
EPIPHANY MAR THOMA CHURCH

**NEWS LETTER
JUNE 2016**



**WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE
POSSIBLE.**

FAITH IS A JOURNEY NOT A DESTINATION.



Executive Committee 2016

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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

Auditors

Mr. Abraham Thomas	717.343.7622
Mr. George Kuruvilla	516.616.4576

Vicar's message:

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It gives me great pleasure in addressing you all again through this newsletter and I would like to draw your attention to the action plan for the month of June 2016. We, as a chosen people of God are always in need of His undying love and infinite wisdom to carry out our duties and responsibilities in a responsible way.

As per the Sabha Calendar the first Sunday of June is being observed as 'Vidhyarambam' the beginning of a new academic year with the theme, 'the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom'. I believe that since the academic year starts in the month of September in the United States conducting the special worship to mark the beginning of the new academic year in the month of September would be appropriate. The second Sunday is 'Environment Sunday' and the theme for the day is 'we are stewards of the creation., The theme of the third Sunday is 'we are called to be sent' and that of the fourth Sunday 'God's people: the flock of sheep of Christ'. We have to make time to meditate and reflect on these themes so that we imbibe its essence and transform ourselves into a community that can extend help, hope and healing to our fellow beings. 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.

The theme for our meditation in the month of May was the work of the Holy Spirit. The scripture lessons and the sermons during the month focussed mainly on the various aspects of the holy spirit. Every year, we remember May 5th as the Day of Ascension. Forty days after the resurrection of Jesus He ascended heaven after entrusting His disciples with the mission of witnessing the resurrected Christ to all till the end of the world. What does this mission mean? It means we have been called to witness the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ even in the most unlikely situations of our life. Moreover, the Gospel is Jesus Christ himself. But how can this mission be carried out . It cannot be accomplished by our own ability but can be made possible only by the help of the Holy Spirit.

In St. John 16: 616, we have seen this Holy Spirit (Advocate) sent by God to the Church on the day of Pentecost. This day reminds us ,that the Spirit which is in the world right from the beginning of its creation and the spirit now inside the Church are one and the same and the Pentecost experience helps us to identify the different manifestations of the Holy Spirit which are at work in our day to day life situations. This Spirit is a Strengthening Spirit commissioning us for His witnessing in the world. It is a Spirit of authority, a Spirit of reconciliation and it convinces the world about Sin, Righteousness and Judgement. This Spirit of truth will lead us in fullness of truth. So the work of the Holy Spirit is the continuation and expansion of the work of Jesus Christ to liberate us from the clutches of evil.

In a world of diversity of cultures and contexts it is our great task to become a person led by the Holy Spirit.

Let us pray and work together that we may be led by the Holy Spirit for the Spiritual growth and development of our Church and be willing instruments in the hands of God. May the God bless you all.

Yours in His Service
Rev. Jogy Thomas



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Special Observance</u>
Sunday June 5	9.00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
	10.15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday June 12	9.00 AM	Praise & Worship (Malayalam)	Nurturing God's Creation.
	10.15 AM	Holy Communion (English)	
Sunday June 19	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	Called to be sent. 5 th Sunday after Pentecost.
	10.15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday June 26	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (Malayalam)	People of God Flock of Christ
	10.15 AM	Holy Communion (English)	

LECTIONARY

<u>Date</u>	<u>1st Lesson</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
June 5	1Kings:3:3-14	1 Cor.1:18-25	1 John. 5:18-21	St.Luke.2:41-52
June 12	Gen.2:1-17	Rev.21:1-7	Col.1:15-20	St.Mat.6:25-34
June 19	1 Kings19:15-21	Rom.15:22-29	Rom.12:3-8	St.Luke.5:1-11
June 26	Gen.35:1-7	1 Peter 5:1-11	1 John.4:1-6	St.John 10:1-6

ASSISTANCE & USHERING -2016

<u>Month</u>	<u>Prayer Group</u>
June	Elmont/Rosedale/Valley Stream
July	New Hyde Park
August	Garden City Park

AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Sunday June 5	Bellerose Queens Village Glenoaks	TBA
Sunday June 5 6.00 PM	Floral Park	Mr. Raju T Oommen 256-10, 83 rd Avenue Floral Park, NY 11004 Ph: 718-347-0573
Saturday June 11 7.00 PM	Coney Island	Mr. Iype P Abraham 629 Avenue Y Brooklyn, NY 11235 Ph: 718-769-1015
Sunday June 12	Ridgewood/Wyckoff	TBA
Sunday June 19 6:00 PM	New Hyde Park	Mr. George Kuruvilla 22 Durham Road New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-616-4576
Sunday June 19	Garden City Park	TBA
Saturday June 25 6:30 PM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream	Mrs. Susan Kurian 701 Crans Street Elmont, NY 11003 Ph: 516-596-7514
Sunday June 26 6:30 PM	Long Island	Mr. P.V. Varghese 1673 Kensington Ave Merrick, NY 11566 Ph: 516-379-8046

**SENIOR CITIZENS FELLOWSHIP MEETING
TUESDAY JUNE 21, 2016 AT 10:00 AM IN THE CHURCH.
ALL SENIOR CITIZENS ARE REQUESTED TO
PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING.**

EDAVAKA MISSION.

1. North East Region Edavaka Mission Center Meeting: Saturday, June 4, 2016 at Epiphany Mar Thoma Church. Registration starts at 9.00 AM. Main speaker Mr. Samuel James (Campus Crusade for India) All are cordially invited to attend.
2. Cottage prayer meeting: Wednesday, June 22, 7.00 PM at the residence of Mr. Mathew K. Lukose, 23 Sunbeam Road, Syosset. Tel: [516-932-7606](tel:516-932-7606)
3. Weekly prayer meeting: Every Wednesday, 7.00 PM in the church.

SEVIKA SANGHOM

<u>DATE & TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
Thursday June 9 10.00 AM	Coney Island Bible Study	Mrs. Lisamma Abraham 737 Desmond Ct Brooklyn, NY 11235 Ph: 718-769-2773
Thursday June 16 10.00 AM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream Long Island Bible Study	Mrs. Annamma Philip 2070 Renfrew Elmont, NY 11003 Ph: 516-326-1872
Thursday June 16 7.00 PM	New Hyde Park Bible Study	Mrs. Mary P Roy 21 Tenafly Dr New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-873-0671

SUNDAY SCHOOL

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
June 2016	Every Sunday 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM	Sunday School Class

JUNE 18 SATURDAY: TALENT FESTIVAL
JUNE 26 SUNDAY: LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL
JULY 7-10: JR. SR. CONFERENCE
JULY 18 - 23: VBS

MALAYALAM CHOIR

Choir practices will be held on the following Sundays: June 5th and 19th at 9.00 AM in the church. All choir members are requested to attend the practice.

Condolence: Mr. George Varughese (88 Yrs), Father of our member Mr. George Thomas (Raju) residing at 69 Gardner Ave, Hicksville, NY., passed away in Pullad/Kerala on Thursday May 5th, 2016. Funeral Services was held on Tuesday May 10th at 10.30 AM at Pullad Sehion Mar Thoma Church.

The Vicar and members of Epiphany Mar Thoma Church express our deep felt condolence to the bereaved family and please uphold this family in our prayers.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

1. BASIC meeting will be held on Friday June 3rd at 6pm at church to pray for revival night
2. Revival Night will be on Saturday June 4th at 6pm at church. The theme will be "Hearing God Amidst the Noise" and is taken from 1 Kings 19: 11-12. The speaker is Shannon Thomas from Long Island Mar Thoma Church. This event is open to everyone, so please invite friends and family.
3. Women's Fellowship will be having a meeting on Friday, June 17th at 630pm. Location TBD
4. We will be hosting a blood drive at church on Sunday, July 3rd. Our goal is for 35 people to donate. Please spread the word and sign up to donate if you are eligible. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board downstairs.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT: Congratulations to Mr. Jacob C Mathew and Mrs. Hema Mathew of 201 Park Ave, Garden City Park, NY ., on the birth of their new born son Alexander Jacob Mathew on April 20, 2016.

CHURCH YEAR PLAN-2016

July 10	: Parish Day/Episcopal Visit/1 st Communion
July 30	: Parish Picnic
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:

Ashley Rose Oommen	New Hyde Park	06-01
Mary Mathew	Glen Oaks	06-01
Mathew K. Lukose	Syosset	06-01
Bessy Abraham	East Meadow	06-01
Mervin M Shibu	Ozone Park	06-01
Shiny Varghese	Elmont	06-01
Mariamamma Lukose	Syosset	06-03
Thomas T. Daniel	Elmont	06-03
Jonathan M. Jinu	Floral Park	06-03
M. C. Abraham	Richmond Hill	06-03
Jonathan T. Easow	Richmond Hill	06-04
Aleyamma Mathew	New Hyde Park	06-04
Ponnamamma Oommen	Yonkers	06-05
Vandana Samuel	Dix Hills	06-05
Lilykutty John	Brooklyn	06-05
Andrew V. Mathew	Brooklyn	06-05
Chris Joseph	New Hyde Park	06-06
Samuel Philipose	Brooklyn	06-06
Meenu Susan Jacob	Ridgewood	06-06

Subin Thomas	Elmont	06-06
Thomas Varghese	Brooklyn	06-07
Thomas K. Thomas	Valley Stream	06-08
Samuel P. Abraham	New Hyde Park	06-08
P. V. Varghese	Merrick	06-08
Christa Aji	Brooklyn	06-08
Judi Mary Thomas	Muttontown	06-08
Joseph Chacko	Garden City Park	06-08
Santhosh John	Hicksville	06-09
Alinda Sara Saji	Queens Village	06-09
Tessy Sara Thomas	Monroe	06-09
Koshy P. Oommen	Queens Village	06-10
Mariamamma Varghese	Floral Park	06-10
Annamma Abraham	New Hyde Park	06-10
Rimple Thomas	Elmont	06-10
Varghese George	New City	06-10
Susan A. Mathew	Brooklyn	06-11
Rosamma John	Commack	06-11
Alexandra Alice Mathai	New Hyde Park	06-13
Elijah Abraham Philip	East Meadow	06-13
Sosamma Mathew	Manhasset Hills	06-13
Varghese Mathew	Brooklyn	06-13
Sofia Abraham	Yonkers	06-13
Jiju Mathew	Floral Park	06-14
Shiney Abraham	Astoria	06-15
Jaedyn C. Alex	East Meadow	06-15
Joshua Philip	Floral Park	06-15
M. T. Chacko	Richmond Hill	06-15
Annamma Thomas	North Woodmere	06-15
Thomas V. Varghese	Merrick	06-16
Benjamin Varghese	Queens Village	06-16
Anju Annie Mathew	Brooklyn	06-16
Sam Oommen	Yonkers	06-17
Susan Thomas	Floral Park	06-17

Angela George	Kew Gardens	06-18
Sunu J. Koruthu	Jackson Heights	06-19
Jenie George	New Hyde Park	06-20
Tessa A. Cherian	Ridgewood	06-21
Alyssa Alex Thomas	Elmont	06-21
Annie Thomas	Elmont	06-21
Melissa Abraham	Brooklyn	06-22
Christie George Mathew	Floral Park	06-22
Dr. Jinu Thomas	Hicksville	06-22
Emily Rachel Mathew	New Hyde Park	06-22
Madeline Sarah Mathew	New Hyde Park	06-22
Shwetha George	New Hyde Park	06-22
Daniel Jeevan John	Syosset	06-23
Gimmy M. Abraham	Brooklyn	06-23
Jessia James	Manhasset Hills	06-23
Aaron Mathew Thomas	Long Island City	06-23
Merrill Mathew	Manhasset Hills	06-24
Annie John	Hicksville	06-24
Jeffrey John	New Hyde Park	06-26
Steven Shibu	Kew Gardens	06-27
Remi Mathai	New Hyde Park	06-27
P. V. Cherian	Dix Hills	06-27
Betsy Mathew	Staten Island	06-29
Lisha Alex	Floral Park	06-29
Joel John	New Hyde Park	06-29
Rebecca Ann Mathew	Oilville	06-29
Jithin John	Garden City Park	06-29
Minnie Thomas	Bellerose	06-30
Sofia Molly Chacko	New Hyde Park	06-30
Caleb Nikhil Philip	East Meadow	06-30

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:

Pappy Philipose	Brooklyn	06-01
Tom Cherian	Floral Park	06-01
Biji Jacob	West Hempstead	06-01
Abraham Varghese	Hicksville	06-03
Varghese Pothen	Elmont	06-04
Saji Mathew	Queens Village	06-04
M. T. Chacko	Richmond Hill	06-05
Reji Philipose	Brooklyn	06-06
Thadathil Philip Mathew	Bellerose	06-06
Manoj Mathai	Floral Park	06-07
Santhosh John	Hicksville	06-09
Kurian Abraham	Yonkers	06-11
Rev. Sonu Varughese	Richmond Hill	06-11
Samkutty Varghese	New Hyde Park	06-11
Thundil Varughese	New Hyde Park	06-12
Cherian M. Kottackel	Floral Park	06-14
Iype P. Abraham	Brooklyn	06-16
Dr. Jay Iype	Melville	06-16
Jiji Thomas	New Hyde Park	06-17
Edward Varghese	New Hyde Park	06-17
C. C. Mathai	New Hyde Park	06-18
Bobby Kurian	Merrick	06-20
Jobby Mathew	New Hyde Park	06-20
Jacob P. Jacob	New Hyde Park	06-21
Samuel P. Abraham	New Hyde Park	06-23
Philipose Chacko	Queens Village	06-24
Siju Mathew	Floral Park	06-25
Varughese Mathai	New Hyde Park	06-25
Dr. Shibu Joseph	New Hyde Park	06-27
Mathews Kurian	East Meadow	06-28
Bobby Thariath	Rosedale	06-28
Chacko C. Abraham	Glenoaks	06-28
P. V. Kurian	Merrick	06-30

FROM DIOCESAN EPISCOPA:

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

The Christian community, these days observes the events of the Ascension of our Lord and the Pentecost experience of the early church. The presence of the risen Christ and the hope given during the commissioning were very much an encouraging experience to the disciples and the faithful early Christian community. The promise given at the time of Jesus' ascension into heaven was a comforting one giving new vision to move on as witnesses of our Lord. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the power received were occasions of renewed strength.

It reminds us of the fact that, God never fails and that He always keeps His promises. I am sure this is the experience for many of us in our lives. The disciples who were renewed and reinstated went around and proclaimed the Gospel, and they were known as 'people who turned the world upside down'. They received the power of the Holy Spirit, who was with them as their Counselor, who made their life journey more fruitful and rewarding. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide us to carry on God's mission with renewed power. God who created the heaven and the earth is the Giver of life and He is involved in the life-promoting act in history. Jesus Christ is the expression of God the Father, in giving life in its fullness. He gave His life for the sake of all humanity and the world, so that all will have life in abundance.

There are occasions when we feel that life is in danger. The systems and structures of the world often destroy life. The need is to commit oneself to protect life by all means. Life with peace and justice is very much evident in the biblical understanding of the created order. The emergence of structures that promote violence and injustice become a threat to life and to a just society. Religious groups and civil society together need to address the issue of right living by overcoming economic and social injustice, by creating a political will to keep peace and justice in our communities.

Thank God for the good things that we receive and the wonderful ways of divine guidance. The North America and Europe Diocese is blessed with its commitment to uphold the Gospel values and the life-affirming mission initiatives. We continue the process of revitalizing the existing systems in operation and start new ventures as our response to the needs of the people and as our commitment to the word of God. It is our wish and prayer that the spirit and enthusiasm of 'Pentecost' will keep the church as a movement, that keeps our journey forward moving with courage and conviction. We value very much the participation of the faithful members and achen. I am happy to welcome the new achen who have joined the Diocese this year. May God continue to guide us in our task of building the community, and in serving the people, looking towards Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of life.

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.

Then a man named Jairus came. He was a synagogue ruler. He fell at Jesus' feet. He begged Jesus to come to his house. His only daughter was dying. She was about 12 years old. - Luke 8:41-42

In this common passage, we see several qualities of a great father. Here was a person who was not ashamed to seek Jesus. Though he was a synagogue ruler (a prominent person in the community and probably considered very successful), he did not consider any of that when he fell at Jesus's feet seeking help for his daughter. He went by himself and in front of a large crowd he was willing to beg for help. He did not let pride or shame stop him from seeking salvation for his daughter.

Here was a father who wanted Jesus to come to his house. There is a need for people to let God into their lives and homes. Not just in church, but every day of our lives, we need to set an example for our children.

Like Joshua we need to say, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

He trusted in God. Even when he was told that his daughter had died, he still trusted in God. He believed in God, even when all hope seemed loss. Our children need to hear of our personal experiences with God. How in our lives, when all seemed loss, it was God who changed everything. He brought life and hope to a seemingly hopeless situation.

May God enable all of us, especially all the fathers, to truly seek God, to bring him into our homes, and to completely trust in him, especially when things seem hopeless.

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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