

# St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, NY

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

*February*  **2013**

**Secretary:**

Ullas P. Thannickal  
Ph: (845) 638-8075  
Email: [stmtcsec@optonline.net](mailto:stmtcsec@optonline.net)

**Vicar / President:**

**Rev Joseph Johnny**  
Home: (914) 376-6530  
Email: [revjosephjohnney@yahoo.com](mailto:revjosephjohnney@yahoo.com)



**NEWSLETTER VOL. XXXIII NO. 2**

## WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Worship
Sun, Feb 3	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b>English</b>
Sun, Feb 10	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Intercessory Prayer Holy Communion Service, <b>English</b>
Sun, Feb 17	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b>Malayalam</b>
Sun, Feb 24	9:30 am 10:30 am	Praise & Worship (Malayalam), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b>Malayalam</b>

## MAR THOMA SYRIAN CHURCH OF MALABAR LECTIONARY CHRISTIAN YEAR — 2013 FEBRUARY

Date	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel
Sun, Feb 3	2 Kings 10:1-11	Acts 3:1-10	Jam. 5:13-19	St. Mark. 7:31-37
Sun, Feb 10	Isa. 1:10-20	Rom. 12:1-8	Eph. 2:1-10	St. John. 2:1-11
Sun, Feb 17	2 Kings. 5: 1-14	1 John. 2:15-17	Phile. 8-17	St. Mark. 1:40-45
Sun, Feb 24	Num. 12:1-16	Acts. 16:11-18	Rom. 7:15-24	St. Mark. 2:1-12

## IMPORTANT DAYS IN SABHA/DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Date	Importance of the Day
Sat, Feb 2	Mayaltho: Presentation/Entry of Our Lord in the Temple
Sun, Feb 3	Healing of Body Mind and Soul through Christ— Medical Mission Sunday
Sun, Feb 10	Pethurtha-Begning of Great Len— 118th Maramon. Convention Begins- “ You will be my witnesses”
Mon, Feb 11	Shubkono—Service of Reconciliation in Great Lent
Sun Feb 17	Lent: Feeling the Touch of Christ—118th Maramon
Sun, Feb 24	Healing through Forgiveness of Sins (3rd Sunday in Lent)

# ~Vicar's Message~

Dearly beloved in Christ,

An old man was selling toys at the market in Bagdad. His buyers, knowing that he had weak sight, would sometime pay him fake coins. The old man noticed the trick but did not say anything. In his prayers he asked God to forgive those who had tricked him.

“Perhaps they don’t have much money and want to buy gift for their children” he would say to himself. Time passed by and the man died. Standing before the portal of Paradise, he prayed once again. “Lord”, he said, “I am a sinner. I did many things wrong. I am no better than the fake coins I was given. Forgive me”. On that moment the gate opened and a voice said, “What should I forgive? How can I judge someone who had never judged anyone throughout his life” (From Paulo Coelho stories)



The fifty days Great Lent begins on February 10. These are days for fasting and prayer and a time for a genuine introspection. Let us sincerely examine our life and correct our ways. 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 fellowship with God and our relationship fellow beings. Many times we are haste to judge others and even condemn others on the basis of our false and irrational perceptions of other people and their actions. But if we can understand others and their frame of reference we will be able to forgive them and love them. Lent meditations are intended for a change of attitude and life. Let us earnestly pray and eagerly attempt to make changes in our life during these days.

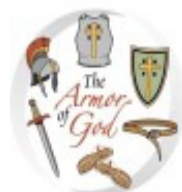
“One should get the priorities right before observing lent. Lent is not a time when we just cut our weight; lent is not just a time to look good and healthy outside. Rather lent is a time to accept everyone as they are, lent is a time when we stop judging, lent is an opportunity to feel beautiful inside and make others feel the same way, lent is a time to be natural, normal and moderate” (Fr. Jerry Kuriakos)

As a parish we are arranging Lent meditation and prayer meetings at various houses beginning from February 10 concluding with a renewal convention led by Dr. Martin Alphones. I wish that these meetings would benefit all our members. As was our previous practice, I request you to set apart a portion of your material blessings (for example, a dollar a day by each member of the family), the proceeds could be used for the uplift of the less advantaged sections of the society.

*Dear Jesus of Mercy, the strength of the fasting, the hope of the suffering, the help of the faltering and the power of the dying have pity on me.*

Yours in His Service,

Rev. Joseph Johnny  
Vicar



## **EVENING LENT & AREA PRAYER**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Manhattan/NJ	Sat, Feb 2 6:00pm	Mr. Varkey Uthup New Milford, NJ
Yonkers South (McLean Ave) / Bronx	Sun, Feb 3 6:30pm	Mr. Thomas Chacko Yonkers, NY
Upper Westchester / CT	Sat, Feb 9 6:30pm	Mr. Geevarghese Kochumman White Plains, NY
Queens / Long Island	Sat, Feb 9 11:00am	Mr. John K. Mathew Somerset, NJ
Yonkers East (Central Ave)	Sun, Feb 10 6:00pm	Mr. Varghese A. Thomas Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Mon, Feb 11 6:00pm	Mr. K. G. Varghese Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Tue, Feb 12 6:00pm	Mr. Joseph C. Jacob Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Wed, Feb 13 6:00pm	Mr. P. C. George Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Thu, Feb 14 6:00pm	Mr. Joseph Eapen Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Fri, Feb 15 6:00pm	Mr. Thomas Oommen East Meadow, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Sat, Feb 16 6:00pm	Mr. Josen Joseph Yonkers, NY
Rockland	Sun, Feb 17 6:30pm	Mr. George M. Varkey Valley Cottage, NY

<b>Area</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Evening Lent Prayer	Mon, Feb 18 6:00pm	Mr. M. J. George Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Tue, Feb 19 6:00pm	TBA
Evening Lent Prayer	Wed, Feb 20 6:00pm	Dr. T. M. Thomas Suffern, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Thu, Feb 21 6:00pm	Mr. Philip Kayalvarathu North White Plains, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Fri, Feb 22 6:00pm	Mr. Shaji Varghese Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Sat, Feb 23 6:00pm	Mr. Mathew Varghese Yonkers, NY
Yonkers North (Broadway)	Sun, Feb 24 6:30pm	Mr. Aju Puthenveedu Daniel Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Mon, Feb 25 6:00pm	Mr. K. M. Thomas Spring Valley, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Tue, Feb 26 6:00pm	Mr. Binu K. Abraham New City, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Wed, Feb 27 6:00pm	Mr. Thomas Varghese Yonkers, NY
Evening Lent Prayer	Thu, Feb 28 6:00pm	Mr. John A. Thomas Yonkers, NY

## MONTHLY FASTING PRAYER

Event	Date & Time	Location
Monthly Fasting Prayer	Sat, Feb 23 10:00am	Mr. Thomas P. John Yonkers, NY

## EDAVAKA MISSION

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

Edavaka Mission	Date & Time	Location
Wednesday prayer	Wed, Feb 6, 7:00 pm	Mr. Abraham Koshy Pelham, NY

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday Schools Starts at 9:00AM every Sunday

## SEVIKA SANGHAM

**Bible Study - 3rd Sunday at Church  
Friday Prayer Meeting**

Sevika Sangham	Date & Time	Location
Friday Prayer	Fri, Feb 1, 10:00 am	Mrs. Sosamma Varghese Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Feb 8 10:00 am	Mrs. Mariamma C Thomas Yonkers, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Feb 15, 10:00 am	Mrs. Susan John Port Chester, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Feb 22, 10:00 am	Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas Yonkers, NY

## **Youth Chaplain's Corner**

### **Lent: a time of disciplining**

Once again we are approaching the great lent which our church observes during the 50 days till the Easter Sunday. Why do we observe lent? What is the significance of participating in the observance of great lent? Lent has numerous nuances and aims but I just want to focus on only one aspect of the lent; that is discipline. Our Lord Jesus before His public ministry took 40 days and nights preparing and disciplining him for the great task which was entrusted on him. Moses before his Mission to Egypt took a time in the wilderness to prepare and discipline him; there he received the commissioning of God.

In our busy scheduled days do we have a time to prepare and discipline ourselves? Do we agree to the necessity to be prepared and disciplined spiritually and physically? I believe it is mandatory to every believer to separate some time in a year preparing and disciplining them. This preparation and disciplining is essential for everyone who wants to have a solemn spiritual life. If one wants to achieve something or arrive a certain level he/she needs preparation and discipline.

Discipline is what modern believers need the most but wants the least. Much of the restlessness and the instability in the lives of many Christians can be traced to the basic fault of an undisciplined way of life. There may be other secondary causes, but somewhere behind all of them is a fundamental need for discipline.

No-one can become genuinely holy, whatever experience he may have had, unless he is disciplined in all areas of daily living. The advantage that a human with a disciplined life has will be seen not only in greater holiness and spirituality, but also in greater efficiency and effectiveness in everything that he does for the Lord. The strong disciplined character of Madam Guyon enabled her, even when imprisoned in a filthy French prison for many years (in the 17th century), to rise above her surroundings in her spirit, and to write:

"My cage confines me round, Abroad I cannot fly. But though my wing is closely bound, My heart's at liberty. My prison walls cannot control  
The flight and freedom of my soul."

There is tremendous spiritual power in such a life".

Let our lent this year, would be a time of disciplining and preparing ourselves for the next one year. Let us discipline ourselves in our relationship with God and with others by disciplining our spiritual life by saying NO to certain things and saying YES to certain things as a part of disciplining ourselves. Let this lent be an experience of personal discipline and preparation for a matured spiritual life and a journey with Christ.

V. M. Mathew achen  
Youth Chaplain.

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 2013

## Position

## Full Name

## Home Phone

### **OFFICE BEARERS**

Vicar/President	Rev. Joseph Johnny	(914) 376-6530
Vice President	Mr. Geevarghese Kochumman	(914) 948-2363
Secretary	Mrs. Bindu Shiju Mathews	(917) 257-4602
Treasurer	Mr. Thomas Varghese	(914) 968-3531
Accountant	Mr. Sunil M. Varughese	(845) 598-3994
Lay Leader - Malayalam	Mr. John P. Varghese	(914) 939-0064
Lay Leader - English	Mr. John C. Thomas	(914) 494-1931

### **AREA PRAYER GROUP REPRESENTATIVES**

Manhattan/NJ	Mr. Samuel Ninan	(201) 692-0649
Queens/LI	Mr. Varghese C. Baby	(516) 781-7513
Rockland (Spring Valley)	Mr. M. C. Chacko	(845) 356-1848
Rockland (Outside Spring Valley)	Mr. Sabu George	(845) 570-2005
Upper Westchester/CT	Mr. Cheruthone Mathai	(203) 797-1076
Upper Westchester/CT	Mr. Daniel P. K. Vaidian	(914) 761-9872
Yonkers East	Mr. Jacob Vaidian	(914) 337-2470
Yonkers North	Mr. Abraham George	(914) 560-4106
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	Mrs. Elizabeth Abraham	(845) 634-9319
Edavaka Mission	Mr. Varghese A. Thomas	(914) 969-0206
Sevika Sangham	Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas	(914) 968-3531
Sunday School	Mr. T. P. Jacob	(516) 365-3750
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Benjie Varghese	(914) 963-0514
Young Family Fellowship	Mr. Ullas P. Thannickal	(845) 638-8075
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Aju P. Daniel	(914) 255-8478

### **AUDITORS**

Mr. Thankachen Geevarghese (914) 939-0282  
Mr. Cheriyan Varughese (914) 965-0969