

SOUTH INDIA CHURCH OF CHRIST MISSION



Dear Prayer Partners,

I am joyfully back in India, and I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your prayers for my safe return. Upon arriving, my first act was to ask church pastors throughout India, lifting prayers for all those whose lives have been deeply affected by Hurricane Milton. India, too, knows the trials of hurricanes, which we refer to as typhoons, and the devastation they can wreak. It is heartbreaking to witness villagers losing their humble mud huts, the fruit of their labor, as they often lack the means for permanent shelter. When I attended church upon my return, I was profoundly moved by the multitude of believers who gathered in prayer for those impacted by Hurricane Milton.

Their devotion truly touched my heart. As I prepare to celebrate the sacred season of Christmas, I feel called to remind our churches across India of the true significance of this day—the day we received the greatest gift of all, the gift of salvation through our Lord. In this modern era, when the message of Christmas may be clouded by commercial interests, it is essential to proclaim the miraculous truth that Christ's birth offers forgiveness for our sins. I am also overjoyed to witness the tuition centers thriving and see our Breaking Bread

fellowship feeding program come to life. It is crucial that, in addition to education, these young believers experience fellowship and grow in their understanding of the Lord and the incredible gift He has provided during this blessed Christmas season. I am excited to share the beautiful works being accomplished and the blessings yet to come as we enter this joyous holiday season. Let us all unite in faith and gratitude for the blessings God has bestowed upon us.

As Christmas approaches, I reflect on the true meaning of this joyful season. There was a time when the anticipation of Christmas was ignited only after the Thanksgiving feast, a time for family and gratitude. As I am back in the mission field this year, I am increasingly aware of our challenges—the distractions posed by corporations and politicians attempting to overshadow Christmas's profound significance. This sentiment resonates in India and the U.S., where many seek to divert our focus from celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior and the incredible gift of salvation granted to humanity. This Christmas, I reach out to you, our cherished prayer partners, inviting you to join us in spreading the Good News across the villages and towns of India.

Now that I am back in India, I am diligently preparing to understand the needs of our church communities, aiming to bring forth gifts that truly reflect the spirit of giving during this holy season. This week, I will visit various churches, engaging with our leaders to discern what meaningful gifts we can offer. We firmly believe in listening to the hearts of the local people, seeking divine guidance to ensure that our gifts have the greatest impact on their lives. To give you a glimpse of our Christmas celebration from last year, we've included a video, allowing you to witness how we honor the true essence of Christmas in India. Let us come together in prayer and action to celebrate the miraculous gift of Christ's love this season.

One of the blessings upon my return to India is the creation of our new Breaking Bread Fellowship Feeding Program at our tutoring centers. Here, young children not only learn about the Lord's teachings but also acquire the knowledge they need to navigate the challenging Indian academic system. It brings me great joy to share the details of this initiative, and I fervently pray that you will consider partnering with us in this vital mission.

During the trying times of COVID-19, we provided each child with a nourishing meal, including a glass of milk, for just \$10 (Indian Rupee ₹ 830) for an entire week. However, due to price increases by wholesalers and grocery stores, we now find ourselves needing \$13 (Indian Rupee ₹ 1090) per child per week. This cost includes milk, which is essential for the healthy growth and development of our little ones. Our heartfelt hope is that congregations or families will find it in their hearts to sponsor a tuition center or a child, providing the gift of sustenance and care. We currently serve 30 children in each of our six tuition centers. We are praying and seeking guidance from the lord to establish a seventh tuition center in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh in the coming months, believing that this mission will be made possible with your prayers and support. As we approach the holiday season, it becomes even more crucial to ensure these children receive nourishing meals, allowing them to experience the joy and love of this special time.

Here is the promo video for Christmas 2024.

<https://youtu.be/9B5ioBeZRuA>

Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of these young blessings.

Philomina Morris

*The South India Church of Christ Mission ("SICCM") is a 501 (c) 3 registered in 1984.
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The link to the new podcast

is <https://open.spotify.com/episode/1f4lrwOadRVYc5VYzyvbnS?si=t6wiqoFIR6-LucqWFTMXAw> we look forward to connecting with you on this new avenue of listening with you.

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