


# St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, NY

34 Morris Street, Yonkers, NY 10705

<http://www.stthomasmtc.org>

*Mar*  *2012*

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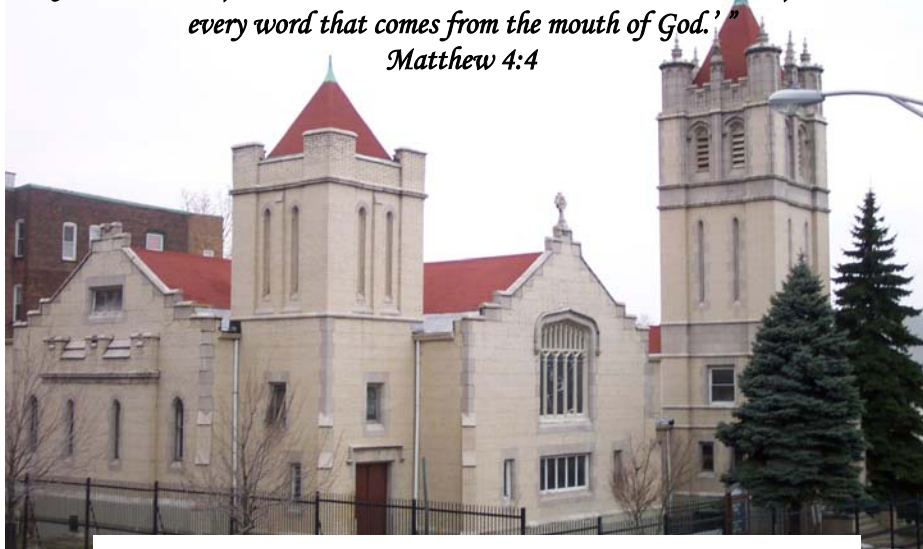
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*Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"*

*Matthew 4:4*



**NEWSLETTER VOL. XXXII NO. 3**

## WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Worship
Sun, Mar 4	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b>	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b>English</b>
Sun, Mar 11	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b>	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Intercessory Prayer Holy Communion Service, <b>English</b>
Sun, Mar 18	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b>	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b>Malayalam</b>
Sun, Mar 25	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b>	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b>Malayalam</b>
Fri, Mar 30	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>40th Friday:</b> Holy Communion Service, <b>Malayalam</b>

## MAR THOMA SYRIAN CHURCH OF MALABAR LECTIONARY CHRISTIAN YEAR — 2012 MARCH

Date	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel
Sun, Mar 4	Isa. 1:1-20	1 John. 1:5-26	Heb. 9:24-28	St. Mark. 2:1-12
Sun, Mar 11	Isa. 45:1-8	Acts. 16: -15	Gal. 2:11-21	St. Mat. 15:21-28
Sun, Mar 18	Isa. 59:9-21	Rom. 8:31-39	Eph. 6:10-20	St. Luke. 13:1-17
Sun, Mar 25	Isa. 41:1-9	Acts. 16:19-34	2Cor.11:18-28	St. Mark.10:46-52
Fri, Mar 30	Num. 21:4-9	1 Cor. 1:18-31	Gal. 6:11-16	St. Mat. 4:1-11

## IMPORTANT DAYS IN SABHA/DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Date	Importance of the Day
Fri, Mar 2	World Day of Prayer
Sun, Mar 4	Jesus who absolves our Sin (3rd Sunday in Lent)
Sun, Mar 11	The Zeal of Faith (4th Sunday in Lent)
Wed, Mar 14	Mid Lent - Salvation in Christ
Sun, Mar 18	Restoration through Worship (5th Sunday in Lent)
Sun, Mar 25	Annunciation to Virgin Mary Messiah: Fulfillment of the promise (36th Sunday)
Fri, Mar 30	40th Friday— Victory over Temptation through the Word of God

# ~Vicar's Message~



Dearly beloved in Christ,

We are in the Lent season. Even fasting has become a fashion today. Any abstinence that does not touch our heart and renew our life and attitude is of no avail. We live in a world of perversions - perversion of life's values and age-old virtues. The mark of today's society is the principle of convenience based on selfish practical ethics. 'Everyone is pursuing 'what is convenient to me, what is comfortable to me and what is profitable to me' without counting the social cost.

During the lent season we meditate the life and sacrifice of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Our fasting and lent observation is meant to make internal spiritual change for our life. We need a radical, positive change in our relationship with God and our fellow beings

*"One should get the priorities right before observing lent. Lent is not a time when we just cut our weight; lent is not just a time to look good and healthy outside. Rather lent is a time to accept everyone as they are, lent is a time when we stop judging, lent is an opportunity to feel beautiful inside and make others feel the same way, lent is a time to be natural, normal and moderate"* (Fr. Jerry Kuriakos) Isaiah 58 gives a vivid picture of lent observation, its aberration and God's expectation from the people of God. Lord ridicules and rebukes the perverted ways of fasting of the people of Israel. "Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for people to humble themselves? Is it only for bowing one's head like a reed and for lying in sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?" (Verse 5) God expect something creative, something positive from our fasting and that is nothing else but justice and righteousness. As prophet Isaiah continues with deep passion as mark of fasting - to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked and to provide shelter to the wanderer.

As a small group we cannot combat all the problems that the world is facing. But as a faith community we have the bounden responsibility to address the issues of our society responsibly as we are the watchdogs of the community. What God has given us, as His blessings need to be shared with those in need. During the Lent season we as a parish is attempting to raise an amount from our fasting to provide shelter to some of our less privileged brothers and sisters in Christ. I appeal all of you to participate in this project heartily and sincerely, yes out of our love towards our Lord.

With prayerful regards, and lots of love, yours in His ministry

Rev. Joseph Johnny  
Vicar



## **MARCH AREA PRAYER MEETINGS**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Manhattan / New Jersey	TBA	TBA
Yonkers South (McLean Ave) / Bronx	Sun, Mar 4 6:30pm	Mr. Thomas Chacko Yonkers, NY
Upper West- chester / CT	Sat, Mar 10 6:30pm	Mr. Johnson S. Parayil Pelham, NY
Queens / Long Island	Sun, Mar 11, 6:30 pm	Mr. John K. Mathew New Hyde Park, NY
Yonkers East (Central Ave	TBA	TBA
Rockland	TBA	TBA
Yonkers West (Church- Riverdale)	Sat, Mar 24 6:30pm	Rev. Joseph Johnny Yonkers, NY
Yonkers North (Broadway)	Sun, Mar 25 6:30pm	Mr. Samuel K. Samuel Dobbs Ferry, NY

## **MONTHLY FASTING PRAYER**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Monthly Fasting Prayer	Sat, Mar 3, 11:00 am	Mr. V. P. Abraham Bethlehem, PA

# March Evening Lent Prayers

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Evening Lent Prayer	Thu, Mar 01, 7:00 pm	Mr. K. M. Thomas Spring Valley, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Fri, Mar 02, 7:00 pm	Mr. K. G. Varghese Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Mon, Mar 05, 7:00 pm	Mrs. Lilly S. Mathew New City, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Tue, Mar 06, 7:00 pm	Mr. Daniel P. K. Vaidyan Hartsdale, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Wed, Mar 07, 7:00 pm	Mr. Abraham Koshy Pelham, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Thu, Mar 08, 7:00 pm	Mr. Thomas P. John Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Fri, Mar 09, 7:00 pm	Mr. T. P. Jacob Manhasset Hills, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Mon, Mar 12, 7:00 pm	Mr. Koshy Abraham Nanuet, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Tue, Mar 13, 7:00 pm	Mr. P. John Joseph Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Wed, Mar 14, 7:00 pm	Dr. T. M. Thomas Suffern, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Thu, Mar 15, 7:00 pm	Mr. John A. Thomas Yonkers, NY

# March Evening Lent Prayers

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Evening Lent Prayer	Fri, Mar 16, 7:00 pm	Mr. John P. Varghese Port Chester, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Mon, Mar 19, 7:00 pm	Dr. Grinu Philips Oommen New Rochelle, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Tue, Mar 20, 7:00 pm	Mrs. Accamma Verghese Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Wed, Mar 21, 7:00 pm	Mr. Yohannan Yohannan Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Thu, Mar 22, 7:00 pm	Mr. Saji Varughese Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Fri, Mar 23, 7:00 pm	Dr. Thomas David Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Mon, Mar 26, 7:00 pm	Mr. P. C. Chacko Portchester, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Tue, Mar 27, 7:00 pm	Mr. Joseph Eapen Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Wed, Mar 28, 7:00 pm	Mr. Thomas Varghese Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Thu, Mar 29, 7:00 pm	Mr. Raju P. Varughese Congers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Sat, Mar 31, 7:00 pm	Mr. Abraham George Yonkers, NY

# Organizational Meetings

## EDAVAKA MISSION

Prayer Meeting at Church every Wednesday at 7:00PM

## SEVIKA SANGHOM

Bible Study - 3rd Sunday at Church

### Friday Prayer Meeting

Sevika Sanghom	Date & Time	Location
Friday Prayer	Fri, Mar 2, 9:30 am	Mrs. Sosamma Abraham Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Mar 9 9:30 am	Mrs. Marykutty Thomas Pomona, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Mar 16, 9:30 am	Mrs. Rachel Thomas Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Mar 23, 9:30 am	Mrs. Jaya S. Varughese Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Mar 30, 9:30 am	Mrs. Joyce Abraham Pelham, NY

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday Schools Starts at 9:00AM every Sunday

## Senior Citizens Fellowship

2nd Sunday, March 11, 2012 after worship service

## Young Families Fellowship

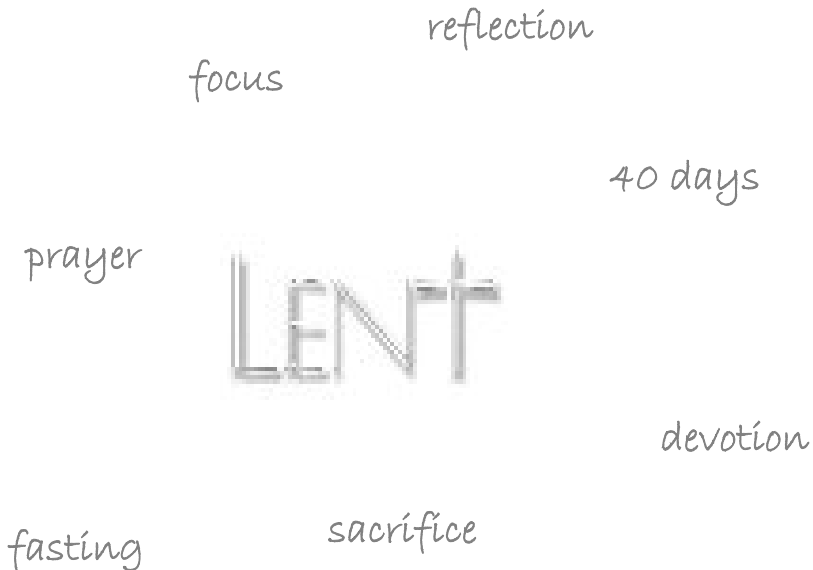
Event	Date & Time	Location
Cottage Prayer	TBA	TBA

# YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

Event	Date & Time	Location
Cottage Prayer	TBA	TBA

## Birth Annoucement

Joshua Cheruthone Mathew, born to parents,  
Rajesh and Bini Mathew.  
Congratulations to the proud parents and grandparents.





## **Youth Chaplain's Corner- March 2012**

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

As many of our Youths are journeying with Christ during this Great Lent season, God is inviting all of us to practice self- denial, reconciliation and renewal for a spiritual transformation during this liturgical season. Jesus Christ gave his *Young adult years* of life for the Kingdom of God. The 40-day fasting in the wilderness enabled Jesus Christ for this great mission in his life. After the 40-day lent, St. Luke 4:14 reads that "Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee." In order to be filled with Spirit we are also exhorted to follow the model of Jesus Christ during Lent. Wilderness in the biblical times represented loneliness, resistance, communion with God, solitude, and place of withdrawal and renewal. What does wilderness in our lives mean to us? After each wilderness there is a mission to be carried out. May God strengthen our Youths to carry out God's mission in the North American continent. In the month of February there were many youth events. We were able to rejoice in the NY Giants' victory of super bowl. Some of our Youth groups watched the game together for fellowship. Linsanity – of NY Knicks became a huge sensation; one of our Youth fellowship members told me, "finally a Christian guy with Ivy League education is making a difference in the NBA, this is a good role model to follow", indeed this shows that our youths with good education and skills can contribute positively for the witnessing of God in this world. Prison Ministry Workshop was held at the Long Island MTC, youth fellowship members were represented in this program. The Spring One Day conference is coming up soon in April, please pray for the hosting parish St. John's MTC. During this conference a regional general body of the Youth Fellowship is scheduled to be held to pass the report and accounts from 2011 and present the Budget for 2012. Please continue to keep our Youth ministry in your prayers.

### **Youth Chaplain's March 2012 Schedule:**

1st Sunday      Diocesan Pulpit exchange - St. Mark's MTC

2nd Sunday      St. Andrews MTC

3rd Sunday      Long Island MTC

4th Sunday      St. Paul's MTC

\*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:** 516-437-0425/516- 532-6115 or [bsimonachen@gmail.com](mailto:bsimonachen@gmail.com)

### **Regional Event:**

#### **Spring One- Day Conference**

**When:** April 7, 2012 **Where:** St. John's Mar Thoma Church, Queens Village, NY

**Time:** 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM; Registration Begins @ 8:30 AM - \$10 (Lunch \snacks)

*Note: Diocesan Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius will be the chief guest and a send off meeting for the Achens transferred from the North East Region will be held.*