
EPIPHANY MAR THOMA CHURCH

**NEWS LETTER
AUGUST 2016**



**BE STILL AND KNOW THAT
I AM GOD !**

FAITH IS A JOURNEY NOT A DESTINATION.



Executive Committee 2016

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Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. James Alex	516.640.5588
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. Jason Thomas	917.414.8924

Representatives of Organizations

Sunday School	Mr. Oommen K. Varghese	516.285.9142
Edavaka Mission	Mr. M.C. Varughese	516.825.3895
Sevika Sanghom	Mrs. Sosamma Kurian	516.596.7514
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Roshan Alexander	516.808.7116
Youth Fellowship	Ms. Ancy Rose Oommen	516.616.4599
Choir	Mr. Shibu S Baby	347.623.1324

Representatives of Area Prayer Groups

Astoria/Jackson Hts./Flushing	Mr. Anil T Thomas	973.659.3414
Coney Island	Mr. Saji K Varughese	718.332.2751
Ridgewood/Wyckoff	Mr. Eapen Mathew	718-381-4549
Bellerose/Queens Village	Mr. Thomas Vadakedathu	718.464.0695
Floral Park	Mr. Mathew Varughese	718.347.7165
Elmont/Rosedale/Valley Stream	Mr. Mathew N Varughese	516.285.5753
New Hyde Park	Mr. Rinu Varughese	516.673.4583
Garden City Park	Mr. John Mani	516.414.4986
Long Island	Mr. Biju M. Varughese	516.750.5474

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Vicar's message:

Greetings to you all in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It gives me immense pleasure to address you all through this month's Newsletter. The 35th Parish Day of our Church was celebrated in a meaningful way. Once again I would like to congratulate all office bearers and the Church committee members for your timely effort and leadership. Most of the families participated in the One Day Income collection. I express my sincere thanks to all those who have contributed sincerely. May the Grace of God replenish our strength and wisdom. We thank the Diocesan President Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Thirumeni for his invaluable leadership in the Parish Day service.

On the 19th, we have the Senior Fellowship meeting. We have been blessed with a large number of Senior Citizens in our Church. The main programme of the fellowship is to bring them together in the church for praising God by arranging worship, bible study, intercessory prayer, discussion etc. Fixing a schedule to visit the sick and the aged is very much appreciated. This month, we have arranged a special class on Physiotherapy. I would like to thank Mrs. Glory Chacko for her interest and initiative in this regard.

The Family Retreat programme of our church will be held on 5th 6th and 7th of August at Eddy Farm Retreat & Conference Center. The theme for the conference is 'Celebrating the Pilgrimage'. I wish and pray that the retreat will be a blessing for all of us and a time for the renewal of our parish. The church picnic will be held on the 30th of this month. I request all of you to participate actively in the picnic programme. Let us work together for the expansion of His Kingdom and be of great blessing to others around us.

As per the Sabha Calendar, the first day of August is the 'beginning of fifteen days fast'. The first Sunday is being observed as Mission Sunday and the theme for the day is 'mission from everyone to every where'. The theme for the second Sunday is 'the sacrament of Holy Qurbana' the third 'the supremacy of the Word of God and the fourth Sunday is 'peace in the midst of violence'. We have to make time to meditate and reflect on these themes. I hope and pray that these divinely inspired ideas for life will provide you all the spiritual nourishment and sustenance in the days to come.

We have started learning the book of Deuteronomy in the Friday fasting prayer sessions. It is one of the few books in the Bible which takes one directly to the heart of Israel's faith and is one of the primary resource for understanding the notion of the 'word of God'. At the beginning of the book, Moses is the leader and by the end of the book, we find Joshua as the leader. Everything occurs on the borders of the promised land of Canaan. There are certain junctures in our lives, where we need counsel and advice. Deuteronomy is a book of counsel given to the people, who were about to make a great transition in their lives. The book of Deuteronomy reminds people to remember the following three things.

1. Remember the faithfulness of God in the past
2. Remember the holiness of God in the present
3. Remember the warning of God for the future.

Also this book reminds us to look back and look forward with a renewed hope.
Let us move forward as a faith community with hope and vision.
May God bless you all !

Yours in His Service

Jogyachen.

July 22nd, 2016.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Special Observance</u>
Sunday August 7	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	Mission Sunday- Mission from Everyone to Everywhere
	10:15 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)	
Sunday August 14	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	The Sacrament of Holy Qurbana
Sunday August 21	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	Reformation Sunday- The supremacy of the word of God
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday August 28	9:30 AM	Holy Communion (English)	Peace in the midst of Violence

LECTIONARY

<u>Date</u>	<u>1st Lesson</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
August 7	1 King:17:1-15	Jude.17-25	Gal.2:1-10	St.Mat.22:1-14
August 14	Exod.12:1-14	1 Cor.11:23-33	1 Cor10:15-17	St.Luk.22:7-20
August 21	Exod.7:1-7	2 Tim.3:10-17	Gal.1:6-9	St.Mat.5:17-20
August 28	1 Sam.24:1-12	Rom. 12:14-21	Eph.6:10-20	St.Mat.5:38-48

ASSISTANCE & USHERING -2016

<u>Month</u>	<u>Prayer Group</u>
August	Garden City Park
September	Long Island
October	Astoria/Jackson Hts/Flushing

<u>AREA PRAYER MEETINGS</u>		
<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Sunday August 7	Bellerose Queens Village Glenoaks	TBA
Sunday August 7	Floral Park	TBA
Saturday August 13 7:00 PM	Coney Island	Mr. Shibu John 2453 West Street Coney Island, NY 11223 Ph: 718-336-0849
Sunday August 14 6:00 PM	Ridgewood/Wyckoff	Mr. Anu Abraham 1868 Willoughby Ave Ridgewood, NY 11385 Ph: 718-417-8441
Sunday August 21 5:00 PM	New Hyde Park	Mr. Shaji Varghese 541 Beech St New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-326-7525
Sunday August 21 7:00 PM	Garden City Park	Mr. George Thomas 121 Marcus Ave Garden City Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-747-1180
Saturday August 27 6:30 PM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream	Mr. Thomas M Mathew 154 Fallon Ave Elmont, NY 11003 Ph: 516-326-1617
Sunday August 28 6:30 PM	Long Island	Mr. Mathew Varughese 404 Chambers St East Meadow, NY 11554 Ph: 718-715-1017

EDAVAKA MISSION COTTAGE PRAYER MEETINGS: TBA

**EDAVAKA MISSION CONVENTION: AUGUST 12 – 14
TIME: 7:00 PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY. SUNDAY DURING SERVICE.
MAIN SPEAKER : DR. THOMAS GEORGE / COCHIN**

SEVIKA SANGHOM

<u>DATE & TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
Wednesday August 3 10.00 AM	Coney Island Bible Study	Mrs. Mary Saji 2553 East 11 th Street Brooklyn, NY 11235 Ph: 718-332-2751
Thursday August 11 10.00 AM	Queens- Village/Bellerose Floral Park Bible Study	Mrs. Suja George Mathew 84-43, 257th Street Floral Park, NY 11004 Ph: 718-347-3730
Thursday August 18 10.00 AM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream Long Island Bible Study	Mrs. Marykutty Thariath 134-16, 243rd Street Rosedale, NY 11442 Ph: 718-712-0736
Thursday August 18 7.00 PM	New Hyde Park Garden City Park Bible Study	Mrs. Susan B Jacob 307 Paul Place West Hempstead, NY 11552 Ph: 516-214-4251

**17TH DIOCESAN SEVIKA SANGHOM CONFERENCE, OCT. 6-9, 2016.
HOSTED BY ST. MATHEWS MAR THOMA CHURCH, TORONTO, CANADA.
REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE WITH SEVIKA SANGHOM
SECRETARY SUSAN KURIAN.**

DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS: SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11- AFTER SERVICE.

**TRIP TO LANCASTER : SHOW "SAMSON" – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18.
PLEASE REGISTER YOUR NAME WITH SEVIKA SANGHOM COMMITTEE MEMBERS.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
August 2016	No Sunday School Classes	No Sunday School Class

SEPTEMBER 4: NEW ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS.

**FAMILY RETREAT: AUGUST 5-7, 2016
VENUE: EDDY FARM RETREAT CENTER, SPARROW BUSH, NY.**

MALAYALAM CHOIR

Choir practices will be held on the following Sundays: August 7 and 21 at 9:00 AM in the church. All choir members are requested to attend the practice.

Condolences: Mrs. Aleyamma Koshy (59 Yrs), Wife of late Rev. T.P. Koshy-our former Vicar, passed away in Cochin/Kerala on July 24, 2016. Funeral service was held on July 27th at Jerusalem Mar Thoma Church, Elamkulam.

The Vicar and members of Epiphany Mar Thoma Church express our deep felt condolence to the bereaved family especially to Aleena & Allen. Please uphold this family in our prayers.

Epiphany Basketball Tournament

We will be hosting our very first Basketball Tournament on September 3rd 2016. Our vision for this tournament is to be able to unite our sister Mar Thoma Parishes in Christ throughout both the Northeast and Southeast region. With the potential proceeds we receive from this tournament, we would like to be able to continue this tournament into an annual event and also donate to the Homes for the Homeless organization.

This tournament is being funded solely on donations, sponsorships and fundraising, so we are in need of your help. If you are interested in supporting us and this tournament financially either through donation or sponsorship, please contact Sherin Daniel and she will be able to assist in explaining the details.

We humbly ask our church members to keep the success of this tournament in your prayers and pray God allows this event to be made possible. God Bless!

CHURCH YEAR PLAN-2016

August 5-7	: Family Retreat
August 14	: New Academic Year Service
August 28	: NAY Service/New Graduates Thanksgiving
September 4	: Harvest Festival
September 23-25	: Parish Convention
November 27	: Thanksgiving Service
November 27	: Christmas Door to Door Carol
December 24	: Christmas Carol in the Church
December 31	: Watch Night and New Year service

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

Tincy Sam	New Hyde Park	08-01
Janelle Susan Mathew	Charlotte	08-02
Betsy Philip	Merrick	08-02
Jeenu Philip	Elmont	08-02
Jerrin Pothen	Floral Park	08-03
Sarah M. Mathew	Brooklyn	08-03
Misha Thomas	Long Island City	08-03
Mammen Mathew	Brooklyn	08-04
George Alexander	Elmont	08-04
Bobby Philip Oommen	Elmont	08-05
Mathews K Robin	Glendale	08-05
Dr. Julie A. Cherian	Dix Hills	08-05
Suja George Mathew	Floral Park	08-05
Obye Varghese	New Hyde Park	08-06
Alexander Vinson	East Meadow	08-06
Vincent Abraham Kurian	Merrick	08-06
Philip Mathai	East Meadow	08-06
Mathew Varghese	Valley Stream	08-07
Jiji Thomas	New Hyde Park	08-07
Lillienn Eliza Thariath	Rosedale	08-08
Mary Johnkutty	Jamaica Estates	08-08
Riya Mariamma Mathew	Brooklyn	08-08
Hannah Susan Jacob	East Meadow	08-09
Stanley Sam Philipose	Brooklyn	08-09
Dylan Mason Cherian	Dix Hills	08-09
Roby Varghese	New Hyde Park	08-10
Shibu S. Baby	Kew Gardens	08-10
Dr. Nicy Philip	Floral Park	08-10
Jason Thomas	Floral Park	08-11
Edward Varghese	New Hyde Park	08-11
Thankamma George	Floral Park	08-12
Lijy Mary Abraham	Brooklyn	08-13
Christa Rose Alexander	New Hyde Park	08-14

Susan Cherian Varghese	New Hyde Park	08-15
Janice John	Syosset	08-15
Sheela Mathew	New Hyde Park	08-15
Michele Chinu Mathew	New Hyde Park	08-15
Shaun J. Daniel	Garden City Park	08-16
Sheela Jacob	Glen Oaks	08-16
Sajosh Mathew	Syosset	08-16
Mary Mathew	Garden City Park	08-17
Jaison Varughese	Elmont	08-17
Chelippallil John	New Hyde Park	08-17
Alice Jacob	Floral Park	08-17
Aleyamma John	East Meadow	08-19
Alan Mathew Saji	Queens Village	08-19
Shaji Varghese	New Hyde Park	08-20
Julianne Rachel Thariath	Rosedale	08-20
Marykutty Chacko	Richmond Hill	08-20
Andrew Abraham	Hicksville	08-21
Justin Chacko	East Meadow	08-21
David Abraham	Yonkers	08-21
Stephen G. Mathew	Floral Park	08-23
Saramma Chacko	East Meadow	08-24
Julie John	East Meadow	08-24
Merlin Mathew	New Hyde Park	08-24
Cyril Abraham	Floral Park	08-24
Rinu Ignatius	New Hyde Park	08-25
Siju Mathew	Floral Park	08-25
Joanne John	Hicksville	08-25
Ashley Varghese	Deer Park	08-26
C. V. Chacko	New Hyde Park	08-26
Annamma Philip	Merrick	08-26
Abraham K. George	Floral Park	08-26
Jessy M. John	Elmont	08-26
Sosa Abraham	Bellerose	08-27
Joshua Mathew Phillips	Westbury	08-27

Sherin J. Daniel	Garden City Park	08-28
Bobbie Mathew	New Hyde Park	08-29
Jenifer J. Chacko	Elmont	08-30
Julie Philipose	Plainview	08-30
Jesly Jacob	Glen Oaks	08-31

NEW BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT & CONGRATULATIONS:

CONGRATULATIONS TO CERRILL & SUSAN MATHEW , 71 ROYAL WAY, MANHASSET HILLS, NY. ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR NEW BORN BABY GIRL – OLIVIA ELIZABETH MATHEW ON JUNE 25, 2016.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ANUP T GEORGE & PRIYA GEORGE, 73-25 LITTLE NECK PKWY, GLEN OAKS, NY., ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR NEW BORN BABY BOY – ANDREW T GEORGE ON JULY 4, 2016.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:

Sajosh Mathew	Syosset	08-02
Chacko Varghese	Bellerose	08-03
Jeffy John	Elmont	08-04
Siju Mathews	Floral Park	08-05
Dr. Tony Abraham	Floral Park	08-07
Abraham V. Thomas	Merrick	08-07
Thomas Varghese	Elmont	08-08
Thomas C. Varghese	Floral Park	08-09
Abraham George	New Hyde Park	08-10
Rev. Jogy Thomas	Ozone Park	08-11
Alex Daniel	Garden City Park	08-14
George P. Jacob	New Hyde Park	08-15
Tom B. Thomas	Weston	08-16
Nidhin Ignatious	New Hyde Park	08-17
Joseph Varghese	Woodside	08-17
James Alex	East Meadow	08-19
Dr. Abi Tom Cherian	Floral Park	08-20
Vinson Alex	East Meadow	08-20
Nikhil Philip	East Meadow	08-21
Varghese Mathew	East Meadow	08-21
Shibu John	Brooklyn	08-22
Dr. Thomas Bains	Elmont	08-24
Simon Samuel	Bellerose	08-27

FROM DIOCESAN EPISCOPA:

Greetings to all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Every day is a new day. It is the day God has given us. Often one wonders, 'is it good news that awaits me in the dawn to listen, or is it any unexpected incident that causes confusion and sadness?' Today people who long for peaceful lives are asking the question, 'where are we heading to?' After the brutal and heinous killing of people, unaware and without any provocation, in Orlando, Florida and the natural calamity through the wildfire at Ft. Mc Murray, Alberta which burned hundreds of homes down and forced the evacuation of thousands of residents, this becomes more relevant. Of course it points to the need for changing the mindset of an individual or a group towards a positive outlook and to get everyone involved in the peace building process. At this juncture, while we express our solidarity with the loved ones of the victims and to those of the injured, we have to pray that the power of goodness may prevail over the evil minded.

Jesus Christ reminded the faithful, 'do not be anxious'. For God knows every need of His creation and considers every human being with more value than all other created beings. The call therefore, is to seek first the Kingdom of God, which will in turn free us from all our anxieties. The word of God exhorts the believers to 'put your trust in the Lord'. God expects from His followers a total submission and asks them to live and serve in obedience to His will. As the worshipping community, we need to know the depth of the Divine providence. How wonderful it is to be in the safe arms of our Lord! A caring and loving God always invites us to be in His bosom and to learn from Him and also to experience the warmth of His fellowship. Hence our life becomes worship to God, praising and thanking Him for His wondrous works.

Let the Spirit of God continue to strengthen every community to be diligent in knowing His will and walking in His way. The power of the Holy Spirit will motivate everyone to overcome evil by good. We are committed to uphold the true spirit and promote the worthiness of life. It is our prayer that peace and harmony may prevail among all people to fulfill the work of God in this world.

With prayers and regards,

Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos

(From Diocese of North America and Europe The Mar Thoma Besorah)

The Besorah is an Official Publication of the Diocese of North America and Europe.

YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S CORNER.

“...At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom. A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance” (Jawaharlal Nehru)

As August 15th, approaches many of us will remember some of the great names and events that brought about India’s independence. India’s independence came at a great cost to our parents and grandparents. But a new nation was born through their hard work and struggle.

Our freedom from sin also came at a great cost, the life of our Lord, Jesus the Christ. Christ died not only to free us from sin, but to also to create a new nation, a holy nation.

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” (1Peter 2:9)

We should always remember that we are part of a holy nation, and act as citizens of that nation. We should always remember the cost of the establishment of this nation, the ultimate sacrifice. The pain and death of a sinless person for each and every one of us.

We are “Lighted To Lighten.” We are to proclaim what Jesus has done for us. We are to share the light, the life, and freedom that only Jesus provides to those that are still in darkness. May God enable all of us to be a faithful priesthood and a holy nation.

Yours in Christ's Service,

Rev. Shibi Abraham

Sunday School Committee 2016

Superintendent	Mr. Oommen K. Varughese	
Secretary	Miss. Sherin J Daniel	
Treasurer	Mr. Jinu M Joy	

Edavaka Mission Committee 2016

Vice President	Mr. George T Thomas	
Secretary	Mr. M. C. Varughese	
Treasurer	Mrs. Mariamma Lukose	

Sevika Sanghom Committee 2016

Vice President	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	
Secretary	Mrs. Susan Kurian	
Treasurer	Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas	

Yuvajana Sakhyam Committee 2016

Vice President	Mr. James Alex	
Secretary	Mr. Roshan Alexander	
Treasurer	Mr. Shibu Cheriyan	

Youth Fellowship Committee 2016

Vice President	Miss. Asha Jacob	
Secretary	Miss. Ancy Oommen	
Treasurer	Mr. Alvin Mathew	
Joint Secretary	Mr. Joshua Mathew	

Malayalam Choir Committee 2016

Leader	Mr. Shibu S Baby	
Assistant Leader	Mrs. Susan Saji	
Secretary	Mr. Abraham K Daniel	
Treasurer	Mrs. Mariamma John	

English Choir Committee 2016

Leader	Mr. Joshua Mathew	
Assistant Leader	Miss. Annie Jacob	
Secretary	Miss. Gilsy Saji	
Treasurer	Mr. Roshan Varughese	

Senior Citizens Fellowship Committee 2016

Secretary	Mr. M. V. Varghese	
Treasurer	Mr. John K. Thomas	

Young Family Fellowship Committee 2016

Secretary	Mr. Shibu Mathew	
Treasurer	Mr. Jacob D Koshy	

Even though I
walk through the
valley of the
shadow of
death, I will fear
no evil, for you
are with me;
your rod and
your staff, they
comfort me.



Psalm 23:4

Epiphany Mar Thoma Church News Letter

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