



# St. Andrew's Church Newsletter

## JANUARY 2017 Contents

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Presbyter, St. Andrew's  
Church, CNI,  
15, B.B.D. Bag, Kolkata  
700 001, ph2230 1994,  
2252 3973, 8334027210,  
. e-mail: standrews  
church.kolkata@gmail.co  
m; an-  
drewsimick@gmail.com,  
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La Martiniere for Girls'  
School enactment of *The  
Christmas Carol* (by  
Charles Dickens): *The  
Scrooge* on 15.12.16.

### *From the Presbyter's Desk*

#### ***The coming of the wise men is a sign that Christ has come for all mankind***

*This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow-heirs, fellow-members and fellow-partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus.*

*Ephesians 3:6*

On the day of Epiphany the church celebrates a big festival. This is the thanksgiving that our Lord has come for all mankind. Our Lord came to the Jewish nation having been circumcised and named Jesus and brought up as a Jew. But it was God's plan that the salvation and forgiveness Jesus brought should be for all people of the earth. This is shown by the coming of the wise men from the east (*Matthew 2:1-12*). They were not Jews. Yet God gave them the sign of the star and they came and worshipped the Lord bringing gold and frankincense and myrrh. Therefore our celebration includes three wonderful items—God's revelation, God's majesty and God's commission.

Let us look at them one by one:



### God's revelation

Today we are celebrating the news that the nations are fellow-heirs, members of the same body and partakers of the promises with Israel. The mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Ephesians 3: 3-6. Jesus has taken away the dividing wall that used to exist between the circumcised Jews and the non-circumcised nations. Acts 15 and the book of Galatians says that there is no need for a Christian to be circumcised. Isaiah prophesied that all nations would be drawn to the Lord, the Light of the Nations. I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. Isaiah 49:6

### Secondly, we are celebrating **God's Majesty**

The wise men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Now gold would indicate that the baby who was born would be a king. The angel Gabriel had said that at Jesus' birth, God would give him the throne of David and he would reign over the house of Jacob forever. Frankincense would signify that Jesus would be the Son of God. At his baptism the words heard were, *"This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."* (Matt 3:17). And myrrh would suggest that the baby was born to save his people from their sins by giving his life for us. Truly the gifts offered by the magi denoted that here was born a King.



Rev. Andrew Simick with the staff of St. Andrews's Church

### He Died to Set us Free

*We are here together  
One in harmony  
Lifting up our voices  
As one big family  
To thank the Lord for His grace  
And love that comes our way  
His mercies are forever  
Each and everyday  
He is the Lord you see  
He died to set us free*

*Everytime we gather  
To celebrate His love  
We thank Him for His mercy  
And unction from above  
We just sing His praises  
For all the world to see  
That Jesus is the Saviour  
Who hung upon the tree*

*He is the Lord you see  
He died to set us free  
Dancing, Singing, filled with  
cheer  
No power on earth can do us  
wrong.  
Coz His love and grace will keep  
us strong.*

**Mr. Quentin Pope**

Lastly, God's revelation and his magnificence gives us **his great Commission**. As people who are celebrating the salvation and grace in Christ Jesus it is our bounden duty to share this gift of deliverance with the whole world. We have been given his Holy Spirit, and his authority to heal and cast out demons. There will be persecution and hardship. In no other time of Church history has there been so many deaths for our Lord Jesus Christ as at the present. It is costly to obey the great commission. But it was costly to win the salvation for us by our Lord too. Shall we say yes here I am Lord, use me.

**Rev. Andrew Simick**



With visitors from Edinburgh: Ann Wright (R) and Katie Wright (L). Ann's grandfather Rev. William Wright served as the River Parish Chaplain at St. Andrews Church from 1920-1925.



The Archbishop, the Most Rev. Thomas D' Souza's Christmas party gathering on the 28th Dec, 2016 was attended by Rev. Andrew Simick.

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

**05.02.2016. 6<sup>th</sup> Sun after Christmas.** *Jesus calls his disciples to work in God's kingdom*

Conductor & preacher: Rev. James Gomes  
Amos 3:3-8 : Bishop's College  
Mark 1:14-20 : Ms. Sarmistha Arora

**12.02.2016. 9th Sun before Easter** (Septuagesima) *God creates and redeems all things through Christ.*

Preacher & Conductor: Rev. Dr. Sunil Caleb  
Col 1:15-20 : La Martiniere for Boys  
John 1:1-13 : Mr. Rajan Joy

**19.02.2016. 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Easter** (Sexagesima) *Our sins begin with refusing to hear God.*

**Holy Communion**

Preacher & Celebrant: Rev. Swarup Bar  
Isaiah 1:1-9 : Dr. G.R. Hart  
Romans 1:18-25 : Mr. M.J. Pook  
Matthew 13:10-17 : Revd. Swarup Bar

**26.02.2016. 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Easter** (Quinquagesima) *It is God's will that all people should be saved.*

Preacher & Conductor : Rev. Dr. Sunil Caleb  
Isaiah 56: 3-8 : Mr. Charles J. Nyss  
Matthew 8: 5-13 : Ms. Louisa Jackson

*Free Homeopathy Clinic every Wednesday at the church from 12 to 2 pm*



The Rt. Rev. Ashoke Biswas, Bishop of Calcutta giving away the "Christmas Lunch on Jesus" pack at St. Paul's Cathedral, Kolkata on 20th Dec, 2016.