



ST THOMAS SYRO-MALABAR CHURCH BOSTON

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MY LORD,
MY GOD!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ELIJAH, CROSS & MOSES
SEPTEMBER 7, 2008

EXALTED
BY GOD!

Growth through Suffering

Today's Gospel (Mt. 5:1-12)

When he saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you (falsely) because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

*Our Father knows what's best for us
so why should we complain
We always want the sunshine
But He knows there must be rain.
We love the sound of laughter
And the merriment of cheer
But our hearts would lose their tenderness
If we never shed a tear...
With suffering and with sorrow
He tests us, not to punish us,
But to help us meet tomorrow...
For growing trees are strengthened
when they withstand the storm
And the sharp cut of the chisel
Gives the diamond grace and form...
God never hurts us needlessly, and
He never wastes our pain, For every loss
He sends us is followed by rich gain...
And when we count the blessings
that God so freely sent,
We'll find no cause for murmuring
And no time to lament...
For our Father loves His children,
And to Him all things are plain,
So He never sends us pleasure
When the soul's deep need is pain...
So whenever we are troubled,
And when everything goes wrong,
It's just God working in us,
To make our Spirit strong...*

William Moses Tidwell, in his "Effective Illustrations" writes, "A lady traveler was spending the summer in Switzerland, and one day she strolled out to a shepherd's cabin. As she peered into it, she saw the shepherd at work and his sheep lying around near him. One was lying on some straw somewhat afflicted. On inquiry she found that its leg was broken, and she was much surprised when the shepherd admitted that he broke the leg himself. He then went on to explain to his astonished visitor that this particular sheep was the most wayward one in the flock. It would not mind his voice; but, on the contrary, would wander off from the rest, and risk its life on some steep precipice over which it was liable to fall and be killed. Not only was it disobedient, but it was constantly leading others astray. Finally, the shepherd broke its leg. The first time he went to feed it after that, the sheep tried to bite him. Then he left it alone for two days without food. Then, when he brought it food, it not only took it, but licked his hands in appreciation of his kindness. The shepherd then told the visitor that in a little while the sheep would be well, and then would be the model sheep in the flock; that there would not be one that would pay better attention to his voice, and that it would be an example to all the rest. He said, "It will have learned obedience through suffering."

How like our heavenly Father with His sheep! He is not breaking their legs, but often He breaks up their plans, breaks down their air-castles, breaks up their fond hopes. God had to unjoint Jacob's leg before he would properly yield his all to Him. Maybe we have not carefully obeyed His voice. Maybe we have not been setting the right examples before others. Maybe we have been getting too close to the precipice. O God, at any cost or discipline, help us to be Thine obedient sheep!

Jesus submitted himself to the Father's will, saying "...not my will, but Thine be done..." (Lk 22:42). Virgin Mary also accepted the divine plan in her, saying, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord."

We also pray, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done..."

Today...

11.30 am : Holy Qurbana

Marching forward...

Sunday Celebration Assignments

Today : Youth

Sept 12, Friday : Sacred Heart Family Unit

Prayer at the home of Bonus & Reena Thopurath

Sept. 14 : Divine Mercy Family Unit

Sept. 08 : Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary

Sept. 14 : Exaltation of the Cross

Sept. 21 : Apostle Mathew

Sept. 27 : Saint Vincent De Paul

Sept. 29 : Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

Readings - Sept. 07

Is. 33:13-24

Phili. 2:1-11

Mt 5:1-12

Readings - Sept. 14

Acts 2:22-36

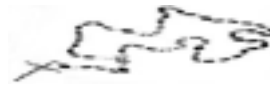
Phili. 3:1-11

Lk 24:13-35

NEXT SUNDAY ON-WARDS: SUNDAY HOLY QURBANA AT 11 AM.



Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you do I come; before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen!



Please pray the Rosary every day in your families.

Parish Council

Today after Holy Qurbana.

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

Classes begin on Sept. 21st, on the Feast of Apostle Mathew, the Evangelist. Please register your children beforehand.

Let our children learn and grow together.

The proposed timing for the classes will be from 10-11 am; Mass at 11 am.

ORIENTATION FOR FAITH FORMATION TEAM

Rev. Dr. Roy Kaduppil, Diocesan Director of Religious Education and Rev. Fr. Vinod Madathiparambil will lead the classes on Sept. 27 (afternoon) and Sept. 28.

All members of the Faith Formation Team must attend. Youth and parents are welcome to



Sept. 8, we celebrate the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary. May Mother Mary always intercede for us.

Rosary at 7 pm Holy Qurbana at 7.30 pm.



Sr. Jaisy Joseph (St. Martha's Convent, Putnam, Connecticut) celebrated her silver jubilee of the religious profession yesterday. Congratulations and prayerful wishes. Welcome to Sr. Sebi Rose, Superior General and Sr. Beata, General Councillor of St Marthas Congregation.

HEARTY WELCOME

NEW COMERS!!!

Sunday Mass Schedule : 11 am

Saturdays : 11 am Mass followed by Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

Memorial services will not be conducted on Sundays.

They may be conducted on any of the week days.

First Fridays : Mass at 7 pm followed by Holy Hour and Benediction.

TO ALL

ONAM ON SEPT. 12.



PLEASE recite the PRAYER FOR OUR DIOCESE AND OUR PARISH every day in your families.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

01st -	Jamie Fernandez
02nd-	Rhea Marie Kunnel
02nd-	Reena Thopurathu
02nd-	Chelsa Maria Jijo Potteparambil
03rd-	Reena Naduviledom
04th -	Sarah Johnson Poovathummoottil
05th -	Jose Thomas Kutticherry
07th -	Sophia John Mundackal
09th -	Christina Ellen
10th -	Christy Anthiamkulathu
10th -	Rev. Fr. Cyriac Mattathilanickal
10th -	Jewel Thomas Thekkevalavumkal
10th -	Joseph Kunnel
14th -	Samuel John Mundackal
16th -	Joshua Sebastian Puthanpurackal
16th -	Maria Benny Uppamthadathil
19th -	Rev. Fr. Raju Muringayil
20th -	Joshua Kutticherry
22nd -	Diya Ayyanimoottil
25th -	Maria Paul Mechery
25th -	Laly Uppamthadathil
25th -	Ancy Vithayathil
28th -	Andrea Malanakarot
28th -	Angel Mary Pachikara
28th -	Pradeep james Mannathamcheril
29th -	Ann Mary Kurian Arupathil
29th -	Shreya Stanley

MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES IN SEPTEMBER

07th-	John & Jancy Kuzhikannil
07th-	Dinny & Shanty Pathupally
16th-	JAnish & Jasmine Malayil
24th-	Julaiton & Regina Koola
29th -	Thomas & Rekha Kodenkandath
29th-	Sino & Rani Ottalankal
30th -	Saji & Manju Parampukattil

May God bless them and keep them in His love and protection.

സെൻറ് തോമസ് സിറോമലബാർ രൂപതക്കും ഇടവകക്കും വേണ്ടിയുള്ള പ്രാർത്ഥന

പിതാവു, പുത്രനും, പരിശുദ്ധാത്മാവുമായ ത്രിത്വൈക ദൈവമേ/ അങ്ങയെ അങ്ങൾ അർത്ഥപ്പെടുകയും, / സ്തുതിക്കുകയും പുഷ്പാന്തരുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു./ അവിടുന്ന് അങ്ങൾക്ക് നമിക്കുന്നു/ നിരന്തരപരിപാലനത്തിനായി/ അങ്ങൾ നന്ദി പറയുന്നു./ അങ്ങയുടെ സന്നിധിയിൽ/ അങ്ങൾ ചെയ്തുപോയ തെറ്റുകൾ/ അങ്ങളോട് ക്ഷമിക്കണമേ./ അങ്ങയുടെ കൃപാവരങ്ങൾ നിറച്ചു/ അങ്ങയുടെ പരിശുദ്ധാത്മാവിനാൽ/ അങ്ങളെ നമിക്കണമേ.

നല്ല ഇടയനായ ഈശോമേ/നിത്യപുരാഹിതനായ അവിടുന്ന്/ അങ്ങൾക്ക് നമിക്കുക/ അമ്മതിക്കയിലെ സെൻറ് തോമസ് സിറോമലബാർ രൂപതയേയും/ രൂപതാഭ്യക്ഷണയുമാ മർത്ത്/ അങ്ങക്ക് അങ്ങൾ സ്തോത്രം ചെയ്യുന്നു./ കാര്യബുദ്ധനായ കർത്താവേ./ അങ്ങയുടെ അഭിവന്ദ്യപിതാവിനെയും/ ഏറ്റവും വെളിച്ചമേയും/ സന്യസ്ഥിയേയും/ അമ്മതിക്കയേയും/ അങ്ങയുടെ വരദാനങ്ങളാൽ നിറച്ചു/ അമ്മതിക്ക വിവിധ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങളെ/ അങ്ങക്കിഷ്ടമേകുന്ന തീതിയിൽ നടത്തണമേ./ ഈ രൂപതയിലെ ഏറ്റവും കൂട്ടുമെമ്പങ്ങളേയും/ അങ്ങയുടെ ഏറ്റവും ഉപകരിക്കളയും/ മറിച്ച വിശ്വാസത്തിലും/ ഭൃശമായ പ്രതാപശക്തിയും/ തീവ്രമായ സ്നേഹത്തിലും/ ക്രിസ്തീയമായ കൂട്ടായ്മയിലും/ നിയന്ദ്രിതരും വളർത്തുകയും ചെയ്യണമേ./ അങ്ങയുടെ സഭയിലെ ശുശ്രൂഷക്കായി/ അങ്ങയുടെ കൂട്ടുമെമ്പങ്ങളിൽനിന്നു തന്നെ/ യുവതീയുവാക്കളെ വിളിക്കണമേ.

“എന്റെ കർത്താവേ എന്റെ ദൈവമേ” എന്നു പറഞ്ഞ്/ വിശ്വാസപ്രഖ്യാപനം നടത്തിയ/ അങ്ങയുടെ പിതാവായ മാർത്തോമ്മാസ്തീഹായുടെ നാമത്തിലുള്ള ദൈവങ്ങളുടെ ദൈവലയത്തിന്റെ ക്രമീകരണത്തിനുള്ള പരിശ്രമങ്ങളെ / അവിടുന്ന് അനുഗ്രഹിച്ചാശീർവ്വദിക്കണമേ./ ഇതിനു നേതൃത്വം നൽകുന്നവരേയും./ ഇതിന്റെ വിജയത്തിനായി/ പ്രാർത്ഥനയും പണവും പരിശ്രമവും വഴി/ സഹായിക്കുന്ന എല്ലാവരേയും/ സമൃദ്ധമായി അനുഗ്രഹിക്കണമേ./ അങ്ങൾതന്നെയും/ ജീവിക്കുന്ന ദൈവലയങ്ങളായി തീരൻ ഇടയാക്കട്ടെ./

നല്ലവനായ ദൈവമേ/ അങ്ങയുടെ തിരുഹിതം നിറവേറ്റുവാൻ/ പരിശുദ്ധ അമ്മയുടെയും / മാർത്തോമ്മാസ്തീഹായുടെയും / വാക്യങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റിയും/ ചാപര കൃഷ്ണാക്ഷരസച്ചിഹ്നയും / അൽഫോൻസാമ്മയുടെയും/ മറിയം ഭദ്രസുന്ദരിയുടെയും/ കുഞ്ഞുച്ചിഹ്നയും/ ഏറ്റവും സുഹൃത്തുക്കളുടെയും/ മാതൃകയും മദ്ധ്യസ്ഥിയേയും/ സഹായകതകളെ./ അമ്മതിക്ക അങ്ങയുടെ മഹത്വത്തിൽ പങ്കുകൊരുകുമാൻ/ അങ്ങളെ യോഗ്യരാക്കുകയും ചെയ്യണമേ./ സകലത്തിന്റെയും നാഥാ, ഏനേക്കും, അർത്ഥമേൻ.

**Bl. Euphrasia
of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
(1877-1952)
Sister of the
Congregation of the
Mother of Carmel**



The daughter of Anthony and Kunjethy of Eluvathingal Cherpukaran, Rose Eluvathingal was born on 17 October 1877 in the village of Kattoor, in the Diocese of Trichur, India. Her mother's deep piety and great devotion to the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, had a strong influence on little Rose from her childhood.

From the stories that her mother told her, especially about St Rose of Lima, she grew with a strong desire to practice the virtues, to suffer for Jesus and to be holy, and to do all this in a quiet, hidden manner.

During her developing years Rose began to detach herself from earthly possessions and pleasure and took a great interest in spiritual matters. This was all the more rooted in her at the age of 9 by means of an apparition of the Blessed Mother, after which the young girl offered herself totally to the Lord.

Notwithstanding the strong opposition of her father, who wanted Rose to marry into a rich family, she wanted to become a religious Sister. Her intense prayer life, which included the rosary, fasting and abstinence, as well as the rather sudden death of her younger sister, brought about a change of heart in her father, Anthony, who granted Rose permission to enter the convent.

In fact, her father accompanied her personally to the convent of the Congregation of the Mother of Carmel at Koonammavu, the first indigenous congregation of Syro-Malabars.

But even with her desire to be a Religious, Rose was often afflicted with various illnesses which caused her intense suffering. Once, during a particularly painful attack, the Sisters were resolved to send her away for ever, but through an apparition of the Holy Family she received a miraculous healing that permitted her to continue following God's call.

Model of prayer, abandonment

On 10 May 1897 Rose became a postulant and took the name Sr Euphrasia of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and on 10 January 1898 she received the holy habit of Carmel.

She practised the virtues of humility, charity and renunciation and grew in holiness with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary. For the periods of grave illness and the trials of the powers of darkness that she endured, she was rewarded by intense spiritual joys.

On 24 May 1900 St Mary's Convent was founded in the current Archdiocese of Trichur, and on the same day Sr Euphrasia made her perpetual vows to God, a day of unspeakable joy, since now she belonged for ever to her Heavenly Spouse.

From 1904 to 1913 Sr Euphrasia was entrusted with the duty of novice mistress and, sustained by the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit, she formed the future members of her Congregation. In their Mother Mistress the novices saw the heroic virtues of humility, poverty, penance, obedience and abandonment to God's will.

Although Sr Euphrasia wanted to live a hidden life, she was chosen as Superior of the Convent of St Mary at Ollur. Due to her profound humility she found it difficult to accept this new duty. But after an interior inspiration she acquired a statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, placed it in the centre of the convent and entrusted the duty of Mother Superior to his Sacred Heart. She held the post from 1913 to 1916.

For almost 48 years the convent of St Mary was home to Mother Euphrasia. Observing her life of prayer and holiness, the local people called her "Praying Mother", and her Sisters in community referred to her as the "Mobile Tabernacle", because the divine presence she kept within her radiated to all she encountered.

From the first years of her Religious life, Mother Euphrasia had the blessing of the spiritual guidance of Bishop John Menacherry. He ordered her to reveal to him every aspect of her spiritual life, and he wisely kept all of her letters.

When his successor, Mar George Alappatt, retired, he entrusted the letters to the Superior of the Congregation of the Carmelites of Trichur with the prophetic words: "You will need them". In fact, they are a precious treasure and an authentic mirror of the spiritual life of this holy, humble Religious.

Loving Church and neighbour

Mother Euphrasia spent much of her day in the convent chapel before the Blessed Sacrament and she also nourished a great love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary; as a result, she was naturally an apostle of the Eucharist and of the Rosary.

She was totally dedicated to love and was continually consoled by the Crucified Lord. She was the first to humble herself and to accept suffering, misunderstandings and rejection for love of Christ. Her strength came from Jesus, who had become her betrothed in spiritual matrimony as her letters testify.

From her profound union with the Lord Jesus came her capacity to give of herself to others, and so she fully incarnated the motto of her Congregation: "Remain united to me in contemplation and consecrated to me in action" (cf. Jn 15: 5).

Thus, with a pure heart Mother Euphrasia gave her maternal love and tenderness to those who sought her help. She gave them the comforting words of Jesus' Gospel and interceded for them. For each little kindness bestowed upon her she would reply, "I will not forget it, not even after death".

Mother Euphrasia had a profound sense of Church and she personally felt the sorrows and problems of the Church of her day. She offered her mortifications and penances for the conversion of schismatics and asked the novices and children to pray for them.

She prayed ardently before the Blessed Sacrament for the Holy Father, for Bishops, priests and religious.

Mother Euphrasia offered her life in sacrifice for love of God. She abandoned herself to His will and finally joined him in the heavenly embrace with her holy death on 29 August 1952.

After Mother Euphrasia's death many of those who had obtained her help during her lifetime now continued to beseech her help at her tomb. In 1990 her tomb was opened, and her mortal remains were moved to the convent chapel.

Pope John Paul II approved the Decree of the heroic virtues of the Servant of God in 2002, proclaiming her Venerable. On Sunday, 3 December 2006, she became the fifth Blessed of Kerala, India, and the sixth of the Nation of India.