



# KIDS Voyage

Newsletter of Sunday School,  
St. Mary's Orthodox Syrian Church, Pune.  
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**Journey with Jesus**

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## From the Editor's Desk

*I will praise God's name in song and exalt Him with thanksgiving. That will please the LORD more than an ox, more than a bull with horns and hooves. Psalm 69:30-31*

'Kids Voyage' is the song & thanksgiving from the students of Sunday School, SMOSC, Pune. It feels like just yesterday when we came up with our very first edition. The second edition of Kids Voyage has been a mammoth task. The standard set by last year's publication was high and we were sceptical if we could pull it all together by our own efforts but at the same time confident that by His Grace we can do it. This is our thanksgiving to Him through the songs, through the drawings and through all the contributions of our dear kids.

Thanking the support of our Achen, our Head Master, teachers, elders, alumni, parents & our real assets - the kids, without whom this edition would not have been possible. Thanking everyone from the Editorial Team for their energy, efforts and dedication which made this edition a reality. Above all, thanking our Heavenly father for blessing each one of us abundantly to create this history for our future generations.



**Newsletter First Issue Release**

**1<sup>st</sup> prize in Quiz (Secondary Group) at Diocese Level Arts competition held on 25/11/18, at Vashi, Mumbai.**

Abhishek G Kurian | Jisha Ann Philip | Siyona Varghese

**Group Champions at the Zonal level competitions held at Dighi Church on 18/10/18. Yes!! We bagged 3 out of 5 group champion trophies.**

Joshua Allen (Sub Juniors) | Maria Anna Anil (Seniors) | Jennifer M Daniel (Secondary)

We also had the following students adding more jewels to the winning crown at Dighi.

Angel Bobby Peter	Evelyn Sujith	Joanna Stephen	Johan George
Anaysa Biju Philip	Eva Ann Eassow	Rachel Anil	Risha Biju
Jonah Bijoy	Kristine George	Samika Salu Sam	Shaun Santhosh
Abhishek G Kurian	Ethen Jacob	Jisha Ann Philip	Siyona Varghese

**Young Achievers**



### Zonal Level Arts Competition Team

We are proud of you and wishing you all more success in life. May God Bless our Sunday School to win more prizes in the coming years.

**Drawing by**



**Eva and Johan (Group Galilee)**

## Upcoming events

Sunday School Charity Day	03 - February
Class X & XII Results	12 - February
SAY Exam Date	07 - April
Half Yearly Exam	21 - July
Open Day / Report Day	28 - July
Newsletter 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition	15 - August

# VOYAGE



God's guiding light has always been there ever since the beginning of creation. Be it the burning bush refining Moses' life, the pillar of fire leading His people out into the promised land or a special star navigating wise men from strange lands; Everything ultimately put the spotlight on His Son Jesus and His great sacrifice so that you & I can experience His great love and life more abundantly.

- Interpretation by Freeda Salu and collage by Libi Peter

Light for living things. *We just cannot do without it. Physical light is analogous to the spiritual light God in Jesus Christ gives us. Jesus-the light of the world is the light that.*  
 -purifies everything that is pure/impure but does not ever get affected with them. *Jesus may be with the so called "sinners" but is not a sinner.*  
 -is supreme without which there is no life. *nothing in this world is possible without him.*  
 -reveals the true nature of everything without hiding anything. *Jesus says he knows you inside*

*out, so be truthful.*  
 -has cleansing power, *it can purify us and save us from our sins.*  
 - saw the blind man, who could not physically see Jesus, understood his problem and voluntarily helped him overcome his difficulty. *Jesus therefore says even if you are ignorant of me my mercy will always be upon you, understanding your needs and taking care of you.*  
 -makes us aware that we are not blind towards the power of God. *Jesus, the light, removes our blindness and reveals the power of God our Father to us.*

## How Sunday School benefited me



It was great spending those years in Sunday School. Now when look back I realise how lucky I was to learn about God's word with such supportive, tolerant and patient teachers.  
 - Jitty Kurian Mathew

We would eagerly wait to go to Sunday school after Qurbana, grab a bite of snack to learn something new about our loving Father God from our lovely teachers and friends

Sunday School is the place where I really learnt how to use and understand the Word of God and engage in real conversations about our Lord and saviour while making friends and establishing bonds of love and fellowship.  
 - Jerin P John

I remember participating in all the competitions whether you are good or bad at it just because your friends are participating. Was a fun time to bond with God & make new friends; I miss being in Sunday school.  
 - Siji Varghese

## God is Everywhere



Christina Sujith  
 (Class 10 -Galilee)

God is Everywhere, To share His love and hope. He is there to help us, Anytime we are lost. God is everywhere, With us in hard times. God is everywhere, To keep us happy. God is everywhere, So, we remain happy.

## Bible Trivia

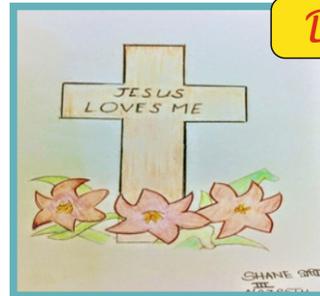


Joshua M. Peter  
 (Class 9 - Nazareth)

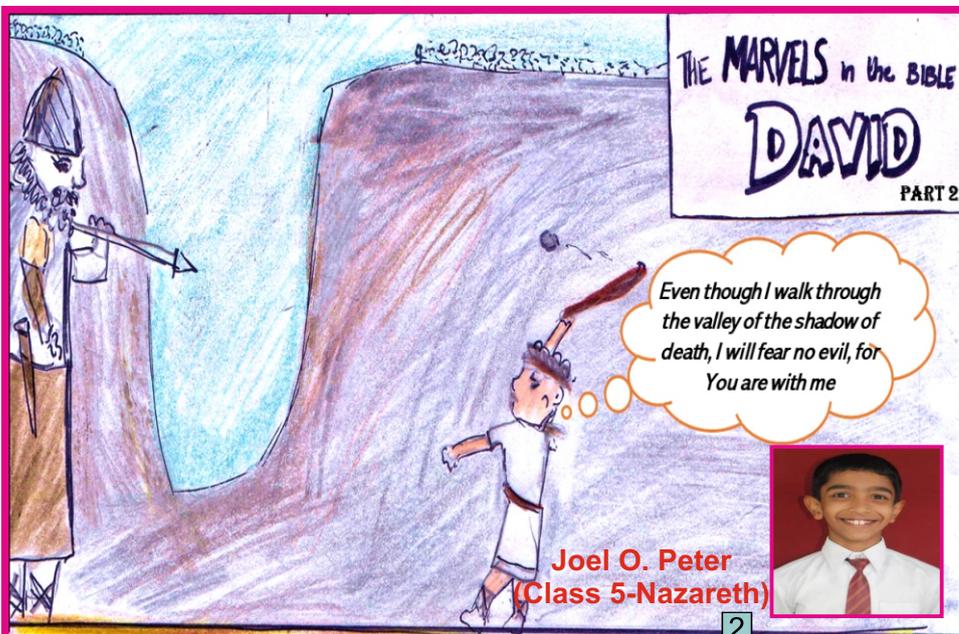


- The Bible was written across three continents (Asia, Africa & Europe)
- The Old Testament was written in Hebrew & Aramaic The New Testament was written in Greek.
- The Bible was written by 40 plus authors (including kings, peasants, fishermen, doctor, scholars etc)
- The word Bible doesn't appear in the Bible! The word comes from the Greek word Biblia meaning "books"
- The oldest book in the Bible is the Book of Job

## Drawing by



Shane Sibi  
 (Class 4-Jerusalem)



## God's love



Joanna Stephen  
 (Class II-Galilee)

God's love is like my sweet sister's hugs,  
 God's love is like my warm home,  
 God's love is every person who teaches and encourages me,  
 God's love is in my heart, everything is possible because of it.  
 God loves me always.



The Bombay Diocese had organised a two-day camp at St. George Balikagram, Dehu Road on 29 & 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. I was excited to go as it was my first experience of a two-day camp with my friends. After getting the instructions on what to carry, I packed my bag.

Then the day arrived, for which I was waiting eagerly. I took my bags and set out, looking forward to a camp of surprises. After reaching the church, we all set out to Dehu Road at 7.30 in the morning. We were singing songs and chatting on our way to Dehu Road. After an hour's trip, we reached Dehu Road. We were escorted to a room to keep our bags and freshen up.

At the conference, our main speakers were explaining the theme 'Decoding Holy Sacraments' beautifully and meaningfully. We also had sessions like the K.F.C. (Kids For Christ) & J.A.M. (Jesus And Me). After the first session of K.F.C. & J.A.M., we

were introduced to the girls living in the prayers and songs very well.

We were divided into four groups namely 'King David', 'Jesus followers', 'Good Samaritan' and 'Golgotha'. We had games like the 'Angel Guardian', 'Rapid Fire' etc. After the sessions got over, we went to the church to take Hoosoyo for the Qurbana the next day. After that, we had a bonfire at 7 in the evening. We enjoyed the mesmerising music & dance. After the fun filled first day, we ate our dinner and retired to sleep.

The next day, which was a Sunday, we all woke up at 5 in the morning. After freshening up we went for the Qurbana which was conducted by His Grace Geevarghese Mar Coorilos. After the Qurbana, we all took a group photo and we all went back to our classes to attend the final K.F.C. and J.A.M. session.

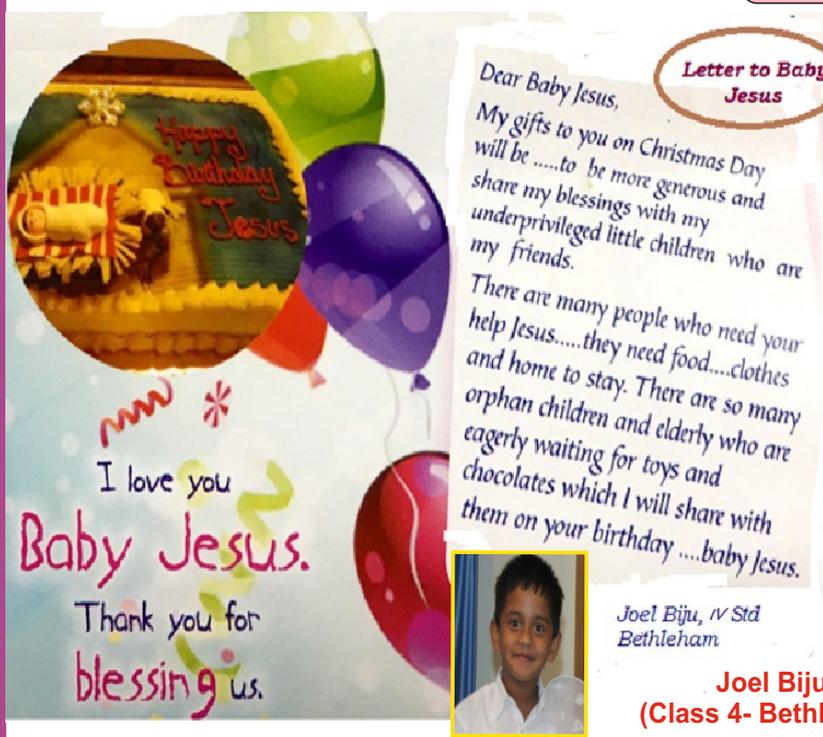
At those sessions, we learned about Christ's love for us and His interactions with us. We were also shown a video featuring the Balikagram's yearly activities. After the final session was over, we were given a bookmark as a souvenir to remember. We had lunch and got ready to return back home. We reached back at St. Mary's church by 4.30 pm.

I loved the experience with my friends which I could never forget in my life. I wish we have such exciting two day camps every year.



**Nathanael George**  
(Class 7- Nazareth)

## To be a Burning and Shining Lamp



Joel Biju, IV Std  
Bethlehem

**Joel Biju**  
(Class 4- Bethlehem)

St Luke 1:57-80 recalls the birth of St. John the Baptist and his role in preparing way for the Messiah.

Prayers of aged and childless Zechariah and Elizabeth were fulfilled by God. When Zachariah's faith fluctuated, he became mute. His tongue was loosened upon naming his son 'John' and he

praised God's grace revealing to all that the power of Lord was upon the new-born. Witnessing this miracle, all pondered "What then will this child become?" – Luke 1:66

Our Sabha honours this miraculous birth of St John by dedicating this day as "Children's day" and celebrating it as Sunday School Day. Jesus entrusts the greatest mission to the church- the continuation of His mission to His disciples and apostles through which souls are saved and committed to the Kingdom of Heaven -St Matt.28:19-20. Sunday School is an extension of this mission which gives us a strong Christian



- Jobin Varghese  
(Alumni)

foundation to face the world.

For, Proverbs 22:6 says, by moulding children in the correct way when they are young, they will not deviate from it later in life. This will strengthen their character and help them to grow spiritually in the grace of God. Through Sunday school, the Bible becomes the treasure hunt of parables, stories, miracles and above all the infinite love of our Lord that remains etched in our minds forever.

Many guides us, but it is in the Sunday School when we learn about Jesus Christ and his death on the cross for the salvation of our sins, that guides us to lead a true Christian life. God's word makes us loving, obedient, patient, and encourage us to grow closer to Christ.

Our parents have great dreams about us. We children find time for everything but do not give due importance to reach church on time on Sunday, nor try to understand our faith and services. Today when our parents wonder, "What will this child turn out to be?", let us assure them that while achieving academic heights, we will also become a burning and shining lamp like John the Baptist (John 5:35). Dear friends, let us promise them and ourselves to honour the word of our Lord in all humility, grace and true Christian faith. May God bless us to utilize our talents and abilities to further His Kingdom.





# Search



Rachel Anil  
(Class 4- Jerusalem)

K	Q	E	T	R	U	N	T	H	V
B	L	U	B	F	C	I	B	N	B
S	T	E	P	H	E	N	L	L	L
A	B	I	G	H	K	E	O	M	M
M	A	Y	O	D	A	V	I	D	O
J	E	Q	C	H	J	E	L	I	D
G	O	L	G	O	T	H	A	D	W
A	G	T	J	K	I	T	R	O	T
R	P	M	N	C	L	I	B	S	C
A	I	S	A	A	C	N	M	U	A
Q	L	A	B	N	I	A	B	R	I
Z	A	Q	E	A	J	D	J	I	N
F	T	F	R	A	O	T	D	A	F
X	E	H	J	N	Z	W	G	J	Y

Find the following (search in all directions)

1. Name Abraham & Sarah's Son
2. Name of the Promised Land
3. The place Jesus was crucified
4. God asked Jonah to go to this place
5. The Governor who conducted Jesus' trial
6. Who defeated Goliath
7. The first christian martyr
8. Symbol of God's promise to Noah
9. First Son of Adam & Eve
10. The person whose daughter Jesus brought back from death

Clues :

1. Isaac
2. Canaan
3. Golgotha
4. Nineveh
5. Pilate
6. David
7. Stephen
8. Rainbow
9. Cain
10. Jairus

A good way for the entire community to come together. It was quite different last time since kids were involved in it as well. They got to know the history behind harvest day and by waiting at the stalls they understood the effort it took to sell things. This not only improved their sense of responsibility but created a sense of contribution from their perspective.

-Jisha Alex (Parent)

## Harvest Festival



Drawing by



Joshua Allen  
(Class 3- Bethlehem)

Amazing to see the enthusiastic participation of our Sunday school kids & teachers during the Harvest Fest. Right from contributing to the SS stall (and some even joining their parents to sell), to the whole hearted performances on stage, they truly lit up the evening when they brought the first fruits of talent to God.

- Anju Allen (Parent)

A day to remember! Everyone being involved in unity, fellowship & friendship.- Efron Binu (Student)

Harvest festival reminds me of my childhood days where my grandparents used to offer the first produce of the farm products to Church as they believed God will take care of their needs the rest of the seasons. So offering one day's income is a token of my duty to Christ & His Church.

- Reena Saji Kurian (Parent)



## Sunday School Open Day

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