



ST. ALPHONSA SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH BULLETIN

JANUARY 2024



*"For God so loved the world that
he gave his one and only Son, that
whoever believes in him shall not
perish but have eternal life"*
John 3:16



Message From The Pastor



My dear parishioners in Jesus Christ,

Season of DENHA:-

Feast of DENHA is celebrated on 6th of January in Syro Malabar Church. The season of DENHA starts from the DENHA thirunnal and runs until lent begins. This event marks the Glorious Manifestation of Lord Jesus Christ to the world at the age of 30. The Son of God made Himself public with His Baptism at the Jordan river where the most Holy Trinity together granted appearance to the public and to St John who performed the Baptism ritual. DENHA thirunnal is observed as a Holy and very important feast day in the Syro-Malabar Church throughout the world. Where as, in the western Churches, the same Manifestation Feast of the Lord Jesus Christ is celebrated as 'Epiphany' that commemorates the disclosure of His Divinity to the three wise men from the east who traveled all the way from the east and visited and adored Him, knowing about His birth from the stars.

CHRISTMAS SEASON - RECAP:-

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for all your great service and teamwork to make Christmas a memorable one at St Alphonsa parish. A fantastic performance of carols got the Christmas festivities off to a true feel. I appreciate all the unit leaders who all coordinated the carols and the participants who made it. More over, catechism children were able to share the joy and spirit of Christmas with the elderly during their visit to the Clayton Heights home. I acknowledge the catechism ministry for organizing it. Most importantly to make our church a vibrant, spiritual community.

CHRISTINGLE EVE 2023:-

Get ready to embrace the festive season with the delightful cultural expression and creativity from our parishioners : CHRISTINGLE EVE 2023 ON JAN 6th. I strongly encourage everyone's presence on this event.

CATECHISM FIRST TERM ASSESSMENT:-

Catechism's first term assessment will be conducted on JANUARY 14th during catechism

ST. ALPHONSA SYRO- MALABAR CATHOLIC CHURCH

6543 132 St, Surrey, BC V3W 4L4

PHONE: +1-778-951-8023

WEB: www.stalphonsabc.org

Email: parish@stalphonsabc.org

Follow us on:



Pastor

Fr. Thomas Venmanthara

Trustees

Abraham Varghese

John Sebastian

Shiju Joseph

Vincy William

Secretary

Anju Thomas

hours. Parents may please make sure that children will read the portions covered for this term before they attend the assessment. Respective class teachers will update the instructions to their particular class groups .

OUR DREAM- A MISSION HOUSE:-

With the grace of God almighty, We are almost reaching to the final stage to fulfill our dream. A heartfelt thank you for being the heart and soul of this journey. I acknowledge Rev. Fr. Sajy Thomas, Trustees, Building committee, Parish council, Realtors and each and everyone who worked hard tirelessly behind this dream. Gratitude for the memories, the laughter, and the unwavering support to all of

those who have generously donated to accomplish this mission house.

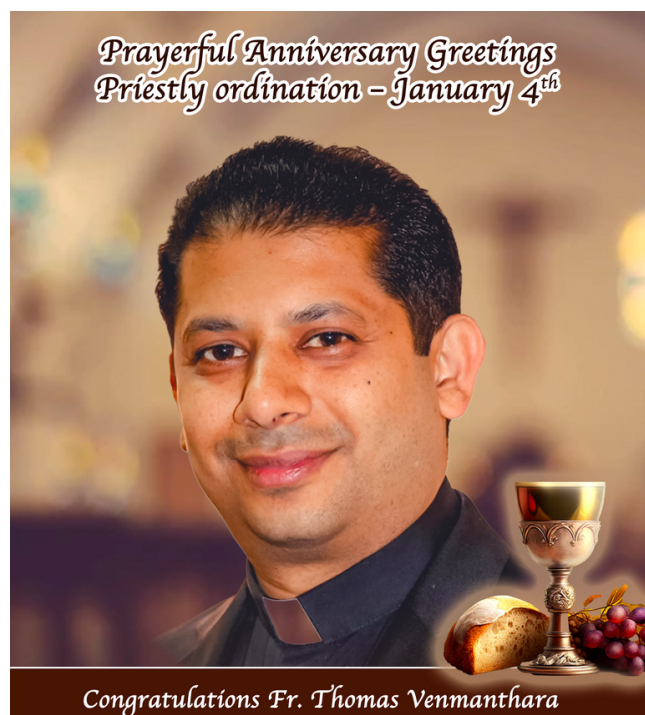
Goodbye 2023 AND Welcome to 2024.

As we say farewell to the year 2023, may we carry forward its lessons and memories into the promising embrace of 2024. We are blessed to see the hand of God at work in the community in every accomplishment. May this New Year help us to attain the highest peak of success with fun and awe-inspiring adventures.

Goodbye 2023 and Have a prosperous NEW YEAR 2024 to you all.

May God bless you

Fr Thomas Venmanthara (Vicar)



Christingle Eve 2023

Join us for our Christmas and New Year Program "Christingle Eve 2023" on Saturday, January 6th, 2024, at 6:30 PM. Tickets are available online at <https://stalphonesabc.square.site/> Exciting entertainment programs are in the works at various ministry levels. All parishioners have been invited to actively participate in this special event. For more details, please reach out to the coordinators: **Aneesh K** @ 778-682-4900 & **Asha Febin** @ 204-963-3136



January 06 2024
Saturday 06:30 pm



Saint Bernadette Church
Parish Hall, 6543 132nd Street
Surrey, BC V3W 4L4

HOLY QURBANA

January 7, 14, 21

Holy Mass in Malayalam at 5 PM

January 28

Holy Mass in Malayalam at 5 PM

Holy Mass in English at 3:45 PM



BIBLE READINGS

January 7 2024

First Sunday of Denha

Ex 33:18-23

Zeph 3:14-20

2 Pet 1:16-21

Jn 1:45-51

January 14 2024

Second Sunday of Denha

Ex 3:9-16

Sir 18:1-14

Rev 1:4-8

Jn 8:21-30

January 21 2024

Third Sunday of Denha

Deut 31:1-8

Isa 41:8-16

Phil 3:4-16

Mk 3:7-19

January 28 2024

Fourth Sunday of Denha

Gen 29:1-14

2 Kgs 17: 24-28

Heb 6:1-12

Jn 4:1-26

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 6 2024

Christingle Eve 2023

May 25 2024

Chitravarnam

My Church App

Our heartfelt gratitude for your generous financial support to St. Alphonsa Syro Malabar Church throughout this year. Your commitment and generosity have played a pivotal role in achieving some of the major milestones in our Church. "My Church" app is a user-friendly

interface that can be used to track your contributions. You are encouraged to review all your donations in this app from <https://stalphonsabc.org/mychurchapp>. We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to **Vincy William** for the creation of this app.



Catechism Updates

Upcoming Catechetical Activities:

- **January 7:** Regular class
- **January 14:** Mid-year Catechism Examination
- **January 21:** Regular class
- **January 28:** English Qurbana & Pious Association activities

Advent Calendar

To celebrate the Season of Annunciation, an Advent calendar was prepared by Pious Association for the students to take part in daily activities designated for each day.

Food Drive

During the season of Advent, the Catechism department



organized a food drive. Students were motivated to make a sacrifice by either forgoing one of their favorite activities or completing a chore at home and contribute a food item to the food drive.

Christmas Celebration



Christmas Messages



The Catechism department extended an invitation to students to create brief videos conveying Christmas messages for community sharing. These videos, shared with the parent's group in December, added to the festive atmosphere, with students actively participating and joyfully emphasizing the true meaning of Christmas through their heartfelt messages.

The Catechism department, in collaboration with the Pious Association and PTA, had a festive Christmas celebration on December 17. The event was filled with joyous festivities, caroling, and enjoyable moments, with the special appearance of Santa adding to the merriment.

CATECHETICAL DEPT.

Beena Parappilly (Principal)
Georgey Varghese (Vice Principal)

PIOUS ASSOCIATIONS

Ninu Joseph

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Jobin Jacob

MATHRUVEDHI

Preetha Sebastian

Caroling @ Care Home

Students in Catechism grades 8-12 engaged in Christmas caroling at Clayton Heights Care Home on December 23. It was a humbling experience to sing to the residents of the nursing home, bringing joy and cheer to their lives.



Christmas Caroling

Throughout the month of December, caroling sessions were organized at the family unit level, bringing a warm and festive atmosphere to each household. Families came together to share the joy of the season through melodious tunes spreading festive cheer in celebration of the holiday spirit.



Parish Calendar

On December 10, 2023, Fr. Thomas Venmanthara officially published the Parish calendar for 2024. The inaugural copies were presented to committee members Binoy Paul, John Sebastian, and Sanitha Loyd.



FAMILY UNITS

The registered members of the Parish are divided into family units based on the location of their residence. Each family unit gathers once a month for prayer meeting. Please visit <https://www.stalphonsabc.org/family-units/> to know which family unit you belong to and the leaders information.

NEWCOMERS HELPDESK

We warmly welcome new parishioners to register and become a part of our community. Registration forms are available at church or on our website.

As a new member, you can take advantage of our parish's dedicated helpdesk for newcomers, which can assist you with finding accommodation, arranging transportation to church, purchasing a vehicle, and any other essential needs. For further inquiries, please contact Biju Ukken (778 709 3834) or Renji Jose (778 986 4005) or send us an email at help@stalphonsabc.org.

Christmas Eve Celebration

Solemn Holy Qurbana was celebrated on Dec 24. Parishioners participated in procession and received blessings from infant Jesus.



Chitravarnam Ticket Sales Launch



Chitravarnam ticket sales were officially launched after the Christmas eve mass in the presence of platinum sponsors – Johnson & Lucy Group and Noaisys Immigration

SMYM National Youth Updates

SMYM – National Core Team held a meeting on December 17, 2023, and formulated an annual plan outlining the activities scheduled for the Year 2024.

SMYM NATIONAL – CORE TEAM:

Role	Name
Youth Animators	Mr. Reagan George Simon
	Mrs. Shanty Poulouse
General Coordinators	Rohan Roy
	Santra Prince
Office Secretary	Santra Prince
Spiritual Coordinator	Clerin Binoy
Social Coordinator	Tom Sunil
Finance Coordinator	Jervin Jain

International Youth Updates

Christmas carols in Vancouver were conducted with active participation and support from international youth community



DONATIONS



Big thanks to all of our church's donors. May God bless you!

To make a donation to our church, you can either e-transfer to our church email or direct deposit to the church account. Our church email id and account details are given below:

parish@stalphonsabc.org

TD Bank account (Branch 0275);

Account Number - 7888-5251473

Please note that tax receipts will be provided for annual donations above \$20.

SIGN-UP FOR PAD

We encourage our parish members to join the Pre-authorized Debit (PAD) system for Sunday collections.

For PAD Agreement Forms, please contact:

John Sebastian (604 360 2843)

Vincy Williams (604 366 4068)

or your Family unit leaders (Visit

<https://www.stalphonsabc.org/family-units/>)