



# St. Andrew's Church Newsletter

DECEMBER  
2016

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## The Saviour is born.



## Wishing you a blessing at Christmas ( Message by His Grace, the Rt Rev Ashoke Biswas ,bishop of CNI Diocese of Calcutta)



Dear Friends,

It gives me immense joy and happiness to once again convey my greetings of love, hope and peace to you this Christmas season.

Each year we celebrate Christmas as a joyous occasion, a time of celebration of gift exchange and sharing, at the same time remembering the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ whose birth heralded a new era of hope and love to us humankind. His birth signified peace to us as he himself is the Prince of Peace.

*For a child has been born for us, a Son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this (Isaiah 9:6-7 NRSV)*

In this we find the message of hope where there is no end to God's peace that came to us through his Son Jesus Christ. It does not matter what is happening with us or around us in the world today, we have that Blessed Assurance that there is also no end to God's throne, nor His reign and neither is there an end to his kingdom.

All the gifts, trimmings, decorations, kings and the kingdoms of this world shall pass away. They will fall and be demolished but God's Kingdom shall remain for ever.

It is truly a joy in knowing that God upholds his kingdom with justice and righteousness. The

Psalmist David reminds us in Psalm 34:9-10 that there is no want to them that fear the Lord. He further says that there are those who do lack- the young lions, who lack and suffer hunger: but those who seek the Lord and put their trust in God shall not go hungry nor want any good thing.

As we regain the true meaning of Christmas, remember it is about celebrating the fact that Jesus came into this world to pay the price for our sins through his own blood, to purchase our redemption and to give to us the best gift ever and that is the gift of salvation.

Let us bring the focus of Christmas back to our Lord Jesus Christ. He is no more a babe in a manger wrapped in swaddling clothes. But he is our Risen Lord and Saviour. Even more so, he is our "soon coming King."

Today you have the opportunity to unwrap the gift of salvation and receive eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord by accepting him into your heart as Lord and Saviour.

May the "Prince of Peace" rule in your hearts this Christmas.

I wish each one of you a Blessed Christmas- a Christmas filled with hope, the way Christ offers.

The Rt. Rev Ashoke Biswas,  
Bishop of Calcutta, CNI



### **The Police Commemoration**

**Service 2016.** The Annual Police Commemoration Service was held on the 20th of November 2016. It was attended by the Commissioner of Police, Kolkata, Mr. Rajiv Kumar, I.P.S. and other senior officers of the Kolkata Police. The families of those Police personnel who had passed away in active service during the past year were remembered by name and wreathes were laid at the Memorial tablet at the back of the church. Mr. B.T. Ninghlova, retired D.G. P. Maharashtra Police came from Aizawl, Mizoram gave the address which was on Humility and was very apt for the occasion. The personnel of Kolkata Police sang three devotional Rabindra Sangeet using the church piano which was a change from previous years.





### The Church Ramp.

The long awaited church ramp was finally opened on St. Andrew's day, 27.11.16. The Rev Dr. Sunil M. Caleb opened it with a prayer of thanksgiving. Elder, Dr. Gillian Hart, who has difficulty climbing steps, then took the first steps on it. The ramp will be a great boon for such people. Our gratitude goes to Rev Sunil Caleb, for insisting on it, Mr. Michael Pook our Session Clerk for designing it, Mr. Chatterjee, our engineer, for making it and Mr. Charles



Nyss, the clerk to the Deacons' Court for suggesting the place for the ramp.



### Two visitors

**Sofia Ghani**, the daughter of late Elder, Florence Ghani, visited our church in relation with the wedding of daughter, Pro-miti. Let us remember them in our prayers.

**Meher**, the daughter of Gailing Sondhi worshipped in our church on 27.11.16. Meher is working in Singapore.



**Diocesan Family Get-together** Mr. P.C. Daniels and Mr. Charles Nyss took an active part in this celebration of the diocese on 16.12.16



### Ferdinand McCrahan

(26.8.49– 2.12.16) of Old Mission Church went to be with the Lord very suddenly.. He was a good practicing Christian who had shared the love of Jesus with many people who thronged the funeral ser-



**Arati Sarkar**, our neighbour who lives in the B.B.D. Bag mini-bus stand suffers from sugar in the blood. She asks for help to eat.



**St. Andrew's Church, Kolkata**  
**<http://standrewschurchkolkata.in/>**  
**Roster for January, 2017.**

**1/1/17. The naming of Jesus.** Renewal of the Covenant. Conductor & Preacher: Rev James G. Stevens

Exodus 3: 1-15 : Ms. Kiran Daniels  
Luke 2:15-21 : Ms. Zeena Mondal

**8/1/17, The Epiphany of our Lord** *The coming of the wise men from the east is a sign that Christ is for all peoples of earth.* Conductor and Preacher: Rev Swarup Bar

Isaiah 60: 1-5 : Ms. Rina Fletcher  
Matthew 2:1-12 : Ms. Sakchi Arora

**15/1/17, 3 Sun after Christmas. Baptism of Jesus.** *At his baptism Jesus is revealed as the Son of God.*

**Holy Communion**

Celebrant & preacher: Rev Dr. Sunil M. Caleb  
Isaiah 42:1-7 : Mr. Ashok Pasricha  
Acts 10:34-38 : Mr. David John  
Matthew 3:13-17 : Rev Dr. Sunil M. Caleb

**22/1/17. 4 Sun after Christmas.** *Jesus is revealed as 'the Lamb of God'*

Conductor & Preacher : Rev Swarup Bar

Exodus 12:1-8 : Ms. Sonali Bar  
John 1:29-37 : Ms. Jacqueline Nyss

**Deacons Court and Kirk Session** after worship

**29/1/17.5 Sun after Christmas. Leprosy Sunday** *God suffers in all those who suffer in this world*

Conductor & Preacher: Rev Dr. Sunil M. Caleb  
2 Kings 5: 1-14 : Ms. Gailing Sondhi  
Mark 1: 40—end : La Martiniere for Boys

**Church Picnic** on 23rd January 2016 in Udayan

Free Homeopathy Medical Clinic Every Wednesday at 12noon

**The Sunday School Thanksgiving Service** was celebrated again this year on 4.12.16. The Sunday School teachers Ms. Rina Fletcher and Mr. David John were joined by Ms. Louisa Jackson in preparing everything to make it very special for our Sunday School children. There was such a lovely family fellowship as the Rev Dr.



Sunil M. Caleb preached the word, Mrs. Caleb played the organ and the children sang a special song which had been composed by Mr. Quentin Pople.

