



St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, NY



34 Morris Street, Yonkers, NY 10705

<http://www.stthomasmtc.org>

December



2010

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Merry Christmas

*“And she will bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is
He who will save His people from their sins”*

Matthew 1:21

NEWSLETTER VOL. XXX NO. 12

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Worship
Sun, Dec 5	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, English
Sun, Dec 12	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Intercessory Prayer Holy Communion Service, English
Sun, Dec 19	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, Malayalam
Sat, Dec 25	10:00 am	Holy Communion Service, English
Sun, Dec 26	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, Malayalam
Fri, Dec 31	9:00 pm	Watch Night Service (Malayalam) Holy Communion Service, (Malayalam)

MAR THOMA SYRIAN CHURCH OF MALABAR LECTIONARY CHRISTIAN YEAR — 2010 DECEMBER

Date	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel
Sun, Dec 5	Gen. 33:1-17	2 Cor. 1:3-11	1 Thes. 3:6-13	St. Luke. 1:39-45
Sun, Dec 12	Isa. 55:6-13	Acts. 11:19-26	Heb. 4:1-13	St. Luke. 1:57-66
Sun, Dec 19	Isa. 11:1-10	1 John. 5:1-12	Rom. 1:5-16	St. Mat. 1:18-23
Sat, Dec 25	Isa 9:1-8	Gal. 4:1-7	Heb. 1:1-12	St. John. 1:1-14
Sun, Dec 26	Jer. 23:1-8	Acts. 2:21-36	Phil. 2:1-11	St. Luke. 10:21-24
Fri, Dec 31	1 Sam. 7:1-17	Heb. 13:7-21	Eph. 5:15-21	St. Mat. 6:25-34

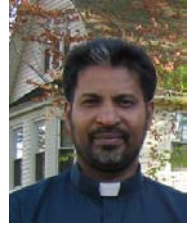
IMPORTANT DAYS IN SABHA/DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Date	Importance of the Day
Mon, Dec 1	Beginning of 25 Days Lent
Sun, Dec 5	Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth– ‘Bearers of Good News’ Bible Sunday (3rd Sunday before Christmas)
Sun, Dec 12	Birth of John the Baptist– Hope for the World (2nd Sunday before Christmas)
Sun, Dec 19	Annunciation to Joseph– Invitation to participate in the plan of salvation (Sunday before Christmas)
Sat, Dec 25	Feast of nativity. Birth of Our Savior (Yaldo)
Sun, Dec 26	Celebration of Lordship of Christ the King
Sat, Dec 31	End of the Year– God who is always with us

~Vicar's Message~

Dearly beloved in Christ,

“Joy to the world, the Lord is come.....” Once again we are at the threshold of an advent season. Christmas is a time to assess our lives. Also we need to reflect on the truth about our surrounding – the world and its need for a savior. The gospel is to change the world and to change us. The sad thing is that many of us do not want to be changed. When God comes to our lives things will be changed. Our whole lives will be changed.



The world in which we live is a fragile and fragmented world. A host of problems suffocate and choke it. Social unrest, economic disparity, racial discrimination, war and oppression, terrorism and hatred, corruption and cruelty, natural calamities and its painful consequences ... this world is replete with untold miseries and maladies. It is not the absence of conflicts or problems that we naively await; it is the message that God reigns over and despite all that. And that still is the great news!

The angels of the Lord appeared to the shepherds who were watching over their flocks in the chill cold night herald the message of great joy. “This very day in David’s town your savior was born –Christ the Lord! And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloths and lying in a manger.”(Luke.2:12) This child is born “for us,” “to us,” and “ with us.” This is Immanuel.

It brings us the good tidings that joy and peace –the quintessence of the Christmas story, is open to all beyond the covenant people. It is to be noted that the message of Christmas becomes a reality to the marginalized and the weakest in the society. They became the chief characters of the Christmas story.

The shepherds were in a way the outcast of the then society. They were considered as irreligious because they did not get time to observe the Sabbath and other regulations and rites of the established religion. It is to these poor guys that the angels from heaven appeared to share the joy of Christmas. And it is these unwanted shepherds who got the unique privilege to witness the little child in the manger, another symbol of vulnerability and helplessness. It is quite paradoxical that God uses little things for his mighty purposes. That is the mystery of the gospel. This truth is very well reflected in Mary’s magnificent – “He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.”

Let us celebrate Christmas in our humble, ordinary situation and exchange the joy of salvation as good tidings to all and experience the peace that passes all understanding in our renewed relationship with Him.
HAPPY CHRISTMAS!



Yours in His Service,

Rev. Joseph Johnny
Vicar



CHRISTMAS HOUSE CAROLING SCHEDULE

Date	Location
Saturday, Dec 4, 2010	Poughkeepsie, New York, & Connecticut
Sunday, Dec 5, 2010	Outside Teaneck, New Jersey
Friday, Dec 10, 2010	Outside Spring Valley, New York
Saturday, Dec 11, 2010	Spring Valley, New York
Sunday, Dec 12, 2010	Yonkers West & Teaneck, New Jersey

**For more details please contact your Area
Representative or House Caroling Convener
Mr. M.J. George at (914) 376-7185**



CHRISTMAS HOUSE CAROLING SCHEDULE Continued



Date	Location
Friday, Dec 17, 2010	Long Island
Saturday, Dec 18, 2010	Westchester & Upper Westchester
Sunday, Dec 19, 2010	Yonkers North, Yonkers South, & Yonkers East

**For more details please contact your Area
Representative or House Caroling Convener
Mr. M.J. George at (914) 376-7185**

SAVE THE DATES

Christmas Carol Service
Fri, Dec 24, 6:30pm

Watch Night Service
Fri, Dec 31, 9:00pm

Organizational Meetings

EDAVAKA MISSION

Prayer Meeting at Church every Wednesday at 7:00 PM

SEVIKA SANGHAM

Bible Study - 3rd Sunday at Church

Friday Prayer Meeting

Sevika Sangham	Date & Time	Location
Friday Prayer	Fri, Dec 3, 9:30 am	Mrs. Celine George Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Dec 10, 9:30 am	Mrs. Susan John Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Dec 17, 9:30 am	Mrs. Preetha Philip Parsonage

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday Schools Starts at 9:00AM

MALAYALAM CHOIR

Choir Practice Every Sunday After Worship Service

Young Families Fellowship

Event	Date & Time	Location
Fellowship Meeting	Fri, Dec 03, 7:30 pm	Mr. Ullas P. Thannickal New City, NY

CONDOLENCE

The brother-in-law of our member, Mr. Varghese Chacko, from 24 Leroy Place, 2nd Floor, Yonkers, NY, Mr. V.K. Samuel went to be with the Lord on October 27, 2010 in Kerala, at the age of 63. Funeral services was held in Kerala.

The mother of our member, Mrs. Annamma B. Thomas from Pomona, NY, as well as w/o late Mr. Mathai Mammen, Mrs. Thankamma Mammen went to be with the Lord on October 31, 2010, at the age of 83, in Kerala. Funeral services was held on November 4, 2010 at [2:30 pm at St. Mary's Orthodox church, Puthiacavu, Mavelikara](#)

The Mother of our former Vicar, Rev. P. E. Mathew, went to be with the Lord on Monday, November 22, 2010 in Kerala at the age of 83. Funeral Services was held in Kallopara on November 25, 2010.

We as a parish extend our deepest condolences and prayers to the bereaving families and friends. May the peace of Christ be with them and bring them comfort.

"I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears."

Psalm 34:4

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 2010

<u>Position</u>	<u>Full Name</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>
OFFICE BEARERS		
Vicar/President	Rev. Joseph Johnny	(914) 376-6530
Vice President	Mr. John C. Thomas	(914) 494-1931
Secretary	Mr. Ullas P Thannickal	(845) 638-8075
Treasurer	Mr. Raju P. Varghese	(845) 268-3647
Accountant	Mr. Samuel Ninan	(201) 692-0649
Lay Leader - Malayalam	Mr. K.G. Varghese	(914) 202-7093
Lay Leader - English	Mr. Blessen Kurian	(845) 352-3178

AREA PRAYER GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Manhattan/NJ	Mr. Samuel Easo	(201) 244-9805
Queens/LI	Mr. T.P. Jacob	(516) 365-3750
Rockland (Spring Valley)	Mr. Thomas John	(845) 426-1856
Rockland (Outside Spring Valley)	Mr. George Varkey	(845) 268-0812
Upper Westchester/CT	Mr. Kochummen Geevarghese	(914) 948-2363
Upper Westchester/CT	Mr. Mathew Abraham	(914) 939-8194
Yonkers East	Mr. Jacob Vaidian	(914) 337-2470
Yonkers North	Mr. K. C Thomas	(914) 963-3499
Yonkers South/Bronx	Mr. Thomas P. John	(914) 965-3979
Yonkers West	Mr. Mathew John	(914) 346-5859

MANDALAM & DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES

Sabha Mandalam	Mr. M. J. George	(914) 376-7185
Diocesan Representatives	Mr. John C. Thomas	(914) 494-1931
	Mr. P. T. Thomas	(845) 826-1110

ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Choir	Ms. Joseph Eapen	(914) 237-6594
Edavaka Mission	Mr. Thankachan GeeVarghese	(914) 939-0282
Sevika Sangham	Mrs. Sosamma Abraham	(845) 426-2327
Sunday School	Mr. Anil Abraham	(914) 202-9106
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Johnson J. Parayil	(914) 813-1032
Young Family Fellowship	Mr. John Abraham	(845) 634-9319
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Sunny P. Ninan	(845) 634-4925

AUDITORS

Mr. John P. Varghese	(914) 968-1126
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"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch of their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:8-11

If undelivered

Please return to:

St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church
34 Morris Street
Yonkers, NY 10705

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION

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