
EPIPHANY MAR THOMA CHURCH

**NEWS LETTER
JULY 2016**



**WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE
POSSIBLE.**

FAITH IS A JOURNEY NOT A DESTINATION.



Executive Committee 2016

President / Vicar	Rev. Jogy Thomas revjogythomas@gmail.com	718.845.2920 718.612.1891
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Lay Leader (English)	Mr. Roshan T Varughese	516.326.9138
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Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. James Alex	516.640.5588
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. Jason Thomas	917.414.8924

Representatives of Organizations

Sunday School	Mr. Oommen K. Varghese	516.285.9142
Edavaka Mission	Mr. M.C. Varughese	516.825.3895
Sevika Sanghom	Mrs. Sosamma Kurian	516.596.7514
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Roshan Alexander	516.808.7116
Youth Fellowship	Ms. Ancy Rose Oommen	516.616.4599
Choir	Mr. Shibu S Baby	347.623.1324

Representatives of Area Prayer Groups

Astoria/Jackson Hts./Flushing	Mr. Anil T Thomas	973.659.3414
Coney Island	Mr. Saji K Varughese	718.332.2751
Ridgewood/Wyckoff	Mr. Eapen Mathew	718-381-4549
Bellerose/Queens Village	Mr. Thomas Vadakedathu	718.464.0695
Floral Park	Mr. Mathew Varughese	718.347.7165
Elmont/Rosedale/Valley Stream	Mr. Mathew N Varughese	516.285.5753
New Hyde Park	Mr. Rinu Varughese	516.673.4583
Garden City Park	Mr. John Mani	516.414.4986
Long Island	Mr. Biju M. Varughese	516.750.5474

Auditors

Mr. Abraham Thomas	717.343.7622
Mr. George Kuruvilla	516.616.4576

Vicar's message:

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We have entered the third quarter of this year and let us thank God for His countless blessings and guidance that we have been experienced for the last six months of the financial year 2016. It gives me immense pleasure in addressing you all again through this news letter as the vicar of the Church. By the grace of God we have reached this place and have been entered in our responsibilities. Let me acknowledge the God's presence and providence that has been experienced throughout the Journey, which are beyond our measures. Here I request your wholehearted prayer and support to us for the fruitful ministry in the Church. It's my pleasure to say that the welcome and cooperation of the Church office bearers, the Committee members and the entire epiphany family members are enhancing to us. Once again we express our love and thanks to all and submit ourselves in the mighty hands of God for the effective ministry in the Parish, which is fruitful to all members of the parish irrespective of age, culture and language.

As per the Church calendar the first Sunday is being observed as St. Thomas Day with the theme "faith that has to be enriched". The theme for the second Sunday is "theological Education making of the Faithful". The theme for the third Sunday is "Holy Ordination: A Fragrance to Christ", the fourth Sunday is Holy Marriage: Lasting life of Love" and the fifth Sunday is "Holy Baptism: Born from above". The Monday of 25th of this month is being observed as St. James the Apostle's Day. We have to make time to meditate and reflect on these themes so that this divinely inspired idea for life will provide you all the spiritual nourishment and strength in the days to come.

In Luke 5: 1-11 we have seen Jesus called His disciples. They pulled the boats on the beach, left everything, and followed Jesus (v.11). According to the Jewish custom the Rabbi enroll educated disciples to teach them the Torah. However the disciples chosen by Jesus were different from the Rabbis. The disciples of Jesus were illiterate, fishermen, tax collectors and so called sinners. The new community of disciples of Jesus reveals exemplary character of true discipleship. In this passage it is clear that obedient and submissions are the two main features of discipleship. God's word seems to be irrational to human intelligence. But if we obey we can witness and experience God's power. Those experiences will lead us

to follow Him closely. At the large number of fish they caught, the fishermen were able to grasp the depth of divine providence. The incident led Peter to the revelation that the person he confronted is the Messiah. This helped him to introspect and plead, "Go away from me, Lord I am a sinful man". It is our prayer that dear Lord, make us humble to see Your mighty work in every minutes of our life. Help us to follow you sincerely always.

We are called to live by the values of the true discipleship, the greatest of which are 'be obedient" and 'be submissive'. Though Peter was little hesitant to obey initially, he obeyed the command. The result was an amazing experience, ' the nets were about to break'. May the Almighty Lord be with us and bless our ways and ministry in this faith journey.

With prayerful regards,

Jogyachen

June 23, 2016

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Special Observance</u>
Sunday July 3	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	Faith that has to be Enriched. Tithe Offering Sunday
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday July 10	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	Making of the Faithful
Sunday July 17	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	Holy Ordination A Fragrance to Christ
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday July 24	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	Holy Marriage Lasting Life of Love
Sunday July 31	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	Holy Baptism Born From Above.

LECTIONARY

<u>Date</u>	<u>1st Lesson</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
July 3	Mal.3:7-12	Phil.4:10-20	Heb.2:1-4	St.John.20:24-29
July 10	Josh.4:1-9	1 Cor.10:1-11	1 Tim.6:11-16	St.Mat.13:1-9
July 17	Exod.29:1-21	Eph.5:1-14	2 Cor.2:12-17	St.John.21:15-19
July 24	Gen.24:32-52	Eph. 5:20-33	Heb.13:1-6	St.Mat. 19:1-6
July 31	Gen.8:1-14	Col.3:1-11	1 Peter 3:16-22	St.John 3:1-8

ASSISTANCE & USHERING -2016

<u>Month</u>	<u>Prayer Group</u>
July	New Hyde Park
August	Garden City Park
September	Long Island

AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Sunday July 3 5:00 PM	Bellerose Queens Village Glenoaks	Mr. Koshy P Oommen 101-06, 222 nd Street Queens Village, NY 11429 Ph: 718-468-5025
Sunday July 3 7:00 PM	Floral Park	Mr. Mathew Varughese 78-44, 269 Street New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 718-347-7165
Saturday July 9 7.00 PM	Coney Island	Mr. Samuel Philipose 714 Manor Court Brooklyn, NY 11235 Ph: 718-891-7395
Sunday July 10 6:00 PM	Ridgewood/Wyckoff	Mr. Abraham K Daniel 1717 Star Street Ridgewood, NY 11385 Ph: 718-417-8441
Sunday July 17	Garden City Park	TBA
Sunday July 17 6:00 PM	New Hyde Park	Mr. Achenkunju T Oommen 939 North 2 nd Street New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-616-4599
Saturday July 23 6:30 PM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream	Mr. Iype Philip 2070 Renfrew Ave Elmont, NY 11003 Ph: 516-326-1872
Sunday July 24 7:00 PM	Long Island	Mr. Varughese Pappachen 274 Clear Meadow Dr East Meadow, NY 11554 Ph: 516-644-5882

SENIOR CITIZENS FELLOWSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY JULY 19, 2016 AT 10:00 AM IN THE CHURCH.

**ALL SENIOR CITIZENS ARE REQUESTED TO
PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING.**

EDAVAKA MISSION

Edavaka Mission cottage prayer meetings:

Wednesday, July 6, 2016 at 7.00 PM at the residence of Mr. Thomas Pothen, 84-71, 256th St., Floral Park, NY.
Ph: 718-470-0499.

Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 7.00 PM at the residence of Mr. Abraham Mammen, 534 North 11th St., New Hyde Park, NY.
Ph: 516-488-1972.

Voluntary Evangelist's Diocesan Conference: July 21-24 at Philadelphia Mar Thoma Church. PA.

Any other requests for area prayer meetings will be announced in the church.

SEVIKA SANGHOM

<u>DATE & TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
Thursday July 7 10.00 AM	Coney Island Bible Study	Mrs. Lisamma Abraham 737 Desmond Ct Brooklyn, NY 11235 Ph: 718-769-2773
Thursday July 14 10.00 AM	Queens- Village/Bellerose Floral Park Bible Study	Mrs. Mariamma Thomas 91-03, 217 th Street Queens Village, NY 11428 Ph: 718-464-0695
Thursday July 21 10.00 AM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream Long Island Bible Study	Mrs. Susan Kurian 701 Crans Street Elmont, NY 11003 Ph: 516-596-7514
Thursday July 21 7.00 PM	New Hyde Park Bible Study	Mrs. Mary P Roy 21 Tenafly Dr New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-873-0671

**17TH DIOCESAN SEVIKA SANGHOM CONFERENCE, OCT. 6-9, 2016.
HOSTED BY ST. MATHEWS MAR THOMA CHURCH, TORONTO,
CANADA. REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE WITH SEVIKA
SANGHOM SECRETARY SUSAN KURIAN.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
July 2016	No Sunday School Classes	No Sunday School Class

JULY 7-10: JR. SR. CONFERENCE, RAMAPO COLLEGE, NJ

JULY 18 - 23: VBS (MONDAY - FRIDAY 5:30-9:00 PM)

MALAYALAM CHOIR

Choir practices will be held on the following Sundays: July 3rd and 17th at 9:00 AM in the church. All choir members are requested to attend the practice.

Condolences: Mrs. Ammini Mathias (67 Yrs), Sister of our member Mr. V.C. Abraham residing at 675 Flanders Dr., North Woodmere, NY., passed away in Madras/India on Tuesday June 14th, 2016. Funeral Services was held on Thursday June 16th in Madras/India.

Mr. Lookose Samuel (64 Yrs), Brother of our member Mr. John Samuel, residing at 157 Cellar Ave, New Hyde Park, NY., passed away in Elmont, New York on June 21st 2016. Funeral Services was held on June 23, 2016.

The Vicar and members of Epiphany Mar Thoma Church express our deep felt condolences to these bereaved families and please uphold these families in our prayers.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

1. There will be a combined youth fellowship meeting with Long Island Mar Thoma Church on Friday, July 1st at Long Island Mar Thoma Church, 2350 Merrick Ave, Merrick, NY.

2. Epiphany Mar Thoma Church will be hosting a blood drive at church on Sunday, July 3rd in the basement starting at 11 AM. There is an Emergency Blood Shortage according to New York Blood Center so we strongly encourage all who are eligible to please donate blood on July 3rd. There is a sign-up sheet in the basement on the bulletin board. Thank you.

CHURCH YEAR PLAN-2016

July 10	: Parish Day/Episcopal Visit
July 30	: Parish Picnic
August 5-7	: Family Retreat
August 14	: New Academic Year Service
August 28	: NAY Service/New Graduates Thanksgiving
September 4	: Harvest Festival
September 23-25	: Parish Convention
November 27	: Thanksgiving Service
November 27	: Christmas Door to Door Carol
December 24	: Christmas Carol in the Church
December 31	: Watch Night and New Year service

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

Jyothi Chacko	New Hyde Park	07-04
Varughese George	Albertson	07-04
Sonia Wilson Oommen	Floral Park	07-05
Isaac Mohan Varghese	Syosset	07-07
Sharon Jacob	Floral Park	07-07
Achamma Thomas	Fresh Meadows	07-08
Kaitlyn Reena Mathew	Staten Island	07-09
Jiby Thampan	Manhasset Hills	07-09
Renjen Jacob	Brooklyn	07-10
Abraham Mallappallil	Woodside	07-10
Ancy Rose Oommen	New Hyde Park	07-10
Tara Jose	Glen Oaks	07-10
Bevitha Ann Abraham	Brooklyn	07-11
Justin K. Mathew	Elmont	07-13
Jibi G. Jacob	New Hyde Park	07-13
Justin S. John	New Hyde Park	07-13
Roy J. Mathews	Ridgewood	07-13
Tanya Ann Alexander	New Hyde Park	07-14
Aleyamma Chacko	New Hyde Park	07-14

Anish John	Astoria	07-14
Emeline Sony Joseph	Bellerose	07-14
Asha Sara Thomas	East Meadow	07-15
Fredy Varghese	New Hyde Park	07-15
Liss A. Regy	Commack	07-16
Soji M. Varghese	Syosset	07-16
Reji Phillips	Westbury	07-16
Nisha Abraham	New Hyde Park	07-17
Kevin K. Mathew	Elmont	07-18
Nidhia Varghese	New Hyde Park	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
Rachel Joyce Eappen	Merrick	07-22
Mariamamma Mathew	Floral Park	07-22
Chinnamma Thomas	New Hyde Park	07-23
Rohit Varughese	New Hyde Park	07-23
Bency P Varghese	Floral Park	07-24
Ria Sara Roy	New Hyde Park	07-24
Jasmine Elizabeth Varghese	Woodside	07-24
Sibbi Kurian	Merrick	07-24
Alice Mary Mathew	Farmingdale	07-25
Cristian Mathew	East Meadow	07-25
Alena Koshy	Queens Village	07-26
Reny Varughese	New Hyde Park	07-26
Saramma George	McKinney	07-26
Dr. Shibu Joseph	New Hyde Park	07-27
Alice V. Joseph	New Hyde Park	07-27
Angeline Mathew	East Meadow	07-27
Isac Thomas	Brooklyn	07-27
Mariam George	New Hyde Park	07-27
Juliet John	Elmont	07-27
Ruby T Mathews	Ridgewood	07-27

Jonathan Thomas Daniel	Elmont	07-28
Rachel E. Philipose	Plainview	07-29
Hannah Thomas	Muttontown	07-29
Grace Thomas	Elmont	07-30
Shaji J. Koruthu	Jackson Heights	07-30
Bob O. Koshy	Queens Village	07-30
Raju T. Oommen	Floral Park	07-30
Shibu John	Brooklyn	07-30
Suja Wilson	Floral Park	07-31
Marykutty Mathew	Elmont	07-31

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:

Ebbie Kurian	Merrick	07-02
P. V. Varghese	Merrick	07-03
Liju Daniel Mathew	Brooklyn	07-03
Thomas Daniel	Elmont	07-04
Rex Varghese	New City	07-05
Jacob George	Glen Oaks	07-06
Bob M. Mathai	New Hyde Park	07-07
George Mathews	New Hyde Park	07-08
Mathew Varghese	New Hyde Park	07-10
Vadackedathu T. Thomas	Queens Village	07-11
Mathai Philip	Bellerose	07-11
Jason Thomas	Floral Park	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
Thomas P. Thomas	Bellerose	07-16
Cherian Moolakkal	Ridgewood	07-16

Jibin Mathew Thomas	Manhasset Hills	07-16
Philip P. Varghese	Roslyn	07-17
Jeson Thomas	Brooklyn	07-17
Mathew T. Mathew	Garden City Park	07-18
Mathew George	Floral Park	07-19
K. K. Mathew	Bellerose	07-19
Reuben Philipose	Plainview	07-22
Mathew Cherian	Oilville	07-24
Jinu M. Joy	Floral Park	07-24
Ranjit Jacob	East Meadow	07-24
Rev. P.M. Thomas	Manhasset Hills	07-24
Dennis K. George	Bellerose	07-25
T. C. Kurian	Floral Park	07-26
George C. Mathew	Farmingdale	07-26
Thomas Ellil Mathew	Hicksville	07-29
Varghese Daniel	Franklin Square	07-29
Varghese Mathew	Brooklyn	07-29
Jacob Mathew	Fresh Meadows	07-30
John Varghese	Commack	07-31
Bobby Thomas	Bellerose	07-31

FROM DIOCESAN EPISCOPA:

Greetings to all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

The Christian community, these days observes the events of the Ascension of our Lord and the Pentecost experience of the early church. The presence of the risen Christ and the hope given during the commissioning were very much an encouraging experience to the disciples and the faithful early Christian community. The promise given at the time of Jesus' ascension into heaven was a comforting one giving new vision to move on as witnesses of our Lord. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the power received were occasions of renewed strength.

It reminds us of the fact that, God never fails and that He always keeps His promises. I am sure this is the experience for many of us in our lives. The disciples who were renewed and reinstated went around and proclaimed the Gospel, and they were known as 'people who turned the world upside down'. They received the power of the Holy Spirit, who was with them as their Counselor, who made their life journey more fruitful and rewarding. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide us to carry on God's mission with renewed power. God who created the heaven and the earth is the Giver of life and He is involved in the life-promoting act in history. Jesus Christ is the expression of God the Father, in giving life in its fullness. He gave His life for the sake of all humanity and the world, so that all will have life in abundance.

There are occasions when we feel that life is in danger. The systems and structures of the world often destroy life. The need is to commit oneself to protect life by all means. Life with peace and justice is very much evident in the biblical understanding of the created order. The emergence of structures that promote violence and injustice become a threat to life and to a just society. Religious groups and civil society together need to address the issue of right living by over-coming economic and social injustice, by creating a political will to keep peace and justice in our communities.

Thank God for the good things that we receive and the wonderful ways of divine guidance. The North America and Europe Diocese is blessed with its commitment to uphold the Gospel values and the life-affirming mission initiatives. We continue the process of revitalizing the existing systems in operation and start new ventures as our response to the needs of the people and as our commitment to the word of God. It is our wish and prayer that the spirit and enthusiasm of 'Pentecost' will keep the church as a movement, that keeps our journey forward moving with courage and conviction. We value very much the participation of the faithful members and achen. I am happy to welcome the new achen who have joined the Diocese this year. May God continue to guide us in our task of building the community, and in serving the people, looking towards Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of life.

With prayers and regards,

Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos

(From Diocese of North America and Europe The Mar Thoma Besorah)
The Besorah is an Official Publication of the Diocese of North America and Europe.

YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S CORNER.

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God." John 20:28

Mar Thoma Christians commemorate July 3rd as St. Thomas Day. But we sometimes forget the faith proclamation and missionary zeal of the disciple Thomas. St. Thomas Day reminds us of the need to be faithful to our Lord and his mission. "My Lord and My God" should be the faith proclamation of Christians all over the world. Thomas first proclaimed it through his words and then through his life.

We are supposed to represent Jesus on earth. The church is supposed to work for the welfare of its non-members. Sharing and caring for the weak and the poor is supposed to be part of our mission. We need to extend our friendship beyond our own little circle in order to win others for Christ. Our friendship should be extended to those who require it the most. We are to work to reconcile the people in the world with each other and with God.

Despite all of Thomas' weaknesses and doubts, Jesus was able to transform him into a valuable instrument used in the construction of the Kingdom of God. One who lacked faith, was able to give faith to many. Today there are millions of people throughout the world who are eternally grateful for the missionary zeal that Thomas had.

We need to continue the mission of reconciliation and transform the world. In our churches and in our families there are divisions that need to be reconciled. We need to demonstrate our faith by reaching out to those who need our help. But before we can reconcile the world to God, we need to reconcile ourselves to God, and we need to reconcile with each other. It is the Jesus' prayer and desire that we be one, that we be reconciled to each other, so that the world would believe that God sent Jesus (John 17:20-24.) If there is no reconciliation between us then how can others believe in Jesus? How can others believe in our message of peace and love? How can we call ourselves Christians?

As St. Thomas was faithful until death, we also should be faithful to our Lord in carrying out his mission. May the Holy Spirit enable all of us to proclaim "My Lord and My God", and may the Holy Spirit enable all of us to live a life that shows that proclamation.

Yours in Christ's Service,

Rev. Shibi Abraham

Sunday School Committee 2016

Superintendent	Mr. Oommen K. Varughese	
Secretary	Miss. Sherin J Daniel	
Treasurer	Mr. Jinu M Joy	

Edavaka Mission Committee 2016

Vice President	Mr. George T Thomas	
Secretary	Mr. M. C. Varughese	
Treasurer	Mrs. Mariamma Lukose	

Sevika Sanghom Committee 2016

Vice President	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	
Secretary	Mrs. Susan Kurian	
Treasurer	Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas	

Yuvajana Sakhyam Committee 2016

Vice President	Mr. James Alex	
Secretary	Mr. Roshan Alexander	
Treasurer	Mr. Shibu Cheriyan	

Youth Fellowship Committee 2016

Vice President	Miss. Asha Jacob	
Secretary	Miss. Ancy Oommen	
Treasurer	Mr. Alvin Mathew	
Joint Secretary	Mr. Joshua Mathew	

Malayalam Choir Committee 2016

Leader	Mr. Shibu S Baby	
Assistant Leader	Mrs. Susan Saji	
Secretary	Mr. Abraham K Daniel	
Treasurer	Mrs. Mariamma John	

English Choir Committee 2016

Leader	Mr. Joshua Mathew	
Assistant Leader	Miss. Annie Jacob	
Secretary	Miss. Gilsy Saji	
Treasurer	Mr. Roshan Varughese	

Senior Citizens Fellowship Committee 2016

Secretary	Mr. M. V. Varghese	
Treasurer	Mr. John K. Thomas	

Young Family Fellowship Committee 2016

Secretary	Mr. Shibu Mathew	
Treasurer	Mr. Jacob D Koshy	

Even though I
walk through the
valley of the
shadow of
death, I will fear
no evil, for you
are with me;
your rod and
your staff, they
comfort me.



Psalm 23:4

Epiphany Mar Thoma Church News Letter

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