

## Things are not always as they seem

Two traveling angels stopped to spend the night in the home of a wealthy family. The family was rude and refused to let the angels stay in the mansion's guest room. Instead, the angels were given a small space in the cold basement. As they made their bed on the hard floor, the older angel saw a hole in the wall and repaired it. When the younger angel asked why, the older angel replied, "Things aren't always what they seem."

The next night, the pair came to rest at the house of a very poor, but very hospitable farmer and his wife. After sharing what little food they had, the couple let the angels sleep in their bed where they could have a good night's rest. When the sun came up the next morning, the angels found the farmer and his wife in tears. Their only cow, whose milk had been their sole income, lay dead in the field. The younger angel was infuriated and asked the older angel, "How could you have let this happen? The first man had everything, yet you helped him," she accused. "The second family had little but was willing to share everything, and you let the cow die

"Things aren't always what they seem," the older angel replied. "When we stayed in the basement of the mansion, I noticed there was gold stored in that hole in the wall. Since the owner was so obsessed with greed and unwilling to share his good fortune, I sealed the wall so he wouldn't find it." "Then last night as we slept in the farmer's bed, the angel of death came for his wife. I gave him the cow instead. Things aren't always what they seem." Sometimes, that is exactly what happens when things don't turn out the way it seems they should.

~ Unknown Author

Sung Eucharist 7:30 AM

**Celebrant:**  
Rev. Dr. V. Paul Birla

## St. Thomas English Church

Church of South India –Diocese of Madras  
Santhome, Chennai-600 004

<http://www.santhomeenglishchurch.org>

Evensong 6:00 PM

**Message:**  
Mr. Milton Sigamoney



### Altar Flowers Decoration:

In ever loving memory of  
Late Mrs. Irene Samuel  
Rajah and Late Jayakumar  
Samuel remembered by Mr.  
Samuel Rajah & Family.

### Bible Readings, &

**Offertory :** Dr. Mrs.  
Caroline Priya & Mr. T.  
Ignatius and family

### COVENANT SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020

Let us worship our Lord through...

**Opening Hymn : 82**

### Scripture Readings:

**Old Testament** Micah 6: 1-8

**Epistle** James 1: 19-27

**Responsive Reading** Psalm 42

**Gospel** Mathew 6: 1-8

### Announcement

**Meditation:** " True Piety "

**Offertory Hymn: 407**

**Communion Hymns: 317, 556, 719 (A&M)**

### Prayer

### Benediction

**Closing Hymn : 281**

**Collect for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany:** God of all goodness we thank you for Your Son Jesus Christ, who laid His life to transform the world. Enable us to realise that true piety is not fulfilling our religious duties but living upright with pure heart and clear conscience and to lead a life that is worthy of our calling. We plead You to grant us Your grace to mend our behaviour, our relationships, live in communion with You so that Your light may shine in and through our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever more. Amen.

<b>Responsive Reading:</b> Psalm 42	<p>As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.</p> <p><b>My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?</b></p> <p>My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"</p> <p><b>These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival.</b></p> <p>Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God. <b>My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.</b></p> <p>Deep calls to deep at the roar of your waterfalls; all your breakers and your waves have gone over me.</p> <p><b>By day the LORD commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.</b></p> <p>I say to God, my rock: "Why have you forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?"</p> <p><b>As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"</b></p> <p>Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.</p> <p>Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  <b>As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.</b></p>
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<p><b>Greetings and a warm welcome</b> to everyone. A special word of welcome to those worshipping with us for the first time</p>
<p><b>Men's Fellowship</b> will be held on coming. Saturday, the <b>08/02/2020 at 6.00 PM</b> in our Multi-purpose Hall.</p>
<p>Next Sunday, <b>the 09/02/2020, Word of Christ Ministries</b>, would put up a stall at the entrance of our Church. They have a wide range to offer on Bibles &amp; Books – KJV / NKJV / NIV / ESV / NLT / NASB / Good News / Amplified / Dictionaries &amp; Concordance / Classic Biographies / Inspirational Books / etc., with discounts. Also, novelties would be available on sale.</p>

<b>Birthdays</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb Mrs. Elizabeth Suresh 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb Mrs. Rachel King
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	5 <sup>th</sup> Feb Miss. Ornella Iswariah Mr. Gabriel Dhanaseelan 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb Mrs. Cynthia Moses 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb Mrs. Evelyn Latika Stanley Miss. Avantika Jane Modi 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb Dr. Mrs. Caroline Priya Ignatius Mr. R. Leonard Raj Mrs. Ajitha Lilly Pauline Ephrem
<b>Wedding Anniversaries</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb Mrs. Cynthia & Mr. George Moses Dr. Mrs. Shalini Susan & Mr. Reno Varghese 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb Dr. Mrs. Caroline Priya & Mr. T. Ignatius Mrs. Hemalatha & Mr. Michael Ponnudurai 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb Mrs. S. Neugila & Mr. S. Emmanuel 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb Mrs. Precious & Mr. S. John Manohar 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb Mrs. Jayasri & Mr. David Stanley
<b>Thanks Giving Song</b> 	<p><i>Go now in peace (Don Besig, Nancy Price)</i></p> <p>Go now in peace, never be afraid.          God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day          Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true          Know He will guide you in all you do.</p> <p>Go now in love, and show you believe          Reach out to others so all the world can see          God will be there watching from above          Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen.</p>
<b>Preparatory Song</b> 	<p><i>Father in heaven, how we love You – Bob Fitts</i></p> <p>Father in heaven, how we love You,          We lift Your Name in all the earth          May Your Kingdom be established in our praises,          As Your people declare Your mighty works.</p> <p>Blessed be the Lord God Almighty,          Who was and is, and is, to come.          Blessed be the Lord God Almighty. Who reigns forever more.</p>

**“Piety is not a goal but a means to attain through the purest peace of mind the highest culture.”**

- **Johann Wolfgang von Goethe**