



Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church

UK-EUROPE-AFRICA Diocese

Light To Life

Newsletter

Introduction

It gives us immense joy to share the latest updates from our Light To Life Projects in Kalechiwadi (Pune, Maharashtra), Marangadu (Trivandrum, Kerala), and Wardha (Maharashtra), an initiative of UK-Europe-Africa diocese of Malankara Mar Thoma Church.

The project is dedicated to supporting the education and overall development of the enrolled children. We provide special tuition classes to enhance their academic progress, nutritious meals to support their physical growth, and essential supplies such as books, school bags, and other educational materials. Additionally, we organise after-school recreational activities to foster their extra-curricular interests and holistic development. All of this has been made possible through your continued prayers and generous support throughout the year.

Over the past few months, children across our centers have celebrated cultural festivals, participated in educational workshops, and engaged in activities that nurture creativity, leadership, and community responsibility. From vibrant cultural programs and national celebrations to awareness sessions on health, safety, and social issues, each event has been a step toward empowering children to grow as confident, responsible citizens. We are sharing few glimpses of the various activities happened across our three project locations through this newsletter.

As you read through this newsletter, we invite you to celebrate with us the progress, joy, and transformation happening in the lives of these children. Your continued support makes all of this possible, and we look forward to journeying with you as we bring more light to more lives. Above all, together with you, we give all glory and honor to Almighty God, whose unfailing love is the foundation and driving force behind this project.

On behalf of Light To Life Team,

Your's in Christ

Revd. Abu Cherian, General Convenor



+44-7782944355



lighttolifeukez@gmail.com



11 Priory Gardens,
Ashford, TW15 1NZ

Kalechiwadi, Pune



Children's Traditional Cultural Day Program Inaugurated by Mrs. Kalamkar, Zilla Parishad School Teacher on 7th July 2025 in Buttewadi Centre. Lavani dance, folk songs, skits, and displays of traditional attire highlighted the rich cultural heritage of the community, with children enthusiastically participating in various performances.



Raksha Bandhan and Rakhi Festival was Celebrated on 11th August 2025, at Buttewadi and Chakkan Centers. Children tied Rakhi's and shared sweets, celebrating love, care, and unity among brothers and sisters.



Independence Day Celebrated in Buttewadi, Chakkan and Thakarwadi Centre on 15th August 2025. Children hoisted the national flag, sang patriotic songs, and took part in cultural programs to honor the day.



In the Kitchen Garden program, Vegetable seed were distributed for children in Chakkan Centre on 28th August 2025. The activity encouraged children to grow their own vegetables and learn the importance of healthy eating.

Kalechiwadi, Pune



Teacher's Day was celebrated on 5th September 2025 with all children and their teachers across the three centres. Children expressed their gratitude through songs, speeches, and small cultural programs.



Child Parliament Monthly Meeting was conducted on 11th September 2025 at Chakkan Centre. Children discussed their ideas, shared concerns, and planned activities for the month.



Health Awareness Program was conducted by Mrs. Manisha Surve, Health In-charge, Mumbai Women & Child Society, on 16th September at Thakarwadi Centre. She guided children on healthy habits, hygiene, and the importance of regular check-ups.



A Drawing Competition was conducted on 25th September at Buttewadi Centre. Children showcased their creativity with colourful drawings on different themes.

Marangadu, Trivandrum



Child Parliament Training Program was conducted by Lijoy K Joseph HCDI, for the students (class 5th to 10th) and Facilitators on 7th August 2025, at Marangadu Centre. In Child Parliament, children come together to share their ideas and opinions. It helps them learn about democracy, leadership, and need of working together. Through this, children get a voice in decisions that affect their lives and rights.



Child Parliament Election & Voting Process was conducted on 23rd August 2025. To select the leaders or the members of the children's Parliament like Prime Minister, Home Minister, Health Minister etc.



Art and Paper Craft workshop was conducted by Mr. Rajesh Vincent on 13th September 2025. That helped children to learn creative work in a more fun way of learning.



Children and staff of the Marangadu Light to Life project Celebrated Onam Cultural Festival on 28th August 2025. It was time of celebration, fun games and activities.

Marangadu, Trivandrum



Sports & Traditional outdoor Games Activities were conducted for all the children in the Marangadu project, where children actively participated and enjoyed the day along with the participation from staff and parents as well.



Cyber Crime Awareness Secession was conducted by Mr. Santhosh (Circle Inspector – Cyber Division, Trivandrum) on 16th August 2025, at Marangadu Centre. Children were made aware of the cyber related issues and problems affecting them and the public in general.



Basheer Dinam Poster Making Program was conducted on 5th July 2025, at Marangad Centre. The program encouraged children to showcase their creativity while honouring the memory of Vaikom Muhammad Basheer.

Wardha, Maharashtra



The Light to Life – Wardha Project was officially inaugurated on 28th August 2025 at Dahegaon and Wardha. The event was graced by Dr. Philip George, Director of HC DI, & Mr. Y Thankachan Treasurer, HC DI. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from parents, community members, and local leaders, symbolizing a hopeful and impactful beginning for the project.



As part of the inauguration program, educational kits were distributed to all enrolled children. These kits included books, stationery, and learning aids designed to support both classroom and at-home learning.



The Rakhi Festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm on 9th August 2025 at the Light to Life Project, Wardha. The program commenced with a short introduction highlighting the significance of the festival, followed by student presentations through songs, poems, and speeches that emphasized the values of love, duty, and responsibility.



Teachers' Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on 5th September 2025 at the Wardha and Dahegaon Units of the Light to Life Project, Wardha. Children organized a vibrant cultural program that included songs, speeches, dances, and skits dedicated to their beloved teachers.

Wardha, Maharashtra



Awareness Session on POSCO, as part of the ongoing efforts of the project to ensure the protection and well-being of children, an awareness session was organized at the Dahegaon and Wardha Units on 8th September 2025 under the leadership of Mr. Ashish Modak, District Coordinator, Child Line.



A Village Cleaning Programme was organized on 21st September 2025 at Dahegaon village under the initiative of the Light to Life Project, Wardha. The programme saw active participation from local children, community members, and project volunteers, who worked together to clean streets, public spaces, and promote hygiene awareness.



An awareness program on Alcohol and Substance Addiction was organized on 24th September 2025 at the Dahegaon Unit of Light to Life as part of a community outreach initiative.



A Poster Making & Drawing Competition was also organized at the Wardha Unit, where children creatively expressed their ideas on environmental conservation and community cleanliness.

Light to Life Team

Core Committee

President: Rt. Revd. Pd. Dr. Joseph Mar Ivanios Episcopa
Diocesan Secretary: Revd. John Mathew C
Diocesan Trustee: Mr. Thomas Abraham
General Convenor: Revd. Abu Cherian

Dr. Suresh Samuel - Coordinator, London Centre.
 Dr. Binu Mathew K Thomas- Coordinator, North West, Africa and Europe Centre
 Mr. Sam Mathew- Coordinator, Midlands, and Europe Centre
 Adv. Jacob P Abraham, Council Member

Office Administration: Mr. Anish Tom

VICARS & PARISH PROMOTERS

London Centre

St Johns MTC, UK Revd. John Mathew C
 Dr. Suresh Samuel
St James MTC, London Revd. Soju M Thomas
 Mr. Cyril Abraham John
Sinai MTC, North London Revd. Deepak Daniel Thomas
 Mr. Alex Philip
St Peters MTC, East London Revd. Jacob P T
 Mr. Thomas Alexander
Canterbury MTC, Kent Revd. Jacob P T
 Mrs. Annamma Chacko
Bethel MTC, Bedford Revd. John Mathew C
 Mrs. Suja Biju

Midlands Centre

Hermon MTC, Midlands Revd. John T Thomas
 Mr. Sam Mathew
St Thomas MTC, Bristol Revd. Noble Abraham
 Mr. Sanu Samuel
All Saints MTC, Peterborough Revd. Thomas George
 Mr. Bijo Kuruvilla John
Immanuel MTC, Cardiff Revd. Shijoy Abraham Zachariah
 Mr. Shabu Abraham
Salem MTC, Southampton Revd. Subin Mathew Parayil
 Mr. Biby George Mathews
Taunton Mar Thoma Congregation Revd. Shijoy Abraham Zachariah

North West UK Centre

Tabore MTC, Manchester Revd. John P Chacko
 Mr. Varughese P John
Carmel MTC, Liverpool Revd. Abu Cherian
 Mr. Thomas Edyadyil
St Andrews MTC, Edinburgh Revd. Merin Mathew
 Mr. Koshy P T
Holy Trinity MTC, Nottingham Revd. Reji Easow
 Mr. Aron Alex Abraham
Ascension MTC, Leicester Revd. Reji Easow
 Mrs. Elsa Mathew
Sehion MTC, Hull & Lincolnshire Revd. Abu Cherian
 Dr. Shanti Varghese
Christos MTC, New Castle Revd. Abu Cherian
 Mr. Liju Thomas Palliathu

Europe Centre

Nazareth MTC, Dublin Revd. Robin Raj
 Mr. Shybu Varghese
Ebenezer MTC, South Dublin Revd. Stanley Mathew John
 Mr. Reno Jacob Arookuzhail
Trinity MTC, Belfast Revd. Stanley Mathew John
 Mr. Anoj P Samuel
Cork Mar Thoma Congregation Revd. Stanley Mathew John
 Mr. Albert Samuel Mathew
Switzerland Mar Thoma Congregation Revd. Johnson M John
 Mr. Varghese Chittazhathu
Germany Mar Thoma Congregation Revd. Thomas Joseph
 Mr. Anish Peter
Limerick Mar Thoma Congregation Revd. Robin Raj
 Mr. Byju Philip David
Galway Mar Thoma Congregation Revd. Robin Raj
 Mr. Koshy George

South Africa Centre

Emmanuel, MTC, South Africa Revd. Nishad Isaac Chandy
St Thomas Mar Thoma Congregation, Lagos, Nigeria Revd. Nishad Isaac Chandy