

Church of South India - Karnataka Central Diocese

St. Andrew's Church



News Bulletin - April 2013



Artist: Mick McGinty

Theme for the Month: JOURNEYING WITH CHRIST

Presbyter-in-charge: Rev. Prem Mitra

No. 27, Cubbon Road, Bangalore - 560 001 Phone - 080-25591874
Email - andrewschurchblore@gmail.com - www.standrewschurch.org.in

JOURNEYING WITH CHRIST

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Liberator Jesus Christ

There can be many reasons for making a journey and lots of different ways in which to make a journey. We may travel to new places we have never visited before, or make a Home-ward journey. We may travel to work or to hospital as a visitor or a patient. We may go to the shops or tour around. We may be in a frantic hurry or have lots of time to spare. We may walk or cycle, catch a bus or train, or an aeroplane.

The story of two disciples travelling to Emmaus has captured peoples' imaginations over the centuries. It is a simple story of two friends walking just a few miles back from Jerusalem to a house in a village. How long did it take them? Perhaps it was two hours or a little longer. But on this brief journey they had an encounter which transformed their lives.

Despite its apparent simplicity, the story contains a treasure-store of spiritual wisdom. The journey is not just a physical journey, but a journey of intellectual discovery, personal insight, and spiritual growth. The two disciples talked and argued as they walked along the road. Their thoughts were centred on the crucifixion and the terrible events that had led up to it. Their feelings ran deeply and passionately. We are told that their faces were full of sadness. Their emotions were raw, and they cared profoundly. In the depths of their emotion and despair, they are joined by a third person who enquires about the subject of their concern.

The two disciples were on a spiritual journey, but one which at first led them nowhere as they pulled each other in different directions. Then their new companion prompted them to go back and recount their stories and their feelings. They travelled through their story when suddenly they were brought to a halt - 'How dull you are!' - and then they were pointed in a new direction. They would have to follow the direction that their companion led them.



The disciples had been re-oriented but there was still a long journey for them to travel. The remainder of the Emmaus incident is a story packed with significance. The disciples press the risen Christ to abide with them even though they had not yet recognised him. Hospitality to the stranger was also a step on their journey to recognising Christ, as was the breaking of bread together. After the meal, the two disciples rush back to Jerusalem to tell the amazing story of their meeting with the risen Christ.

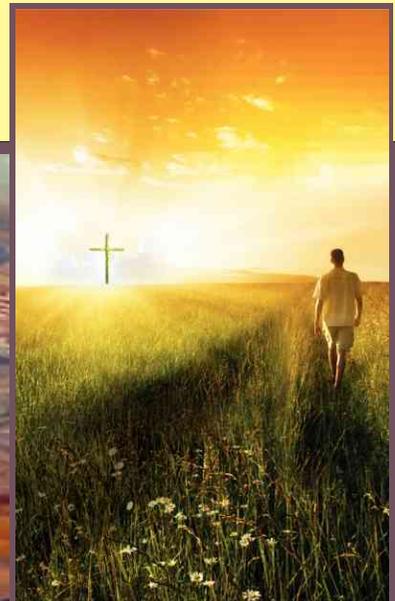
The Emmaus Story is on the surface, a narrative of a walk, a chance encounter and a conversation, an invitation to a stranger, sharing bread, recognition, and the hasty return to share the good news with friends. At a deeper level, the Emmaus Story gently points to the importance of Bible Study, Fellowship, Prayer, Hospitality, Sacrament and Evangelism. It is the story teaching us how to live a Christian life. Just as the two disciples discovered that the risen Christ was among them, so we too are invited to a journey of discovery and discipleship where we discover the risen Christ travelling alongside us.

As the two disciples sat at the table in the house at Emmaus, they said to one another, 'Were not our hearts on fire as he talked with us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?' (St. Luke 24:32).

May our hearts too be on fire as we engage on our journey with Jesus!

Rev. Prem Mitra

Presbyter - in - charge





I am reminded of the apt message of Pope Francis, a message of new-life when he uttered while inaugurating his papacy on 19th March, 2013 with an address calling for the defense of the weakest in society and of the environment saying, the "Church's mission, means respecting each of God's creatures and respecting the environment in which we live. It means protecting people, showing loving concern for each and every person especially children, the elderly, those in need, who are often the last we think about". He further said that whenever human beings failed to care for the environment and each other, "The way is opened to destruction and hearts are hardened. Tragically in every period of history there are 'Herods' who plot death, wreak havoc and mar the countenance of men and women". How true it is when we are exposed to global crises in terms of advancement of culture, civilization, science and technology, unmindful of our neighbor's needs and interests, devoting to and demanding only our selfish needs bringing more chaos into this world which is already being overburdened constantly with such tragic situations! God can give you rest in the midst of trouble and peace in the midst of conflict. That may include difficult and uncompromising situations in our lives, home or world in constant turmoil. God's presence can help you to show love in the face of mistreatment, patience and forbearing in times of stress with His grace.

The astounding reality of 'Resurrection' means 'the standing up of the dead', a revolutionary process of bringing back NEW life and reality of its everlastingness. Most religions teach the concept of immortality but only the Christian faith teaches the unique hope of resurrection, a life after, a revival from inactivity and disuse, for we know that our Redeemer lives and we too live therefore eternally.

It was appropriate that Our Church Choir has triumphantly observed and celebrated Palm Sunday with due and special offering of singing praises in rendering Passion Music from the well known excerpts of Handel's Messiah, exalting the King of Glory, in unison.

Stanley R. Chellappa,
Editor



Palm Sunday at Tubagere (Mission field)



Palm Sunday Procession around the Church

Happenings during the Month of March 2013



- Mr. & Mrs. Susikar Sigamani & Family
- Mr. Vijaya Raj Kumar
- Mr. & Mrs. Jason Emmanuel Karkada
- Mr. & Mrs. William David Rabindran &



Graduation Ceremony for Standard 7 students of St. Andrew's School, Siddapura was held on the 23rd of March 2013. Mr. Stephen David, leading Journalist from 'India Today' magazine was the Chief Guest. Students from all the classes received a T-shirt with the school logo during this occasion.



Choir singing during the Good Friday Service. Butter milk and hot-cross-buns were distributed to all the members after the service.

A brief write-up of the Play presented by our Youth Fellowship on Easter Sunday Morning:

“So What if He Came Now?”

In our everyday life we come across people of all sorts. This Easter morning the sun rose on one such park.

Meet:

Mr. X and Mrs. Y, who fought with their spouses and left their homes;
A self-righteous preacher who does not believe his falsely accused brother, who is an escaped convict;
A rich man who is a theist and a farmer, who though has lost everything, believes in God;
A soothsayer convincingly does her bit to fool the ones who come to her for 'the answers';
Mr. Sigmund Fraud, ever so charming, claims he can teach the 'Language God speaks';
An unassuming, run-away school girl, meets Jesus in the park and wants to be his friend for life. So, she creates a Face-book account for Jesus.
Esmeralda, a gypsy woman selling sins, luxury suites in hell, suicide packages, etc.
And of course Satan, waiting for the weak to fall.

But what connects all of them? They all get a friend-request from Jesus. Some accept some don't.

The message is out there - are we the seeds that fell on the way side, the rocky ground, thorns, or good soil???

Which seed are we? So What If He Came Now???

Rebecca Sunder



Upcoming events

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH PRESENTS **DISCOVERY 2013**

JESUS

PARENTS
SIBLINGS
FRIENDS
NEIGHBOURS

STAY CONNECTED

WHERE ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
WHEN 11TH TO 21ST APRIL 2013
TIME 9 AM TO 12.30 NOON
REGISTRATION FEE RS 50/-

GOD DESTINED YOU FOR A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS CREATION. COME DISCOVER YOUR CONNECTION.

VBS in our Mission Field (Tubagere)

From 22nd to 27th of April 2013.

Inviting Volunteers and Teachers to contact the Church Office or the Convener Mrs. Leela Bangera.



Wings of the Church and their Activities

Women's Fellowship

6th April 2013	Bible Study (1st Saturday of every month)	04:30 PM
20th April 2013	House Visits and Visit to Old Age Homes (3rd Saturday of every month)	04:30 PM

We invite Ladies of our Congregation to join the Fellowship.

Kindly note: Women's Fellowship organises Breakfast Sale every 1st Sunday after the Worship Service.
Your Donations / Sponsorship always welcome

Youth Fellowship

Every Sunday after the Worship Service	<u>Bible Study for the month:</u> Theme: The teachings in the Gospel of St. John	11:30 AM
Every Saturday	Praise and Worship practice	04:00 PM

Other Activities include,

- Leading the "Praise and Worship" during the English Morning Worship Services.
- Conducting Sunday Evening Worship Service every 4th Sunday of the Month.

Sunday School

Sunday School is conducted during both Kannada and English Worship Services

We would like to encourage Parents to send their Children to the Sunday School and the Youth Fellowship.

VBS 2013

- Vacation Bible School (VBS) at St. Andrew's church will start from 12th till the 21st of April 2013 ●
- Vacation Bible School (VBS) at Tubagere will start from 22nd till the 27th of April 2013 ●

Inviting Teachers and Volunteers to contact the Church Office

Your contributions for VBS Welcome.

Calendar for the Month of April 2013

Calendar for the Month of April 2013			
*7th April 2013 1st Sunday	Theme: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CHRIST AS LORD (World Health Day)		
	Preacher: Rev. Dr. David Joy Celebrant: Rev. Prem Mitra	Joint Worship* (Holy Communion Service)	09:00 AM
Old Testament	Zephaniah 03: 14 – 20	Mr. Oscar Ravikiran Prabhakar	
Epistle	I Corinthians 15: 01 – 11	Mr. Joshi Mark	
Gospel	St. John 20: 19 – 29	Mr. Sunil Rangayya (K)	
Evening Service	Mr. John Vasumithra		
14th April 2013 2nd Sunday	Theme: JOURNEYING WITH CHRIST		
	Preacher: Rev. Rueben Manohar	Kannada	08:15 AM
Old Testament	Exodus 13: 17 – 22	Mr. Dominic Maben	09:30 AM
Epistle	Hebrews 11: 01 – 12	Mrs. Shobha Datt	
Gospel	St. Luke 24: 13 – 35	Mr. Elish Nischol Paul Mr. Paul David (K)	
Evening Service	Mr. D.Kirubakaran		
21st April 2013 3rd Sunday	VBS Sunday Theme for the Year 2013: STAY CONNECTED (Earth Day 22nd April)		
	Preacher: Rev. Prem Mitra	Kannada	08:15 AM
Old Testament	Isaiah 60: 19 – 22	VBS children	09:30 AM
Epistle	I John 01: 01 – 10	VBS children	
Gospel	St. John 08: 12 – 20	VBS children Mrs. Nalini Lawrence (K)	
*Evening Service	Preacher: Rev. Prem Mitra (Holy Communion Service)		
28th April 2013 4th Sunday	Theme: JESUS, THE LORD OF LIFE		
	Preacher: Rev. Prem Mitra	Kannada	08:15 AM
Old Testament	Genesis 02: 04 – 09	Mrs. Vranda Mathias	09:30 AM
Epistle	Revelation 22: 01 – 07	Mrs. Rachna John	
Gospel	St. John 06: 35 – 40	Mrs. Soorya Asir Mrs. Pauline Razu (K)	
Evening Service	Youth Service		

Note: Kindly keep the Church office informed in advance about inability to be present for Scripture passage reading as scheduled.