

# St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, NY

34 Morris Street, Yonkers, NY 10705

<http://www.stthomasmtc.org>

*October*



**2012**

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**NEWSLETTER VOL. XXXII NO. 10**

## WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Worship
Sun, Oct 7	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b>Malayalam</b> <b>Edavaka Mission Sunday</b> <b>Rev. Johnson Varghese</b>
Sun, Oct 14	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Intercessory Prayer Praise & Worship, <b>English</b>
Sun, Oct 21	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b>English</b>
Sun, Oct 28	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b>Malayalam</b>

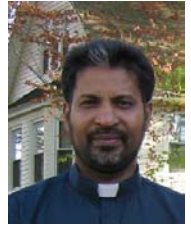
## MAR THOMA SYRIAN CHURCH OF MALABAR LECTIONARY

Date	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel
Sun, Oct 7	2 Kings.5:1-14	2 Cor. 2: 12-17	1 Tim. 1:12-16	St. John. 1:35-42
Sun, Oct 14	2 Sam. 9: 1-13	Heb.12: 12-17	Acts. 3:1-10	St. Mat. 15:25-31
Sun, Oct 21	Eccl. 11:9-12	Heb. 12:1-11	1 Tim. 4:6-16	St. Luke.18:18-25
Sun, Oct 28	Gen. 1:20-31	Acts. 10:1-8	Eph. 5:21-32	St. Mat. 10:1-12

## IMPORTANT DAYS IN SABHA/DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Date	Importance of the Day
Sun, Oct 7	Voluntary Evangelist's Day– Readiness to share the Gospel
Sun, Oct 14	Day of the People with Special Skills. Activeness in the midst of limitations.
Sun, Oct 21	Youth Sunday—Matured Youth-hood (21st Sunday after Pentecost)
Sun, Oct 28	Christina Family Dedication Day—Family: A Divine Gift

# ~Vicar's Message~



Dearly beloved in Christ,

Understanding the trends and challenges of our time is very essential for a meaningful living. Somebody has said about this period and the priorities of our generation as follows:

“Wealth without work;  
Pleasure with out conscience;  
Knowledge without character;  
Commerce without morality;  
Science with out humanity;  
Politics without principle and  
Religion without sacrifice.”



As followers of Christ we have to live with integrity and sincerity inculcating the values of the Kingdom of God. Life is probably the most important theme of Jesus' teaching. For many, life is merely a biological existence, but for Jesus, it is more than that. Jesus taught us about abundant life and eternal life as authentic life - as life in relation with God. Our attitudes and behavior, reactions and responses must always be set in the larger context of eternal life and with higher values of the Kingdom of God.

Last month we were able to celebrate the Senior Citizens day. We reflected on the theme 'Old age with a grace'. For many people old age is a burden and a matter of great concern and anxieties. Life will become miserable when we fail to accept changes that happen to our physical and emotional realms. Acceptance of change and adjustments in life makes life a blessing. The Bible perceives old age as an experience of God's blessings. "With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation." (Ps.91: 16) "Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained in the way of righteousness." (Proverbs 16:31)

We have meditated upon the lives of Simeon and Anna who were in the Lord's temple to greet baby Jesus as examples of graceful living in old age. They led a spirit filled life, a life of contentment and fulfillment. Withstanding is a key word that needs to be meditated in this regard. It is the ability to outlive the calamities of life. Withstanding is living without losing hope even when we go through very difficult and insurmountable experiences of life. Anna, when she lost her principal means of support, at a very early age, spent time in the temple, worshipping the Lord, fasting and prayer, night and day.

We are planning to have our Parish Family Retreat during the second week of October. It is my earnest request to all the members to find time to attend this very important event of the parish. Retreat is a time of reflection, a time of introspection and self-examination, and of course, a time for renewing our relationships. If we prayerfully participate the sessions, I am sure, we will be blessed and our parish life will be rejuvenated by radically changing our spiritual life.

With love and best wishes,

Rev. Joseph Johnny  
Vicar



## Area Prayer Meetings

Area	Date & Time	Location
Manhattan / New Jersey	TBA	TBA
Yonkers South (McLeanAve) / Bronx/ NJ	Sun, Oct 7, 6:30pm	Mrs. Marykutty Varghese Yonkers, NY
Upper West- chester / CT	Fri, Oct 12 6:30pm	Mr. Thomas Samuel Pelham, NY
Queens / Long Island	TBA	TBA
Yonkers East (Central Ave)	Sat, Oct 20, 7:00pm	Sam V. Kuruvilla Ardsley, NY
Rockland	Sun, Oct 21 6:30pm	Mr. George John New City, NY
Yonkers West (Church- Riverdale)	Sat, Oct 27 7:00pm	Mr. Yohannan Yohannan Yonkers, NY
Yonkers North (Broadway)	Sun, Oct 28 6:30pm	Mr. Aju Puthenveedu Daniel Yonkers, NY

## Monthly Fasting Prayer

Event	Date & Time	Location
Monthly Fasting Prayer	Sat, Oct 20, 10:00am	Mr. John Kurian Spring Valley, NY

# Organizational Meetings

## Sevika Sangham

**Bible Study - 3rd Sunday at Church**

### **Friday Prayer Meeting**

Sevika Sangham	Date & Time	Location
Friday Prayer	Fri, Oct 5, 10:00 am	Mrs. Susy Vaidian Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Oct 12, 10:00 am	Mrs. Sosamma Abraham Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Oct 19, 10:00 pm	Mrs. Aleyamma E. Chacko Portchester, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Oct 26, 10:00 am	Mrs. Jessy Kuruvilla Ardsley, NY

## Edavaka Mission

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

**Except:**

Prayer Meeting	Date & Time	Location
Wednesday Prayer	Wed, Oct 3 7:00 pm	Mr. Abraham Koshy Pelham, NY

## Young Families

Event	Date & Time	Location
Cottage Prayer	TBA	TBA

## Yuvajana Sakhyam

Event	Date & Time	Location
Cottage Prayer	TBA	TBA

# Youth Fellowship

Event	Date & Time	Location
Weekly Meeting	Every Sunday After service	Held in the Chapel
Bible Study	TBA	Will be announced or e-mailed each week

## Sunday School

**Starts every Sunday at 9:00 am**

### **Sunday School Teachers List 2012-2013**

#### Nursery

Mrs. Shiji M Thomas  
Mrs. Shyla Varghese

#### Kindergarten

Ms. Meril Rajan

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Mrs. Leena Daniel  
Mr. Jason Thomas

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Ms. Sherlyn Verghese  
Mrs. Jasmine Thomas

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Mrs. Betsy Chacko  
Ms. Anu Varghese

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Ms. Listy Joseph  
Mrs. Ansu Kurian

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Dr. Koshy Koshy Jr.  
Mrs. Ranjini Zachariah

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Ms. Ancy Thomas  
Ms. Shana Samuel  
Mr. Nobin Vaidian

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mrs. Soni Verghese  
Mrs. Anissa Kurian

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mrs. Sini Alex  
Mrs. Nisha Jereesh  
Mrs. Shiby George

#### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mrs. Suja Thannickal  
Mr. Thomas Varghese

#### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mrs. Elizabeth Abraham  
Mr. Blessen Kurian

#### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mr. Saju Alex

#### 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mr. Kochumon GeeVarghese  
Mr. Thomas Samuel  
Mr. Mathew Zachariah

# Youth Chaplin's Corner

## Worshiper not a follower

**Key verse: Isaiah 1:14** Your New Moon festivals and your appointed feasts my soul hates. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.

When we read Isaiah 1:10-20, what a humiliating shock the people must have had when they heard Isaiah compare the holy city of Jerusalem to the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah! The disgusting thing about this rebellious people is that they were also a religious people. They attended the temple services and brought a multitude of sacrifices to the Lord, but their hearts were far from God and their worship was hypocritical. Sacrifices alone can never please God, for along with the outward observance, God wants inward obedience, a broken heart, and a godly walk. Judah's worship of Jehovah was iniquity, not piety, and God was sick of it! Instead of lifting up "holy hands" in prayer (1 Tim 2:8), their hands were stained with blood because of their many sins.

The average church allocates about 5 percent of its budget for reaching others with the Gospel, but 30 percent for buildings and maintenance. At a time when the poor and the aged are pleading for help, churches are spending huge amounts a year on new construction. Where churches have life and growth, such construction may be needed, but too often the building becomes "a millstone instead of a milestone," Isaiah didn't stop with the diagnosis but also gave the prescription, because he wanted Judah to be a righteous people. Instead of pronouncing judgment, the Judge offered pardon! If they would cleanse themselves by repenting and turning from sin (vv. 16-17) then God would wipe the record clean in response to their faith (Isa 1:18). God had every reason to punish His people for their sins but in His grace and mercy He offered them His pardon.

Prophet is very clear in his message by saying that the worship life and daily should go parallel. But today we all worship God with a hand full of blood and with wrong ways of life where we do not do justice to the widow orphan and the poor. God cannot accept our prayers in such worship. So the religious life should promote and ensures a daily spiritual life with justice and peace. "Worship changes the worshipper into the image of one who is worshipped". If the worshipper is not transformed to the image of the one who is worshipped bible says it is a futile attempt. Worshipers are increasing and the disciples are decreasing. We have to encounter this paradox in today's world and let us submit to His Hands to become the image of God.

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

**2012 Parish Retreat Registration Form**

*Theme: Love the Lord, Live the Word*

*"If you obey my commands, you will remain in my Love", John 15:10*

**Dates:** October 12-14<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Speaker:** *Rev. V. M. Mathew*

*(Youth Chaplin for North-East Region)*

**Venue:** Montrose Bible Conference

5 Locust Street, Montrose, PA 18801-1112

[www.montrosebible.org](http://www.montrosebible.org)

**Primary Name (HOH)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Insurance Company:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Policy No:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Request If any (Diet, Medical, etc):**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\$ Price Per Person \$**

<b>Ages :</b>	Above 18	Teens 13-18	Ages 7-12	Ages 3-6	2 and Under
<b>Price \$ :</b>	\$156	\$60	\$40	\$30	FREE

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Price/Person</i>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$</b>

**Check No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Paid**



*Love is patient. Love is kind.  
It does not envy. It does not boast.  
It is not proud. It is not rude.  
It is not self-seeking. It is not easily angered.  
It keeps no record of wrong doing.  
It does not delight in evil, but rejoices in the truth.  
It always protects, trusts, hopes, perseveres.  
1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

## Condolences

The brother of our member Mr. Kurian Varghese, Mr. Joy Kurian was called to our Lord on August 21, 2012 at the age of 66 in Kerala, India. Funeral service was held in Kerala.

The sister of our member Mrs. Aleyamma Chacko (Rockland), Mrs. Mariamma Mathew was called to our Lord at the age of 77 in Kerala India on August 22, 2012. Funeral services were conducted in Kerala.

The paternal uncle of our member, Mr. Jacob M. Varghese (Jiby), Mr. Abraham Mathew was called to our Lord in Kerala at the age of 65 on September 2, 2012. Funeral service was held in Kerala.

Please uphold these grieving families in your daily prayers.

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

*“The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.” Nahum 1:7*

# **2012 Christmas House Caroling Schedule**

**Saturday, December 1,———-Queens/Long Island**

**Sunday, December 2,——-Rockland (outside Spring Valley)**

**Saturday, December 8,——Rockland (Spring Valley)**

**Sunday, December 9,———Yonkers South/Bronx**

**Friday December 14,———-Yonkers North**

**Saturday, December 15,———-Connecticut**

**Sunday, December 16,—Upper Westchester/ Connecticut**

**Friday, December 21,———--Yonkers East**

**Saturday, December 22,——-Manhattan/New Jersey**

**Sunday, December 23,———Yonkers West**

Any questions or concerns, please contact the convener  
Mr. Josen Joseph.