



Tamil Catholic Association of USA

February 19, 2012



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Dear TCA USA Members,

I welcome you to the first meeting of our TCA USA in 2012. World Marriage Day is celebrated across the world on Feb 12th and its theme has been permanently adopted as "Love One Another". This phrase is the commandment given to us by Jesus in John 15:12. It speaks to us in a simple but challenging way of how our Father wishes us to live. Loving one another is a daily decision, simple but challenging.

Warm welcome to our new Executive Committee members - Mr. Mahipan Christian and Mr. Vinodh Benzigar, Office bearers and Trustees who volunteered to serve our esteemed TCA community. Its an honor to preside our organization and I thank you all for your tremendous support. Let's work together towards the monumental growth of our organization in 2012.

Happy Valentine's Day and Happy Marriage Day!

**Thomas Amutharasu
The President**

PRIEST'S MESSAGE

Family prayer is inevitable for our daily life. But, many families today no longer pray together. In some families, some of the members have a personal and private relationship with God expressed in personal prayer and devotions. But they may ignore, or disregard the others in their family. In a few families, the members recite some prayers together, but they may not be in real relationship with each other. Prayer is a relationship with a God, who is a loving Father, and who calls us his children, to be in relationship with each other. So, *the family that prays together stays together.*

Many parents work very hard to provide their children with food, clothing, shelter, education, and future. Sometimes parents are so concerned with the future of their children; but forget to provide, what they most need in the present moment – that is an atmosphere of love and trust, in which they can meet Jesus.

Couples are called and empowered through their Sacrament of Matrimony, to be channels of God's life and love to each other, and to their children every day. So they need to be in touch with God every day, to receive from him grace and strength, to reveal his loving kindness and his merciful forgiveness to each other, and to their children. Each one needs a time for personal prayer.

Parents will, in this way, by their example, show their children how important it is for them to walk humbly with their God every day (Micah 6:8), and to open their lives to his Word and his grace. Children will perhaps ask their parents, as the disciples asked Jesus, to teach them how to pray, when they see the effect of prayer in their parents' lives.

Every family faces unforeseen problems, that often disrupt the smooth sailing in one's journey through life. It is not easy to depart from the familiar and the routine, and move into strange situations, without any other security. But, we can always learn from the **Holy Family.**

-Fr. GRACE GUNA ARACHI

கிறிஸ்து பிறப்பு பெருவிழா

நமது சங்கத்தின், கிறிஸ்து பிறப்பு பெருவிழா, வெகுவிமரிசையாக Dec 11ஆம் தேதி, Mountain Side, NJயில் உள்ள லூர்து அன்னை ஆலயத்தில் கொண்டாடப்பட்டது. பன்னிரண்டு அருதந்தையர்கள் சிறப்பு திருப்பலி நிறைவேற்ற, அருட்தந்தை Eugene அவர்களின் அருமையான மறையுரை அனைவரின் கருத்தையும் கவர்ந்தது. சும்பம், தீபம் மற்றும் மலர் கொண்டு தமிழர் முறைப்படி அஞ்சலி செய்தது, திருப்பலியை சிறப்பேற்றியது.

நமது பாடற்குழு, பண்ணிசைத்து, பல புதுபாடல்கள் பாடி, மேலும் மெருகூற்றினர். திருப்பலி முடிந்து, சிறு சிற்றுண்டியை தொடர்ந்து, குழந்தைகள் மற்றும் பெரியவர்கள் பல்கலை நிகழ்ச்சிகள் வழங்க, மக்கள் மனமகிழ்ந்து ரசித்தனர். கிறிஸ்துமஸ் தாத்தா பரிசுகள் வழங்க, சிறப்பு இரவு விருந்துடன், விழா இனிதே நிறைவேறியது. திருப்பலி நிறைவேற்றிய அனைத்து தந்தையர்களுக்கும், பங்கு கொண்ட அனைத்து அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கும், மனமார்ந்த நன்றிகள்.

- John Lawrence



Importance of family – from Vatican City

On the week of Feb 7-13, a conference dedicated to evangelization in Africa and Europe was held in Rome, where the Pope and the 80 bishops and priests noted the importance of family in a time when "Social and spiritual concerns are both present, one is not separated from the other, but rather, they are dimensions of the one same integral development of the human person and society," the Cardinal Josip Bozanic of Zagreb, Croatia, said. The Pope discussed the issue of hedonism in today's society "which has contributed to making the crisis of values in people's daily life spread to the family and how people make sense of one's life, and has led to "serious social malice." The Pope argues that the family, as the domestic Church, "is also the strongest guarantee of the renewal of society," since it safeguards traditions, customs, habits, and rituals of faith and can have a big impact on fostering vocations.

The current problems of materialism in today's society can have dangerous effects on the youths of today, but significant input from the Church, family, and other institutions can also have a pivotal role on the positive development of the young.

-Ricardo Stephen

Editors' Note

We hope you enjoy this issue!

We welcome your contributions to the TCA newsletter.

Happy Valentine's Day

-Judy Stephen

Best Compliments From
Graha Systems Inc

Best Compliments From
New York Life Insurance Company
Manikandan Radhkrishnan

Best Compliments From
Arusuvai Restaurant at Lions Plaza

Best Compliments From
Law of Offices of L. Nagananda,

	General A/c	Long Term A/c
Opening Balance	\$4,246.39	\$2,236.22
Revenue	\$9,812.00	\$1.14
Expenses	\$7,446.36	\$1,270.00
Closing Balance	\$6,612.03	\$967.46
Amount Yet to Receive (Christmas Pledge)	\$798.00	0

Best Compliments From
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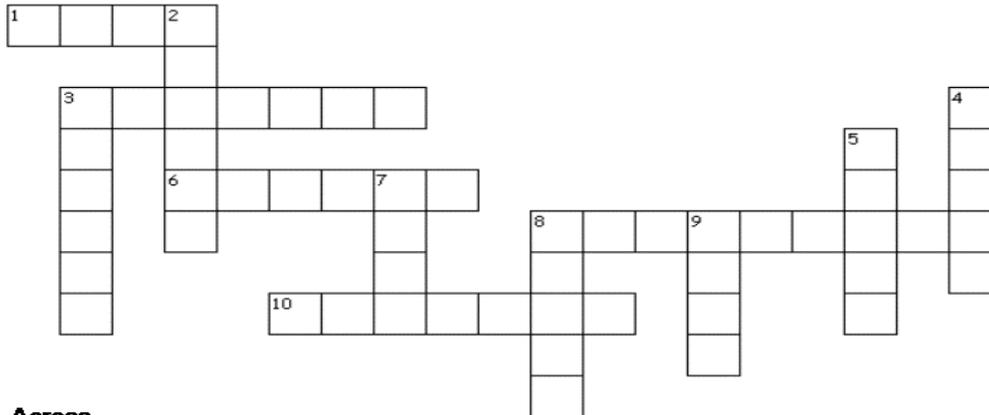
Kids Section



Ajay Benno, MHS, Grade 9

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Valentine's Day Crossword



Across

- _____ and kisses.
- They smell pretty.
- On Valentine's Day you should hug and _____ with your loved ones.
- Special treat loved by all.
- Wrap it up and tie it with a bow.

Down

- Another word for kiss.
- My best _____.
- Delicate, red flowers (with thorns).
- Valentine's Day shape.
- I _____ you.
- Sugary treat.
- Sign it and give it to a friend.



World Marriage Day Prayer



Prayer - "Father, as we prepare for **World Marriage Day**, we thank you for your tremendous gift of the Sacrament of Marriage. Help us to witness to its glory by a life of growing intimacy. Teach us the beauty of forgiveness so we may become more and more One in Heart, Mind and Body. Strengthen our dialogue and help us become living signs of your love. Make us grow more in love with the Church so we may renew the Body of Christ. Make us a sign of unity in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Brother. Amen" - Fr. Bill Dilgen,

World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as head of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life.

Fun Facts!

Over \$1 billion worth of chocolate is purchased for Valentine's Day in the U.S.

15% of U.S. women send themselves flowers on Valentine's Day.

Teachers will receive the most Valentine's Day cards, followed by children, mothers, wives, sweethearts and pets.

About 3% of pet owners will give Valentine's Day gifts to their pets.