

Calendar of Events 2016

Community Outreach	: March 26
Sunday school Fellowship Night	: April 09
Church Inauguration	: May 07
PCNAK	: June 30 – July 03
PYPA VBS - Viscadi Center	: July 6-8
PICNIC & Community Outreach	: July 23
IPC Family Conference, South Florida	: July 28 – 31
ICA VBS	: August 3-5
ICA Retreat	: August 12-14
Sunday school Anniversary	: September 17
IPC Eastern Region Convention	: October 7 - 9
Family Fellowship Night	: Date TBD
Mission Night	: November 14
Thanksgiving service & Charity Night	: November 26
Special Meetings	: Date TBD

ICA SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday Service @ 9:30 am & 11: 15 am
Sunday School @ 11:15 am

INDIA CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

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Tel.516.390.9545

Pastor: Rev. Samuel John 516.361.7575

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WELCOME TO ICA SUNDAY SERVICE

Date : March 20, 2016



WEEKLY ICA VOICE

THIS WEEK'S MEETING

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER @ 07:30 PM
AT REV. K.E. EAPEN'S RESIDENCE IN
NEW HYDE PARK
(2017 NEW HYDE PARK RD, N.H.P., NY 11040)

FRIDAY FASTING AND PRAYER @10:30 AM AT ICA
SPECIAL GUEST REV. WILSON VARKEY

FRIDAY NIGHT—SPECIAL MEETING @ 7.30 PM AT ICA
SPECIAL GUEST REV. WILSON VARKEY

**SATURDAY @ 05:30 PM COMMUNITY OUTREACH
PROGRAM AT ICA**

**NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE SPECIAL GUEST
REV. WILSON VARKEY**

THERE WILL BE FELLOWSHIP LUNCH AFTER THE SERVICE

The Lord's Donkey

The Christian world celebrates Palm Sunday today, the day Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a donkey. We see different roles by different characters here – Jesus, the donkey, the crowd around Jesus and the Jews.

*The donkey is really surprised and probably feels weird about the sudden attention and honor it is receiving. It was until now accustomed to only carrying heavy loads for its master. When not working it was always bound to a pole. It probably was not fed well or used to any gentle treatment. It was despised by everyone until now and cursed as a creature without brain.

A lot of us could probably identify with this donkey. We were not well-regarded by this world; we were not ranked equal with many others in several realms. We were bound with the chain of sin and lost in this world. The donkey realized the sudden freedom is because of Jesus; it realized the attention, respect and the royal treatment is because of the person who is riding on his back. Our chains are broken and we are free only because Jesus freed us-let us not chain ourselves again. Any honor and dignity we have is not earned by us, it is because of the One who is in us. No cloak would be spread on me, or spread on the ground I tread if the Master of the universe was not riding on me. Only grace, nothing to boast – I was chosen out of many other donkeys.

The donkey was put back into labor the following day-his honor removed and once again bound to a pole. But when I was freed it was forever, I am free through eternity. I am promised eternal life.

*There is a jubilant crowd following Jesus. Not many of them are well-educated or high ranking in the society. Many of them probably don't understand the full meaning of what is going on. But they had a revelation. They knew who was riding the donkey – the one who deserves hosanna, the one who is eternally blessed, and the one who is coming in the name of the Lord. They knew the savior, the Messiah. Their eyes were open to the truth and they could not help but shout praises to their Lord and God.

*The leaders of the Jews were indignant and may be jealous. They could not imagine their Messiah riding a lowly donkey followed by uneducated mass of villagers. The chief priests and the teachers of law would be the ones leading their king into the city and to the temple, not the ordinary people. They don't want him to ride a donkey; they have magnificent white stallions on the ready for their king to ride. They don't want the children to shout praises; they have trained young men ready with trumpets and bugles and drums to usher in their king. No, no this is so inappropriate for a king, this is just a carpenter's son.

If the Christ would ride a donkey today would I recognize him and shout praises to him or would I ignore the rider on a despised creature? Would I accept him as my king or would I be like the leaders who despised and rejected him?

*Jesus, true to his nature, being humble enough to give up all the glory

of heaven to redeem the mankind deemed it fit to ride the donkey and fulfill the prophecy. His heart probably ached when he heard the leaders' comments and silently blessed and promised eternal heaven to the common people who followed and praised him. Even today that is what he is doing. He is looking for some humble, obedient souls who would surrender their life, sing praises to the Lord and seek the glory of the Father. Would you and I be in that group?

Bro. P. A Samuel

"My concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right."

– **Abraham Lincoln**

**Have you reached the goal of the Bible reading plan for the week?
Are you happy with the amount of time spent in talking to the Father this week?**

Bible Reading Plan for this Week

March 20, 2016	1 Corinthians 7-8
March 21, 2016	Genesis 44-47
March 22, 2016	I Samuel 6 –10
March 23, 2016	Psalms 33-35
March 24, 2016	Job 23-24
March 25, 2016	Isaiah 62-66
March 26, 2016	Mark 3-4

"I am the LORD who heals you"

Please pray for:

**Pr. T. T Thomas, Pr. P. Philip, Pr. George Mathai, Pr. Geevarghese,
Mrs. Susamma Itty, Mrs. Marykutty Thomas (Sist. Suja's Mom),
Bro. Babu Thannickal, Sist. Shiny Chacko, Sam Mathew,
Ammi George, Mariamma Johny (Kunjumol),
Usha Danielkutty, Kiran (Dr. Jolly Mathew's granddaughter),
Nirmala (Friend of Snehalatha Nair), Baby Anaya, Sist. Jolly Jacob, Sis.
Anna Thannickal, Anaya & all who are sick among us.**