



MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS  
DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE

Grade 9 - 2022 Diocesan Examination

Time: 90 Minutes

Maximum Score: 100 Points

**Section 1: Multiple Choices**

Circle the most appropriate response for the following questions. (25 x 1 = 25 Points)

- 1) If the Israelite was to offer a burnt offering from the herd, it should be **L3 P13**
  - a. A female without blemish
  - b. A male without blemish**
  - c. A female with stripes or spots
  - d. A male with stripes or spots
- 2) From which land was Abraham originally from? **L4 P17**
  - a. Asshur of Assyria
  - b. Plyox of Mycenaleans
  - c. Put of Libya
  - d. Ur of the Chaldeans**
- 3) The Lord appeared to Abraham in a dream and prophesied the slavery of the Israelites in a foreign land (which we now know as Egypt). For how long the Lord said that the descendent of Abraham be oppressed? **L4 P17**
  - a. 300 years
  - b. 400 years**
  - c. 500 years
  - d. 1 century
- 4) Bathsheba was the daughter of \_\_\_\_\_ **L 6 P24**
  - a. Uriah the Hittite
  - b. Joab the Hivite
  - c. Abimelech the Jebusite
  - d. Eliam**
- 5) What does the Hebrew word 'Bara' mean? **L1 p5**
  - a. To create out of nothing**
  - b. To create out of dust
  - c. To create with intention
  - d. To create with power
- 6) Which Ezrahite wrote the Maskil that described the Depth of God's Love **L9 P36**
  - e. Nathan
  - f. Micah
  - g. Ethan**
  - h. David
- 7) Who led Israel during the fall of the walls of Jericho? **L10 P39**
  - i. Abraham
  - j. Moses
  - k. Jacob
  - l. Joshua**

- 8) On which day was Israel told to march around the walls of Jericho seven times and for the priest to blow the trumpets? **L10 P39**
- m. Third
  - n. Fifth
  - o. Seventh**
  - p. Tenth
- 9) How long was Saul without sight after his intervention with Christ on the road to Damascus? **L13 P49**
- a. Two days
  - b. Three days**
  - c. Four days
  - d. One week
- 10) Paul is known as the 'Apostle of the \_\_\_\_\_', because he was an instrumental in making the Good News accessible to non-Jews **L13 P49**
- e. Gentiles**
  - f. Romans
  - g. Non-believers
  - h. Lost sheep
- 11) What did not happen at the moment of Jesus' last breath? **L18 P69**
- i. Curtains of the temple torn in two
  - j. The earth shook
  - k. The rocks split
  - l. The scrolls burned**
- 12) Thomas was also known as the: **L19 P73**
- m. Believer
  - n. Twin**
  - o. First
  - p. None of the above
- 13) Being equipped with the \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus defined their mission to be Jesus' witnesses.
- q. Strength
  - r. Holy Spirit L20 P77**
  - s. Power
  - t. Grace
- 14) When it was decided to sail to Italy, they transferred Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan Cohort, named:
- u. Cassius
  - v. Felix
  - w. Julius L22 P84**
  - x. Marcus
- 15) On the 4<sup>th</sup> day God created: **L1 P4 (question error- one point given)**
- A. The trees
  - B. The seas
  - C. The birds and sea creatures**
  - D. Mankind

16) . The Persian King Ahasuerus was displeased with the behavior of queen -----

- a. Abigail
- b .Esther
- c.Vashti L11 P43**
- d.Bathsheba

17) Jesus told Nicodemus, “The \_\_\_\_\_ blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the \_\_\_\_\_.” L14 P55

- A. Spirit, Fire
- B. Wind, Spirit**
- C. Spirit, God
- D. Fire, Spirit

18) What imagery did Jesus use with the rich man when talking about inheriting eternal life?

- a. Sun moon and stars
- b. Potter and the clay
- c. Vine and the branches
- d. Camel going through an eye of a needle L17 P65**

19) The Jewish name Hadassah means \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Esther
- B .Mordechai
- c .Naomi
- d Myrtle L11 P43**

20) The word of the Lord came to Abram in a \_\_\_\_ **L4 P19**

- A. Vision**
- B. Dream
- C. Trance
- D. Hallucination

21) What are the three primary types of sacrifices described in Leviticus 1-3? **L3 P13**

- a. Burnt, Grain, and Fellowship Offering**
- b. Love, Grain, and Burnt Offering
- c. Sin, Burnt, and Grain Offering
- d. Trespass, Burnt and Fellowship Offering

22) Which man from Cyrene was compelled to carry the cross for Jesus?

- e. Peter
- f. Simon (correct) L18 P69**
- g. Philip
- h. Matthew

23) When Jesus cried on the cross, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” who did the bystanders believe he was calling out to?

- i. God
- j. Moses
- k. Elijah (correct) L18 P69**
- l. Isaiah

24. The first apostle, indeed the first person ever to address Jesus as God was-----

- a. Simon Peter
- B .Saul
- c. James
- d. Thomas L19 P 73**

25. Jesus told the disciples after His resurrection that once they receive the power through Holy Spirit “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all ----- and ----- and to the ends of the earth

- A .Judea and Rome
- b. Rome and Corinth
- c. Samaria and Nazareth
- d. Judea and Samaria L20 P76**

## Section 2: Short Answers

Answer any four (4 out of 6) of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (4 x 5 = 20 Points)

1. Name the three Crosses and what do they represent? Explain in brief the cross of Jesus  
**L18 P71**

**There are three crosses that we come across:**

- **The cross of rebellion- Thief on one side, who mocked Jesus.**
- **The cross of repentance- Thief who asked Jesus for forgiveness.**
- **The cross of redemption- The cross of Jesus.**

**Let us focus on Jesus, who through His sacrifice, redeemed us from the penalty we deserved. The crucifixion is actually a love story of God and mankind in which He paid the ultimate price with the sacrifice of His only son. There were no shortcuts. What we see is a love like no other.**

2. What was David’s action that displeased God? **(L6, PG 24 and pg 26)**

**David became weak and fell into sin. He fell in love with Bathsheba, a married woman, and devised a secret plan to kill her husband, Uriah. Uriah was a loyal soldier.**

**David had Uriah fight in the frontline and then had his own men leave him to fight by himself.**

**Uriah was killed in battle and soon David took his wife Bathsheba as his own.**

**This way Uriah was killed in the battle and David was free to marry Bathsheba. This action of intentionally getting another person killed for one’s own benefit was a sin and it displeased God.**

3. What are some characteristics of New Jerusalem? Why is the new earth and new heaven no longer separated? How does Christ make us new currently and how will he make us new when He comes?. **L 25, PG 97**

**The picture of the new heaven and new earth is always there and the values are the same, no sorrow, no darkness and no sin. Isaiah foretells the restoration of the Holy City Jerusalem. The New Jerusalem is not a re-made or re-done city, but a brand new city, a better heaven and better earth. This new city is where God will live in His glory. And unlike before, the new heaven and new earth are not separate from each other. God has always desired to live in close fellowship with us, and so He will be when He lives among us (Rev 21:3). Not only is this a new city, but a holy city (v.2). This holy city is perfect, sinless, pure, and a community of righteousness. It is also a perfect community of the people of God. This represents the ultimate restoration of what was lost during the fall of mankind.**

4. Why is Esther avoiding facing the King? When did Esther realize she had a bigger role in life beyond her position as queen? **(L11, PG 44)**

**Esther is trying to avoid facing the King for two reasons:**

**1. Does not want to tell the King she is a Jew**

**2. She also fears the law that anyone entering the inner courts without being invited would be put to death.**

**Mordecai, reminds her that she should not hide under the protection of the palace and escape the edict. Furthermore, if she did not step up, God would deliver his people through other means and she, along with her father's household, may not survive this edict. Now Esther realizes the greater cause of being placed in the palace as the Queen at this time of tribulation for the entire Jewish community and decides to meet with the King and plead for mercy on behalf of the Jews. She prepares to perish for the sake of her people. She is willing to sacrifice her life for the sake of the Jews and God gives her victory over evil.**

5. What did Thomas ask for proof of Jesus being alive and why? What did Thomas say when he saw and touched Jesus' wounds after his resurrection? What does it mean?

**L19 pg 73-74)**

**Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." And so, the next time they all gathered together, again in a locked room but this time with Thomas, Jesus appeared. And what is the first thing that Jesus asks Thomas to do? The exact same things that he himself asked for, for proof - to touch Jesus' wounds. Jesus knew of Thomas' doubts. And Thomas knew that Jesus knew about his disbelief. Thomas' words that follow are the first and biggest confession of faith: "My Lord and my God". Not only is Thomas declaring that Jesus is really alive, but that Jesus is God.**

6. What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit (given to the disciples) according to Jesus? **L 20 pg 76 and 79)**

**Being equipped with the Holy Spirit, Jesus defined their mission to be Jesus' witnesses.**

**The Holy Spirit directs and empowers us here on earth**

**Directs and empowers the church's mission.**

**He also transforms believers to look more and more like Christ (Romans 8:9-11).**

**Because of His power and Spirit, we are able to live boldly and confidently as servants of The King (1 Corinthians 15:58).**

### **Section 5: Memory Verse**

Complete **any five (5 out of 7)** of the following in the sheet provided. (5 x 5 = 25 Points)

1. David said to **Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord."** Nathan said to David, **"Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die.** 2 Samuel 12:13 (L6 P27)
2. After these things **the word of the Lord came to Abraham in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."** Genesis 15:1 (L4)
3. But you will **receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.** Acts 1:8 L20 P79
4. Go and learn **what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.** Matthew 9:13 (L8)
5. And at the seventh time, **when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the city."** Joshua 6:16 (L10)
6. But the Lord said to him, **"Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."** Acts 9:15-16 (L13)
7. Therefore, brothers and sisters, **be all the more eager to confirm your call and election, for if you do this, you will never stumble.** 2 Peter 1:10 (L16)

### **Section 6: MTC Foundation & Vision Multiple Choices**

Circle the most appropriate response for the following questions. (10 x 1 = 10 Points)

1. Who first started the celebration of Holy Qurbana in Malayalam in his own church in Maramon ? **MTFV L 1 Pg 194**
  - a. Kaithayil Geevarghese Malpan
  - b. Palakunnathu Abraham Malpan**
  - c. St Thomas
  - d. Bishop John of Persia

2. Our worship service includes symbolism. The incense we used represents all the below except: **MTFV L2 Pg 199**
  - a. **fight against power of darkness**
  - b. sweet smelling sacrifice rising to God
  - c. the offering of our prayers to God
  - d. All of the above
  
3. All of the following are changes brought by the Malpan Achen except : **MTFV L 5 Pg 211**
  - a. removed petitions through departed saints
  - b. serve bread and wine separately
  - c. **added prayers for the dead**
  - d. Holy Communion will not be celebrated when there is no one to receive the communion
  
4. The Mar Thoma Church has the following ordained ministries (**MTFV L2 Pg 200**)
  - a. Deacon, Priest and Evangelist
  - b. Priest, Bishop and Lay Leaders
  - c. Metropolitan, Bishop and Priest
  - d. **Deacon, Priest and Bishop**
  
5. The synod of \_\_\_\_\_ in 1599 forced the Indian church to accept the Roman doctrine and practices. **MTFV L 1 Pg 192)**
  - a. Hamburg
  - b. **Diamper**
  - c. Jerusalem
  - d. Portugal
  
6. In the USA, Marthoma church made its humble beginning in 1972, by a prayer group started in
  - a. **New York (correct) (L4 Pg 206)**
  - b. Philadelphia
  - c. Washington DC
  - d. Allentown
  
7. There is reference to St. Thomas in a Tamil account about
  - a. St. Jerome
  - b. Rambban Pattu
  - c. **Kandappa Raja (correct) L1 Pg 192**
  - d. Bishop Eusbius
  
8. Ancient Christianity had two forms. What were they? (L2 Pg 197)
  - A. **Eastern and Western**
  - B. Southern and Northern
  - C. Southern and Western
  - D. Northern and Eastern
  
9. The concise statement of our Church's faith is proclaimed in the... **L 5 Pg 209**
  - A. Liturgy

**B. Nicene Creed**

C. Sermon

d. Priests worship order

10. The term laity is derived from the Greek word "Laos" meaning: **L4 Pg 204**

**A. People**

B. Vicar

C. Bishop

D. Faithful servant

### **Section 7: MTC Foundation & Vision**

Answer **any one** (1 out of 3) of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (5 x 1 = 5 Points)

1. List any five reformations Abraham Malpan made in the Malankara church. (5 marks)

**P211**

**Started celebration of Holy Qurbana in Malayalam (until then liturgy was in Syriac)**

**Removed sections from Thaksa (Communion service book) that were not based on the Word of God.**

**Decided to serve bread and wine separately**

**Made the liturgy as a book available for the use of common people to deepen their understanding and participation in worship**

**Stopped the practice of private confession with the priest and receiving absolution before communion.**

**Holy Communion is for participation and not for worship**

**Removed prayers for the dead.**

2. What are the seven sacraments our church recognizes? **L2 Pg 199**

**Baptism**

**Confirmation**

**Confession**

**Holy Qurbana**

**Marriage**

**Ordination**

**Extreme unction**

3. The worship service includes symbolism, vestments and gestures. What does each of represent them? **P199**

**Symbolism (3)**

**Altar represents the Throne of God or Table of Life**

**Candles represent the presence of God (the source of light)**

**Incense represents the sweet-smelling sacrifice rising to God**

**Vestments (1)**



Vestments represents the fight against the power of darkness

Gestures (1)

Gestures represents external expressions of the inner experience of penitence, submission and respect

### Section 6 – Essay

Choose **one** of the following two topics (1 out of 2) to write an essay in approximately 150 to 250 words (10 points):

1. Describe how one is transformed through Christ?
2. Give an biblical example of a person who was transformed in Christ from your grade 9 curriculum
3. Explain the difference between being religious versus knowing God (5 pts) **L13 P49 -53**

**a. Transformation equals to changing self by**

- i. **Belief**
- ii. **Attitude**
- iii. **Identity**

**Saul was a zealous Pharisee. He was a strong follower of Judaism and believed initially that the gospel of Jesus was a major deception. Therefore, he went around persecuting the Christians and throwing men and women into prison. Stephen was a follower of Christ. He gave his testimony but Stephen was stoned for his faith. Saul was there giving approval to his death. When Stephen was stoned, a great persecution has begun between all the believers except the Apostles throughout Judea and Samaria. Saul was determined to persecute all Christians. Saul was proud of his Jewish heritage. He was blind to any other faith other than Judaism. Saul obtained permission from the high priest to visit Damascus to find Christians to be taken as prisoners. Raised among Greek culture. Well educated. A powerful Roman citizen. b. However, God had a plan to use Saul to serve the kingdom of God. Saul was on his way to Damascus when he saw a bright light and he was blinded. A voice spoke out and said “Saul, Saul why are you persecuting me.” Saul realized at that moment he was persecuting the very same God that he was zealously concerned about. Saul spent three days in prayer. It was a very important moment in Saul’s life. It shows how much God is willing to use people for his glory even if they are the same people that are bringing so much pain to his people. God knew that Saul was misdirected and was truly searching and trying to protect what Saul was the truth. God knew this zeal would be tremendously beneficial for the growth of the kingdom of God.**

**c. The difference between being religious and knowing God is that being religious means that someone is more concerned about following the rules prescribed by that religion. Being religious doesn’t require any effort to know about God. Knowing God means that one is focused on learning about what God wants for their life and doing what it takes to continue to know God more. God took Saul from being just religious to someone who made it the sole purpose in life to know Jesus Christ more and more each day.**

**Students can comment on what they feel about knowing Jesus at this point.**

2. We often claim that we love God above everything else but it’s only when we look within ourselves or have our hearts truly searched that we understand that maybe we are not selfless as we thought.

Describe the obstacles that challenge faith or a strong relationship with Christ.

Explain how Jesus proves this to be true in his encounter with the rich young man?  
What was the rich man searching for and how did Jesus approach him?  
What happened ultimately as a result?  
How do you think this applies to everyday life? **L17 P65-68**

**(Students can list things and pleasures that might be a Obstacle and take the place of God in their life.)**

**One day a rich young ruler approached Jesus and asked Jesus what he would need to do eternal life. The rich young man appeared to have everything together since he appeared to ask a very sincere question and appeared to be very humble in approaching Jesus on his knees. Jesus asked him in return if he kept the commandments such as “Do not steal, kill or commit adultery.” The young man replied he had kept these commandments since childhood. The young man felt that since he kept all the commandments everything was set for him to receive eternal life. Jesus truly loved the young man and looking at him asked him to sell his possessions and give the money to the poor and then go and follow Jesus. The rich man was extremely grieved. He was willing to follow the 10 commandments as long as he did not need to sacrifice his wealth. His wealth was true source of happiness and through Jesus’ commandment the rich young man saw where his priorities lay. He had become extremely attached to his wealth and could not let it go. God is not against us having wealth but he does not want anything else in our life to take his place.**