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# EPIPHANY MAR THOMA CHURCH

**NEWS LETTER  
JULY 2017**



**BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN  
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

### **Representatives of Organizations**

Sunday School	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. Abraham K Daniel	718-417-8441
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 to you all in the matchless name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It gives me immense pleasure in addressing you all again through this newsletter as the vicar of the Church. We have entered the third quarter of this year and let us thank God for His countless blessings and guidance that we have experienced for the last six months and in the past. Let me acknowledge God's presence and providence in our faith journey so far, which are beyond measure. I request your wholehearted prayer and support for the continued spiritual growth of the Church.

As you all know that we, as a family, have completed one more year in His ministry of this parish. Once again, I express my love and thanks to all who have contributed for the growth of the parish and let us all submit ourselves in the mighty hands of God for a more effective ministry that will be fruitful to all members. Vision is the ability to see the opportunities within one's current environment. Let us have new visions on the ministry of our Church for a rewarding future.

As per the Church calendar, the first Sunday of July is observed as "Tithe Sunday" with the theme "Stewardship of the Resources." The theme for the second Sunday is "Holy Ordination - Priest: Called for Divine Ministry." The theme for the third Sunday is "People of God: Ambassadors of Christ;" the fourth Sunday is "Theological Education: Equipping the People of God," and the fifth Sunday "Gospel for All People." The Monday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of this month, is observed as St. Thomas Day. 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.

This year our parish is completing 36 years in its faith journey. This is the occasion to give thanks to the Lord for the guidance and protection we have received from Him. Our Parish Day and the 36<sup>th</sup> year Commemoration Service will be held on Sunday July 2. On this occasion I acknowledge the sacrificial services of our pioneer members and vicars. His Grace the **Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan** will be the Chief Guest.

Our beloved Thirumeni is celebrating 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday on July 27. At this time we praise and thank God for his efficient leadership and spiritual stewardship towards the growth and development of the Mar Thoma Church all over the world. On behalf of our parish I would like to extend a happy and blessed birthday to our respected Metropolitan Thirumeni.

This month we have Yuvajana Sakhyam Regional Kalamela, Sunday School NER Junior-Senior Conference, Regional Sevika Sanghom Couples Conference, North America and Europe Diocese Edavaka Mission National Conference, Diocesan Youth Fellowship National Conference and Church VBS. All parents of Sunday School students are requested to send their children to VBS and Junior - Senior conference. Many families of our parish are going to India during these months. I wish them a safe and happy journey.

“Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” ( Matthew 28:20). As a parish, let us work together as a team for greater fellowship and mutual blessing, and above all, pray God to mould us all as a united living entity to work for His glory. May the Almighty Lord be with us and bless our paths and our ministry in this faith journey.

With prayerful regards,

Jogyachen

June 21, 2017

<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE</b>			
<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Program</u></b>	<b><u>Special Observance</u></b>
Sunday July 02	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	Stewardship of the Resources
Sunday July 09	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	Holy Ordination
Sunday July 16	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	People of God Ambassadors of Christ
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday July 23	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	Theological Education
Sunday July 30	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	Gospel for all People

**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>
July 02	Exod.18-13-27	1 Tim 6:17-21	2 Cor:8:1-15	St.Mat. 25:14-30
July 09	Ezek.33:1-9	1 Tim.3:1-13	Eph.4:7-16	St. Mat.3:13-19
July 16	Josh.1:1-9	Phil. 1:12-21	2 Cor.5:16-21	St. Mat. 6:7-13
July 23	Deut. 6:1-17	2 Tim.2:1-13	Eph.3: 1-13	St. John 12:20-26
July 30	Isa.55:1-5	Acts 10:34-43	Eph.3:1-13	St. Luke 4:16-22

**ASSISTANCE & USHERING : 2017**

<b><u>Month</u></b>	<b><u>Prayer Group</u></b>
July	Astoria/Jackson Hts/Flushing
August	Coney Island/Brooklyn
September	Ridgewood/Wyckoff

**AREA PRAYER MEETINGS**

	<b><u>Area</u></b>	<b><u>Residence</u></b>
Sunday July 02 5.00 PM	Bellerose Queens Village Glen Oaks/Jamaica	Mr. Mathai Philip 82-62 246 <sup>th</sup> Street Bellerose, NY 11426 Ph: 718-343-2152
Sunday July 02 7.00 pm	Floral Park	Mr. Thomas Abraham 80-37 255 <sup>th</sup> Street Floral Park, NY 11004 Ph: 718-470-6524
Saturday July 8 7:00 PM	Coney Island	Mr. Abraham Thannickal 737 Desmond Court Coney Island, NY 11235 Ph: 718-792773
Sunday July 09 5:00 PM	Ridgewood/Wyckoff Richmond Hill	TBA
Sunday July 16 5:00 PM	New Hyde Park	Mr. Samkutty Varghese 77 Maple Dr New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 512-365-3083
Sunday July 16 7:00 PM	Garden City Park	Mr. Roy P Varghese 21 Tenafly New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-873-0671
Saturday July 22 7:00 PM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream	Mr. Varghese Pothan 1431 Wool Worth St Elmont, NY 11003 Ph: 516-616-1745
Sunday July 23 6:30 PM	Long Island	Mr. Varghese K Pappachen 274 Clear Meadow Dr East Meadow, NY 11554 Ph: 516-644-5888

**SEVIKA SANGHOM**

<b><u>DATE &amp; TIME</u></b>	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>	<b><u>RESIDENCE</u></b>
Thursday July 6 10.00 AM	Coney Island Bible Study	Mrs. Mariamma Mathew 465 Ovington Ave Brooklyn, NY 11209 Ph: 718-836-1380
Friday July 7 10.00 AM	Fasting Prayer (SS & EM)	In the Church
Thursday July 13 10.00 AM	Queens Village Bellerose Floral Park Bible Study	Mrs. Aleyamma Mathai 78-52, 269 <sup>th</sup> Street New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 718-343-5661
Friday July 14 10.00 AM	Fasting Prayer	Mrs. Sally Abraham 116 Sylvia Lane New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-358-4020
Thursday July 20 10.00 AM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream Long Island Bible Study	TBA
Friday July 21 10.00 AM	Fasting Prayer (SS & EM)	In the Church
Thursday July 27 7.00 PM	New Hyde Park Garden City Park Bible Study	Mrs. Mary Mathew 216 Nassau Blvd Garden City Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-741-4459

**SENIOR CITIZENS MEETING: WEDNESDAY, JULY 12**  
**IN THE CHURCH AT 10.00 AM. ALL SENIOR CITIZENS**  
**ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING.**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>
July 2017	No Sunday School	No Sunday School Class

# VBS 2017: JULY 27 – 30

## SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT.

*Junior Senior Students Conference will be held on July 6 - 9 , 2017 at Ramapo College, 505 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430 . Transportation will be arranged by the Sunday school. The Bus will leave from 25703 Union Tpke, Glen Oaks, NY 11004 ( Front of Santoor Restaurant) at July 6th 1pm. All the students are requested to come on time. Lunch will be provided. Students are requested to bring their Bible, Note book , Pen , Pillow, draw sheet, Sheet, towel, soap, tooth brush, shampoo etc. . Girls are not allowed to wear tang tops or mini skirt . Boys are not allowed to wear shorts. Students those who are taking medications kindly inform us the list of medications.*

### **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.

### **MALAYALAM CHOIR**

Choir practices will be held on the following Sundays: July 2nd & 16th at 9:00AM and also on Saturday, July 15th at 7:00 PM in the Church. All choir members are requested to attend these practices.

## YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

DATE & TIME	EVENT	VENUE
July 01	Kalamela	Staten Island Mar Thoma Church 134 Faber Street Staten Island, NY 10302
July 09 07:00 PM	Cottage Prayer Meeting	Toji Mathew & Gigi Mathew 404 Chambers Avenue East Meadow, NY 11554
July 15 10:00 AM	Picnic	Eisenhower Park, East Meadow

**PARISH DAY:** Our Parish day celebrations will be held on Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>. His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan will be leading the Holy Communion Service and will be the chief guest. All are requested to attend the Parish Day celebrations.

### YEAR PLAN-2017

July 2	: Parish Day/Metropolitan's Visit.
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 23	: Christmas Carol in the Church
December 25	: Christmas day service.
December 31	: Watch Night and New Year service

## **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:**

Jyothi Chacko	New Hyde Park	4-Jul
Varughese George	Albertson	4-Jul
Sonia Wilson Oommen	Floral Park	5-Jul
Isaac Mohan Varghese	Syosset	7-Jul
Sharon Jacob	Floral Park	7-Jul
Achamma Thomas	Fresh Meadows	8-Jul
Kaitlyn Reena Mathew	Staten Island	9-Jul
Jiby Thampan	Manhasset Hills	9-Jul
Renjen Jacob	Brooklyn	10-Jul
Abraham Mallappallil	Woodside	10-Jul
Ancy Rose Oommen	New Hyde Park	10-Jul
Bevitha Ann Abraham	Brooklyn	11-Jul
Jibi G. Jacob	New Hyde Park	13-Jul
Justin S. John	New Hyde Park	13-Jul
Justin K. Mathew	Elmont	13-Jul
Roy J. Mathews	Ridgewood	13-Jul
Tanya Ann Alexander	New Hyde Park	14-Jul
Aleyamma Chacko	New Hyde Park	14-Jul
Emeline Sony Joseph	Bellerose	14-Jul
Asha Sara Thomas	East Meadow	15-Jul
Fredy Varghese	New Hyde Park	15-Jul
Liss A. Regy	Commack	16-Jul
Soji M. Varghese	Syosset	16-Jul
Reji Phillips	Westbury	16-Jul
Nisha Abraham	New Hyde Park	17-Jul
Kevin K. Mathew	Elmont	18-Jul
Nidhia Varghese	New Hyde Park	19-Jul
Anil T. Thomas	Randolph	21-Jul
Christina M. George	Elmont	21-Jul
Sherryl Mathew	Manhasset Hills	21-Jul
Rachel Joyce Eappen	Merrick	22-Jul
Mariamamma Mathew	Floral Park	22-Jul
Annamma Abraham	Richmond Hill	22-Jul

Chinnamma Thomas	New Hyde Park	23-Jul
Rohit Varughese	New Hyde Park	23-Jul
Bency P Varghese	Floral Park	24-Jul
Ria Sara Roy	New Hyde Park	24-Jul
Jasmine Elizabeth Varghese	Woodside	24-Jul
Alice Mary Mathew	Farmingdale	25-Jul
Cristian Mathew	East Meadow	25-Jul
Alena Koshy	Queens Village	26-Jul
Saramma George	McKinney	26-Jul
Reny Varughese	New Hyde Park	26-Jul
Dr. Shibu Joseph	New Hyde Park	27-Jul
Alice V. Joseph	New Hyde Park	27-Jul
Angeline Mathew	East Meadow	27-Jul
Isac Thomas	Brooklyn	27-Jul
Mariam George	New Hyde Park	27-Jul
Juliet John	Elmont	27-Jul
Ruby T Mathews	Ridgewood	27-Jul
Jonathan Thomas Daniel	Elmont	28-Jul
Rachel E. Philipose	Plainview	29-Jul
Hannah Thomas	Muttontown	29-Jul
Grace Thomas	Elmont	30-Jul
Shaji J. Koruthu	Jackson Heights	30-Jul
Bob O. Koshy	Queens Village	30-Jul
Raju T. Oommen	Floral Park	30-Jul
Shibu John	Brooklyn	30-Jul
Suja Wilson	Floral Park	31-Jul
Marykutty Mathew	Elmont	31-Jul

## **WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:**

Ebbie Kurian	Merrick	2-Jul
P. V. Varghese	Merrick	3-Jul
Liju Daniel Mathew	Brooklyn	3-Jul
Thomas Daniel	Elmont	4-Jul
Rex Varghese	New City	5-Jul
Jacob George	Glen Oaks	6-Jul
Bob M. Mathai	New Hyde Park	7-Jul
George Mathews	New Hyde Park	8-Jul
Mathew Varghese	New Hyde Park	10-Jul
Vadackedathu T. Thomas	Queens Village	11-Jul
Mathai Philip	Bellerose	11-Jul
Jason Thomas	Floral Park	11-Jul
Cherukara P. Philipose	Flushing	12-Jul
John Mani	Garden City Park	12-Jul
Samuel Philipose	Brooklyn	13-Jul
Prasad George	Kew Gardens	14-Jul
Thomas P. Thomas	Bellerose	16-Jul
Cherian Moolakkal	Ridgewood	16-Jul
Jibin Mathew Thomas	Manhasset Hills	16-Jul
Philip P. Varghese	Roslyn	17-Jul
Jeson Thomas	Brooklyn	17-Jul
Mathew T. Mathew	Garden City Park	18-Jul
Mathew George	Floral Park	19-Jul
K. K. Mathew	Bellerose	19-Jul
Reuben Philipose	Plainview	22-Jul
Mathew Cherian	Oilville	24-Jul
Jinu M. Joy	Floral Park	24-Jul
Ranjit Jacob	East Meadow	24-Jul
Rev. P.M. Thomas	Manhasset Hills	24-Jul
Dennis K. George	Bellerose	25-Jul
T. C. Kurian	Floral Park	26-Jul
George C. Mathew	Farmingdale	26-Jul
Thomas Ellil Mathew	Hicksville	29-Jul

Varghese Daniel	Franklin Square	29-Jul
Varghese Mathew	Brooklyn	29-Jul
Jacob Mathew	Fresh Meadows	30-Jul
John Varghese	Commack	31-Jul
Bobby Thomas	Bellerose	31-Jul

**YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S CORNER.**

Deuteronomy 10:17-18 : For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing.

"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,

The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,

I lift my lamp beside the golden door!" – from "The New Colossus" by Emma Lazarus

Edouard de Laboulaye is known as the "Father of the Statue of Liberty," because he first proposed the idea of a monument for the United States. He believed that every person was born with a right to freedom, and spent most of his life striving for France to return to a democracy. The Union victory in the Civil War and the passage of the 13th Amendment (abolishing slavery in the U.S., 1865) were milestones because they showed that justice and liberty for all was possible. Laboulaye hoped that honoring the United States with the Statue of Liberty would commemorate the alliance between France and the U.S. and ultimately inspire the French people to call for democracy. The Statue of Liberty soon became a symbol that represented more than just democracy, it also represents that this country not only has the resources to provide for those in need, but also the responsibility to help those in need.

As we celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July here in America let us always remember that we are blessed because of all the freedoms and advantages that we enjoy here. We also need to remember that not everyone in this country and in other countries are as blessed as we are. In the book of Deuteronomy, God is described as the God who executes justice for those in need. Being the children of God, we need to continue the work of God, and also execute justice for those in need. Justice according to God is not just giving a hand out to a person from our excess, but it is providing for a person to become self-sufficient. It is sharing our God given resources with those who have less, so they can experience the Love of God through us. We are "the Light" and the "salt" of the world. We are to help others see and experience God through our lives. May God enable all of us to work for the freedom and up-liftment of those in need.

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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