



# EPIPHANY

## MAR THOMA CHURCH

**NEWS LETTER**  
**AUGUST- 2019**



**INDIA**  
HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

**FAITH IS A JOURNEY NOT A DESTINATION**



### **Executive Committee 2019**

President / Vicar	Rev. Siby Pallichira sibuachen@gmail.com	718.845.2920 718.612.1891
Rtd. Clergy	Rev P.M Thomas	516-750-8107
Vice President	Mr. V.C. Abraham Vcabraham2001@yahoo.com	516-812-9148
Secretary	Mr. Chacko K. Jacob Chacko_k1@yahoo.com	718.743.6160
Treasurer	Mr. Abraham Thomas vechuchira@aol.com	718.343.7622
Accountant	Mr. Subash Thomas ayanisubash@yahoo.com	917.715.3704
Lay Leader (Malayalam)	Mr. Thomas Mathew Tmathew651@aol.com	516-869-9607
Lay Leader (English)	Mr. Chris Joseph cjstar2000@yahoo.com	516 474 0911
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
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham	516-812-9148

### **Representatives of Organizations**

Sunday School	Mrs. Mary Roy	516-873-0671
Edavaka Mission	Mr. Mathew N. Varghese	516-285-5753
Sevika Sanghom	Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas	718-332-4121
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mrs. Saramma Varghese	516-673-4583
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Roshan Varghese	516-673-4583
Choir	Miss. Gilsy Saji	718-332-2751

### **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. Skaria Varghese	718.847.4632
Bellerose/Queens Vill/Glenoaks	Mr. John K. Thomas	718.468.8246
Floral Park	Mr. Sosamma Thomas	718.343.1817
Elmont/Rosedale/Valley Stream	Mr. Thomas John	516.812.9515
New Hyde Park	Mr. Babu Varghese	516-327-0159
Garden City Park	Mr. Jose M. Nallonnil	516.869.0678
Long Island	Mr. Biju Mathew Varghese	516.750.5474

### **Auditors**

Mr. Abraham Thomas	516.558.7638
Mrs. Alice Joseph	516.358.9188

## **Vicar's message:**

***Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise His Holy Name.***  
(Ps.103:1)

Dearly beloved in Christ,

In His providence, we are privileged to witness the goodness of a new month, August. According to the church lectionary, the month of August starts with the 15 -Day Lent. In the Syriac Church tradition, at this Lenten season, we meditate the dedication and commitment of the mother of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary, her willingness to the will of God, preparing her son for the salvific process of God.

When we look into the history of the Mar Thoma Church, 15-Day lent has got a very revolutionary phase in terms of the language of worship. It is at the two Holy Communion services, one at the beginning of the lent at Kollad Church in Kottayam, led by Kaithayil Geevarghese Malpan Achen and the other on the ending of the lent at Maramon Church, led by Palakunnathu Abraham Malpan Achen, Malayalam words were first used in worship services in the Malankara church. Looking at the Syriac Taksa (worship order) of the Holy Qurbana, the Malpan Achens instantly translated and chanted the Sedra prayer in Malayalam. Though it claimed a lot of resistance from the so called 'traditionals', it was one of the pioneering moves of the reformation process of the Malankara Church. The crux of the reformation was to affirm the medium of worship need to be in the medium of the worshipper. Imbibing this spirit, our faithful forerunners translated the Bible and the liturgical texts to Malayalam, the language of the worshipper, without losing its spirit, style and culture.

In our American context, we were able to translate the whole liturgy for the sake of our children who knows only English. Now, all the liturgical texts are at hand in English. However, at some point of time, we have miserably failed in transferring the spirit of our liturgy to our younger generations. Compared to other Episcopal Syriac churches in America, the level of effective participation of our younger generation in our worship service is getting dangerously low. This proves us the fact that just the translation of words in the liturgy will not ring the bell.

Instead, it is words, spirit, style and culture of worship need to be translated, transferred and transmitted... Ignoring the importance of translating and educating the spirit, style and culture of worship to the younger generations and adopting new patterns of worship will no way benefit the church. It is high time for us to realize the need of inculcating the traditional divine values and culture that held us together for centuries as a worshipping community in our future generations.

May the Spirit of God guide us and help us...

In Christ,

**Sibu Pallichira Achen**

**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 August 04	9:00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday August 11	9.00 AM	Praise & Worship (Malayalam)	
	10:15 AM	Holy Communion ( English )	
Sunday August 18	9.00 AM	Praise & Worship (English)	New Academic Year Service - I
	10:15	Holy Communion (Malayalam)	
Sunday August 25	9.00 AM	Praise & Worship (Malayalam)	New Academic Year Service - II
	10:15AM	Holy Communion (English)	

**ASSISTANCE & USHERING: 2018**

<b><u>Month</u></b>	<b><u>Prayer Group</u></b>
August 2019	Elmont
September 2019	Long Island
October 2019	Astoria/ Jackson Heights

**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>
Aug 04	1Kgs 17:1-15	Jede 1 <sup>st</sup> 17-25	Gal. 2:1-10	Matt 22:1-14
Aug 11	Gen 8:1-14	Col 3:1-11	1Pet 3:16-22	John 3:1-8
Aug 18	Exod 7:1-7	2Tim 3:10-17	Gal 1:1-6	Matt 5:17-20
Aug 25	Exod 12:1-14	1Cor 11:23-33	1Cor10:15-17	Luke 22:7-20

### **Area Prayer Meetings**

Date	Area	Venue
Sunday August 04 07:00 PM	Floral park	Mr. Raju T. Oommen 256-10, 83 Av, Floral Park Tel: 718-347-0573
Sunday August 11 07:00 PM	Ridgewood/ Wykoff	Mr. Skariah Varghese 118-15, 103 Av Richmond Hill Tel: 718-847-4632
Sunday August 18 05:00 PM	New Hyde Park	Mr. Shaji Varghese 541 Bran St. New Hyde Park Tel.# 516-326-7525
Sunday August 18 07:00 PM	Garden city Park	Mr. Varghese Daniel 245 Court house Rd Franklin Sq. Tel.# 516-358-0279
Saturday August 24 07:00 PM	Elmont	Mr. Varghese George 179 Hathaway Av Elmont Tel: 516-775-0954
Sunday August 25 07:00PM	Long Island	Mr. Mathew Kurian 942 Maple Lane East meadow

## Sevika Sanghom - BIBLE STUDY

Date	Area	Venue
Thursday August 01 10:00 AM	Cony Island/ Bay Ridge	Mrs. Mariamma Abraham 629 Ave Y Cony Island Tel: 718-769-1015
Thursday August 08 10:00 AM	Bellerose/Floral Park	Mrs. Susan Thomas 145 – Irving Av Floral Park Tel 516-519-8374
Thursday August 15 10:00 AM	Elmont/Long Island	Mrs. Susan Kurian 701 Crans St. Elmont Tel: 516-596-7514
Thursday August 22 07:00 AM	New Hyde Park/ Garden City	Mr. Achamma Varghese 113 Patton Blvd New Hyde Park Tel. 516-673-4583

## Sunday School

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
AUGUST 2019		Summer Vacation

## Malayalam Choir

Choir practices will be held on the following Sundays: August 04 & 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM and on Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Church. All choir members are requested to attend these practices.

### **Senior citizens fellowship**

The monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August, 10:00 AM at church. All senior citizen fellowship members are cordially invited.

### **Condolences**

1. Our Member Mr. K. K Mathew (90) passed away. Our beloved members services, love and care to this parish is remembered with thanks at this time. May almighty Lord comfort the bereaving family

The following persons are also called to eternity last month

2. Mr. John Eapen (72) brother in law of our member Mrs. Mariamma Abraham
3. Mr Jose Mathew (67) father of our member Mrs. Jyothy Chacko
4. Mrs. Elizabeth Koshy (72) our Ex-member and sister in law of our member Mathew Koshy
5. Mrs. Susan Mathews (91) aunt of our member Dr. Cherian Alexander

Parish express heartfelt condolences. Please uphold these families in our prayers.



## **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Date</b>
Tincy Sam	New Hyde Park	1-Aug
Janelle Susan Mathew	Charlotte	2-Aug
Lillienn Eliza Thariath	Rosedale	2-Aug
Betsy Philip	Merrick	2-Aug
Jeenu Philip	Elmont	2-Aug
Sarah M. Mathew	Brooklyn	3-Aug
Misha Thomas	Long Island City	3-Aug
Jerrin Pothen	Floral Park	3-Aug
Mammen Mathew	Brooklyn	4-Aug
George Alexander	Elmont	4-Aug
Riya Mariamma Mathew	Brooklyn	5-Aug
Bobby Philip Oommen	Elmont	5-Aug
Dr. Julie A. Cherian	Dix Hills	5-Aug
Robin K Mathews	Glendale	5-Aug
George Isac	Vestal	5-Aug
Suja George Mathew	Floral Park	5-Aug
Alexander Vinson	East Meadow	6-Aug
Obye Varghese	New Hyde Park	6-Aug
Philip Mathai	East Meadow	6-Aug
Vincent Abraham Kurian	Merrick	6-Aug
Mathew Varghese	Valley Stream	7-Aug
Jiji Thomas	New Hyde Park	7-Aug
Mary Johnkutty	Jamaica Estates	8-Aug
Hannah Susan Jacob	East Meadow	9-Aug
Dylan Mason Cherian	Dix Hills	9-Aug
Stanley Sam Philipose	Brooklyn	9-Aug
Roby Varghese	New Hyde Park	10-Aug
Shibu S. Baby	Kew Gardens	10-Aug
Dr. Nicy Philip	Floral Park	10-Aug
Jason Thomas	Floral Park	11-Aug
Edward Varghese	New Hyde Park	11-Aug
Thankamma George	Floral Park	12-Aug
Lijy Mary Abraham	Brooklyn	13-Aug
Christa Rose Alexander	New Hyde Park	14-Aug
Susan Cherian Varghese	New Hyde Park	15-Aug

Janice John	Syosset	15-Aug
Sheela Mathew	New Hyde Park	15-Aug
Michele Chinu Mathew	New Hyde Park	15-Aug
Sajosh Mathew	Garden City Park	16-Aug
Sheela Jacob	Glen Oaks	16-Aug
Shaun J. Daniel	Garden City Park	16-Aug
Jaison Varughese	Elmont	17-Aug
Mary Mathew	Garden City Park	17-Aug
Chelippallil John	New Hyde Park	17-Aug
Alice Jacob	Floral Park	17-Aug
Aleyamma John	East Meadow	19-Aug
Alan Mathew Saji	Queens Village	19-Aug
Shaji Varghese	New Hyde Park	20-Aug
Julianne Rachel Thariath	Rosedale	20-Aug
Marykutty Chacko	East Meadow	20-Aug
Andrew Abraham	Hicksville	21-Aug
Justin Chacko	East Meadow	21-Aug
David Abraham	Piscataway	21-Aug
Jincy Mary Johnson	East Meadow	23-Aug
Stephen G. Mathew	Floral Park	23-Aug
Saramma Chacko	East Meadow	24-Aug
Julie John	East Meadow	24-Aug
Cyril Abraham	Floral Park	24-Aug
Merlin Mathew	New Hyde Park	24-Aug
Rinu Ignatius	Mineola	25-Aug
Joanne John	Hicksville	25-Aug
Ashley Varghese	Deer Park	26-Aug
C. V. Chacko	New Hyde Park	26-Aug
Annamma Philip	Merrick	26-Aug
Abraham K. George	Floral Park	26-Aug
Jessy M. John	Elmont	26-Aug
Sosa Abraham	Bellerose	27-Aug
Joshua Mathew Phillips	Westbury	27-Aug
Sherin J. Daniel	Garden City Park	28-Aug
Bobbie Mathew	New Hyde Park	29-Aug
Jennifer J. Chacko	Elmont	30-Aug
Julie Philipose	Plainview	30-Aug

## Wedding Anniversary

Name	Area	Date
Sajosh Mathew	GARDEN CITY PARK	2-Aug
Chacko Varghese	BELLEROSE	3-Aug
Jeffy John	ELMONT	4-Aug
Siju Mathews	FLORAL PARK	5-Aug
Dr. Tony Abraham	FLORAL PARK	7-Aug
Abraham V. Thomas	MERRICK	7-Aug
George Isac	ASTORIA/FLUSHING	8-Aug
Thomas Varghese	ELMONT	8-Aug
Thomas C. Varghese	FLORAL PARK	9-Aug
Abraham George	NEW HYDE PARK	10-Aug
Jaison Varughese	ELMONT	11-Aug
Rev. Sibu Pallichira	OZONE PARK	11-Aug
Alex Daniel	GARDEN CITY PARK	14-Aug
George P. Jacob	NEW HYDE PARK	15-Aug
Tom B. Thomas	CONNECTICUT	16-Aug
Joseph Varghese	BAYSIDE	17-Aug
James Alex	EAST MEADOW	19-Aug
Dr. Abi Tom Cherian	FLORAL PARK	20-Aug
Vinson Alex	EAST MEADOW	20-Aug
Nikhil Philip	EAST MEADOW	21-Aug
Varghese Mathew	EAST MEADOW	21-Aug
Shibu John	CONEY ISLAND	22-Aug
Dr. Thomas Bains	ELMONT	24-Aug
Simon Samuel	BELLEROSE	27-Aug

## YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Dearly beloved in Christ,

We have reached the eighth month of the year. Looking back, we often wonder how time flies too fast. For most students summer is over and it's time to go back to school. Some are excited, most are not. But it is a reality that we have to face, and it is a time for us to equip ourselves, understand the talents that God has blessed us with, and endure all that we have for Him. Jesus said to the blind man Bartimaeus in Mark 10 "what do you want me to do for you?". He wanted to see. Jesus immediately gave him sight and Jesus understood Bartimaeus' heart as faithful and loyal. We are pursuing many things that we desire, but where is our heart at? Are we faithful to God? In everything that we are called to do, at the present moment, let us all understand to do everything faithfully. Even if it is being a student. Let God work through us, so that we can prepare our lives to be all that God wants us to be and do all that God wants us to do. Remember, Christians are called to be faithful, not successful.

For our motherland, this month is special as India celebrates her 72<sup>nd</sup> Independence Day. Let us thank God that India was a true model for peaceful demonstration of gaining Independence through Mahatma Gandhi and by that, also enlightening peace towards freedom through civil rights activist Late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Let us remember history's past and be thankful for the journey that God had provided us thus far. Although India celebrates Independence, there are a lot of people struggling without clean water, poor living habits, along with that, many are lost and not knowing the message of the Gospel. As we celebrate India's independence, let us deeply pray for her.

Hope this month is a blessing to all, all the best for all going back to school. God is always with you. He will never leave you. Just make sure, you do not leave God.

Much love,

**Jess Achen**

### Upcoming Events

Saturday August 10	<b>Parish Picnic</b> Eisenhauer Park – LOT .# 06 08:30AM Onwards Sports, Games, BBQ.... Breakfast and Lunch will be served. All are cordially invited
Sunday August 18 & August 25	New Academic Year Services (Along with church Services)
Sunday September 01	Harvest Festival
Friday Sep. 6,7 & 8	Parish Convention
Sunday Nov. 24	Thanksgiving
Saturday Dec 21	X'Mas Carol
Thursday Dec. 31	Watch Night Service & New Year Service



## **List of Organization Office Bearers**

### **Sunday School**

Superintendent	: Mrs. Mary P. Roy	516 467 9643
Secretary	: Mrs. Glory Chacko	917 912 2839
Treasurer	: Mr. Shibu Mathew	516 375 8952

### **Youth Fellowship**

Vice President	: Ms. Anjana Thomas	516 641 8019
Secretary	: Ms. Karina Thomas	516 713 5221
Joint Secretary	: Ms. Alena Koshy	917 862 0533
Treasurer	: Mr. Alexander Vinson	516 384 0738

### **Church Choir ( English)**

Choir Leader	: Mr. Bradly Varghese	516 508 0271
Joint Choir Leader	: Mr. Jacob Chacko	917 579 8013
Secretary	: Ms. Alice Mary Mathew	516 474 6958
Treasurer	: Ms. Beverly Varughese	516 413 9204

### **Church Choir ( Malayalam)**

Choir Leader	: Mrs. Susan Kurian	516 567 7514
Joint Choir Leader	: Mr. Shibu S. Baby	347 623 1324
Secretary	: Mrs. Mary George	917 753 6137
Treasurer	: Mr. Varghese Alex	718 316 5911

### **Yuvajana Sakhyam**

Vice President	: Mr. Biju Mathew Varghese	516 750 5474
Secretary	: Mrs. Saramma Varghese	718 213 9172
Joint Secretary	: Mr. Midhun Jose	347 972 1147
Treasurer	: Mrs. Gigi Mathew	718 581 3168

### **Edavaka Mission**

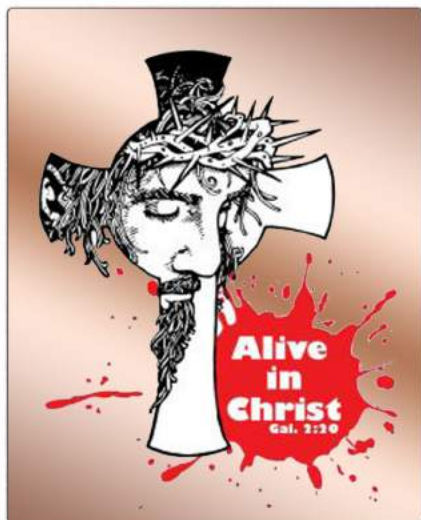
Vice President	: Mr. M C Varghese	516 825 3895
Secretary	: Mr. Mathew N Varghese	516 285 5753
Treasurer	: Mr. Thomas Chacko	917 617 5548

### **Senior Citizen's Fellowship**

Vice President	: Mr. T M Mathew	526 741 4459
Secretary	: Mr. E P Philip	516 223 0752
Treasurer	: Mr. Rajan Thomas	516 519 8374

### **Sevika Sanghom**

Vice president	: Mrs. Mariamma Thomas	718 464 0695
Secretary	: Mrs. Aleyama Thomas	718 332 4121
Treasurer	: Mrs. Alice Joseph	516 263 0410



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