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# EPIPHANY MAR THOMA CHURCH

**NEWS LETTER  
JANUARY 2018**



Rejoice in the Coming of Our  
Lord! Happy New Year!

**FAITH IS A JOURNEY NOT A DESTINATION.**



### **Executive Committee 2018**

President / Vicar	Rev. Jogy Thomas revjogythomas@gmail.com	718.845.2920 718.612.1891
Vice President	Mr. Abraham Thomas vechuchira@aol.com	718.343.7622
Secretary	Mr. Chacko K Jacob Chacko_k1@yahoo.com	718.743.6160
Treasurer	Dr. Thomas Bains tbains@optonline.net	516.775.4778
Accountant	Mr. Subash Thomas ayanisubash@yahoo.com	917.715.3704
Lay Leader (Malayalam)	Mr. M.V. Varghese	516-673-4583
Lay Leader (English)	Mr. Roshan Varughese	516.708.6661
Mandalam Representative	Mr. Anil T Thomas	973.659.3414
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. James Alex	516.640.5588
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. Saji K Varughese	718.332.2751
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mr. Abraham K Daniel	718-417-8441

### **Representatives of Organizations**

Sunday School/Assembly Rep.	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	516.812.9148
Edavaka Mission	TBA	TBA
Sevika Sanghom	TBA	TBA
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Biju M Varughese	516.750.5474
Youth Fellowship	TBA	TBA
Choir	TBA	TBA

### **Representatives of Area Prayer Groups**

Astoria/Jackson Hts./Flushing/ Randolph/Pelham/Connecticut.	Mr. Cherukara Philipose	718.359.3158
Coney Island/Brooklyn	Mr. Iype P Abraham	718.769.1015
Ridgewood/Wyckoff	Mr. Cherian Moolakkal	718.456.0013
Bellerose/Queens Vill/Glenoaks	Mr. Rajan Thomas	516.519.8374
Floral Park	Mr. Mathew Varughese	718.347.7165
Elmont/Rosedale/Valley Stream	Mr. M.C. Varughese	516.825.3895
New Hyde Park	Mr. Rinu Varughese	516.673.4583
Garden City Park	Mr. V.C. Abraham	516.812.9148
Long Island	Mr. Vinson Alex	516.672.7404

### **Auditors**

Mr. George C Mathew	631.847.3431
Mr. E.P. Philip	516.223.0752

## **Vicar's message:**

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the matchless name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We have entered the New Year and let us thank God for His countless blessings and guidance that we have experienced in the last year, 2017. It gives me immense pleasure in addressing you all again through this newsletter as the vicar of the Church. By the grace of God we came to this parish and have completed 20 months with our responsibilities entrusted us by the Church. Let me acknowledge God's presence and providence we experienced throughout the Journey, which are beyond our measure. We are deeply touched by the cooperation extended to us by the Church office bearers, the Committee members and the entire Epiphany family to the fruitful ministry in the Church. Once again, we express our love and thanks to all, and submit ourselves in the mighty hands of God for an effective ministry that will be fruitful to all members of the parish, irrespective of age.

Our diocesan Thirumeni's visit in the parish was fruitful. Thirumeni attended the committee meeting and in his address he discussed about the mission and ministry of the Church at-large. He emphasized that our attitude towards the mission need to change, by shifting focus to 'how we can contribute' from rather than 'how we gain.' He expressed his concern that we need to acknowledge our young generations by providing them opportunities to serve God more dearly and clearly through the Church activities. Among the relevant questions to be explored are: How to bring new faces in the church activities? How is it possible to create an "I am wanted" attitude among the youths. Secondly, he stressed the urgent need for developing good relationship among parishioners irrespective of all barriers like language and culture. The worshipping community should feel that church is a place where they are acknowledged and respected. Thirdly, he said that it is always good to arrange more meaningful and productive programs, which will be more effective to the mission and ministry of the diocese and the church at-large. The Neighbourhood Mission, the Native American Mission, the Indian Mission, the Mexico Mission, the Light to Life program are the mission activities of the diocese, where we contribute our time, resources and talents largely.

“Be joyful always: pray continually: give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus” (1 Thessalonian 5: 16 -18). These verses depict two truths toward the *necessity of prayer and thanksgiving*. The first truth is that continuous worship of God is the content for all of life, not just the time we spent in a sanctuary. If all of life is worship for those who seek to do God's will, giving thanks always, in all the circumstances, is inevitable, Paul notes. A meaningful life of worship means continuous thanksgiving. The second truth Paul presupposes is that life's depth, not solely its surfaces, must catch our mind. We can always find obvious and apparent reasons to be thankful. But we should go beyond and praise and give glory to God for everything that happens to us.

We are called to live by the values of true discipleship, the greatest of which are “be obedient” and “be submissive.” Let the New Year be a time of re-dedication for us to have good spiritual growth in all aspects of our lives. I look forward to your active and prayerful participation in the new year. May the Almighty Lord be with us and bless our ways and our ministry in this faith journey. May God bless you all abundantly and **wish you all a happy and prosperous new year 2018.**

With Prayerful Regards,  
Jogy achen,  
December 28, 2017.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Program</u></b>	<b><u>Special Observance</u></b>
Sunday Jan. 07	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	God's Revelation that redeems all.
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday Jan. 14	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (Malayalam)	Life Worthy of the Holy Calling.
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (English)	
Sunday Jan. 21	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	One Lord-One Baptism
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday Jan.28	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (Malayalam)	Church A Praying Community.
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (English)	

**LECTIONARY**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson</u></b>	<b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson</u></b>	<b><u>Epistle</u></b>	<b><u>Gospel</u></b>
Jan. 07	Isa. 61:1-11	Rev.5:1-10	Acts. 27:18-26	St. Luke 4:16-21
Jan. 14	Prov.23:19-35	Rom.6:12-23	Gal. 5:16-24	St. Matt.7:15-23
Jan. 21	Num. 11:23-30	1 John 3:1-11	Eph. 4:1-10	St. John 10:7-18
Jan. 28	Gen. 18:19-33	1 Pet. 4:7-16	James. 5:13-18	St. Matt 6:1-9

**ASSISTANCE & USHERING: 2018**

<b><u>Month</u></b>	<b><u>Prayer Group</u></b>
January	New Hyde Park
February	Garden City Park
March	Long Island

**AREA PRAYER MEETINGS**

	<b><u>Area</u></b>	<b><u>Residence</u></b>
Sunday Jan. 07 5.00 PM	Bellerose Queen Village Jamaica	TBA
Sunday Jan. 07 7.00 pm	Floral Park	TBA
Saturday Jan. 13 7:00 PM	Coney Island	TBA
Sunday Jan. 14 5:00 PM	Ridgewood Wyckoff Richmond Hill	Mr. Skaria Varghese 118-15 103 <sup>rd</sup> Ave Richmond Hill, NY 11419 Ph: 718-847-4632
Sunday Jan. 21 5:00 PM	New Hyde Park	Mr. Abraham George 23 Rhodes St New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-328-0212
Sunday Jan. 21 7:00 PM	Garden City Park	Mr. V.C. Abraham 675 Flanders Dr North Woodmere, NY 11581 Ph: 516-812-9148
Saturday Jan. 27 7:00 PM	Elmont/Rosedale Valley Stream	TBA
Sunday Jan. 28 6:30 PM	Long Island	Mr. Nikhil Philip 592 Benton Rd East Meadow, NY 11554 Ph: 516-804-5977

## SEVIKA SANGHOM

<u>DATE &amp; TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
Thursday Jan. 04 10.00 AM	Coney Island Bible Study	Mrs. Mary Saji 2553 East 11 <sup>th</sup> Street Coney Island, NY 11235 Ph: 718-332-2751
Friday Jan. 05 10.00 AM	Fasting Prayer (SS & EM)	In the Church
Friday Jan. 12 10.00 AM	Fasting Prayer	Mrs. Chinnamma Thomas 1097 Johnston Ave Wantagh, NY 11793 Ph: 516-826-4727
Friday Jan. 19 10.00 AM	Fasting Prayer (SS & EM)	In the Church
Thursday Jan. 25 7.00 PM	New Hyde Park Garden City Park Bible Study	Mrs. Tissy Alexander 40 North 10 <sup>th</sup> Street New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Ph: 516-328-0425

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
January 2018	Every Sunday 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM	Sunday School Class

The first semester examination of the **Sunday School** will be held on January 21st Sunday at 9:45 am immediately after the Sunday School Assembly. All teachers and Students are requested to prepare for the Exam.

Superintendent, Mrs. Mariamma Abraham

## **MALAYALAM CHOIR**

Choir practices will be held on the following Sundays: January 7th and 21st at 9:00AM and also on Saturday January 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Church. All choir members are requested to attend these practices.

## **YUVAJANA SAKHYAM**

Yuvajanasakyam prayer meeting will be held on Sunday ,  
January 14th 2018 at 7:00 pm at the residence of  
Mr. Toby Chacko  
20 Bryant Ave  
New Hyde Park, NY 11040  
Ph [516 305 5123](tel:5163055123)

Yuvajanasakyam kick off meeting will take place along with this meeting, requesting everyone's prayerful participation.

## **CONDOLENCE MESSAGE**

Mr. George Thomas (Raju) our beloved member from Hicksville passed away on December 13<sup>th</sup> 2017. He was a longtime member of our parish who attended the Church service regularly. He served the Church in different capacities like he was a lay leader, choir leader, executive committee member, etc. We will truly miss him.

Wake service was held on Sunday, Dec. 17th from 5-9:00 PM at Park Funeral Chapels, 2175 Jericho Tpke, New Hyde Park. Home Going service was held on Monday, Dec.18th at 9:00 AM at Epiphany Mar Thoma Church followed by burial at All Saints cemetery in Great Neck, NY.

The Vicar and members of the parish express our heartfelt condolence to the bereaved family especially to Valsa & Jinu. Please uphold this family in our prayers.



## **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:**

Erin Ann Varghese	Ridgewood	1-Jan
Rebecca Anson	Merrick	1-Jan
Maria George	Ridgewood	1-Jan
Anju Annie Mathew	Brooklyn	1-Jan
Elsy Thomas Philip	Monroe	1-Jan
Kurien Abraham	Piscataway	2-Jan
Jeena Thomas	Albertson	2-Jan
Jacob D. Koshy	North Woodmere	2-Jan
Jacob Mathew	Fresh Meadows	2-Jan
Regin Samuel Abraham	New Hyde Park	3-Jan
Nadiya Antony	Mineola	3-Jan
Sosamma Varghese	Merrick	3-Jan
Dr. Abel John Cherian	Floral Park	4-Jan
Anitha George	Merrick	4-Jan
Koshy Johnkutty	Jamaica Estates	4-Jan
Mariamamma Varghese	New Hyde Park	4-Jan
Chacko Varghese	Bellerose	5-Jan
Mariamamma Mathew	Ridgewood	5-Jan
Philip P. Varghese	Roslyn	5-Jan
Valsamma Mathew	Elmont	5-Jan
Jeeji Y. Mathunny	New Hyde Park	6-Jan
Mariamamma Mathew	Brooklyn	7-Jan
Juby Thomas Eappen	Merrick	7-Jan
Mariamamma George	Albertson	7-Jan
Mirian George	Elmont	8-Jan
Elizabeth Easow	Richmond Hill	8-Jan
Noble Thomas	West Hempstead	8-Jan
Shibu Mathew	Staten Island	9-Jan
Sharon K. Jayan	New Hyde Park	9-Jan
Christine John	Garden City Park	9-Jan
Saramma Mathew	Glen Oaks	10-Jan
Cara Wriolie	East Meadow	11-Jan

Elizabeth Bobby Thariath	Rosedale	11-Jan
Mariamamma John	New Hyde Park	12-Jan
Rosamma Mathews	Glendale	12-Jan
Biju Mathew	New Hyde Park	13-Jan
Roshan Abraham	Ridgewood	13-Jan
Joseph K. Chacko	Garden City Park	13-Jan
Sosamma Alexander	Elmont	14-Jan
Aleena Elsa Joe	Elmont	14-Jan
Kevin Samuel Abraham	New Hyde Park	15-Jan
Mariamamma Chacko	Elmont	15-Jan
Philip Cherian Varghese	New Hyde Park	15-Jan
Mary Vijaya Mathew	Farmingdale	15-Jan
Micah George Varghese	Bellmore	15-Jan
Dickey Varghese	Ridgewood	15-Jan
Mathew T. Mathew	Garden City Park	16-Jan
Seena Mathew	New Hyde Park	17-Jan
Saramma Varughese	New Hyde Park	17-Jan
Midhun K Jose	Franklin Square	18-Jan
Abraham D. Kochalummoottil	Ridgewood	18-Jan
Amoolya Ann Varghese	Elmont	18-Jan
Johnson P. Varghese	Elmont	18-Jan
Terri John Thomas	North Woodmere	18-Jan
Lebha Mathew	Hicksville	19-Jan
Sonu Wilson Oommen	Floral Park	19-Jan
Jobin Thomas	Brooklyn	19-Jan
Saji K. Varghese	Brooklyn	19-Jan
Mary Saji	Brooklyn	20-Jan
Avery Grace Mathew	New Hyde Park	20-Jan
Karina Alex Thomas	Elmont	21-Jan
Tissy Alexander	New Hyde Park	21-Jan
Gracy C. John	New Hyde Park	22-Jan
Jaison Amos	Merrick	22-Jan
Hannah S. Thomas	Bellerose	22-Jan
Thomas K. Mathew	West Melbourne	23-Jan

Benjamin Thariath	Rosedale	23-Jan
Abraham M. Thannickal	Brooklyn	23-Jan
Jayden Thomas Jacob	Elmont	23-Jan
Mani N. Mani	New Hyde Park	23-Jan
Nidhi Jacob	Brooklyn	23-Jan
Jessy S. Oommen	Richmond Hill	23-Jan
Susanna Elizabeth George	Merrick	23-Jan
Nikhil Philip	East Meadow	24-Jan
Rev. P.M. Thomas	Manhasset Hills	24-Jan
Aleyamma Jacob	Elmont	25-Jan
Aleyamma Abraham	Glenoaks	25-Jan
Chinnamma Thomas	Wantagh	25-Jan
Rexel Varghese	New City	26-Jan
Varghese K Pappachan	East Meadow	26-Jan
Sosamma Mathews	Floral Park	26-Jan
Annamma Thomas	Manhasset Hills	26-Jan
Jeremiah E. Mathew	Maiden	26-Jan
Samuel John	Manhasset Hills	26-Jan
Marykutty Philipose	Queens Village	27-Jan
Mariamamma Abraham	North Woodmere	27-Jan
Leah Grace George	Albertson	28-Jan
Gabrielle Marie Daniel	Elmont	28-Jan
Johnson John	Syosset	28-Jan
Renzy M. Mani	New Hyde Park	29-Jan
Alex Thomas	Elmont	30-Jan
Jency Mammen	Floral Park	31-Jan

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:**

Jose M. Nalonnil	Manhasset Hills	1-Jan
John Daniel	Garden City Park	2-Jan
Koshy Mathew	Elmont	8-Jan
Abraham M. Thannickal	Brooklyn	8-Jan
Samuel John	Manhasset Hills	9-Jan
Subash Thomas	Bellerose	10-Jan
Mathew Varghese	Valley Stream	11-Jan
Liju Abraham	Brooklyn	12-Jan
Thomas Varghese	Brooklyn	12-Jan
George C. George	East Meadow	12-Jan
Fredy Varghese	New Hyde Park	12-Jan
Ansu Abraham	Ridgewood	15-Jan
Philip Varghese	Elmont	16-Jan
Mathew Koshy	New Hyde Park	17-Jan
Thomas Easow	Richmond Hill	18-Jan
James Mathew	Manhasset Hills	18-Jan
Anup T. George	Glen Oaks	19-Jan
Thomas K. Thomas	Valley Stream	21-Jan
George Kuruvilla	New Hyde Park	21-Jan
Shaji Varghese	New Hyde Park	23-Jan
Mani N. Mani	New Hyde Park	23-Jan
Sanjay Mathew	Floral Park	24-Jan
Thomas Pothen	Floral Park	26-Jan
George P. Jose	Glen Oaks	26-Jan
John Varghese	Deer Park	26-Jan
Varughese George	Elmont	29-Jan

# B I B L E

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

When in sorrow.....	John 14
When men fail you.....	Psalm 27
When you have sinned.....	Psalm 51
When you have worry.....	Matthew 6:19-34
When you are in danger.....	Psalm 91
When God seems far away.....	Psalm 139
When your faith needs stirring.....	Hebrews 11
When you are lonely and fearful.....	Psalm 23
When you grow bitter and critical.....	1 Cor. 13
When you feel down and out.....	Romans 8:31-39
When you want peace and rest.....	Matthew 11:25-30
When the world seems bigger than God .....	Psalm 90
When you want Christian assurance.....	Romans 8:1-30
When you leave home for labor or travel.....	Psalm 121
When your prayers grow narrow or selfish.....	Psalm 67
When you want courage for a task.....	Joshua 1
When you think of investments/returns.....	Mark 10
How to get along with fellowmen.....	Romans 12
For great invention/opportunity.....	Isaiah 55
For Paul's secret to happiness.....	Col. 3:12-17
If you want to be fruitful.....	John 15
If your pocketbook is empty.....	Psalm 37
If your losing confidence in people.....	1Cor. 13
If people seem unkind.....	John 15
If discouraged about your work.....	Psalm 126
If you find the world growing small, and you great.....	Psalm 19

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DIRECT PETITIONS HEAVENWARD

## YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S CORNER.

Then he said to them all, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. -  
Luke 9:23(NRSV)

Dearly Beloved in Christ:

By the Grace of God, we are enjoying a New Year. As we enter this New Year, it is a time of self-reflection. Our Lord and Savior told us to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow him. These words challenge us today as they challenged the original disciples.

Society tells us that we should do what we want to do. Society tells us we should do what makes us feel good. Society tells us to take care of our own needs and desires first and foremost.

But a Christian does not listen to what society says. A Christian is to listen to and obey what Christ says. A Christian is committed to being Christ-like. We cannot say we are a Christian then obey Jesus when it is easy and convenient for us. A commitment means doing what we are supposed to do. We should not make excuses for not doing what we know we should do. No excuses, no reservations. Daily we need to do what God wants us to do. It may not be easy. It may not be quick. It may not be what we want to do. But we are Christians, we are Christ-like, we do what God wants us to do.

As a Christian, we need to be committed to God, to our families, to our church, to our job, and to our community. May God bless all of us this New Year and enable us to be faithful and committed Christians.

Rev. Shibi Abraham  
December 26, 2017

**Sunday School Committee 2018**

Superintendent	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	
Secretary	Miss. Nimmy Jacob	
Treasurer	Mr. Jinu M Joy	

**Edavaka Mission Committee 2017**

Vice President	Mr. P.V. Varughese	
Secretary	Mr. Mathew N Varughese	
Treasurer	Mr. John K Samuel	

**Sevika Sanghom Committee 2017**

Vice President	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	
Secretary	Mrs. Mariamma John	
Treasurer	Mrs. Alice Joseph	

**Yuvajana Sakhyam Committee 2018**

Vice President	Mr. Sony Joseph	
Secretary	Mr. Biju Mathew Varghese	
Treasurer	Mr. Anup T George	

**Youth Fellowship Committee 2017**

Vice President	Miss. Ancy Oommen	
Secretary	Mr. Jonah Mathew	
Treasurer	Mr. Joshua Mathew	
Joint Secretary	Mr. Roshan Varughese	

**Malayalam Choir Committee 2017**

Leader	Mr. Shibu S Baby	
Assistant Leader	Mrs. Susan Kurian	
Secretary	Mr. Abraham K Daniel	
Treasurer	Mr. Babu Varghese	

**English Choir Committee 2017**

Leader	Mr. Joshua Mathew	
Assistant Leader	Miss. Gilsy Saji	
Secretary	Miss. Beverly Varghese	
Treasurer	Miss. Reena Varughese	

**Senior Citizens Fellowship Committee 2018**

Vice President	Mr. T.M. Mathew	
Secretary	Mr. E.P. Philip	
Treasurer	Mr. Rajan Thomas	

**Young Family Fellowship Committee 2017**

Coordinator	Mr. Shibu Mathew	
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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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(News Letter available on website)