

# St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, NY

34 Morris Street, Yonkers, NY 10705

<http://www.stthomasmtc.org>

*October*



*2013*

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**NEWSLETTER VOL. XXXIII NO. 10**

## WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Worship
Sun, Oct 6	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b>	Praise & Worship ( <i>Malayalam</i> ) Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b><u>English</u></b>
Sun, Oct 13	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b>	Praise & Worship ( <i>Malayalam</i> ), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b><u>English</u></b>
Sun, Oct 20	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b>	Praise & Worship ( <i>English</i> ), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b><u>Malayalam</u></b>
Sun, Oct 27	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b>	Praise & Worship ( <i>English</i> ), Bible Class Holy Communion Service, <b><u>Malayalam</u></b>

## MAR THOMA SYRIAN CHURCH OF MALABAR LECTIONARY

Date	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel
Oct 6	2 Kings 7:3-9	Acts 11:19-26	1 Cor 9:16-23	St. Luke 10:1-11
Oct 13	Exo 4: 1-17	2 Cor 4:7-18	2 Cor 12:1-10	St. John 9:35-41
Oct 20	Eccle 12:1-8	Phil 3:1-16	1 Tim 4:7-16	St. Luke 18:18-30
Oct 27	Gen 2: 18-25	Acts 18:1-11	Eph 3: 14-21	St. Luke 19:1-10

## IMPORTANT DAYS IN SABHA/DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Date	Importance of the Day
Sun, Oct 6	Passion for Evangelization (20th Sunday after Pentecost)
Sun, Oct 13	Day of the People with Special Skills: Special People in the midst of limitations (21s Sunday after Pentecost)
Sun, Oct 20	Youth Sunday: “Youth” with the Creator (22nd Sunday after Pentecost)
Sun, Oct 27	Christian Family Dedication Day: Family - Expression of Relationship (23rd Sunday after Pentecost)



# Achens Corner

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Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Greeting in most precious of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

On October 20th, we will be celebrating another Family Sunday. In this context, let us briefly reflect on the sanctity of Marriage and Family. Family is a Sanctuary and as such we are blessed by God to have such a Sanctuary. We are reminded that what we do today not just as individuals, but as a family and a parish, will greatly affect the next generation in molding and shaping their future. We have a great responsibility towards them and to our Lord in leading a life of faith and witness. We are the examples they base their choices on. The very first of role models in their lives are those in their family. If we are not good role models how can we ask them to live a life of faith? Or create a Christ centered family life if they have not witnessed us doing it ourselves?

In the year 1787, one statesman stands in the US constitutional convention. Here is an excerpt from his speech.

“I have lived for a long time [81 years]; and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of man. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writings, that “Except the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain that build it.” I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without his concurring aid we shall proceed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel: we shall be divided by our little, partial, local interests; our prospects will be confounded; and we ourselves shall become a reproach and a by-word down to future ages. And what is worse, mankind may hereafter, from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing government by human wisdom, and leave it to chance, war, or conquest. I therefore beg leave to move that henceforth prayers, imploring the assistance of Heaven and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in this assembly every morning before we proceed to business;’ and that one or more of the clergy of this city be requested to officiate in that service”. – The man is Benjamin Franklin who gave his Speech in the Convention for forming a Constitution for the United States, 1787.



If the great men of history acknowledge that the great God is the foundation of even the great country, when will we realize that God is also the foundation of the strong family?

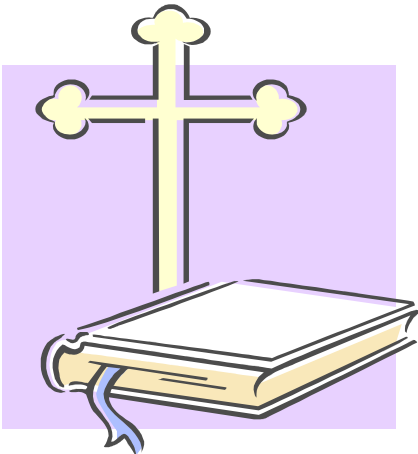
The modern family is in a transition. Family is the basic unit of the church and of society. The strength and holiness of Christian families should be assured. The churches are greatly concerned about the plight of our families. Families are made and not born. It is usually said marriages are made in heaven. It may be true, but they have to live on the earth. The basic purpose of marriage is to make a home where we are molded as God's children; here we grow as real humans. Life is a gift of God and a plan of the creator that man and women live in harmony so as to participate in God's creation and redemption; the strength of the nation or for the fact the future of our human community or this planet depends on how our families survive the onslaught of the modern world. In the irony of our times, we have lost much ability in differentiating what is good and what is evil. We have lost the human face in our communication and relationships – and now rely on emails, instead of personal hand written letters, text messages instead of phone calls, video Skype instead of home visits.

The hall marks of Christian families are unity and love; all members of the family knit together and held together with a cord of love to live and celebrate. A family is the local unit of the Kingdom of God. When the values of the Kingdom are transacted without any hitch or hamper the backbone of the Church is great and contains strong families once again. Let us seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit who makes all things new in our life.

Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.  
(Psalms 127:3)

**Yours in His Service,**

***Rev K.K. Samuel***





# Area Prayer Meetings

Area	Date & Time	Location
Yonkers South (McLean Ave) / Bronx	Sun, Oct 6 6:30pm	Mr. Mathew David Yonkers, NY
Queens/ Long Is- land	Sun, Oct 20 6:30pm	Mr. Thomas Oommen East Meadow, NY
Manhattan/ NJ	→	Contact Area Representative for info.
Upper Westchester/ CT	Sat, Oct 12 6:30pm	Mr. Cheruthone Mathai Danbury, CT
Yonkers East (Central Ave)	→	Contact Area Representative for info.
Rockland	Sun, Oct 13 6:30pm	Mr. Sabu George Ooriakunnathu Blauvelt, NY
Yonkers West (Church-Riverdale)	Sat, Oct 26 6:30pm	Mr. George V Mathai Yonkers
Yonkers North (Broadway)	Sun, Oct 27 6:30pm	Mr. Aju P. Daniel Yonkers

## Monthly Fasting Prayer

Event	Date & Time	Location
Monthly Fasting Prayer	Sat, Oct 19 10am	Mr. Daniel P. K. Vaidyan Hartsdale, NY

# Organizational Meetings

## Sevika Sangham

Bible Study - 3rd Sunday at Church

### Friday Prayer Meeting

Sevika Sangham	Date & Time	Location
Friday Prayer	Fri, Oct 4 10am	Mrs. Saramma Thomas NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Oct 11 10am	Mrs. Sosamma Varghese Yonkers NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Oct 18 10am	Mrs. Aleyamma E. Chacko Port Chester, NY
Friday Prayer	Fri, Oct 25 10am	Mrs. Jessy Kuruvilla Ardsley, NY

## Edavaka Mission

**Prayer Meeting** in the parsonage basement every **Wednesday** at **7:00 PM** unless otherwise scheduled elsewhere.

Event	Date & Time	Location
Edavaka Mission	Wed, Oct 9	Mr. Abraham Koshy Pelham, NY
Edavaka Mission	Wednesday Oct 16th and 30th	At Church @ 7pm.
Edavaka Mission	Wed, Oct 23	Mr. Thomas Varghese Yonkers, NY

## **Youth Fellowship**

Event	Date & Time	Location
Weekly Meeting	Every Sunday After service	Held in the Chapel
Bible Study	→	See Youth Secretary for Info.

“THEREFORE I TELL YOU, WHATEVER YOU ASK FOR  
IN PRAYER, BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED IT,  
AND IT WILL BE YOURS.” MARK 11:24

## **Young Family Fellowship**

Event	Date & Time/Location
Fellowship Meeting	Friday, October 4th at 7:30pm at the residence of Litten & Betsy Thomas Highland Mills, NY

## **Yuvajana Sakhyam**

Event	Date & Time/Location
Cottage Prayer	Please contact Yuvajana Secretary for information.

**EDAVAKA MISSION TRIP TO LANCASTER - NOAH SHOW  
WEDNESDAY - OCT 2**

Those attending should meet the bus at 7AM in front of the Church.

**Please be on time.**



**EDAVAKA MISSION RETREAT AT CHURCH**

Saturday, October 5, 2013 9:30AM to 1:00PM

LEADER: Dr. George Cherian

No Registration Fees and Free Fellowship Lunch to follow after  
Retreat. All are welcome and invited.



**PARISH RETREAT**

Venue: Pinebrook Christian Retreat Center, Pennsylvania

Date: November 8, 9 & 10 (Fri—Sun)

Fees: Adults - \$150 (per person); Kids - (ages 5-11) \$75 ;  
4yrs and younger - Free

Registrations forms are now available.

Please contact Mr. T.P. Jacob for further information.



### Encouraging Bible verses about God's protection

- “And Moses said to the people, ‘Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace’ (Exodus 14:13-14).
- “Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all” (Psalm 34:19).
- “A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you” (Psalm 91:7).
- “The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him” (Nahum 1:7).
- “We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed” (2 Corinthians 4:8-9).



### Encouraging Bible verses about God's love

- “As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust” (Psalm 103:13-14).
- “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28).
- “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?” (Romans 8:35).
- “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:37-39).
- “Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:6-7).
- “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

# AUTUMN

Find the words listed below.

The remaining letters spell a secret message.

An Albert Camus quotation.

L O N G E R N I G H T S N A A U C N  
T O R U E S T U N Y R O K C I H R I  
M S O A Y Q E N I S I A O T R W O K  
R C Y H N E U V S T E R F H E O P P  
C E A A C G K I A S N O A A B R S M  
K N D N D S E R N E D S R N M C O U  
S C Y L N R G L U O L P M K E E C P  
Q R A K E I E R E T X G I S V R T S  
U Y D T M A N T S A E F N G O A O E  
A D Y D S I V G R T V S G I N C B P  
S N R N G Y W E H O E E N V W S E T  
H I E L P P A E S P H A S I V O R E  
B W T Y L L I H C T E S P N R F L M  
F T S E V R A H Y E L O I G C R E B  
A A U H A L L O W E E N E F I O S E  
A F L S E V A E L W O L L E Y S L R  
L O B L W E C H E S T N U T S T R D

APPLE  
BIRD MIGRATION  
BLOWING LEAVES  
BLUSTERY DAY  
CANNING  
CHESTNUTS  
CHILLY  
COLD  
CROPS

EQUINOX  
FALL  
FARMING  
FEAST  
FROST  
HALLOWEEN  
HARVEST  
HAYSTACK  
HICKORY NUTS  
LONGER NIGHTS

NOVEMBER  
OCTOBER  
ORANGE LEAVES  
PIE  
PUMPKIN  
RAKE  
RED LEAVES  
SCARECROW  
SCHOOL  
SEASON

SEPTEMBER  
SHORTER DAYS  
SQUASH  
SWEET POTATOES  
THANKSGIVING  
TURKEY  
WINDY  
YELLOW LEAVES

## CONDOLENCES

Mrs. Leelamma Mathew, mother in law of Mr. Raju Varghese of Pomona and mother of Mrs. Annamma Varghese, passed away in Thiruvilla, Kerala on Tuesday, September 10 at the age of 85 years old.

Mrs. Sosamma George, mother in law of Mr. Koshy Pallickal and mother of Mrs. Mariamma Koshy, passed away in Kottayam, on Wednesday, September 11 at the age of 90 years old. Funeral services were held yesterday.

Mr. Punoose Andrew, father in law of Mr. Pradeep Kuruvilla and father to Mrs. Marina Andrew, passed away on Monday, September 16th in Kerala. Funeral services were held in Puthupally Orthodox Church.

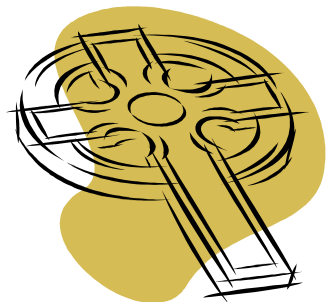
Mrs. Annamma Varghese, aunt of Mrs. Selene George, passed away in Kerala at the age of 91 years old. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, September 25th.

Mrs. Annamma Thomas, mother of Mr. Varghese A. Thomas, passed away Sunday, September 22 at the age of 93 years old in Venmoney, Kerala. Funeral services were held on Friday, September 27th at 2pm at Venmoney Zion Mar Thoma Church.

Kindly uphold the grieving family members in your prayers that God may grant them lasting peace at this most difficult time. We as a parish express our deep condolence.

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort; who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.*

- 2 Corinthians 1:3-4



# **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 2013**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Full Name</u></b>	<b><u>Phone Number</u></b>
<b>OFFICE BEARERS</b>		
Vicar/President	Rev. K.K. Samuel	(914) 376-6530
Vice President	Mr. Geevarghese Kochumman	(914) 948-2363
Secretary	Mrs. Bindu S. Mathew	(917) 257-4602
Treasurer	Mr. Thomas Varghese	(914) 968-3531
Accountant	Mr. Sunil M. Varughese	(845) 268-3647
Lay Leader - Malayalam	Mr. John P. Varghese	(914) 939-0064
Lay Leader - English	Mr. John C. Thomas	(914) 457-8197

## **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. Vaidyan	(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	(732) 412-7318
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 Varghese	(914) 965-0969