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# EPIPHANY MAR THOMA CHURCH

**NEWS LETTER  
OCTOBER 2016**



**SEEK THE LORD AND HIS  
STRENGTH.**

**FAITH IS A JOURNEY NOT A DESTINATION.**



### **Executive Committee 2016**

President / Vicar	Rev. Jogy Thomas revjogythomas@gmail.com	718.845.2920 718.612.1891
Vice President	Mr. Mathew K. Lukose mlukose77@gmail.com	516.932.7606
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Treasurer	Mr. Cherukara P Philipose pcpbabu@hotmail.com	718.359.3158
Accountant	Mr. Shibu John johnms2453@gmail.com	718.336.0849
Lay Leader (Malayalam)	Mr. M.V. Varghese	516-673-4583
Lay Leader (English)	Mr. Roshan T Varughese	516.326.9138
Mandalam/Sabha Council Rep:	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	516.812.9148
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. James Alex	516.640.5588
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. Jason Thomas	917.414.8924

### **Representatives of Organizations**

Sunday School	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	516.812.9148
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:

Greetings to you all in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It gives me immense pleasure to address you all through this month News Letter and I would like to draw your attention to the action plan for the month of October 2016. We have entered the last quarter of this financial year and let us thank God for His innumerable blessing, which are beyond our description and measure. We, as a chosen people of God are always in need of His undying love and infinite wisdom to carry out our duties and responsibilities in a responsible way.

The theme for the Sevika Sangam day was 'Remembering and Celebrating Women's Ministry, observed on second Sunday of September 2016. In St. MK 14: 3 –9, we see the sinful woman who poured such expensive perfume over Jesus. She was rebuked by the men around (v5). But Jesus predicted her reward for the significance she gave him. "I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she had done will also be told in memory of her" (v9). This event reminds the following thoughts. 1. The sinful woman submitted the most precious things to God. 2. She broke the Jar and poured the complete perfume on Jesus head. 3. She did what she could. The Bible specified the prominent role of women in God's ministry. Every Christian, male or female, is called to minister in different capacities (Eph. 4: 11 & 12).

As per the Sabha Calendar the first Sunday of October is being observed as 'Voluntary Evangelist's Day' with the theme 'Priesthood of all Believers' (20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost). The second Sunday is being observed as 'Care for the people with Special Skills" (21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost). The theme for third Sunday is 'Youth with Christ' (Youth Sunday) and the fourth Sunday "Family: Space for faith formation" (Christian Family Dedication Day, 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost). The fifth Sunday is being observed as *Kudosh Eetho - Sanctification* of the Church (Beginning of the Liturgical Year). We have to make time to mediate and reflect on these themes so that we imbibe its essence and transform ourselves into a community that can extend help, hope and healing to our fellow beings. I

hope and pray that these divinely inspired ideas for life will provide you all the spiritual nourishment and sustenance in the days to come.

A joyful and busy summer has officially ended and autumn has begun, and the nature is preparing to receive one more winter. We can experience nature's beauty more clearly during the fall season. The leaves turning color is just one example of the wonderful beauty that God created on earth. For us this is a marvelous time to focus on God's wonderful blessing – family, friends, shelter, provision, guidance, care, opportunity to serve and ample time to pray (October News Letter, 2015, p.4).

Let us resolve to use our time and talents for His glory, in His Service. Kindly uphold the activities of our parish and its organizations on your prayers. May the Almighty Lord be with us and bless our ways and ministry in this faith journey.

Yours in His Mission,

Rev. Jogy Thomas, Vicar.

Sept. 21, 2016.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Program</u></b>	<b><u>Special Observance</u></b>
Sunday October 2	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	Priesthood of all Believers-Voluntary Evangelists Day
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday October 9	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (Malayalam)	Care for the people with Special Skills
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (English)	
Sunday October 16	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	Youth With Christ Youth Sunday
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday October 23	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (Malayalam)	Space for Faith Formation-Christian Family Dedication Day
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (English)	
Sunday October 30	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	Sanctification of the Church

**LECTIONARY**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson</u></b>	<b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson</u></b>	<b><u>Epistle</u></b>	<b><u>Gospel</u></b>
Oct. 02	Isa:61:1-11	1 Peter 2:1-10	1 Thes.5:12-22	St.John 17:9-20
Oct. 09	2 Sam.9:1-13	Acts.9:32-35	2 Cor.12:1-10	St.Mark 3:1-6
Oct. 16	Dan.1:1-15	Acts.6: 1-7	Titus 2:1-14	St.John 1:35-42
Oct. 23	1 Sam 1:19-28	Eph.3:14-21	Eph.6:1-9	St.Luke 2:41-52
Oct. 30	2 Kings 23:1-6	1 Peter 4:1-6	Rom. 13:11-14	St.John 2:13-22

**ASSISTANCE & USHERING -2016**

<b><u>Month</u></b>	<b><u>Prayer Group</u></b>
October	Astoria/Jackson Hts/Flushing
November	Coney Island
December	Ridgewood/Wyckoff

**AREA PRAYER MEETINGS**

<b><u>Date &amp; Time</u></b>	<b><u>Area</u></b>	<b><u>Residence</u></b>
Sunday October 2 5.00 PM	Bellerose Queens Village Glenoaks	Mr. Rajan Thomas 145 Irving Ave Floral Park, NY 11001 Ph: 516-519-8374
Sunday October 2 7.00 pm	Floral Park	Mr. Mathew Varughese 78-44, 269 Street New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 718-347-7165
Saturday October 8 7.00 PM	Coney Island	Mr. Saji K Varghese 2553 East 11 <sup>th</sup> Street Coney Island, NY 11235 Ph: 718-332-2751
Sunday October 9 5:00 PM	Ridgewood/Wyckoff Richmond Hill	Mr. Samuel T Oommen 97-08, 125 <sup>th</sup> Street Richmond Hill, NY 11419 Ph: 718-847-6681
Sunday October 16 5:00 PM	New Hyde Park	Mrs. Mary Mathunny 1030 North 1 <sup>st</sup> Street New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-775-5712
Sunday October 16 7:00 PM	Garden City Park	Mr. Joseph Chacko 208 Nassau Blvd Garden City Park, NY 11542 Ph: 516-741-2995
Saturday October 22 6:30 PM	Long Island	Mr. Thomas V Varughese 1700 Bushwick Ave Merrick, NY 11566 Ph: 516-378-7235
Sunday October 23 6:30 PM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream	Mr. Thomas John 747 Bunker Rd North Woodmere, NY 11581 Ph: 516-812-9515
Sunday October 30 6:30 PM	Astoria/Flushing Jackson Heights..	Mr. Cherukara Philipose 61-43, 148 <sup>th</sup> Street Flushing, NY 11367 Ph: 718-359-3158

## **EDAVAKA MISSION.**

1.MTEVA Week- October 2 through October 8

Programs. a. Sunday, October 2- Edavaka Mission Sunday. Offeroty envelopes are in the mail box.

b. Friday, October 7, 24 hour chain prayer. Sign-up sheet posted on church bulletin board. Contact Edavaka Mission secretary for signing up.

c. Saturday, October 8- Holy Communion Service for those who are not able to attend regular church service for communion. Time:-10.00 AM

2. Cottage prayer meeting: Wednesday, October 19, 7.00 PM at the residence of Mr. Mathew T Mathew, 216 Nassau Blvd, Garden City Park. Ph.516-741-4459

3. Cottage prayer Meeting: Wednesday, October 26, 7.00 PM at the residence of Mr. M. V. Varughese, 113 Patton Blvd, New Hyde Park. Ph. 516-673-4583

**SENIOR CITIZENS DAY. – TBA**

## **SEVIKA SANGHOM**

<b><u>DATE &amp; TIME</u></b>	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>	<b><u>RESIDENCE</u></b>
Thursday October 6 10.00 AM	Coney Island Bible Study	Mrs. Elizabeth Jacob 2676 Hubbard St Coney Island, NY 11235 Ph: 718-743-6160
Thursday October 13 10.00 AM	Queens- Village/Bellerose Floral Park Bible Study	Mrs. Susan Thomas 145 Irving Ave Floral Park, NY 11001 Ph: 516-519-8374
Thursday October 27 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 October 20	New Hyde Park Garden City Park Bible Study	TBA
Friday October 10.00 AM	Fasting Prayer	TBA

**17<sup>TH</sup> 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.**

**TRIP TO LANCASTER : SHOW "SAMSON" – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18.  
 ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUESTED TO ARRIVE AT 8:00 AM IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT.  
 BUS WILL LEAVE AT 8:30 AM. (PLEASE BRING YOUR LUNCH WITH YOU.)**

**SEVIKA SANGHOM REGIONAL KALAMELA – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29  
 HOSTED BY EPIPHANY MAR THOMA CHURCH SEVIKA SANGHOM.  
 REGISTRATION START AT 8:30 AM, REGISTRAION FEE \$10.00.  
 BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.**

<b><u>SUNDAY SCHOOL</u></b>		
<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>
October 2016	Every Sunday 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM	Sunday School Class

**MALAYALAM CHOIR**

Choir practices will be held on the following Sundays: October 2nd & 16th at 9:00 AM, and on Friday October 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM in the church.  
 All choir members are requested to attend these practices.

<b><u>CHURCH YEAR PLAN-2016</u></b>	
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

**YUVAJANA SAKHYAM**

Cottage Prayer: Yuvajana Sakhyam Cottage prayer meeting will be held on Sunday , October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the residence of Mr. James Alex, 1524 Spring Street, East Meadow, New York 11554. Ph. 917-692-0228



## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

1. Women's fellowship game night on Saturday, October 15th at 5pm at Esther Mathew's house (43 Linden Avenue, Floral Park, NY)
2. BASIC will be held on Friday, October 21st at 6pm. Location TBD.
3. We will be having Hallelujah Night on Friday, October 28th at 6pm at church. All children 5 years and up are encouraged to attend- there will be music, games, activities and treats! There will also be a costume parade & contest, so wear your most creative and positive costumes.
4. Carmel MTC is hosting a Praise Night on Saturday, October 29th at 6pm. The youth will be arranging housing for guests to stay over after the event.  
Please contact Asha Jacob if you need transportation.
5. Carmel MTC is hosting the NERYF 5th Sunday service on Sunday, October 30th.  
Please contact Asha Jacob if you need transportation.

## CONDOLENCE

1. Mrs. Gracy Chacko (74 Yrs), Wife of Mr. Iype P. Abraham's brother (629 Avenue Y, Brooklyn), passed away in Kerala/India. Funeral service was held on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at Mar Thoma Church, Karuvatta.
2. Mr. John Koshy (86 Yrs), brother of late Mr. John John (Husband of Mrs. Rajamma John, 162 Nevada Street, Hicksville) passed away in Kerala on September 12th. Funeral Service was held at Punnamoodu Mar Thoma Church, Mavelikara on September 14<sup>th</sup>.
3. Mrs. Mary Saji (Mini 49 Yrs), Niece of Mr. Abraham Thariath, Mr. Mathew Abraham, Mr. Abraham George & Mrs. Elsy Ignatius., passed away in Kerala on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. Funeral service was held on September 19<sup>th</sup>.
4. Mr. Babu (56 Yrs), brother in law of our member Mr. Skaria Varghese (118-15, 103<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Richmond Hill), passed away in Chennai, India on Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>. Funeral service was held on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Vicar and members of Epiphany Mar Thoma Church express our Deep felt condolence to these bereaved families. Please uphold these families in our prayers.

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## **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:**

Joel Manoj Mathew	Floral Park	10-01
Jeena Marin Joseph	Franklin Square	10-01
Jithin John	New Hyde Park	10-01
Brianna Divya Varghese	Syosset	10-01
Nicholas Mathew Philipose	North Bellmore	10-01
Sheena Saju	Brooklyn	10-01
Jincy James	Manhasset Hills	10-01
Tiji Varughese	Richmond Hill	10-02
Joby G. Jacob	New Hyde Park	10-02
Biju Mathew Varghese	East Meadow	10-02
Abraham Thomas	Bellerose	10-03
Saramma P. Abraham	Ridgewood	10-03
Nirmala Jayan	New Hyde Park	10-05
Princy Thomas	New Hyde Park	10-06
Mathai Chacko	New Hyde Park	10-06
Neha Jacob	Brooklyn	10-06
Asha Susan Mathew	Floral Park	10-06
Saji T. Varughese	West Hempstead	10-07
Dalia Rose Kurian	Floral Park	10-07
Renju Lukose	West Hempstead	10-07
Susan Johnson	Glen Cove	10-07
N. K. Mathew	Manhasset Hills	10-08
Tina Elsy Thomas	Monroe	10-09
Michael Chacko	New Hyde Park	10-09
Allen Mathew	East Meadow	10-10
Anila Thomas	Floral Park	10-10
Oommen K. Varghese	Elmont	10-10
Mathai Philip	Bellerose	10-10
Aleyamma Mathew	New Hyde Park	10-10
Jose M. Nalonnill	Manhasset Hills	10-10
Jyoti K. Abraham	Brooklyn	10-10
Shalet K. Jayan	New Hyde Park	10-11
Shinu Abraham	Astoria	10-11

Nancy Thomas	Floral Park	10-11
Satyan Natarajan	Brooklyn	10-13
Johnkutty V. Koshy	Jamaica Estates	10-14
Aneeta Joe	Brooklyn	10-14
Rajan Thomas	Floral Park	10-14
Thomas John	North Woodmere	10-14
Mary Mathew	Manhasset Hills	10-14
George T. Thomas	New Hyde Park	10-15
Anu Abraham	Ridgewood	10-15
Kaitlyn Abraham	Floral Park	10-16
Melissa Anne Thomas	New Hyde Park	10-16
Greshma Elizabeth Abraham	Brooklyn	10-16
Kornelia Thomas	Weston	10-16
Rachel John	Queens Village	10-17
E. P. Philip	Merrick	10-18
Susy Abraham	Woodside	10-19
Jency Philipose	North Bellmore	10-19
Gilsy Mary Saji	Brooklyn	10-20
Gracy Mathew	Brooklyn	10-20
Angeli Ann Varghese	Elmont	10-20
Alena Ignatius	New Hyde Park	10-20
Vidhin Ignatious	New Hyde Park	10-21
Liz lype	Melville	10-21
Jonathan Abraham	Hicksville	10-21
Isabella Alissa Mathai	New Hyde Park	10-22
Ryan Jacob	Brooklyn	10-22
Abraham P. Mathew	Floral Park	10-22
Nimmy Jacob	Brooklyn	10-22
Sinu Kurian	Elmont	10-22
Smitha Thomas Mathew	Williston Park	10-23
Sosamma Alexander	East Meadow	10-23
Aleyamma Thomas	Brooklyn	10-24
Gracykutty Mathew	Floral Park	10-24
Reni Rose Oommen	Floral Park	10-25

Cibi Alexander	Elmont	10-25
Sarin Abraham	Brooklyn	10-25
Annamma Mathew	Bellerose	10-25
Iype Philip	Elmont	10-25
Philip Varghese	Elmont	10-25
Mark Joseph Alex	Floral Park	10-26
Ancey Mathews	East Meadow	10-26
Dheeraj Mathew	New Hyde Park	10-26
Robin Varughese	New Hyde Park	10-27
Cherukara P. Philipose	Flushing	10-27
Sheela Shibu	Kew Gardens	10-28
Aaron T George	Glen Oaks	10-29
Achenkunju T. Oommen	New Hyde Park	10-30
Jibin Mathew Thomas	Manhasset Hills	10-30
Abraham K. John	Elmont	10-31
Mariamamma Varghese	Roslyn	10-31
Koshy Thomas	Pelham	10-31

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ...(Proverbs 3:1-5)

## **WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:**

John P. John	Queens Village	10-01
Thomas Varghese	Elmont	10-03
Thomas P. Abraham	Floral Park	10-05
Chemparathil Thomas	Elmont	10-07
Joseph K. Chacko	Garden City Park	10-08
Cherian Baby Thomas	Fresh Meadows	10-09
Biju Varghese	Elmont	10-13
Biju Mathew Varghese	East Meadow	10-14
Reji Phillips	Westbury	10-15
Regi Chacko Varghese	Syosset	10-16
Abraham Mallappallil	Woodside	10-18
George Alexander	Elmont	10-19
Viji Thomas	East Setauket	10-19
Toby Varghese Chacko	New Hyde Park	10-20
Jacob C. Mathew	Garden City Park	10-20
P. G. Varghese	Elmont	10-21
Eapen V. Thomas	Woodside	10-22
Saju Idicula Varghese	West Hempstead	10-22
Kevin Samuel Abraham	New Hyde Park	10-24
Rinu Philipose	North Bellmore	10-26
Alex Thomas	Elmont	10-29

## YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S CORNER.

The second Sunday in the month of October is when the Mar Thoma Church will commemorate our solidarity with people who have special skills. We are not born the same, but we are all children of God. We all have different abilities given to us by God. In the Bible there are many people who are differently able. Most of these stories are of people who were healed and made whole. Jesus when he is in Nazareth picks the bible passage from Isaiah, where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Throughout his life, Jesus worked hard not just to physically heal people but to also get them accepted by society.

His disciples continued the mission that their master taught them. Acts 3:1-10 is a famous story of Peter and John healing a lame beggar. This passage illustrates some important points in how we should interact with those with special skills:

- 1) Peter and John took the time to talk to the person. They knew that part of their mission was to be with those who are in need.
- 2) Peter took him by the right hand (Acts 3:7). The right hand is often used to symbolize love, blessings, welcome, support, encouragement, and integration (ex. to be seated at his right hand or your right hand sustains me.)

People who are differently abled are also children of God. To make them feel the love of God is part of the reason that Jesus came here on earth. This is also part of the mission that he has entrusted to his disciples.

May we all be faithful in continuing this mission.

Yours in Christ's Service,

Rev. Shibi Abraham

**Sunday School Committee 2016**

Superintendent	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	
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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