

VICAR'S MESSAGE:

*“Arise shine, for your light has come, and the glory of God rises up on you”
(Isaiah.60:1)*

Greetings to all the members of the Epiphany Mar Thoma Parish in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.....

Our Parish is celebrating its 33rd birthday on 13th July. As the community of believers, we are thankful to God for the manifold blessings we have received from God in the days passed. The name 'Epiphany' is related to the feast celebrating the “shining forth” or revelation of God to mankind in human form, in the person of Jesus Christ. The first verse of Isaiah.60 sounds forth the meaning of Epiphany, “Arise shine; for your light has come”. Isaiah writes these words in the midst of Israel's banishment to a foreign land. Babylon held many of the Jewish people in captivity, deported them from their home and dear ones. It was a dark time where hopelessness covered over god's people. But through his prophesy, Isaiah brings a word of hope to a despairing people. It is a word of promise that “light” is come. And that light of which Isaiah speaks is the very presence of God whom they thought had forgotten them.

We also live in an age of stress and strain and we confront varied challenges of life and its struggles. Some of them raise questions against our faith and hope. The word of Isaiah to Israel then and to the church today is to “come forth and be light.” That is our primary calling as a family as we enter this New Year in our faith journey. We are called to arise and shine! We are called to come forth and be light! When we do that we are truly being the church Jesus intends for us to be! We are being Epiphany people.

The summer has already begun, during summer everything seems more vibrant, hopeful and liberating. We also packed up with hectic schedule of summer programs .Our children are requested to attend North East Region Junior-Senior Conference which will be held on July10-13, at Ramapo College NJ. Our VBS is scheduled to be held on July.17-20, I request parents to encourage your children to attend the VBS. This year's Parish Convention will be on July11, 12&13. Brother. George Cherian (Thiruvalla) is the main speaker. Kindly uphold these programs in your prayers and attend it according to the schedule.

Our Parish Directory updating process is going on. May I request all our members participation in this venture .As we entered in to the third quarter of this year, please remember to remit your voluntary subscription, Building & Rectory fund arrears and other dues. Our God wants us to change and be renewed to make a difference in what we do for God in past as a worshipping and witnessing community. May God help us to work together for the expansion of His Kingdom.

May God bless you all, With Prayerful Regards.

Rev. Shibu Mathew

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Special Observance</u>
July 06	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	Stewardship Sunday- Responsible Resource Management (Tithe Offering) (4th Sunday After Pentecost)
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
July 13	9.30 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	33rd Parish Day Priests: Called for the Divine Ministry (Clergy Day) (5th Sunday After Pentecost)
July 20	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	VBS Sunday People of God Ambassadors of Christ (6th Sunday After Pentecost)
July 27	9.30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	Theological Education. Equipping people of God (7th Sunday after Pentecost)

LECTIONARY

<u>Date</u>	<u>1st Lesson</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
July 06	Exo.18:13-27	1Tim.6:17-21	2Cor.8:1-15	St.Mat.25:14-30
July 13	Deut.6:1-17	1Tim.6:6-16	Eph.4:7-16	St.Mat.7:24-29
July 20	Josh.1:1-9	Phil.1:12-21	2 Cor.5:16-21	St.Mark.6:7-13
July 27	Deut.6:1-17	1Tim.6:3-16	1Tim.3:1-13	St.Mat.21:15-19

ASSISTANCE & USHERING 2014

<u>Month</u>	<u>Prayer Group</u>
July	Astoria/Jackson Heights
August	Coney Island
September	Ridgewood/Wyckoff

SUNDAY SCHOOL

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
July 17	9.00 AM – 10.10 AM	Vacation Bible School
July 18	9.00 AM – 10.10 AM	Vacation Bible School
July 19	9.00 AM – 10.10 AM	Vacation Bible School
July 20	9.00 AM – 10.10 AM	Vacation Bible School

<u>SEVIKA SANGHOM</u>		
<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Tuesday July 1 10:00 AM	<u>Bible Study</u> Coney Island	Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas 733 Desmond Court Brooklyn, NY 11235 718-332-4121
Friday July 10 10.00 AM	<u>Bible Study</u> Floral Park	Mrs. Sosamma Thomas 79-07 267 th Street Floral Park, NY 11001
Thursday July 17 10.00 AM	<u>Bible Study</u> <u>Elmont</u> <u>Rosedale</u>	Mrs. Aleyamma Varghese 72 De Mille Ave Elmont, NY 11003
Friday July 17 7.00 PM	<u>Bible Study</u> New Hyde Park	Mrs. Mariamma Jose 66 Monterey Drive Manhasset Hill, NY 11040

<u>SEVIKA SANGHOM</u>
<p>Sevika Sangham invites articles, meditations, stories, testimonies & recipes from our ladies for Vanitha Bodhini Epiphany Sevika Sangham special issue-2014 November. Please handover your writings to Sevika Sangham Secretary on or before September 01, 2014. We will collect \$20 as annual subscription for Vanitha Bodhini. We request all our members' co-operation.</p> <p>Sevika Sanghom Regional Kalamela Sept 13, 2014 at 8:30 am Place Long Island Mar Thoma Church, 2350 Merrick Ave. Merrick, NY 11566 Those who want participate contact Sevika Sanghom Secretary Susan Kurian</p> <p>TRIP TO LANCASTER JULY 8TH, all participants come to church at 9 AM Tuesday morning.</p> <p>Sevika Sanghom Regional Conference July 26th at Bethany Mar Thoma Church 90 Old Orangeburg Road Orangeburg N.Y 10962</p> <p>Sevika Sanghom National Conference Oct 2-5 2014 Hosted by Mar Thoma Church of Greater Washington More information please contact Sevika Sanghom Secretary</p>

AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Sunday July 6 5:00 PM	Floral Park	TBD
Sunday July 6 7:00 PM	Bellerose Queens Village	Mr. Mathai Philip 82-62 246th Street Bellerose, NY 11426 718-343-2152
Sunday July 13 5.00 PM	Ridgewood Wyckoff	No Prayer Meeting
Saturday July 19 7.00 PM	Coney Island	Mr. Chacko K. Jacob 2676 Hubbard Street Brooklyn, NY 11235 718-743-6160
Sunday June 20 5:00 PM	New Hyde Park	Mr. Bijumon Varughese 78 Stephen Avenue New Hyde Park, NY 11040 516-437-1862
Sunday July 20 7:00 PM	Garden City Park	Mr. Mathew T. Mathew 216 Nassau Blvd New Hyde park, NY 11040 (516) 741 4459
Saturday July 26 7.00 PM	Elmont Rosedale	Mr. Chemparathil Thomas 867 Bauer Street Rosedale, NY 11003 516-326-6257
Sunday July 27 7:00 PM	Long Island	Mr. Ranjith Jacob 1482 Prospect Avenue East Meadow, NY 11534 516-481-0308

IMPORTANT SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. This year's Junior Senior conference will be held from **July 10 to July 13, 2014** at Ramapo College. This year's theme (**The Call**) is inspired by 1 Timothy 4.12

“Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith in purity.”

Transportation to Ramapo College will be provided by Sunday school.

2. Epiphany Mar Thoma Church Vacation Bible school (VBS) is scheduled for **July 17 to July 20, 2014**. This year's theme is “**Jungle safari**”. Brochures and registration forms are available in the Sunday School office. We request the participation of all Sunday School students.

MALAYALAM CHOIR

Choir practice will be held on Sunday July 06, 2014 morning at 9.00 AM, on Sunday, July 20, 2014 at 9:00 AM in the church. All choir members are requested to attend.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Sunday	TBD	TBD

YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

Yuvajana Sakhyam Regional Volleyball Tournament will be held on July 19th 2014. Anybody interested to join the volleyball practice for the tournament, please contact Shibu Joseph at [516-424-6271](tel:516-424-6271) or James Alex at [917-692-0228](tel:917-692-0228).

CONDOLENCE

Epiphany Mar Thoma Church would like to express our heartfelt condolence to:

- Epiphany Mar Thoma Church member and Wife of Mr. Philipose Oommen, 200 Village Avenue, Elmont, NY Mrs. Sosamma Oommen passed away on June 20, 2014. Funeral Services were held on June 23rd in New York. USA.

-Brother-in-law of Mr. Johnson Geevarghese, from Glen Cove -Mr. K Joy (75 years), passed away in Kerala, Mavelikkara on June 2nd and burial service was held at St. Gregorio's Orthodox Church, Punnamood, Mavelikkara on June 4th.

Let us uphold this family in our prayer.

YOUNG COUPLES FELLOWSHIP

On Sunday, July 27th from 12:00-7:00 pm, the Young Families Fellowship will be serving in an outreach project at the NY rescue mission HQ (90 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10013). Please contact Young Families Fellowship secretary Jason Thomas for more details

EDAVAKA MISSION

<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Friday July 4 7.00 PM	Prayer Meeting	TBD

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

RIJU JOHN	BROOKLYN	07-01
TINCHU MARIAM ISAC	BROOKLYN	07-01
CHRISTINA T. JOSE	MANHASSET HILLS	07-03
JYOTHI CHACKO	NEW HYDE PARK	07-04
VARUGHESE GEORGE	ALBERTSON	07-04
SONIA WILSON OOMMEN	FLORAL PARK	07-05
JOSHUA KURIAN	CHARLOTTE	07-07
SHARON JACOB	FLORAL PARK	07-07
ACHAMMA THOMAS	FRESH MEADOWS	07-08
LEENA MARY ABRAHAM	FLORAL PARK	07-08
JIBY THAMPAN	MANHASSET HILLS	07-09
KAITLYN REENA MATHEW	STATEN ISLAND	07-09
ABRAHAM MALLAPPALLIL	WOODSIDE	07-10
ANCY ROSE OOMMEN	NEW HYDE PARK	07-10
DENNY SIMON	BELLEROSE	07-10
RENJEN JACOB	BROOKLYN	07-10
TARA JOSE	GLEN OAKS	07-10
BEVITHA ANN ABRAHAM	BROOKLYN	07-11
SNEHA ABRAHAM	RIDGEWOOD	07-12
JIBI G. JACOB	NEW HYDE PARK	07-13
JUSTIN K. MATHEW	ELMONT	07-13

JUSTIN S. JOHN	NEW HYDE PARK	07-13
ROY J. MATHEWS	RIDGEWOOD	07-13
ALEYAMMA CHACKO	NEW HYDE PARK	07-14
EMELINE SONY JOSEPH	BELLEROSE	07-14
TANYA ANN ALEXANDER	NEW HYDE PARK	07-14
ASHA SARA THOMAS	EAST MEADOW	07-15
FREDY VARGHESE	RIDGEWOOD	07-15
JINU CHANDY PHILIP	RIDGEWOOD	07-16
LISS A. REGY	BROOKLYN	07-16
REJI PHILLIPS	WESTBURY	07-16
NISHA ABRAHAM	QUEENS VILLAGE	07-17
KEVIN K. MATHEW	ELMONT	07-18
NIDHIA VARGHESE	GLEN OAKS	07-19
ANIL T. THOMAS	RANDOLPH	07-21
CHRISTINA M. GEORGE	ELMONT	07-21
SHERRYL MATHEW	MANHASSET HILLS	07-21
ANNAMMA ABRAHAM	RICHMOND HILL	07-22
MARIAMMA MATHEW	FLORAL PARK	07-22
CHINNAMMA THOMAS	NEW HYDE PARK	07-23
ROHIT VARUGHESE	NEW HYDE PARK	07-23
MARY MATHEW	WOODHAVEN	07-24
RIA SARA ROY	NEW HYDE PARK	07-24
SIBBI KURIAN	MERRICK	07-24
ALICE MARY MATHEW	FARMINGDALE	07-25

CRISTIAN MATHEW	EAST MEADOW	07-25
JONATHAN MATHEW DANIEL	MANHASSET HILLS	07-25
ALENA KOSHY	QUEENS VILLAGE	07-26
MARY GEORGE	ELMONT	07-26
RENY T. VARUGHESE	NEW HYDE PARK	07-26
SARAMMA GEORGE	BROOKLYN	07-26
ALICE V. JOSEPH	NEW HYDE PARK	07-27
ANGELINE MATHEW	EAST MEADOW	07-27
DR. SHIBU JOSEPH	NEW HYDE PARK	07-27
ISAC THOMAS	BROOKLYN	07-27
MARIAM GEORGE	NEW HYDE PARK	07-27
RUBY T. MATHEWS	RIDGEWOOD	07-27
CHRISTOPHER CHACKO DANIEL	MANHASSET HILLS	07-28
REBEKAH GRACE VARUGHESE	EAST MEADOW	07-28
HANNAH THOMAS	MUTTONTOWN	07-29
RACHEL E. PHILIPOSE	BROOKLYN	07-29
BOB O. KOSHY	QUEENS VILLAGE	07-30
GRACE THOMAS	ELMONT	07-30
RAJU T. OOMMEN	FLORAL PARK	07-30
SHAJI J. KORUTHU	JACKSON HEIGHTS	07-30
SHIBU JOHN	BROOKLYN	07-30
MARYKUTTY MATHEW	ELMONT	07-31
SUJA WILSON	FLORAL PARK	07-31

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:

EBBIE KURIAN	MERRICK	07-02
P.V. VARGHESE	MERRICK	07-03
THOMAS DANIEL	ELMONT	07-04
REX VARGHESE	NEW CITY	07-05
GEORGE MATHEWS	NEW HYDE PARK	07-08
MATHEW VARGHESE	NEW HYDE PARK	07-10
JASON THOMAS	FLORAL PARK	07-11
MATHAI PHILIP	BELLEROSE	07-11
VADACKEDATHU T. THOMAS	QUEENS VILLAGE	07-11
CHERUKARA P. PHILIPOSE	FLUSHING	07-12
JOHN MANI	GARDEN CITY PARK	07-12
SAMUEL PHILIPOSE	BROOKLYN	07-13
PRASAD GEORGE	KEW GARDENS	07-14
CHERIAN MOOLAKKAL	RIDGEWOOD	07-16
JIBIN MATHEW THOMAS	MANHASSET HILLS	07-16
THOMAS MATHEW	LITHIA	07-16
THOMAS P. THOMAS	BELLEROSE	07-16
PHILIP P. VARGHESE	ROSLYN	07-17
MATHEW T. MATHEW	GARDEN CITY PARK	07-18
K.K. MATHEW	QUEENS VILLAGE	07-19
MATHEW GEORGE	FLORAL PARK	07-19
REUBEN PHILIPOSE	BROOKLYN	07-22

JINU M. JOY	FLORAL PARK	07-24
MATHEW CHERIAN	HENRICO	07-24
RANJIT JACOB	EAST MEADOW	07-24
DENNIS K. GEORGE	BELLEROSE	07-25
GEORGE C. MATHEW	FARMINGDALE	07-26
T.C. KURIAN	FLORAL PARK	07-26
GEORGE P. JOHN	QUEENS VILLAGE	07-28
MATHAI ABRAHAM	ASTORIA	07-28
THOMAS ELLIL MATHEW	HICKSVILLE	07-29
VARGHESE DANIEL	FRANKLIN SQUARE	07-29
VARGHESE MATHEW	BROOKLYN	07-29
JACOB MATHEW	FRESH MEADOWS	07-30
BOBBY THOMAS	BELLEROSE	07-31
JOHN VARGHESE	BROOKLYN	07-31

Sunday school Committee 2014

Parish Comm. Rep.	Mr. Chacko Varughese	516.745.0050
Superintendent	Mr. Chacko Varughese	516.745.0050
Secretary	Ms. Gilsy Mary Saji	718-332-2751
Treasurer	Mr. Jinu M. Joy	718-343-5904

Edavaka Mission Committee 2014

Parish Comm. Rep.	Mr. E.P. Philip	516.223.0752
Vice President	Mr. E.P Philip	516.223.0752
Secretary	Mr. Mathew N. Varughese	516-285-5753
Treasurer	Mrs. Sosamma Kurian	516-596-7514

Sevika Sanghom Committee 2014

Parish Comm. Rep.	Mrs. Sosamma Kurian	516.596.7514
Vice President	Mrs. Aleyamma Philipose	718-891-7395
Secretary	Mrs. Sosamma Kurian	516-596-7514
Treasurer	Mrs. Annamma Abraham	718-465-7170

Yuvajana Sakhyam Committee 2014

Parish Comm. Rep.	Mrs. Jaya K. Varghese	516.327.0159
Vice President	Mr. Shibu Joseph	516-358-2350
Secretary	Mr. James Alex	516.640.5588
Joint. Secretary	Mrs. Bessy Abraham	516-804-5977
Treasurer	Mr. Biju Mathew Varghese	516-750-5474

Youth Fellowship Committee 2014

Parish Comm. Rep.	Miss. Asha Jacob	516.233.1521
Vice President	Miss. Reny Varughese	516-376-7165
Secretary	Miss. Michelle Mathew	516-808-7558
Treasurer	Mr. Robin Varughese	516-302-7806
Joint Secretary	Mr. Jithin John	516-366-8932

Malayalam Choir Committee 2014

Parish. Comm. Rep.	Mr. Shibu S. Baby	347-623-1324
Leader	Mr. Shibu S Baby	347-623-1324
Ass. Leader	Mrs. Sosamma Kurian	516-596-7514
Secretary	Mr. Abraham K Daniel	718-974-0443
Treasurer	Mr. Subhash Thomas	917-715-3704

English Choir Committee 2014

Leader	Mr. Noble Thomas	516-474-2798
Ass. Leader	Mr. Joshua Mathew	516-348-4446
Secretary	Miss. Sherin Shibu	347-623-1324
Treasurer	Miss. Reena Varughese	516-302-7815

Worship

“Some go to church to take a walk. Some go to church to laugh and talk. Some go to church to meet a friend. Some go to church their time to spend. Some go to church to meet another. Some go to church a fault to cover. Some go to church for speculation. Some go to church to doze and nod. The wise go there to worship God.” [Author unknown]

Why do we worship God? The word worship means giving worth to God who is worthy to be worshipped.

A few years ago the Chicago Tribune reported the story of a New Mexico woman who was frying tortillas when she noticed that the skillet burns on one of her tortillas resembled the face of Jesus. Excited, she showed it to her husband and neighbours, and they all agreed that there was a face etched on the tortilla and that it truly bore a resemblance to Jesus. So the woman went to her priest to have the tortilla blessed. She testified that the tortilla had changed her life, and her husband agreed that she had been a more peaceful, happy, submissive wife since the tortilla had arrived. The priest, not accustomed to blessing tortillas, was somewhat reluctant but agreed to do it. The woman took the tortilla home, put it in a glass case with piles of cotton to make it look like it was floating on clouds, built a special altar for it, and opened the little shrine to visitors. Within a few months, more than eight thousand people came to the shrine of the Jesus of The Tortilla, and all of them agreed that the face in the burn marks on the tortilla was the face of Jesus (except for one reporter who said he thought it looked like former heavy-weight boxing champion Leon Spinks!) Some people worship God without knowing the worth of God.

Four essential experiences should be in a true worship. Our worship should be glorifying God; through worship we are giving glory to God who is the only one who deserves it. Secondly our worship should be purifying us. Through the worship we are purifying ourselves to worship the holy God. Thirdly our worship should be edifying us. Every Sunday we worship God corporately and the aim of corporate worship is to edify us as community of God. And finally our worship should be witnessing to others. Through our worship we are witnessing a living God to others and through that we are presenting the Gospel to others. So our worship never ends on Sundays but we continue to worship our God through our words, actions and attitudes from Monday through Saturday. Let us worship God in truth and spirit in every moment of lives. May God bless us all.

V. M. Mathew achen
Youth Chaplain

PARISH YEAR PLAN-2014

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
July 11, 12, 13	Parish Convention Speaker: Br. George Cherian Navajeevodayam, Thiruvalla
July 13, 2014	33rd Parish Day Gust: Rev. Sam T. Panicker Carmel MTC, Boston
August 02, 2014	Parish Picnic
August 17, 2014	Graduates Thanksgiving
August 24, 2014	Harvest Festival
August 17, 2014 & August 31, 2014	New Academic Year Service
August 31, 2014	Good Samaritan Sunday
October 5, 2014	Episcopal Visit & First Holy Communion Service
October 26, 2014	Family Sunday
November 27, 2014	Thanks giving"-Special Worship
November 29, 2014 to December 21, 2014	Christmas Door to Door Carol Rounds
November 30, 2014	Good Samaritan Sunday
December 24, 2014	Christmas Carol Service
December 25, 2014	Christmas Day Service
December 31, 2014	Watch Night Service

From Besorah-June

Dear friends in Christ,

The New York Times on Saturday, May 31, 2014, published a feature on Father Emil J. Kapaun, a Roman Catholic priest who lived in Wichita, Kansas, in the 1940s. As a 24 year-old youth, father Kapaun reflected on his ordained ministry by saying, "Maybe you do not realize fully what it means to be a priest, but I tell you - after I have studied all these years, I am more convinced that a man must be a living saint in order to take that step. And that is where my worries come in." He was pointing to his unworthiness. Father Kapaun served in both World War II and the Korean War as an Army Chaplain. He died in a communist prison camp in 1951. He was awarded the Medal of Honor in 2013 by President Obama in recognition of his willingness to commit, willingness to be selfless, and willingness to serve. He is also considered a saint among his friends and believers of the church. In June our Church receives applications from students willing to go for theological studies and live in a seminary. Our Diocese will have two candidates this year. The Sabha Tharaka, our Church's official magazine, also carries the names of those individuals who after seminary training are awaiting ordination. Father E. J. Kapaun, who in both spiritual and secular fields revealed heroic virtue and led a saintly life, is a model to emulate.

Jesus said, "*I am the Good Shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*" (John 10:11)

Mar Theodosius+, Diocesan Episcopa