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# EPIPHANY MAR THOMA CHURCH

**NEWS LETTER  
AUGUST 2017**



**TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL  
YOUR HEART.**

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



### **Executive Committee 2017**

President / Vicar	Rev. Jogy Thomas revjogythomas@gmail.com	718.845.2920 718.612.1891
Vice President	Mr. George C Mathew bgmathew52@hotmail.com	631.847.3431
Secretary	Mr. George C Abraham georgecabraham23@gmail.com	516.358.4020
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. Alvin Mathew	631.847.3431
Mandalam Representative	Mr. Anil T Thomas	973.659.3414
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. James Alex	516.640.5588
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. Saji K Varughese	718.332.2751
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. Abraham K Daniel	718-417-8441

### **Representatives of Organizations**

Sunday School/Assembly Rep.	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	516.812.9148
Edavaka Mission	Mr. Mathew N Varghese	516.285.5753
Sevika Sanghom	Mrs. Mariamma John	516.775.5866
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Roshan Alexander	516.808.7116
Youth Fellowship	Ms. Ancy Oommen	516.488.3028
Choir	Mr. Joshua Mathew	516-488-3028

### **Representatives of Area Prayer Groups**

Astoria/Jackson Hts./Flushing/ Randolph/Pelham/Connecticut.	Mrs. Vincy Philipose	718.359.3158
Coney Island/Brooklyn	Mr. Chacko K Jacob	718.743.6160
Ridgewood/Wyckoff	Mr. Eapen Mathew	718-381-4549
Bellerose/Queens Vill/Glenoaks	Mr. Simon Samuel	718.343.5147
Floral Park	Mr. Varghese Alex	718.470.9411
Elmont/Rosedale/Valley Stream	Mr. M.C. Varughese	516.825.3895
New Hyde Park	Mr. John K Samuel	516.775.5866
Garden City Park	Mr. V.C. Abraham	516.812.9148
Long Island	Mr. Biju M Varughese	516.750.5474

### **Auditors**

Mr. Abraham Thomas	717.343.7622
Mr. Abraham Mammen	516.488.1972

## **Vicar's message:**

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the exalted name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ..... “So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent” (Mk 6:12). Jesus called and commissioned His disciples with unique purpose and specific plans. Jesus was very clear in this verse about the purpose of the ministry which was entrusted to his disciples. Once again Jesus is affirming the disciples that they are sent to this world to carry out the ministry. We have entered the third quarter of this year and let us thank God for His countless blessings and guidance that we have been experiencing the last six months of the financial year 2017. It gives me immense pleasure in addressing you all through this News Letter as a vicar of the parish.

As per the Church Calender the August first Sunday is being observed as Mission Sunday with the theme “The Feast of Transfiguration – Be Witness of the Glory of our Lord”. The first day of August is being observed as “beginning of Fifteen Day's Lent” and August 15 is being observed as “end of the Fifteen Day's Lent”. This lent (Shunoyo) is very old and is in memory of St. Mary. It is interesting to see that in all the ancient Churches, this lent is observed. It is a canonical lent, approved and granted down through the ancient Councils, commemorating the wordly departure of Mary. The theme for the second Sunday is “Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage”. The theme for the third sunday is “Reformation Day: Worshipping Community” and fourth Sunday is “The Sacrament of Holy Qurbana : Celiberation of Salvation”. We have to make time to meditate and reflect on these themes, so that these divinely inspired ideas for life will provide us all the spiritual nourishment and strength in the days to come.

When the British thought of giving independence to India, they of course, in consultation with the Indian National Congress Leaders, chose August 15 as the day of independence for the nation. In fact the day was chosen deliberately. This is the day of assumption of St. Mary. When we are in this ministry, the message that we witness and proclaimed is the message of repentance, which is the freedom from the bondage of sin. The disciples proclaimed the message of repentance. Repentance and return to the experience of salvation is the message of the Gospel. As a parish our duty is to witness and proclaim the experience of salvation.

Our parish has been entered a phase of summer season and a lot of programmes await us; Parish Picnic, Parish Convention, Parish Retreat, Harwest Festival, Organizations' National Conferences,... let us pray that all these programmes be a meaningful one to each and everybody.

As we move on, I seek your wholehearted co-operation and support towards our parish and its forthcoming activities . Let us work together and make our parish a living one.

With Prayerful Regards,

Jogy Thomas Achen

Date: July 26, 2017

**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 August 06	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	The Feast of Transfiguration
Sunday August 13	9:30 AM	Devine Service (Malayalam)	Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage
Sunday August 20	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	Reformation Day: Worshipping Community
Sunday August 27	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	Sacrament of Holy Qurbana: Celebration of Salvation

**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>
August 06	Exod.24:12-18	Heb.12:18-29	2 Pet.1:16-19	St. Luke.9:28-36
August 13	Gen.2:18-25	Heb.13:1-6	Eph.5:21-32	St. Mat.19:1-12
August 20	2 Kings.23:1-9	Rev. 1:1-9	1 Pet.1:13-25	St. Mat. 9:35-38
August 27	Exod.16:1-16	1 Cor.11:23-30	1Cor10:15-17	St. John 6:47-58

**ASSISTANCE & USHERING : 2017**

<b><u>Month</u></b>	<b><u>Prayer Group</u></b>
August	Coney Island/Brooklyn
September	Ridgewood/Wyckoff
October	Bellerose/Queens Village/Glen Oaks

**AREA PRAYER MEETINGS**

	<b><u>Area</u></b>	<b><u>Residence</u></b>
Sunday August 6 5.00 PM	Floral Park	Mr. Cherian K Thomas 79-58, 264 <sup>th</sup> Street Floral Park, NY 11004 Ph: 718-347-1928
Sunday August 6 7.00 pm	Bellerose Queens Village Glen Oaks/Jamaica	Mr. Jacob Mammen 78-42, 265 <sup>th</sup> Street Floral Park, NY 11004 Ph: 718-343-2634
Saturday August 12 7:00 PM	Coney Island	TBA
Sunday August 13 5:00 PM	Ridgewood/Wyckoff Richmond Hill	TBA
Sunday August 20 5:00 PM	Long Island	Mr. Thomas Ellil Mathew 92 West Ave Hicksville, NY 11801 Ph: 516-620-0811
Sunday August 20 7:00 PM	Garden City Park	Mr. Varghese Daniel 245 Courthouse Rd Franklin Square, NY 11010 Ph: 516-358-0279
Saturday August 26 7:00 PM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream	Dr. Thomas Bains 505 Parkway Dr Elmont, NY 11003 Ph: 516-775-4778
Sunday August 27 5:00 PM	New Hyde Park	Mr. Mathew M Thannickal 912 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-488-3028

**SEVIKA SANGHOM**

<b><u>DATE &amp; TIME</u></b>	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>	<b><u>RESIDENCE</u></b>
Thursday August 03 10.00 AM	Coney Island Bible Study	Mrs. Kunjamma Varghese 2451 West Street Coney Island, NY 11223 Ph: 718-449-7135
Friday August 04 10.00 AM	Fasting Prayer (SS & EM)	In the Church
Thursday August 10 10.00 AM	Queens Village Bellerose Floral Park Bible Study	Mrs. Suja George Mathew 84-43, 257th Street Floral Park, NY 11004 Ph: 718-347-3730
Thursday August 17 10.00 AM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream Long Island Bible Study	Mrs. Grace Thomas 867 Bauer St Elmont, NY 11003 Ph: 516-326-6257
Friday August 18 10.00 AM	Fasting Prayer (SS & EM)	In the Church
Thursday August 24 10.00 AM	Center A Prayer Meeting	In the Church

**SEVIKA SANGHOM PROGRAMS FOR 2017**

1. SS center A prayer meeting on Aug 24th Thursday @ 10 am in the Church.
2. One day trip to Long wood garden on Aug 25th Friday.
3. SS one day retreat on September 1st Friday @ 10 am in the Church.
4. SS day worship on September 3rd Sunday.
5. House visit by SS members on September 4th& 5th.
6. Defensive driving class on September 17th in the Church immediately after the Holy Communion service.
7. SS National conference on October 12-15th @ Staten Island MTC.
8. SS Regional Kalamela on October 28th Saturday @ St. James MTC @ 8:30am.
9. Family Night on November 11th Saturday @ 6 pm in the Church .
10. SS 3rd Regional conference on November 18 th @ St. Andrews MTC.

**SENIOR CITIZENS MEETING: TUESDAY, AUGUST 15  
IN THE CHURCH AT 10.00 AM. ALL SENIOR CITIZENS  
ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING.**

<b><u>SUNDAY SCHOOL</u></b>		
<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>
August 2017	No Sunday School	No Sunday School Class

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT.**

### **Annual Talent Festival 2017**

**Date:** Saturday, September 16, 2017 at 8:30AM

**Venue:** Long Island MTC, 2350 Merrick Avenue, Merrick, NY 10704

### **Competition Events**

1. Singing Eng. & Mal.: All participants / groups must sing only either two stanzas (#1 & #2) or two (#2) stanzas and chorus of the selected song for each grade / group as given below (Solo & Group), **unless otherwise stated**. This is applicable to both English and Malayalam songs. Denotes separate competition for boys & girls.
2. Story Telling: Specific Biblical story in English; can be paraphrased. Time limit – max 3 mins.
3. Elocution: Based on Bible verse. Time limit – max 3 mins.
4. Bible Reading: Portion will be given at the time of competition.

### **Talent Festival Details**

#### **Grade 1 & 2**

English Solo:

Story Telling:

“Wonderful Words of Life ”

The story of Abraham Sacrificing Isaac [Genesis22:1-14]

#### **Grade 3 & 4**

English Solo:

Story Telling:

"Thy Word"

Saul's transformation to Paul [Acts 9:1-19]

**Grade 5 & 6**

English Solo: "Heaven Came Down"

Malayalam Solo: CH #247 "Neeyallo Njangalkulla Divya Sampathu"

Elocution: "Therefore, as God's chosen people." [Colossians 3:12 NIV]

**Grade 7 & 8**

English Solo: "Take my Life and Let it Be"

Malayalam Solo: CH #231 "Ellam Ange Mahathwathinai "

Elocution: "What does the Lord require of you?" [Micah 6:8 NIV]

**Grade 9 & 10**

English Solo: "Just as I am, Without One Plea"

Malayalam Solo: MC 2012 #81 "Nin dhanam njaan anubhavichu"

Elocution: Extempore - Topic will be given 15 minutes prior to the competition.

Bible Reading: Portion will be given at the time of competition.

**Bible Quiz:** Gospel of Matthew & Book of Joel [NIV]

**Group Song – English:** "Hand Me Down My Silver Trumpet"

**Group Song – Malayalam:** *Santhosha Sudhinamitha*

*All Audio recording for English songs have been added and are available on [nerssblog.wordpress.com](http://nerssblog.wordpress.com)*

Mrs. Mariamma Abraham,  
Sunday School Superintendent

**FIRST COMMUNICANTS SERVICE:**

Those who wish to participate in this year's First Communion service are requested to give their names to Rev. Jogy Thomas. First Communicant Service will be held on December 17, 2017.

## **MALAYALAM CHOIR**

Choir practices will be held on the following Sundays: August 6th & 20th at 9:00AM and also on Saturday, August 19th at 7:00 PM in the Church. All choir members are requested to attend these practices.

### **NEW BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT.**

Jessica & Reji Varghese (Syosset) are happy to announce the arrival of their new born son **Tyler Nirav Varghese** who was born on May 23, 2017. Congratulations!

Sona & Tom Cherian (Floral Park) are happy to announce the arrival of their new born son **Jacob K Cherian** who was born on June 06, 2017. Congratulations!

### **CHURCH YEAR PLAN-2017**

August 5	: Parish Picnic
August 6	: New Academic Year Service
August 11-13	: Family Retreat
August 20	: NAY Service/New Graduates Thanksgiving
September 3	: Harvest Festival
September 15-17	: Parish Convention
November 23	: Thanksgiving Service
November 26	: Christmas Door to Door Carol
December 17	: First Communicant Service
December 23	: Christmas Carol in the Church
December 25	: Christmas day service.
December 31	: Watch Night and New Year service

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS:**

New Address:  
Mr. Isac Thomas  
919 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
New Hyde Park, NY 11040  
Ph: 718-464-0445

Old Address:  
2616 Hubbard St  
Brooklyn, NY 11235

## **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:**

Tincy Sam	New Hyde Park	1-Aug
Janelle Susan Mathew	Charlotte	2-Aug
Lillienn Eliza Thariath	Rosedale	2-Aug
Betsy Philip	Merrick	2-Aug
Jeenu Philip	Elmont	2-Aug
Jerrin Pothen	Floral Park	3-Aug
Sarah M. Mathew	Brooklyn	3-Aug
Misha Thomas	Long Island City	3-Aug
Mammen Mathew	Brooklyn	4-Aug
George Alexander	Elmont	4-Aug
Bobby Philip Oommen	Elmont	5-Aug
Riya Mariamma Mathew	Brooklyn	5-Aug
Robin K Mathews	Glendale	5-Aug
Dr. Julie A. Cherian	Dix Hills	5-Aug
Suja George Mathew	Floral Park	5-Aug
Obye Varghese	New Hyde Park	6-Aug
Alexander Vinson	East Meadow	6-Aug
Philip Mathai	East Meadow	6-Aug
Vincent Abraham Kurian	Merrick	6-Aug
Mathew Varghese	Valley Stream	7-Aug
Jiji Thomas	New Hyde Park	7-Aug
Mary Johnkutty	Jamaica Estates	8-Aug
Hannah Susan Jacob	East Meadow	9-Aug
Stanley Sam Philipose	Brooklyn	9-Aug
Dylan Mason Cherian	Dix Hills	9-Aug
Roby Varghese	New Hyde Park	10-Aug
Shibu S. Baby	Kew Gardens	10-Aug
Dr. Nicy Philip	Floral Park	10-Aug
Jason Thomas	Floral Park	11-Aug
Edward Varghese	New Hyde Park	11-Aug
Thankamma George	Floral Park	12-Aug
Lijy Mary Abraham	Brooklyn	13-Aug
Christa Rose Alexander	New Hyde Park	14-Aug

Susan Cherian Varghese	New Hyde Park	15-Aug
Janice John	Syosset	15-Aug
Sheela Mathew	New Hyde Park	15-Aug
Michele Chinu Mathew	New Hyde Park	15-Aug
Shaun J. Daniel	Garden City Park	16-Aug
Sheela Jacob	Glen Oaks	16-Aug
Sajosh Mathew	Garden City Park	16-Aug
Mary Mathew	Garden City Park	17-Aug
Jaison Varughese	Elmont	17-Aug
Chelippallil John	New Hyde Park	17-Aug
Alice Jacob	Floral Park	17-Aug
Aleyamma John	East Meadow	19-Aug
Alan Mathew Saji	Queens Village	19-Aug
Shaji Varghese	New Hyde Park	20-Aug
Julianne Rachel Thariath	Rosedale	20-Aug
Marykutty Chacko	Richmond Hill	20-Aug
Andrew Abraham	Hicksville	21-Aug
Justin Chacko	East Meadow	21-Aug
David Abraham	Yonkers	21-Aug
Stephen G. Mathew	Floral Park	23-Aug
Saramma Chacko	East Meadow	24-Aug
Julie John	East Meadow	24-Aug
Merlin Mathew	New Hyde Park	24-Aug
Cyril Abraham	Floral Park	24-Aug
Rinu Ignatius	Mineola	25-Aug
Joanne John	Hicksville	25-Aug
Ashley Varghese	Deer Park	26-Aug
C. V. Chacko	New Hyde Park	26-Aug
Annamma Philip	Merrick	26-Aug
Abraham K. George	Floral Park	26-Aug
Jessy M. John	Elmont	26-Aug
Sosa Abraham	Bellerose	27-Aug
Joshua Mathew Phillips	Westbury	27-Aug
Sherin J. Daniel	Garden City Park	28-Aug

Bobbie Mathew	New Hyde Park	29-Aug
Jenifer J. Chacko	Elmont	30-Aug
Julie Philipose	Plainview	30-Aug

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:**

Sajosh Mathew	Garden City Park	2-Aug
Chacko Varghese	Bellerose	3-Aug
Jeffy John	Elmont	4-Aug
Siju Mathews	Floral Park	5-Aug
Dr. Tony Abraham	Floral Park	7-Aug
Abraham V. Thomas	Merrick	7-Aug
Thomas Varghese	Elmont	8-Aug
Thomas C. Varghese	Floral Park	9-Aug
Abraham George	New Hyde Park	10-Aug
Rev. Jogy Thomas	Ozone Park	11-Aug
Alex Daniel	Garden City Park	14-Aug
George P. Jacob	New Hyde Park	15-Aug
Tom B. Thomas	Weston	16-Aug
Nidhin Ignatious	Mineola	17-Aug
Joseph Varghese	Woodside	17-Aug
James Alex	East Meadow	19-Aug
Dr. Abi Tom Cherian	Floral Park	20-Aug
Vinson Alex	East Meadow	20-Aug
Nikhil Philip	East Meadow	21-Aug
Varghese Mathew	East Meadow	21-Aug
Shibu John	Brooklyn	22-Aug
Dr. Thomas Bains	Elmont	24-Aug
Simon Samuel	Bellerose	27-Aug

## YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S CORNER.

Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.

1 Peter 2:16 NIV

After a long and hard struggle, India achieved independence from the British on August 15, 1947. Gandhi through his life and writings (The India of My Dreams) spoke of India as, "the land of duty not the land of enjoyment." His dream was an India that was "free and strong so that for the betterment of the world at large, she may offer herself a willing and voluntary sacrifice." We all know that Gandhi was greatly influenced by the teachings of Jesus Christ. Just like Christ, he saw freedom not as the right to do whatever a person wanted but the obligation to do what was needed for others.

True freedom is when we chose to worship and praise God for all that God has done for us. When Moses went to Pharaoh he was told by God to say, "Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord; Israel is my firstborn son. I said to you, "Let my son go that he may worship me. (Exodus 4:22-23a)"' The Israelites were led out of the land of slavery and into the Promise Land not just for the material benefits but to have the right relationship with God and with other people. In a similar manner we have to view our freedom as an opportunity to have the right relationship with God and with others.

True freedom includes spiritual freedom. The spiritual freedom and sees an individual as a slave of God and a servant to others.

God Bless

Rev. Shibi Abraham  
Youth Chaplain

**Sunday School Committee 2017**

Superintendent	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	
Secretary	Miss. Nimmy Jacob	
Treasurer	Mr. Jinu M Joy	

**Edavaka Mission Committee 2017**

Vice President	Mr. P.V. Varughese	
Secretary	Mr. Mathew N Varughese	
Treasurer	Mr. John K Samuel	

**Sevika Sanghom Committee 2017**

Vice President	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	
Secretary	Mrs. Mariamma John	
Treasurer	Mrs. Alice Joseph	

**Yuvajana Sakhyam Committee 2017**

Vice President	Mr. Rinu Varughese	
Secretary	Mr. Roshan Alexander	
Treasurer	Mr. Anup T George	

**Youth Fellowship Committee 2017**

Vice President	Miss. Ancy Oommen	
Secretary	Mr. Jonah Mathew	
Treasurer	Mr. Joshua Mathew	
Joint Secretary	Mr. Roshan Varughese	

**Malayalam Choir Committee 2017**

Leader	Mr. Shibu S Baby	
Assistant Leader	Mrs. Susan Kurian	
Secretary	Mr. Abraham K Daniel	
Treasurer	Mr. Babu Varghese	

**English Choir Committee 2017**

Leader	Mr. Joshua Mathew	
Assistant Leader	Miss. Gilsy Saji	
Secretary	Miss. Beverly Varghese	
Treasurer	Miss. Reena Varughese	


**Senior Citizens Fellowship Committee 2017**

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

**Young Family Fellowship Committee 2017**

Coordinator	Mr. Shibu Mathew	
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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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(News Letter available on website)