

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Dear friends in Christ,

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another - John 13:34, 35

Another month has passed by and I would like to thank the Almighty for His grace and mercy on our Church and all its activities over the last month. In this month's newsletter I would like to highlight on some of the programmes that we undertake as a Church to support the helpless and needy. Resources for these programmes obviously are provided by all of you and while thanking you for your immense support, I would like to request your continued assistance in some of these programmes, especially when it comes to Poor Fund. Our heavenly Father has blessed us and it is only right to show our love and care to people around us who are not so fortunate.

I would like to quote this verse from the Word about love and care, which doesn't need any explanation; but something for us to ponder on:

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.

Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' - Matthew 25:34-40

As Mar Thoma Parish Dubai, we have four programs that extend helps to the needy;

1. **Poor Fund:** Supports the needy people back home in India in the areas of Education, Medical Treatment, Marriage, House Building & Maintenance,
2. **Karuthal:** Supports the needy people in UAE on their various painful occasions, who are mainly from labour camps, hospitals, jails etc [This activity is undertaken in affiliation with ICWC under the patronage of The Consulate General of India, Dubai].
3. **Good Samaritan Fund:** This fund supports the Dubai Parish members who are in need of any kind of financial assistance.
4. **Marriage Aid Special Project:** A new project, as Dubai Parish, completes 45 glorious years in this country. Our 45th year is celebrated by supporting 45 women from Mar Thoma Sabha in their marriage.

The above programs are possible, only because each one of you are contributing in respective areas with your prayers, effort and money. Humbly request your continued support so that we together as Dubai Mar Thoma Parish can extend the love of Jesus Christ to those who are in need.

Should you need to know anything more or would like to help in a particular way, please feel free to contact the Vicars or the Church office bearers at anytime. You may also contact your area Kaisthana Samithi members who will be able to help you in this regard.

Faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love - I Corinthians 13:13.

May God bless all of us,

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