

**ST. PETER'S MALANKARA CATHOLIC CHURCH
HOUSTON, TEXAS**

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

1.INTRODUCTION:

Respected Vicar Father Binny Philip, dear Parish council members, brothers and sisters in Christ, it is with great pleasure and privilege that I am presenting this Annual Report of our parish for the year 2019. During the past year we were blessed with many memorable events. I thank God Almighty for showering His abundant blessings upon us and our parish.

2. 2019 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION & SWEARING-IN:

The Annual General Body meeting of the St. Peter's Malankara Catholic Church was held on Sunday, November 25 2018, after the Holy Mass and was presided by Father John S. Puthenvila. The following Parish Council members were elected during the General Body meeting:

Secretary:	George Samuel
Treasurer:	Mathew George
Committee Members:	
Varghese George	
Biju Zacharia	
Jackson Justin	
Anil Varghese	
Anoop Jacob	
Rani Varghese	
Roshan Reji – Youth member	
Pastoral Council Members:	Rajan Thomas
	Fernandus George
	Jos Mathews
Mothers Forum President	Annamma Joseph
MCYM President	Binil Mathew
Headmaster Sunday school	James Mathew
Auditor	George Thomas

Father John S. Puthenvila swore-in the 2019 Parish Council members on February 3, 2019 after the Holy Mass.

3. GENERAL BODY&COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

In 2019 we had a total of seven General Body meetings, one was presided by His Excellency Philipos Mar Stephanos, three of them were presided by Fr. John S. Puthenvila and the last three were presided by Fr. Binny Philip.

- 1) January 20, 2019 – Annual General Body – Presentation of accounts and reports for 2018
- 2) March 31, 2019 – To discuss the need for a new community center
- 3) July 21, 2019 – Half year General Body meeting.
- 4) September 15, 2019 – First General Body presided by Fr. Binny Philip – old church renovation and new community center
- 5) December 1, 2019 – Bishop Mar Stephanos presided the general body for general evaluation of our parish
- 6) December 8, 2019 – Urgent General Body To communicate and make decision about the adjacent property purchase
- 7) December 22, 2019 - General Election for 2020 parish council members.

During 2019 total Thirteen (13) Parish Council meetings were conducted to discuss pastoral, administration, maintenance and other Church activities.

All the minutes of the above referred meetings are maintained in our records for future reference and records. First 6 meetings were presided by our former Vicar Fr. John S. Puthenvila and last 7 meetings were presided by Fr. Binny Philip.

4. VISITING BISHOPS & PRIESTS:

Our Bishop His Excellency Philipos Mar Stephanos, visited two times last year. On July 28 he came to Houston for attending the MCYM leadership retreat. Then on Nov 30 and Dec 1 he attended the Thanksgiving celebration, committee meeting and the brief general Body meeting.

During the committee meeting Fr. Binny Philip welcomed our Stephanos Thirumeni and Committee members. Secretary presented special summary report and made some corrections as per the suggestion of our Thirumeni and passed by Anil & Jackson. Stephanos Thirumeni recognized and appreciated all the committee members and their responsibilities. He reminded all members that our goal should be to grow in faith and love. Bishop informed us that he has already appointed a new director to improve our Sunday School programs and also suggested to adjust the Sunday school exams and regular school exams to avoid any collision each other. He recommended at least in 2020 we need to prepare the ground for our New Community Center. During this meeting James Mathew mentioned about the sale of the adjacent property and suggested to find out more information about the property and try to buy it if possible. Thirumeni suggested to attend at least one member should attend the 2020 March 21 pastoral council meeting at New York. Bishop encouraged the maximum number of MCYM members to participate in our MCYM convention, which is scheduled on August 6 through 9 at Toronto, Canada. As a response to have the need for Rev Sisters to help us, he explained the limitations of bringing Rev Sisters, however, he will keep in his mind. On December 1, 2019 during our brief General Body Meeting Stephanos Thirumeni agreed to have a brief history in our new church directory.

His Grace Thomas Mar Coorilos, Archbishop of Thiruvalla on Wednesday on September 4, 2019.

His Excellency Abraham Mar Julios, Metropolitan Bishop Emirites of Muvattupuza on September 29, 2019.

PRIESTS:

1. Rev. Fr. Job Kalluvilayil
2. Rev. Fr. Varghese Valikkodath
3. Rev. Fr. Reny Mudampallil
4. Rev. Fr. Thomas Nedumcheril
5. Rev. Fr. Baby Madathikunnath

We were very happy to celebrate Fr. Job Kalluvilayil's silver jubilee of his priesthood ordination during his visit on October 20, 2019.

5. HOLY WEEK SERVICE:

We celebrated Palm Sunday (April 14), Holy Thursday (April 17), Good Friday (April 19), Holy Saturday (April 20) and Easter Sunday (April 21) respectively. Rev. Fr. John S Puthenvila officiated the ceremonies. Our special thanks to all the parishioners who sponsored various items for Holy week services.

6. MOTHERS/FATHERS DAY:

On Mother's Day (May 12) and Father's Day (June 16) Holy Masses were held and prayers and blessings extended to all Mothers by Fr. Joseph Methanath and to all Fathers by Fr. John S. Puthenvila. Special gifts were presented to all mothers and fathers as a token of love by MCYM members.

7. PARISH DAY CELEBRATION:

Parish Day celebration was conducted successfully from June 20 through 23 and this year our Chief Celebrant was Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Anthonios, Bishop of the Diocese of St. Ephrem, Pune-Khadki. We were very blessed to have our retreat conducted by the Shalom Mission on this occasion. Following new graduates were recognized and gifts were presented by Anthonios Thirumeni.

	HIGH SCHOOL	
1	Sharon Samuel	Elkins High School
2	Ashish Daniel Varghese	Shadow Creek High School
3	Nidhin John	Hightower High School
4	Joel Varghese	Elkins High School
	BACHELOR'S	

5	Sonia M. Mathew	BSN, Texas Women's University, Houston
6	Shivon A. Mathew	BSN, Texas Women's University, Houston
7	Anjitha Saji	B.S. University of Houston
8	Antony Samuel	Electrical Engineering, Georgia Tech, Atlanta
9	Bianca Alexander	PhamD, Texas Southern Univeristy, Houston
10	Jerrin Mathew	MIS, University of Texas, Austin
	POST GRADUATES	
11	Salu C. Samuel	MBA
		Grand Canyon University
12	Abey Easo	MSN
		Grand Canyon University
13	Deepa Daniel	MSN
		Grand Canyon University

Congratulations and wishing all success in their future endeavors.

8.MAR IVANIOS DAY:

Mar Ivanios Day was celebrated on July 14th. Thanks for Peter Thomas Family for offering the Nercha.

9. Graduation Mass

On July 28, 2019 we conducted a special Thanksgiving Mass for the students who had recently graduated from high school and college.

Once again, the members of the parish congratulate each one of their hard work and best wishes for their future endeavors.

10.NEW COMMUNITY CENTER- Feasibility Study Committee

During our March 21 ,2019 General Body meeting, 5 members were selected to have a feasibility study to construct a new community center. The Feasibility Study Committee was officially summoned on June 2019 for the construction planning of our new Church Community Center with the coordination from our former vicar, Fr. John Puthenvila, along with committee members, Selicks Cherian, Shibu Ninan, George Varghese, Sunil John, and Jerril Thomas. Altogether 4 meetings were held by the committee and one was with Stephanos Thirumeni.

The study reviewed the following requirements for the new building:

- A single space for all church community members to gather for special events

- To host special events such as Baptism, Holy Communion, Wedding receptions, etc.
- To be used as a multi-purpose facility which includes a recreation center for sports programs to be utilized by our Youth.
- To have the option to rent out the facility for Basketball/Volleyball/Badminton sports leagues and other special events.
- To have the space/expansion needed as church membership grows.
- Review the Financial feasibility for construction
- Look into obtaining state/local/government funding as this project could potentially be treated as a community center for members in the Stafford area.
- Look at conducting yearly fundraising programs that will attract Indian and American community

Further study is still required to determine how the new facility would bring social, spiritual, and ecclesiastical impact to our community. This project is currently in its initial stages and is to be considered a long-term project.

11.RETREAT – FR. DANIEL POOVANNATHIL

Rev.Fr. Daniel Poovannathil came to Houston as the guest preacher for National Convention of Syro Malabar Church. Hence Fr. John Puthenvila arranged two days retreat program here in Houston under the leadership of our parish on August 4 and 5, 2019 at St. Joseph Church hall and it was a great blessing for all of us. I am glad to mention here that Fr. John S. Puthenvila got an opportunity to say a Holy Mass in a community of more than 1,200 people.

12.TRANSFER OF VICAR & SEND-OFF:

After six years of dedicated service to us, Fr. John S. Puthenvila got transfer to St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. He took a commendable initiative to complete the work of our church. On August 11 we gave send off to Fr. John and presented our gift to him for the strenuous service .

On August 15 2019 Fr. Binny Philip took the charge as 8th Vicar St. Peter's Malankara Catholic Church. Within three months Fr. Binny Philip visited almost 86 families and established a very good relationship and familiarize the family and its members. During this visit Fr. Binny was able to update the demographic information of each family members also.

13. GENERAL CHURCH ASSEMBLY CLASS:

Fr. Binny Philip led the discussion on August 18, 2019 from 9:30 am to 10:30 am on grace filled families in our church. According to Fr. Binny, Syro-Malankara Catholic church's general assembly proposes one subject every 10 years to think and discuss in our church. This year the general assembly proposed the subject "Grace-filled families". Almost 150 people participated and the final report sent to our Bishop in New York.

14.EIGHT DAY LENT:

This year we observed "Ettu Nombu" with morning prayers, Holy Qurbana and Novena from September 1-8, 2019. On September 4, Archbishop Thomas Mar Coorilos celebrated Holy Mass.

15.Onam Celebration

Our traditional Onam was celebrated in our parish with Ona Sadhya. Bishop Abraham Mar Julios was our chief guest for the Onam celebration . Thanks to those who sponsored Ona Sadhya items.

16.ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC

The annual picnic was held on September 14 at Kitty Hollow Park. MCYM planned games and activities to entertain both parents and kids alike. Almost 200 members participated.

17. RENOVATION OF OLD CHURCH BUILDING:

Many parents were very concerned about continuing the Sunday school classes in the old building because of several health reasons. Accordingly, March 17 2019 Fr. John S. Puthenvila allowed the younger children to have their classes in our new church building until we fix the old Church Building. During this time (Mid-June), because of heavy rain both office room and sacristy got flooded and damaged the carpet and furniture. Because of scheduled MCYM leadership retreat from all over the states along with our Bishop Mar Stephanos, the committee decided to repair both rooms. Accordingly, both rooms were fixed and it costed us almost \$2,000.00. After this repair, parish committee thought about fixing the rest of the building. The feasibility study committee recommended having a mold study test and also a structural stability test before we spend any more money to make sure it is worth it, accordingly, Jerril Thomas appointed and scheduled with AWA international to have a complete mold test study and the parish committee supervised this test and the final report came out favorable. Also, George Varghese scheduled with Top 2 Bottom Real Estate Inspectors to conduct a structural stability test and the parish committee supervised this test also. The final report for this

inspection also came out favorable to continue remodeling of our old church building. Both reports are kept for future reference and records.

Upon arrival of Fr. Binny Philip as the new Vicar, asked Trustee & Secretary to prepare an estimate for only immediate fixing needs for the old church building and the amount came to approximately \$25,000 and then Fr. Binny Philip convened a general body on Sept 15, 2019.

During this General Body Meeting decided to continue the renovation work after getting the approval from our Bishop. Sept 16, we started our renovation work and completed and re-dedicated on November 17. Our Sunday School started on 24 Sunday 2019. Still there are some minor works to be completed and will take care of it before handing over to the 2020 parish committee.

Renovation of old church building: \$35,261.70

Renovation of old church building extra work done: 11,943.34

Total amount spent on old church building in 2019: \$47,205.04

Many members devoted their valuable time for this project, and I have my thanks from the bottom of my hearts for all those who helped, especially Mathew George, our trustee spent many days to complete this project. Special thanks to Fr. Binny Philip for his full support.

18.Observation of Rosary month in October

On October 25 evening after Holy Mass , we conducted a rosary procession outside of the church building and paid our special devotion to Mother Mary . Around 40 people attended and nercha was distributed afterwards.

19. ORDINATION OF NEW PRIEST:

On behalf of our parish, Fr. Binny Philip attended the Priestly Ordination and First Mass of Fr. Jobin Thomas, our new priest in our Eparchy on November 16 & 17,2019 at Toronto. We are looking forward an opportunity to invite Fr. Jobin to our church

20. Thanks Giving Day Celebration

On November 30 Saturday 6 pm we celebrated Thanksgiving Mass & Thanksgiving Dinner. On this occasion we invited Rev. Fr. Italo DellOro C.R.S, Vicar Clergy and Director, Secretariat for Clergy and Rev. Sister Gina Maria Iadanza MSC , Associate Director, Secretariat for Clergy ,Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston as our guests and we were able to treat them very well and they were very happy with us. Rev. Fr. Joseph Methaneth and Fr. John S were the co-celebrants . I note a big thanks to the parishioners who made the thanks giving dinner a memorable one.

21. ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING:

Of course, none of us want to go through this kind of situation, but many innocent people are killed because of this violent act. Since churches are the one of the targets of this kind of action, at least it is a good idea to take some precautions. Thomas George and Binil Mathew attended the active shooter training from the Police Department on December 7, 2019 and they need to give us a training how to handle this kind of unexpected situations.

22. CHRISTMAS CAROL:

We conducted Christmas Caroling from Dec 6 through Dec 21. Our new Vicar, Fr. Binny Philip had one more chance to visit and pray for each family on this joyous occasion. This year our Area coordinators took charge to schedule and navigate the carol under the leadership of Mr. Shaji Kalloor, secretary of St. Teresa Prayer Ward and James Mathew. We take this opportunity to recognize and thank Fr. Binny Philip, our Trustee Mathew George, all area coordinators, Varghese Mathew, Jose K. John, especially those who joined us every day. Also, we have our sincere thanks to Selicks Cherian for establishing a WhatsApp application to manage the navigation. This year we raised \$15,032.00.

23. CHRISTMAS MASS:

We started our Christmas Mass on the evening of December 24 at 8:00 p.m., followed by a delicious dinner. We had a gift exchange program after the Holy Mass amongst the Sunday school children and teachers.

24. EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & NEW YEAR MASS

As usual we had the Eucharistic adoration and Holy Mass on New Year Eve, December 31, 2019 at 9:30 pm. It was a wonderful celebration as we concluded yet another year with the anticipation of more wonderful and blessed events to come in the coming year of 2020. Fr. Binny Philip reminded us to spend more time with people than on screen.

25. SPMCC CUSTOM 2020 CALANDER:

We have designed custom calendar for our church through a business agency without any cost on our part. We express our thanks to Jose K. John for introducing this creative initiative and also Fr. Binny Philip for entering all the required information (liturgical and regular dates) in the approved template.

26. 2020 PARISH DIRECTORY:

This year we decided to publish our Directory for communication and information. Fr. Binny, Anil Verghese and Jackson Justin are working on it to release by beginning of February 2020.

27. BIRTHDAY/WEDDING ANNEVERSARY PRAYERS:

Special prayers are offered each week for all those celebrating their birthdays and wedding

anniversaries. Additionally, Fr. Binny Philip added a birthday wish song also. From now onwards we will be calling those who will be celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries i.e. from Sunday through Saturday (future date).

28. SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Our Sunday school classes were conducted efficiently every Sunday from 8:45 am to 10:00 am under the leadership of our Headmaster James Mathew. There were 11 classes, 13 teachers and 65 students enrolled in Sunday school in 2019. The registration fee is \$40. A talent competition was held on March 16, 2019 and prizes were given to all winners.

A special thanks to all Sunday school teachers and students for their dedicated participation. Also, we appreciate Joel George's service as a teacher and he discontinued his service because of his re-location and welcome our new teacher, Mary Kilichumala.

29. MCCL:

MCCL has around 52 students actively participating in 2019. Animator for Jesus Teens is Mr. Rajan Thomas and animator for Jesus Kids is Mrs. Siby Thomas. Their first meeting was held on January 6, 2019. Ideas were discussed during that meeting and the officers decided that the MCCL meeting will be held on the first Sunday of every month. An educational seminar was held for the children, in it they were taught about Mar Ivanios. The bake sale was conducted on February 17, 2019, The proceeds were donated to the charity chosen by the MCCL.

In October, Fr. Binny Philip organized MCCL by dividing them into three different groups, St. Alphonsa, Joan of Arc and St. Francis of Assisi. Each group was assigned a teacher to assist each group, two animators who were students from the senior classes and a team leader, also a student from the upper class. Children's participation in church choir, bible reading, and other activities will be monitored, and points will be given to the groups that more actively participate. The first activity the groups participated in was leading the rosary on October 27, 2019. On November 23, we were able to conduct a regional meet between Houston and Dallas. 90 students and 21 teachers participated in the event.

All the children continue to actively participate in various activities throughout the year.

30. MALANKARA CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT:

St. Peters Malankara Catholic Church is so proud of our MCYM and it is a vital component of our parish body. This year they participated in all spiritual and other activities of our parish. In 2019 following elected office bearers dedicated their excellent services for the growth of our church.

Binil Mathew - President

Ashish Varghese – Vice President
Emil Jose – Secretary
Sharon Samuel – Joint Secretary
Kenny Thomas – Treasurer
Noel Mathews – Joint Treasurer
Akash James – Web Coordinator

During the Lent season, Binil Mathew, Mimi Thomas, Amy Varghese, and Feeba George led an adoration in English for the youth and parents at church. The adoration was very prayerful and served as an ideal preparation for Holy Week.

On April 6, MCYM held its first spiritual session at the residence of Mimi Thomas. In conjunction with Easter, an egg hunt was arranged by MCYM during the month of April. It was an enjoyable experience for all the young kids involved and gave them an opportunity to hang out with their peers.

On May 26, MCYM held a charity Bake Sale to assist with the medical costs of two fellow MCYM members in India who had met with an accident. \$227 dollars were raised and donated to the accident victims. From July 25 to 28, MCYM North America held its leadership conference in Sugar Land. On August 10, MCYM held a back to school hangout at the residence of Mimi Thomas. Members enjoyed a wonderful afternoon with plenty of games and food and it was a great time for everyone to relax before returning to school, college, or work. The annual church picnic was held on September 14 at Kitty Hollow Park. MCYM planned games and activities to entertain both parents and kids alike. On September 20, a spiritual session was held at the residence of Binil Mathew. The topic was immigration and compassion towards others, and attendees reflected on and discussed the issue. This was the first MCYM event with the presence of our Fr. Binny Philip. His input was valuable and insightful to the discussion as he familiarized himself with the youth.

On November 23 MCCL South Central regional first conference was held in Houston. MCYM members volunteered along with the parents and Sunday school teachers in order to make the event run smoothly. 90 students and 21 teachers participated in the event.

Throughout the month of November, a canned food drive was conducted across the Eparchy and Houston ranked 4th in the nationwide competition and collected over 1,200 cans. These cans were donated to the Houston Food Bank on November 27 in conjunction with a volunteering opportunity that many members participated in packing and sorting the food.

On December 27, MCYM held its annual Christmas potluck. Many members were in attendance, playing games and exchanging gifts during Secret Santa. A lively campfire was also held outside. Binny Achen proposed various ideas and suggestions for the upcoming year, including planning for the Houston MCYM Camp to be held in July 2020, Saturday masses dedicated for MCYM and MCCL, and an introduction to the National Youth Conference to be held in Toronto in August 2020, as well as various other charitable/voluntary works meant to

benefit both the church and the community.

The following members were elected as the 2020 office bearers.

Jerrin Mathew as President
Shobha Ninan as Vice President
Jerry Kilichumala as Secretary
Joshua Biju as Treasurer
Roshan Reji as Committee Representative
Noel Mathew as Joint Secretary
Asha Ninan as Joint Treasurer
Emil Koodathinamannil as Web Coordinator
Mimi Thomas and Sunil John as Animators

As a secretary, I am very happy to inform you all that throughout the year our strong, young men cheerfully stepped up and assisted the parish council members in many varieties of maintenance work for our church buildings and yard work, preparing the turkey for thanksgiving dinner, especially during the old church building renovation.

31.MOTHERS FORUM

The office bearers for 2019 were as follows:

Annamma Joseph – President
Amminikutty Rajan - Secretary
Teny Jose - Treasurer

Mothers forum members actively participated in all the church activities. Under the leadership of Annamma Joseph, all members were involved in many activities which include, cleaning of the church, church hall, conducting Rosary prayers every Friday and visiting the sick people. We are extremely grateful to you for your dedicated services to our parish.

The following members were elected on December 8, 2019 as the office bearers for 2020.

Mary Kilichumala – President
Teny Jose – Secretary
Silvy Ninan - Treasurer

32.PRAYER MEETINGS:

Alphonsa Ward:

Secretary A.G. Jacob reported that they were able to conduct 7 monthly prayer meetings in 2019 and collected \$235.00 in their account.

St. Teresa Ward:

Secretary Shaji Kalloor reported that they were able to conduct 9 monthly prayer meetings in 2019 and have collected \$418.00 in their account.

We have our sincere thanks to both Shaji Kalloor and A.G. Jacob for their dedicated services.

33. ALTAR SERVERS:

We have a total of 15 Altar Servers headed by Mr. James Mathew. On behalf of our parish, our most sincere thanks to all Altar Servers for their dedicated services and hearty welcome to our new Alter servers Joshua, Kevin, Ryan and Joel. Special thanks to their parents for their encouragement, full support and transportation.

34. CHOIR TEAM:

We appreciate and thank all Adults, Sunday school & MCYM members in the church choir for their melodious songs during the Holy Eucharist and other liturgical services.

35. Wedding and Baptism

- Nisha Mathews d/o Jacueline and Jos Mathews

BAPTISM:

- Evin Jacob s/o Jisha & Anoob Jacob.
- Aiden Abey s/o Jancy & Abey Easo

Our best wishes to the newly wedded couples and our blessed children.

36. NEW BORN:

- Eva George d/o Shalin & Joel George

37. NEW MEMBERS:

In 2019 ,we have 8 new families and among them some officially joined in 2020 onwards.

Pious & Elizabeth Mathew Family

Varghese Thomas & Mahima Varghese
Joel & Shalin George Family
Bobby & Jesty George
Alvin Jose & Jyothi Family
Jacob Varghese & Cicily Jacob Family
Binu Alex & Sumi Family
Anoop & Tinu Mathew Family

We welcome our new members and Eva George to our parish.

38. CONDOLENCES:

Our deepest condolences to our parish members who lost their loved ones in 2019. We remember the following deceased loved ones:

- Mrs. Annamma Mathew m/o Joy Mathew & Grandmother of Jefna Samuel
- Mrs. Marykutty Joy, sister of Annamma Dass
- Mr.P.P. Edicula f/o Thampi Edicula
- Mr. Joseph John f/o Babu Jose

39. INVENTORY:

As soon as Fr. Binny Philip took charge as Vicar, one of his requirements was to have a complete inventory of church assets. He appointed Jos Mathews and Fernandus George to take care of this task and it is almost done.

40. POWER WASH OF CHURCH:

We were able to complete a very quality power wash job of our church.

41. OUR DATABASE & WEBSITE ADMIN: <http://www.spmcc.org/>

A website is a wonderful way to stay in touch with the members of our church. Our Thanks to our Webmaster & Database Admin, Selicks Cherian for his full support.

42. HEALTH/AUTO/BUILDING INSURANCE:

We have purchased health coverage from Blue Cross & Blue Shield and commercial automobile insurance for Fr. Binny Philip with a very reasonable monthly premium of \$220 for health and \$1,853.00 for commercial auto insurance premium per year.

43. INSURANCE FOR BOTH CHURCH BUILDINGS:

We have renewed our church buildings insurance policy with Church mutual company and the annual premium is \$8,898.00

44. PURCHASE OF NEW AUTOMOBILE:

We purchased a New 2019 Toyota RAV4 on July 1 2019 and the transaction amount is shown below.

Total donation from 83 members to purchase new car	\$23,136.00
Amount received by selling the old car from Sabana Motors	\$ 4500.00
Total income for both donation & old car sale	\$27,636.00
New Car purchase	\$27,100.00
Balance added to church account	\$536.00

My sincere thanks to all members for donating \$23,136.00 for purchasing this vehicle for the use of our church.

45. SIGN BOARD:

We have completed the construction of our sign board. The total cost is \$7,100. Special thanks to Varghese George, Mathew George, George Fernandus, Jose K. John, Reji Mathew and all our MCYM members for their help constructing the foundation.

46. OUR ADJACMENT PROPERTY SALE:

The property listed for sale for \$59,900 for almost 17 cents. We tried our level best to purchase this land and offered \$70,000, but someone offered more than \$70,000. We backed out from the deal with a comment from Fr. Binny – “leave everything to Almighty and let him decide”.

47. INTERNET CONNECTION/FIRE ALARAM/SECURITY CAMERA:

Our internet service provider is Xfinity and they installed a higher speed internet service in July 2019 and the monthly payment is \$192.00.

In order to continue our fire alarm system mentoring, we keep our frontier connection because they carry our landline phone. We need to work with some phone companies to set up the dedicated phone line to continue monitoring the fire alarm.

We have noticed recently that our security camera system is not working and now we are dealing with Lorex system for replacement of the recorder.

48.WASTE MANAGEMENT:

We have renewed our waste management contract for another 5 years with Connection Texas LLC and the new monthly payment is \$153.23. Just for information, in order to break this contract, we need to give six months' notice in advance.

49.SOUND SYSTEM CONTROL:

Selicks Cherian & Shibu Ninan were assigned to control the sound system. We all have our sincere thanks to Joel George for his dedicated services all these times.

50. 2019 ICECH ECUMENICAL PROGRAM:

BIBLE QUIZ TROPHY WINNER:

On August 10, 2019 ICECH conducted a bible quiz at St. Peter's & St. Paul's Syrian Orthodox church and we are very proud of Amminikutty Rajan, Rajan Thomas, Jacqueline Mathews, Annamma Joseph, Roshan Biju, Mary Thomas, Bobbin Anish Neduveliyil and Sally Jacob for winning 3rd place. Congratulations to them.

MEETING WITH HON. JUDGE KP GEORGE

On Wednesday October 30, 2019 at 7:00 pm conducted a special meeting with Hon. County Judge Mr. K.P. George. During the meeting he explained many advantages of keeping good relationship with county elected officials. 9 priests and 16 parish representatives participated in the event.

CHRISTMAS Program

The Ecumenical Christmas program was held on December 25 at 5:30 pm at St. Joseph Hall. Our church had a good representation from our MCYM and Sunday school students with almost 30 children participating. Our children conducted a wonderful performance on this occasion. A special thanks to all the children for participating in a wonderful performance to represent our church in the Ecumenical program. Special thanks to Binil Mathew & Rajan Thomas Angadiyil for coordinating the ecumenical program this year.

Mr. Rajan Angadiyil is the representative from our church and we all appreciate for his excellent services.

51. SPECIAL THANKS:

We would like to recognize and thank following individuals:

Thomas George and Philip Ninan for their dedicated services to take care our lawn.

Varghese George, who raised \$2,300 by planting and selling Chena last year

Fernandus George – for donating a desk top computer for church use.

52. FINANCE & AUDITING:

Total income from all sources for 2019 was \$226,254.95 which includes the 2018 balance forward of \$50,888.47. Total expenses were \$235,559.39 leaving a net balance of **\$41,584.03**. The account has been audited by auditor, Mr. Thomas George. We extend our sincere thanks to Mr. Mathew George, our Trustee, for his systematic and excellent bookkeeping and dedicated services.

53. 2019 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION:

A special General Body meeting was held on Sunday December 22, 2019 after the Holy Mass and was presided by Fr. Binny Philip to elect 2020 Parish Council Members. In the beginning part of the General Body Meeting Fr. Binny Philip explained very detail about the goal of an Edavaka.

- 1) Grow in faith (spiritually) – faith formation eg. Sunday School
- 2) Care and concerns – about others
- 3) A Welcoming Parish – full understanding and providing positive energy
- 4) Need a “WE” feeling – ready to help others
- 5) Good assumptions – kept it clean and clear, positive assumption.

Also Fr. Binny Philip recommended to leave 10 Saturday for the youngsters, In July spare 3 days for the young members to go out and spend some time to cooking, different games etc. (July 23rd and 24th). Also conduct classes for mothers at least 4 times a year. Plan to have an annual get together for young couples (Less than 25 years of married life).

The following Parish Council Members were elected during this General Body meeting.

Trustee Varghese Bursleebi

Secretary Shaji Kalloor

Committee members:

Geevarghese George

Mathew Varghese

George Samuel

James Koodal

Annamma Biju

Ligi John
Roshan Reji (Youth member- in a separate meeting)
Mary Kilichumala – President Mothers Forum (in a separate meeting)
Jerrin Mathew – MCYM President (in a separate meeting)
Thomas George - Auditor

54. CONCLUSION:

Now, by God’s grace, another remarkable, and in many ways, beneficial year has passed into memory. While thanking the Almighty God for His protection and care, we implore Him for His continued strength and guidance. We express our gratitude to Mar Stephanos Thirumeni and also all our Excellencies, the leaders of our Church for their unfailing support and encouragement, and we declare our loyalty and obedience to them. We thank our former Vicar, Fr. John Puthenvila and Fr. Binny Philip for their dedicated services to the Community. Our most sincere thanks to those who hear the needs of the church and reach out through either their financial, physical and spiritual support without being asked, the office bearers and members of the various Church organizations, the Parish Council members, the Feasibility study committee for our community center and most of all the parishioners for their support and prayers.

Now, I ask you to join me in expressing our immense gratitude to the Most Holy Heart of Jesus who never fails to bless us and watch over us. So, invoking the intercessions of the Holy Mother of God, our Gracious Advocate, and St. Peter, the Prince of the Apostles, I submit this 2019 annual report to the General Body for its approval and endorsement.

For the Parish Council,

George Samuel
Secretary

Fr. Binny Philip
President

Passed By 1) Shaji Kalloor

2) Jose K. John

Date: January 19, 2020

Stafford, Texas