knanaya Catholic Church, Vadakkummury with Amrutha Maria Joy, daughter of Joy and Shanti Palackaparambil (Illikkaparambil) from this parish (originally from Karikunnam St. Augustine's parish) to be held on January 9, 2025. (Third Bann)**
- **Crisjo Jaimon, son of Jaimon and Shiny Parayamkalayil from this parish with Olivia Joseph, daughter of Titus and Linsey Meleth from St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Parish, Detroit to be held on May 29, 2025. (Second Bann)**
- **Vince Joseph, son of Joseph and Valsamma Adyanoor from St. Kuriakose Knanaya Catholic Church, Kakkanad with Elizabeth Jose, daughter of Jose and Josephine Kallickal from this parish to be held on January 8, 2025. (First Bann)**
- **Ashik Jomon son of Jomon and Bindhu Manumkal from St. Augustine's Knanaya Catholic Church, Karimkunnam with Alina Sabu, Daughter of Sabu and Jiji Chakalackal from this parish to be held on February 2, 2025. (First Bann)**





5:30-5:45  
Food

7pm English  
Mass



**ST. MARY'S KNANAYA CATHOLIC  
FORANE CHURCH, HOUSTON**

# Teen Zone

ADORATION

GAMES

12/20 @ 5:30 PM

**Fun, Games, Activities & Food**

**Every Third Friday**

5:30-6:45 TEEN ZONE (8TH-12TH GRADERS ONLY)

7:00-8:00 ENGLISH QURBANA (OPEN TO EVERYONE)

8:00-8:45 ADORATION (OPEN TO EVERYONE)





## IMPORTANT DATES

### DECEMBER 2024

**DEC 14 SAT: FEAST OF ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS**

**DEC 18 WED: FEAST OF THE MIRACULOUS CROSS AT  
MYLAPORE**

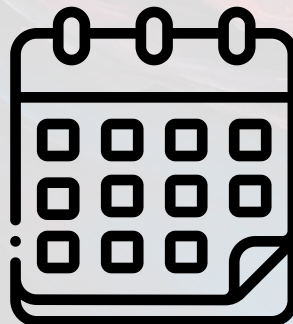
**DEC 25 WED: CHRISTMAS – THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

**DEC 26 THU: FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN**

**DEC 27 FRI: FEAST OF ST. JOHN, THE APOSTLE**

**DEC 28 SAT: HOLY CHILDHOOD DAY (THE INFANTS' DAY)**

**DEC 29 SUN: FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**







# CATECHISM CORNER

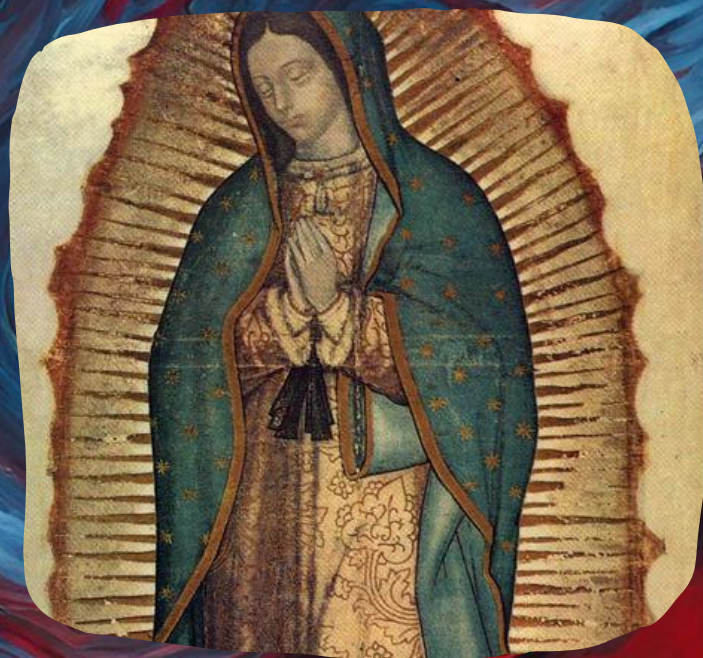
## UPDATES

- CCD MIDTERM EXAM ON DEC 15

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE  
FEAST DAY:  
DECEMBER 12**

**PATRONAGE: THE  
AMERICAS, MEXICO, AND  
UNBORN CHILDREN.**



## BIBLE PASSAGE

## VERSE OF THE WEEK

**Luke 1:46-47-My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

- GENESIS 18:1-10
- JUDGES 13:2-7:24
- EPHESIANS 3:1-13
- LUKE 1:57-66



# WEEKLY SCHEDULE

## QURBANA SCHEDULE

MON - FRI: 9:00 AM (MAL)  
7:00 PM (MAL)  
SATURDAY: 9:30 AM (MAL)  
SUNDAY: 7:30 AM (MAL)  
9:30 AM (ENG)  
11:30 AM (MAL - SOLEMN)

## CATECHISM

SUNDAY: 10:30 AM

## CONFESSION

MON - FRI: 6:00 PM -6:45 PM  
(ALSO ANYTIME UPON REQUEST)

## NOVENA (AFTER QURBANA)

TUESDAY: ST. ANTONY  
THURSDAY: ST. JUDE  
FIRST FRIDAY: SACRED HEART  
SATURDAY: B.V. MARY

## ADORATION

MON - FRI: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
SATURDAY: 8:30 AM- 9:30 AM  
FIRST FRIDAY: 8 PM TO 9 PM (MAL)  
THRID FRIDAY: 8 PM TO 9 PM (ENG)

## OFFICE HOURS

PLEASE CALL FOR APPOINTMENTS

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### VICAR / PASTOR:

FR. ABRAHAM MUTHOLATH: 773-412-6254

### ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

FR. JOSHY VALIYAVEETIL:  
224-775-8039

### TRUSTEES:

JASSIM THAYILPUTHENPURAYIL  
713-498-0604

### PASTORAL COORDINATOR:

BIBY THEKKANATT: 248-974-5100

BABU PARAYAMKALAYIL: 832-971-0924

### OFFICE SECRETARY:

SR. REJI SJC: 832-679-3702

GEORGE POOVAPADATH: 281-912-4150

### PRO:

SHAJUMON MUKALEL: 832-497-6656

ALVIN MUKALEL: 346-702-9498

JAMES EDUKUTHARYIL: 847-897-8028

### DRE:

JOHNSON VATTAMATTATHIL:  
201-270-9360

### FACILITY MANAGEMENT:

SIMON ELLANKIYIL: 281-499-5573

BIBY THEKKANATT: 248-974-5100

THOMAS KANICHATTUMTHARA:  
786-216-2938

MATHEW THEKKETHIL: 832-661-6305

### PARISH BULLETIN EDITORIAL BOARD:

ALVIN ABRAHAM MUKALEL  
ANGELINE THANNICHUVATTIL  
ELISHA VATTAMATTATHIL (ED. JR)

FOR ZELLE PAYMENT:  
STMARYTRUSTEE@GMAIL.COM