



## Malankara Catholic Church St. Mary's Mission Toronto

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### THE EDITORIAL

*Dear Readers,*

The month of September has arrived and the season of fall has begun! Just as the colours of the leaves change, it is time for us to bring about a change within ourselves! This issue is dedicated to Mother Mary since we are celebrating her feast day. A wonderful article is written this month by Isabel Mani outlining the meaning of the prayer "Hail Mary." Along with our dear Mother, Saint Augustine of Hippo is also given great importance as his exemplary life style and calling is demonstrated in the *Saint of the Month* segment. In this bulletin we also recall the exciting national Malankara Catholic convention that took place last month. As a side note, please notice the address change of our parish and we hope to see everyone at the church perunaal and Jubilee celebration this month! On behalf of the Malankara Catholic Mission of Toronto we congratulate Most Rev. Dr. Fr. Gigi Philip for completing his Silver Jubilee! Exciting pictures and articles are soon to come in the next issue...

### Sunday Liturgy

**3:45-4:15– Choir Practice**  
**4:15-4:45– Namaskaram**  
**4:45-6:30– Old Testament Readings & The Holy Qurbano**

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*Letters will be published in the next bulletin!*



# Saint of the Month

## St. Augustine of Hippo

St. Augustine of Hippo

St. Augustine of Hippo was born on November 13, 354 to Patricius and St. Monica and lived in a middle class family. His upbringing was in a Christian family and his education was of the same nature. Because he was very intelligent, his father wanted to send him to Carthage to study forensics. In the time that his father was collecting funds, Augustine fell into a sinful lifestyle. His prayer life began to dwindle, he attended lavish parties and became intoxicated among many other things. His competitive nature caused him to seek first place in everything, even in the occasion of sin. Through the prayers of his mother and a profound teaching by St. Ambrose, he saw the error of his ways, yet he didn't come to his faith right away. One day he heard two men who had been converted by reading the life of St. Antony. Upon hearing this he felt terribly ashamed because he felt that simple people were able to attain Heaven while he with all his knowledge was unable to. This, coupled with the shame of his sins brought him to cry out to God in anguish. By the end of his prayer, he heard a voice telling him to read about God and he quickly opened his Bible and opened to a letter by St. Paul. In it, it said to put away all impurity and live a life for Jesus. This was the turning point in his life. He was baptized, became a priest and a famous Catholic writer. He fought against heresies, helped the poor and was very charitable. He died on August 28, 430 at the age of 76. He is the patron saint of brewers because of his former lifestyle of parties and alcohol.

Jonathan Mani





# Transition to St. Norbert's Church

We celebrated thanksgiving mass at St. Eugene's Chapel on August 30, 2015. After many years of attending mass at St. Eugene's, it was with mixed feelings we packed all our liturgical belongings. Thanks to St. Margret of Scotland church and St. Eugene's Chapel for opening its doors for us to celebrate the Syro Malanakara Qurbano.

Now our Lord has blessed us immensely by providing a beautiful church during this milestone of our journey as Malankara Catholics in Toronto. Effective September 1, 2015. We will be celebrating our ettu Noimbu prayers and Holy Qurbano at St. Norbert's church, 100 Regent Road, North York Ontario, M3K 1H3.

Cyrus Jaison





# The Meaning of Hail Mary

Have you ever wondered what this prayer really means? What are we asking for when we say it? What should we be thinking about when we pray it? Do we pray for our personal intentions or should we be reflecting on Mary's life? We all pray the rosary (I hope), so praying the "Hail Mary" becomes some sort of chant that we constantly recite and often its beauty and inner meaning can go unnoticed. Lets break it down line by line, shall we?

## HAIL MARY...

This prayer starts off through the greeting of the angel Gabriel. God Himself speaks to Mary through the angel. He was so pleased and found so much joy in her spirit. When we say the words "Hail Mary", we too, talk to God through Mary. We are greeting her and asking her to pray for us to the Lord our God.

## FULL OF GRACE, THE LORD IS WITH THEE...

Full of grace. It's such a weird statement. What does it mean to be FULL of grace? I don't think the key word here is grace, but rather, the word full. Mary was filled with God's love, compassion and mercy. Everything she did and said was to please Him, and she became His lowly servant. The Lord was within her, and He is the source of all grace. We read in Luke 1:28, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you". After this special greeting, Mary accepts the will of God, "I am the Lord's servant, may your word to me be fulfilled." Therefore, Mary is a woman in whom God dwells and she has agreed to share it with the world.

## BLESSED ART THOU AMONG WOMEN AND BLESSED IS THE FRUIT OF THY WOMB JESUS...

Mary goes to visit her cousin, Elizabeth after speaking with the angel. Elizabeth was the first woman to call Mary blessed. She says, "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the child you will bear" (Luke 1:42). Elizabeth recognizes that Mary is blessed because she believed in the Lord's plan. Have you ever wondered how she could bear a baby without having relationships with a man?



# The Meaning of Hail Mary

## Continued

But she understood it was through the power of the Holy Spirit and it was according to His will, so she did not question it. (What great faith, isn't it? Would you be able to trust in Him 100% if you were in Mary's shoes?) Due to her strong faith in God's word, she was able to receive God's greatest blessing to us, Jesus, the "fruit of thy womb".

### HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD...

Elizabeth asked Mary, "Why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me" (Luke 1:43). I believe this is a question that a lot of us ask ourselves. We may think, "God spoke to Mary; she was hand chosen! She is too holy, how can I go to her?" The answer to this is Jesus. She gives the world her son. Therefore, she is not only the mother of God but our mother as well! We can tell her all our worries and she will pray for us. She surrendered herself to the will of God, and we too, will be doing the same with her help and prayer.

### PRAY FOR US SINNERS, NOW AND AT THE HOUR OF OUR DEATH...

When we ask for her intercession, we acknowledge that we are in poverty; we are poor sinners in desperate need of His mercy. We surrender our present, our future as well as our last breath to her. Like little children, we run to her with open arms and put trust in her that she will pray for us and lead us towards Him.

Mother Mary is a very special and important person in our catholic faith. Although we may not always see it, she is always looking out for us. We are her children and in turn, she is our mother. Once we acknowledge that relationship, our life can have a drastic change in events. Suddenly all our sorrows will turn into happiness, hatred will turn into peace and darkness will turn into light; and we have her constant intercession to thank for. Let us ask her to continue praying for us and for our parish.

God Bless,

Isabel Mani



## Convention Articles

I always like Convention because it's a gathering of many faces you don't normally see. It's a renewal of friendships, a feeling of community, by attending Mass together, praying together, and the social aspect of it.

I would say the highlight was Fr Joseph Pamplany's classes. He spoke about how the family should function on a daily basis; what happens in the family, and what should happen in the family. Normally we see achan on Shalom TV, where he takes classes on the show Theologica, classes which are strictly lectures on theology, very deep subjects, and you have to pay very keen attention to understand. His style at convention was not like that at all. It was very casual, very interactive. He was making jokes, laughing, asking questions, and expecting answers. He's a very, very dynamic speaker, very interactive and people liked that, it was lively. There was a lot of laughter, but it wasn't just jokes and laughs. I think he meant to do that to bring people's attention back to the subject that he's speaking about. The jokes were not out of context, and right after the jokes and laughs he will pick up exactly where he left off and continue so you don't lose the seriousness or the real substance of the subject he's talking about.

The cultural programs were all good, but the opportunities of time given to each mission should have been kept consistent. All in all, convention is a time to reconnect with the wider church, and remember and renew our identities.

-John Thomas

Conventions are an excellent way to reconnect with our Malankara family. Especially being in Canada, there isn't an abundant number of opportunities to see people from the United States, specifically those that live far off. Joining with each other in our Malankara liturgy and prayer, provides an opportunity not only to reflect, but to grow as a Malankara Church. Whenever I see new faces I am reminded on how our church is growing in number. Listening to speakers such as Binu Achachan, I am reminded of the true richness in our liturgy and how it relates with the teachings of the Church as a whole. It brings me an indescribable joy when I see my MCYM brothers and sisters. Throughout these conferences and conventions we have developed a community that I have come to depend upon. I have many mentors across the continent now, with whom I can speak to when I have a question in faith or tradition or even when I simply have a prayer intention. Of course when you and your sister portray yourselves as an achan and religious sister with very convincing costumes in the cultural program, it will lead to many photos and humorous jokes, and just goes to show the close bond we have with all the people in our Church.

-Christopher Thomas



# Altar Sever Schedule

DATE	CANDLES 1 & 2	MARUV AHASA 1 & 2	THUB- DEN 2 & 3	THUBDEN 4 & 5	BELL	SCRIPTURE	READINGS	THURIBLE
<b>September 06, 2015</b> <i>(English)</i>	Alexi & Abin	Cyrus & Tom (Sarath)	Alvin Ma- moottil	Jerome Simon	Sam- son + Alan Cheriyen	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <b>Alexi Joseph</b> (James 1: 2 – 8) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <b>Alvin Ma- moottil</b> (Hebrews 13: 1 - 6)	Aaron Jo- seph	Samson Mathew
<b>September 12, 2015</b> <i>(Palli Pe- runnal)</i>	Mathew & Alexi	Alan Cheriyen & Alison Zachari- ah	Alan Cheriyen	Alexi Jo- seph	Aliston	2 <sup>nd</sup> : <b>Anugrah Shajee</b> (Hebrews 5: 11 - 14)	Saji Jo- seph	Richu Roy
<b>September 13, 2015</b>	Abin & Tom (Sarath)	Alvin & Alan	Tom (Sarath)	Cyrus	Cyrus + Alan	1 <sup>st</sup> : <b>Tom (Sarath)</b> (James 2: 18 - 26) 2 <sup>nd</sup> : <b>Aaron Jo- seph</b> (2 Corinthians 11: 12 - 15)	Aliston Zachariah	Lynn Babu
<b>September 20, 2015</b> <i>(Reunion Sunday)</i>	Abin & Alexi	Alan & Alison	Alexi	Aaron	Tom (Sarath)	1 <sup>st</sup> : <b>Anugrah Shajee</b> (1 John 5: 1 - 5) 2 <sup>nd</sup> : <b>Cyrus Jai- son</b> (1 Corinthians 10: 1 - 13)	Richu Roy	Aaron Joseph
<b>September 27, 2015</b>	Abin & Alexi	Alan & Alison	Alison	Alan Cheriyen	Alvin	1st: <b>Jerome Simon</b> (James 2: 18 - 26) 2nd: <b>Aliston Zachariah</b> (Romans 15: 1 - 6)	Samson Mathew	Cyrus Jaison



# Old Testament Readings

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2
September 06, 2015	Reader: <b>Raju Mammoottil</b> Substitute: John Thomas (Deutonomy 9: 25 - 29)	<b>Tiah Mammoottil</b> (1 Samuel 12: 16 - 25)
September 13, 2015	Reader: <b>Roy Pattyanical</b> Substitute: Joshua Joseph (Genesis 4: 1 - 7)	<b>Ansu Roy</b> (Isaiah 43: 16 - 28)
September 20, 2015	Reader: <b>Lizzy Alex</b> Substitute: Francis Thazhamon (Genesis 45: 4 - 15)	<b>Sarah Alex</b> (Isaiah 57: 14 - 21)
September 27, 2015	Reader: <b>Babu Mammoottil</b> Substitute: Raju Mammoottil (Deutonomy 6: 1 - 15)	<b>Tanya Mammoottil</b> (Isaiah 48: 12 - 16)

# Coffee Sponsors!

Date	Sponsors
September 6	Sara Philip
September 13	Parish Feast (Perunaal)
September 20	Babu & Valsa Mammootil
September 27	Shajee Jose & Biji Mathew

