



# St. Andrew's Church Newsletter

JANUARY  
2016

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**Thursday 1 p.m. service** continued in our church. Mr. Baruah from the UCO Bank and Mr. Jonathan Ravel from the J.Thomas attend the service.

## Letter from the Presbyter

### *The Marriage Supper of the Lamb*

*Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns <sup>7</sup> Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"— (Revelation 19:6-8)*

January is the month when we have many weddings. The vows that the bride and groom make in the marriage ceremony has a deep meaning. The promises that the couple make at the altar are very solemn. *"I take you to be my lawful wedded wife, to hold and to cherish, for better or for worse, in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer till death do us part."* This follows from what our Lord taught us about marriage. He said, *"So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."* (Matthew 19:6)

The bride and the groom represent the church and the Lord Jesus Christ. Wives are to submit themselves to their own husbands as to the Lord. Just as the husband is the head of the wife, Christ is the head of the church ( Ephesians 5:23) Husbands are to love their wives just Christ loved the church and gave himself for her. Jesus earned the Bride by giving his life on the Cross. He shed his blood so that he might present himself a Bride , a glorious church without spot or wrinkle, holy and without blemish (Eph 5:27) Husbands are to love their wives just as our Lord loved and loves the church. They are to dwell with their wives with understanding, giving honour to the wife, as to a weaker vessel and as being

heirs together of the grace of life, that their prayers may not be hindered (1 Peter 3:7). The church is the bride of Christ. Just as the bride wears the beautiful white dress for the wedding, the church also wears the fine linen. The church is the body of believers who have been cleansed from their sins because of the shed blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Lord made the New Covenant in his blood for the forgiveness of sins. This clothing also represents the good works that the believers have done for the Lord. (Rev 19:7)

The church is in eager expectation for the coming of the Bridegroom, the Lord Jesus Christ. In Revelation 22, the last chapter of the Bible we find our Lord telling the church that he is coming quickly. The bride responds with the words, *"Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."* (Revelation 22:20)

How can we be ready for the marriage supper of the Lamb? By living a life of obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ. If we love him we will keep his commandments, walk with him and share with all people the forgiveness and healing and friendship that we share in him. God has also anointed us with the Holy Spirit through whom we have power to do good works. Let us spend more time with him and share the good news with more people. *"Come, Lord Jesus."*



#### **Rev Dr. Philip Vinod Peacock**

Celebrated the Lord's Supper in our church on 17.1.16. This was the first time he did so after his ordination last year. We thank him for his ready services, congratulate him on receiving his doctorate and pray for his family and ministry in Bishop's College and in our diocese.

#### **Holy Communion**

was ministered in the homes of Mrs. Janet Joel, the mother of our organist, Mrs. Beulah Caleb and Mr. Addy as they could not attend Christmas services.



#### **La Martiniere Carol evening**

was celebrated on 9.12.16. This time the boys and the girls school combined together to produce a musical entitled *Emmanuel —celebrating Heaven's Child* which was performed on the steps of the Round Chapel. Mr. Samuel Mathai, the choir director of La Martiniere College, Lucknow, conductor the joint choir of boys and girls. Everyone enjoyed the cake on the lawns of the boys school after the carols.

**The wedding of Rishika and Michael** on 11 January, 2016.

A marriage ceremony in our church took place after eleven years. This was between Rishika Pradhan, daughter of Mr. Neville Ashok and late Anuradha Pradhan, and Mr. Michael James. Anuradha who had an untimely death a few years ago was the daughter of Rev D.P. Das who was the presbyter of St. Andrew's Church some time ago. Rishika and Michael met in Geneva where both are working. The wedding had friends from all over the Continent and these young friends all took part in the ceremony in the bridal march dressed in Indian attire. The Bridal March and other hymns were played skillfully by Mr. George Sudeep Pande, organist and choirmaster of St. Paul's School, Darjeeling. At the beginning of the service a lamp was lit remembering Anuradha Pradhan and all the grandparents of the bride and the groom. Rev Andrew Simick conducted the marriage ceremony and gave the sermon. The reception took place in the CC and FC. Let us remember Rishika and Michael in our prayers.



**During Christmas and New Year** many families attended our worship. We saw Radhikar Samaradivakera all the way from the USA. Randolph



Fletcher came from Sikkim. Rishika and Siddhartha attended the service during the announcement of the banns. Elder Mrs. Louisa Jackson was present in all our services. Mr. Rajan Joy of Youth With A Mission has been working outside Kolkata but joined us.



**Rev Swarup Bar** visited Kolkata for a holiday from 15th December for a month. He celebrated the Lord's Supper in our church on Christmas Day. It was good to see him after a year. On 17th January he has gone back to Edinburgh to complete his doctoral thesis which he plans to submit this year. We thank him for his ministry to our church and pray for his family.



St. Andrew's Church, Kolkata  
<http://standrewschurchkolkata.in/>  
 Roster for February, 2016.

**7/2/16. 7 Sunday before Easter (Quinquagesima) :** Healing Ministry: God has promised forgiveness to the penitent.

Conductor & Preacher : Revd. Dr. Philip Peacock  
 Ezekiel 18: 25-32 : Mrs. Jacqueline Nyss  
 Luke 15:1-2, 11-32 : Bishop's College

**14/2/16. 6 Sunday before Easter (Lent I) :** *The victory of Jesus when tempted helps us when we are tempted.*

Conductor & Preacher : Revd. A. Simick  
 Deuteronomy 6: 10-17 : Ms. Neena Addy  
 Hebrews 4: 14-16 : Ms. Devjani Samaradivakera

**Meeting of the Deacon's Court & Kirk Session follow**

**21/2/16. 5 Sunday before Easter (Lent II) :** *The compassionate love of God gives confidence to his children.* **HOLY COMMUNION**

Celebrant & Preacher : Revd. Dr. Sunil M. Caleb  
 Hosea 14: 1-8 : Mr. M.J. Pook  
 Romans 8:31- 39 : Mr. Charles J. Nyss  
 Luke 7: 36-50 : Rev Dr. Sunil M. Caleb

**24/2/16. Lent III (4 Sun before Easter):** *The true glory of God is manifested in the humanity of Jesus*

Conductor & Preacher : The Revd. A. Simick  
 Exodus 33: 17-23 : La Martiniere for Boys  
 Luke 9: 28-36 : Mr. Rajan Joy

**Calcutta Hill Christian Church** organized a retreat for their youth for the 9th time in Dhyan Ashram from 23-26 Jan 2016. Rev Andrew Simick and Rev Raghbir Masih took part in the Holy Communion service held on 25.1.16



**Jessica and Jonathan Mcleod** have relocated to a place in Anjari Bazar near the Park Circus Railway Station. They had been staying in Jhinjire Bazar where a big fire took place. We thank God that they had already moved. Jonathan sits for ICSE this year. Jessie does not keep well. Let us remember them in our prayers.