

Happy New Year

St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, NY

34 Morris Street, Yonkers, NY 10705
<http://www.stthomasmtc.org>

January



2012

Secretary:

Ullas P. Thannickal
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Vicar / President:

Rev Joseph Johnny
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WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

*Our Worship Services will be conducted downstairs
while the sanctuary is being renovated.*

Date	Time	Worship
Sun, Jan 1		No Service only Watch night service on 12/31/11
Sun, Jan 8	9:00 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Intercessory Prayer Holy Communion Service, English
Sun, Jan 15	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, English
Sun, Jan 22 Parish Day Celebration	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, Malayalam Parish Day (Public Meeting)
Sun, Jan 29	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, Malayalam

MAR THOMA SYRIAN CHURCH OF MALABAR LECTIONARY CHRISTIAN YEAR — 2012 JANUARY

Date	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel
Sun, Jan 1	Gen. 1:26-31	Heb. 6:13-30	Rom. 1:9-17	St. Luke. 1:26-32, 2:21
Sun, Jan 8	Dan. 1:1-21	Acts. 7:54-60	Acts. 6:1-7	St. Mat. 24:45-51
Sun, Jan 15	Micah. 4:1-7	Rom. 5:1-11	Eph. 2:11-19	St. Mat. 5:1-9
Sun, Jan 22	Isa. 60:1-14	2Pet. 1:1-11	Eph. 4:1-7	St. John. 17:21-26
Sun, Jan 29	Joel. 2:12-17	Rev. 2:12-17	Eph. 5:8-14	St. Luke. 13:1-5

IMPORTANT DAYS IN SABHA/DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Date	Importance of the Day
Sun, Jan 1	Evangelism: Reception into the Covenant Community, (Outside Kerala Mission)
Fri, Jan 6	Danha (Epiphany) Baptism of our Lord
Sun, Jan 8	St. Stephens Day
Sun, Jan 15	God of Peace
Jan 18-25	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Unity Octave)
Thu. Jan 26	Responsible Citizenship - Indian Republic Day
Sun, Jan 29	"Repent - Return"
Mon, Jan 30	Beginning of Nineveh Fast (Three Day Fast)

~Vicar's Message~

Dearly beloved in Christ,

I wish you all a very HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2011 witnessed amazing and unprecedented events that drastically changed the course of human history. It was a year of protest and resistance all over the world. We have seen people's movements against inhuman dictators and the dethronement of their oppressive regimes. We have heard about occupancy movements against social inequality and corporate greed and people's thirst for economic justice and civil rights. All over the world there is a growing sense of dissatisfaction over the existing systems and power structures and a deep passion and a craving for a better world. As St. Paul says in his letter to the Romans, "the whole creation is eagerly longing for the redemption of the children of God".

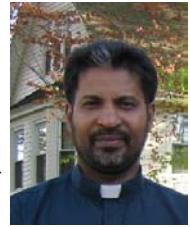
We are quite uncertain about the vivid and varied experiences that lie ahead of us. And we do not know what 2012 holds for us. But one thing we are certain, the one who holds our future is our sojourner. Yes, we are a people of hope. As John Stott defines, "hope is the joyful and confident expectation rooted on the promises of God." We hope for what we do not see and we wait for it with patience. (Rom.8: 25) We have innumerable promises to hold on, even in frightening situations and frustrating experiences. As we read in Isaiah 43:1 "But now, thus says the Lord, he who created you O Jacob, he who formed you O Israel: Do not fear for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." The following verses in that chapter assure us God's ever abiding presence and protection even when we go through deep waters and consuming fires of life.

LOVE THE LORD AND LIVE THE WORD is our theme for the year 2012 based on John 15: 10 "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love." We want to focus our attention on our Lord and the word of God in order to nurture our spiritual life. Our love towards our Lord must be reflected in our attitude and obedience to the word of God. It is our positive response to the word of God that decides the destiny of our life. Our obedience to the word of God is blessedness and our disregard and disrespect to the word will bring curse. (Read Deuteronomy 11:26)

This year let us make a concerted and earnest effort to study the word of God diligently and put them in to practice. I hope and pray that every member of the parish must resolve to read the Bible seriously and regularly with the intention to translate it in to our life situations and to imitate our Lord Jesus Christ. This will radically renew our spiritual life and revive and rejuvenate our parish from its slumber.

Yours in His Service,

Rev. Joseph Johnny
Vicar



AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

Area	Date & Time	Location
Yonkers South (McLean Ave) / Bronx	Sun, Jan 1, 4:30 pm	Mrs. Accamma Verghese Yonkers, NY
Manhattan/NJ	TBA	TBA
Upper West- chester / CT	TBA	TBA
Queens / Long Island	TBA	TBA
Rockland	TBA	TBA
Yonkers East (Central Ave)	Sat, Jan 21 6:30pm	Mr. Varghese Abraham Yonkers, NY
Yonkers West (Church- Riverdale)	TBA	TBA
Yonkers North (Broadway)	TBA	TBA

PARISH DAY 2012

**Celebrating 32 Years as a Parish
on Sunday, Jan 22, 2012**

Youth Fellowship **Dedication Night**

Date: January 1, 2012

Time: 5:30pm

Venue: At Church

Organizational Meetings

EDAVAKA MISSION

Prayer Meeting at Church every Wednesday at 7:00 PM
Except

Edavaka Mission	Date & Time	Location
Wednesday prayer	Wed, Jan 04, 7:00 pm	Mr. Abraham Koshy Pelham, NY

SEVIKA SANGHAM

Bible Study - 3rd Sunday at Church
Friday Prayer Meeting

Sevika Sangham	Date & Time	Location
Friday Prayer	Fri, Jan 6, 9:30 am	At Church
Friday Prayer	Fri, Jan 13 9:30am	Mrs. Santhamma George Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Jan 20, 9:30 am	Mrs. Thankamma John Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Jan 27, 9:30 am	Mrs. Susy Vaidian Yonkers, NY

MONTHLY FASTING PRAYER

Date & Time	Location
Sat, Jan 21, 10:00 am	Mr. Saju M. Alex Yonkers, NY

YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

Event	Date & Time	Location
Cottage Prayer	Fri, Jan 6 7:00pm	Mr. Suju Samuel Spring Valley, NY

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

Event	Date & Time	Location
Fellowship Mtg	Fri, Jan 6, 7:30pm	TBA

Senior Citizen Fellowship

Event	Date & Time	Location
Fellowship Meeting	Sun, Jan 8, Immediately after worship service	At Church

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday Schools Starts at 9:00AM every Sunday

Condolences

The uncle of our member, Mr. Josen Joseph, Captain A. T. Mathew was called to our Lord in Kerala on November 22, 2011 at the age 87. Funeral Service was held in Kerala, November 28, 2011.

The father-in-law of our member, Mr. P. T. Mathew, Mr. V. K. Kurian was called to our Lord on November 28, 2011 in Kerala. Funeral service was held in Kerala on December 1, 2011. Mr. V. K. Kurian was also the uncle of our former Vicar, Jojan Achen.

The uncle of our members, Mr. Mathew Varghese, Mrs. Sossamma Varghese, Mrs. Achamma Baby, & Mrs. Saramma Eapen, Mr. Chandy Varghese was called to our Lord on December 8, 2011 in Philadelphia at the age 71. Mr. Chandy Varghese was a member of Ascension MTC, Philadelphia. Wake was held at our church on Friday, December 9, 2011 and funeral service on December 10, 2011.

The mother of our member, Dr. Sam G. Cherian, residing in Connecticut, Mrs. Rohini George was called to our Lord on December 21, 2011, in Tennessee. Funeral Services was held on Saturday, December 24, 2011 in Memphis Funeral Home in Tennessee.

Please uphold all these families in your prayers.

We as a parish extend our deepest condolences to the bereaving family and friends. May the peace of Christ bring them comfort during this difficult time.

Youth Chaplain's Corner

Greetings in the name of One Triune God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Welcome to the Year 2012! A new year brings us so many possibilities and responsibilities. When I say new possibilities I mean we have more opportunities to witness Christ in this world. By responsibilities I mean that we need to become serious Christians who live with maturity and responsibly. We have freedom to do anything and everything in this world. No one can control us but as a Christian youth we need to practice responsibility for the freedom we receive. At this time we need to do a self-evaluation (remembering and thanking God) to see how God was faithful to us in the past year. As the Psalmist say in 116:3-4, "What shall I render to the LORD For all His benefits toward me? I shall lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the LORD." This past month was packed with so many exciting and challenging programs organized by many of our youth fellowships and region. I give thanks to God for His providence in conducting the Fall One Day Conference at Epiphany Mar Thoma Church. Bible study, main talks, group discussion, worship and praise sessions, all were deeply moving and beneficial to all those who participated in it. During the advent season St. Thomas MTC Youth Fellowship did a 25-day advent video devotion. Different Advent-related biblical passages were exposed by our Youths and indeed as Indian – American Christian Youths our unique perspectives were challenging and a blessing to all. These videos can be viewed in their Youth website <http://www.stmtcyf.org/>. I participated with Staten Island MTC Youth Fellowship volunteering at a community outreach project called *Project Help* with food pantry. All the youths who participated in this project came to know the needs and challenges NYC homeless population and poor faces in everyday lives. Similarly St. John's MTC youths distributed lunch bags to homeless population in NYC. Also St. James MTC YF cleaned the yards of few elderly people in the Rockland area. On a different note, some of our youth members are faced with some health crisis. Health is a precious gift from God. When confronted with health problems, let us be reminded that God is the greatest healer and He is still in control of us. This month our church is observing a liturgical festival called Epiphany (January 6th). The word Epiphany means "Showing forth," "manifestation," or "revelation." During this special liturgical celebration the church commemorates the *first* Christ's manifestation to the gentiles as the promised Messiah. My prayer is that God may enable us to walk in His glory all the days of our lives. May God bless you all and have a blessed New Year.

Youth Chaplain's January 2012 Schedule:

1st Sunday	Long Island Mar Thoma Church
2nd Sunday	National Youth Leadership Conference, Florida MTC
3rd Sunday	St. James Mar Thoma Church
4th Sunday	St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church
5 th Sunday	St. John's Mar Thoma Church

*Individual parish Youth Fellowship Bible studies throughout the month

Weekly Bible Study:

When: Every Thursday

Time: 8:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M

Where: Youth Chaplain's Parsonage- 194 Bregman Ave, New Hyde Park, NY, 11040

Contact: 516-437-0425 or bsimonachen@gmail.com

Events of the Region:

-*Diocesan Youth Leadership Conference: January 5-8, 2012 at St. Mark's MTC, Tampa, Florida*

-*Young Women's Conference at Long Island MTC: December 14, 2012- 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.*

For details contact Convener: Mrs. Sarah Jacob at LIMTC.Sarah.Jacob@barclayscapital.com

-*Fifth Sunday Common Holy Qurbana at St. John's Mar Thoma Church – January 29th, 2012 8:30 AM.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 2012

<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. Varughese	(845) 269-3647
Accountant	Mr. Samuel Ninan	(201) 692-0649
Lay Leader - Malayalam	Mr. John P. Varghese	(914) 939-0064
Lay Leader - English	Mr. Blessen Kurian	(845) 352-3178

AREA PRAYER GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Manhattan/NJ	Mr. Jacob M. Varghese	(201) 384-0041
Queens/LI	Mr. Kuruvilla T. Abraham	(516) 326-8461
Rockland (Spring Valley)	Mr. M. C. Chacko	(845) 356-1848
Rockland (Outside Spring Valley)	Mr. Sabu George	(845) 570-2005
Upper Westchester/CT	Mrs. Cheruthone Mathai	(203) 797-1076
Upper Westchester/CT	Mr. Geevarghese Kochummen	(914) 948-2363
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. Yohannan Yohannan	(914) 476-0217

MANDALAM & DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES

Sabha Mandalam	Mr. John K. Mathew	(516) 328-1027
Diocesan Representatives	Mr. John Abraham	(845) 634-9319
	Mr. Sunny P. Ninan	(845)634-4925

ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Choir		
Edavaka Mission	Mr. K. G. Varghese	(914) 202-7093
Sevika Sangham	Mrs. Sosamma Abraham	(845) 426-2327
Sunday School	Mr. T. P. Jacob	(516) 365-3750
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Litten Thomas	(845) 290-9962
Young Family Fellowship	Mr. Sunil M. Varughese	(845) 268-3647
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Biju P. Varughese	(845) 268-0887

AUDITORS

Mr. P. C. Chacko	(914) 934-8680
Mr. George M. Varkey	(845) 268-0812

If undelivered

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION

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



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