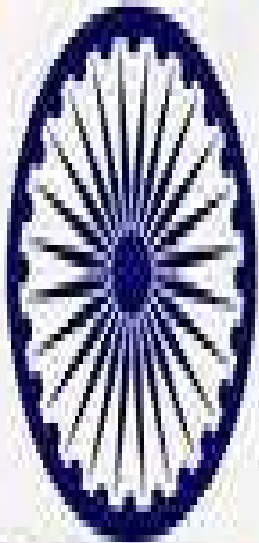


26
JANUARY



REPUBLIC DAY

St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, NY

34 Morris Street, Yonkers, NY 10705

<http://www.stthomasmtc.org>

JAN



2025

Secretary:
P.T.THOMAS
10 Carbery Ct
Pomona NY 10970
Ph: (845) 596-3030
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Vicar / President:
Rev. John Philip
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Yonkers NY 10705
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NEWSLETTER VOL. XLV NO. 1

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE
MAR THOMA SYRIAN CHURCH OF MALABAR

Date	Time	Worship
Tue/ Wed Dec 31/ Jan 1	10.00 PM	Watchnight Service followed by Malayalam Holy Communion Service Live Stream available
Sun, Jan 5	9.30 AM	English Holy Communion Service Live Stream available
Sun, Jan 12	9.30 AM	Malayalam Holy Communion Service Live Stream available
Sun, Jan 19	9.30 AM	Malayalam Holy Communion Service Live Stream Available
Sun, Jan 26	9.30 AM	English Holy Communion Service followed by Parish Day Celebrations Live Stream Available

Lectionary and the important days in the church calendar

Day & Date	Lessons	Epistle-Gospels
Wed Jan 1	New Year Day, Circumcision of our Lord: Heartfelt introspection by the soul	
	Deut 10:12-22 Gal 5:1-12	Rom 2:17-29 Luke 2:15-21
Sun Jan 5	Mission outside Kerala: Jesus who sends for mission	
	Exod 3:1-17 Acts 16:6-15	Rom 10:9-17 Luke 10:1-11
Sun Jan 12	The God of Peace	
	Mic 4:1-7 Rom 5:1-11	Eph 2:11-19 Matt 5:1-9
Sun Jan 19	Ecumenical Sunday: The Church that needs to be one in Christ	
	Zech 8:18-23 1Cor 1:10-18	Col 3:9-17 John 17:13-23
Sun Jan 26	Indian Republic Day: Christian witness in the public sphere Parish Day	
	Isa 60:1-22 Acts 17:10-17	Phil 2:1-18 Luke 13:1-9

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 2024

<u>Position</u>	<u>Full Name</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>
Vicar/President	Rev. John Philip	(914) 450-3162
Vice President	Mr. K.C. Thomas	(914) 374-7180
Secretary	Mr. P.T. Thomas	(845) 596-3030
Treasurer	Mr. Biju P. Varughese	(845) 5960537
Accountant	Mr. Ullas P Thannickal	(845) 638-8075
Lay Leader - Malayalam	Mr. M J George	(914) 924-7774
Lay Leader - English	Mr. Sean Thannickal	(845) 498-8976

AREA PRAYER GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Manhattan/NJ	Mr. Jacob M Varghese	201-481-3165
Queens/LI	Mr. T P Jacob	(516) 365-3750
Rockland	Mr. M.C. Chacko.	845) 356-1848
Rockland	Mr. Varghese E Oommen	(845) 353-1369
Upper Westchester/CT	Mr. Thankachan Geevarghese	(914) 939-0282
Upper Westchester/CT	Dr. Geevarghese Kochumman	(914) 629-7341
Yonkers East	Mr. Thomas V Varghese	(914) 661-6095
Yonkers North	Mr. K C Thomas	(914) 963-3499
Yonkers South/West/ Bronx	Mr. M J George	(914) 376-7185

MANDALAM & DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES

Sabha Mandalam	Mr. Cheriyan Varughese	(914) 965-0969
Diocesan Representatives	Mrs. Sherly Thomas	(516) 796-2672
	Mr. Levan G Thomas	(917) 406-1149
	<i>Mr. Samuel K Samuel</i>	(914) 693-8490

ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Choir	Mr. Danny Eapen	(914) 338-6708
Edavaka Mission	Mr. K G Varghese	(914) 330-9672
Sr Citizens Fellowship	Mr. George Varkey	(845) 268-0812
Sevika Sanghom	Mrs. Rachel Varghese	(914) 330-9672
Sunday School	Mr. Sajjan Abraham	(917) 304-2121
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Shyju Varughese	(845) 5960537
Young Family Fellowship	Mr. Sunil Varughese	(845) 598-3994
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Sabu JoNovh	(914) 364-1850

AUDITORS

Mr. Thomas Oommen	(516) 796-2672
Dr. Varghese Abraham	(914) 961-4405

~Vicar's Message~

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2024

Program	Dates	Conveners
Joint Committee Retreat (Completed)	May 5	Secretary
Graduation Recognition (Completed)	June 23	Sajan Abraham
Picnic (Completed)	Sept 17	M J George Sean Thannickal Cheriyar Varughese
Senior Citizens Day (Completed)	September 15	George Varkey
Retreat (Completed)	September 20-22	T P Jacob Sunil Varghese
Convention (Completed)	October 10-13	K G Varghese
Thanksgiving (Completed)	November 28	Samuel K Samuel Cheriyar Varughese
Christmas Carol Service (Completed)	Dec 21	Sherly Thomas Danny Eapen Shyju Varughese
House Caroling (Completed)	December Weekends	Sabu Joseph
Parish Day 2023	January 26, 2025	Secretary
Food Committee		George Varkey Biju P Varughese Thomas Varghese
Mission		
Ushers		
Audio Video Visual		Sabu Joseph Sean Thannickal

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. Let's thank God for allowing us to enter into the New Year 2025. The celebration of the New Year reminds us that days, seasons and times are arranged by God for the goodness of humans and are to be used according to God's will.



Let me appreciate the Choir, Sunday School and Youth Fellowship members who made the Christmas celebration the most beautiful. The Metropolitan's visit on Christmas Eve was a great blessing to our parish, let me express our gratitude and prayers to our Metropolitan. Let me appreciate all the kids and their parents who participated in the (Edo-Du Maulodo) 25 days Lent meditation. Thanking for your generous participation in the last Financial year. As we entered into a new financial year, I request all your cooperation in the new year. I appreciate the new trustees who took office on January 1st. It is time to prepare for annual general bodies, I request all organizations to prepare the reports and accounts as early as possible.

I request your support for the blessings of Winter Retreat organising under the auspicious of Youth Fellowship on January 10, 11 & 12. The first Sunday we meditate upon Jesus who sends for mission, which is Evangelism. Christ reminds us of the urgent need for evangelists and their work. We should strive for evangelism in every possible way. The second week we meditate upon The God of peace, We live in a time where terribleness and fear arise. We should be able to be the channel of peace to our society and our generations. We observe the third Sunday as Unity Sunday, and ecumenism is a vision of all moving together forward in goodwill. 4th Sunday we meditate upon Christian witness in the public sphere. As we are assigned as light to the land we should play our role faithfully in public sphere.

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Youth Chaplain's Message

Glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit - One True God!

Dearly beloved in Christ,
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As we step into a new year, it's a chance for new goals, fresh starts, and a renewed connection with God. Let's make it a priority to walk closer with Him, allowing His purpose for our lives to shape us into a blessing for those around us. I pray that the Almighty Lord fills your year with joy, growth, and His unending grace for you and your family.

We all strive to grow in every part of life, but progress doesn't just happen—it requires focus and commitment. Life often revolves around five key actions: **thinking, working, loving, worshipping, and prayer.** When these are balanced, we find deeper meaning, appreciation and fulfillment in the life God has blessed us with. **Think deeply.** *"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."* (Philippians 4:8) Our thoughts shape our actions, and our actions shape our future. Positive, focused, and faith-driven thoughts make us stand apart in a world full of distractions. Let's take time to reflect and choose wisely in all we do.

- **Work passionately.** *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."* (Colossians 3:23) Hard work and persistence help us grow mentally, physically, and spiritually. Don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone or pursue your dreams—your effort, when aligned with God's plan, will bear fruit.
- **Love authentically.** *"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."* (John 13:34) Everyone craves love, but real love comes when we let go of grudges and stop being overly critical of others. Instead, look for the good in people, and show them appreciation and kindness. Love isn't just an emotion; it's an action, modeled by Jesus Himself, who calls us to love truthfully and selflessly.
- **Worship genuinely.** At our core, we're designed to connect with God. Worship, prayer, and time spent with Him are more than rituals—they're a lifestyle that brings peace and purpose. *"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks."* (John 4:23) As St. Augustine beautifully said, *"You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You."* Make time to worship and watch how it transforms the way you live.

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OBITUARY

Mrs Achamma Mathai, Pattenkadavil Roy Villa, Kollakdavu, Kerala, sister of our member Mr. Mathew V Zacharia 11 Lakeview Ave, Slate Hill, NY 10973 entered eternity at the age of 85 in Kuwait. Funeral services were held in AG Church Cemetery in Kollakdavu, Kerala on Tuesday Dec 17, 2024.

On behalf of St Thomas Mar Thoma Church, I express our sincere condolences to the bereaving families and pray that God give them sufficient courage and strength to face this difficult time.

December Answers (Exodus: 1-10)

1. 137(6:20)
2. ദൈവത്തിന്റെ വിരൽ (8:19)
3. ഗേൾഷോം (2:22)
4. നദിയരികെയൊക്കെയും ഓലി കുഴിച്ചു (7:24)
5. Pithom and Rameses (1:11)
6. അഹരോൻ (4:16), ഫറവോൻ (7:1)
7. കോതമ്പും ചോളവും (9:32)
8. ഏഴ് (2:16)
9. കിഴക്കൻ കാറ്റ് (10:13)
10. ഞാൻ ആകുന്നവൻ ഞാൻ ആകുന്നു (3:14)

December Winners

- Susan John
- Sosamma Abraham
- Sosamma Varghese
- Mariamamma Thomas
- Saramamma Thankachan
- Mercy Rajan
- Leelamma John
- Saramamma Thomas
- Sherly Vaidyan
- Kunjamma Yohannan
- Thankamma John
- Celine George

JAN BIBLE QUIZZ

1. Where were the 12 springs and 70 palm trees?
2. Where did the Israelites journey from and where did they go?
3. What were the names of Moses' sons?
4. Where did Aaron put the manna for the generations and preserve it?
5. How did Pharaoh's officials and by the people of the land of Egypt think of the man Moses?
6. Who became anguish will grip ?
7. Where did Amalekites attack the Israelites ?
8. What did Jehovah say should not make an image of?
9. How many days were told to eat unleavened bread?
10. In which desert did the Israelites travel by three days without finding water?

YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE (CONTD)

Continued from page 4

- **Pray ceaselessly.** *"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) Prayer is not just about asking for things; it's about building a deeper relationship with God. Even when there are no specific requests, pray to thank Him for His goodness, to seek His will, and to simply spend time in His presence. Prayer strengthens our spirit and keeps us connected to the One who holds everything in His hands.

This year, let's commit to making these five actions—thinking, working, loving, worshipping, and praying ceaselessly—part of our everyday lives. When we align our lives with Christ, we don't just find success; we find meaning. May God bless you abundantly in this new year and guide you toward His amazing plans for your life!
Yours in His service,

JVarghese Achen

Youth Fellowship HouseKeeping

I take this time to also thank the NERYF Committee, and all the Youth Fellowships for their unwavering support and dedication to the various activities and programs over the past year. Your hard work and faithfulness have been instrumental in fostering a vibrant and spiritually enriched community. May God continue to embolden each of us to live our lives giving glory to Him, as we strive to serve with greater zeal in the coming year.

Diocesan Youth Fellowship Leadership Conference 2025

Hosted by the Detroit Mar Thoma Church Youth Fellowship, this event will focus on the key theme: "Proclaim" (John 15:8), encouraging us to proclaim the gospel consistently, patiently, creatively, and through our actions. Please keep this conference in your prayers as we grow together as disciples and leaders in faith!



Monthly Parish Youth Fellowship Meetings

For more information, please reach out to your Parish Youth Fellowship Secretary, who will have all the details. Let's make the most of these gatherings!



Combined Youth Fellowship Bible Study

When: Wednesday, January 22, 2024 at 7:00-8:30 pm

Where: Youth Chaplain's Parsonage

All are invited, and we'd love for you to join us as we dive into God's Word together.



January College Visits – Let's Fellowship in Christ!

Students! Join in on an opportunity to grow together, share life, and encourage one another on campus! Your Youth Chaplain is excited to join you for fellowship, support, and prayer. Whether you need a break, a boost, or a few moments of community, we're here for you. Details will be given at a later



Area Prayer Meetings

Area	Date & Time	Location
Upper Westchester/ CT	Sat Jan 4 4 PM	Christin K mathew & Kripa Abraham 18 Bradhurst Ave, Valahalla NY 10595 (914)5317168
Bronx/Yonkers South and West	Sun Jan 5 6.30 PM	Church
Queens/LI	Sun Jan 12 6.30 PM	Via Zoom
Yonkers East	Sat Jan 18 6PM	John Jacob and Mini John 160 Winthrop Ave, Elmsford NY 10523 646 898 5530
Rockland	Sun Jan 19 5.30 PM	Sabu Joseph & Smitha Alexander 105 N Harrison Ave, Congers NY 10920 (914) 364 6241
Yonkers North	Sun, Jan 26 7 PM	Via Zoom

Senior Citizens Fellowship Meeting will be held on Thursdays Jan 2 and January 16, 2024 at 6:30 PM Via Zoom.

JANUARY BIBLE QUIZZ

Exodus :11-20

1. എവിടെയാണ് 12 നീരുറവും 70 ഈത്തപ്പനയും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നത്?
2. ഇസ്രായേൽ മക്കൾ എവിടെ നിന്ന് എവിടേക്കാണ് യാത്ര പുറപ്പെട്ടത്?
3. മോശയുടെ മക്കളുടെ പേര് എന്തെല്ലാം?
4. തലമുറകൾക്ക് വേണ്ടി ഒരിടങ്ങൾ മനസ്സിലാക്കി എവിടെയാണ് സൂക്ഷിച്ച് വെച്ചത്?
5. മോശയെന്ന പുരുഷനെ മിസ്രയീം ദേശത്തെ ഭൃത്യന്മാരും പ്രജകളും എങ്ങനെയാണ് വിചാരിച്ചത്?
6. ആർക്കാണ് ഭീതി പിടിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്?
7. എവിടെ വെച്ചാണ് അമാലേക്ക് ഇസ്രായേലിനോട് യുദ്ധം ചെയ്തത്?
8. എന്തിന്ററെയെല്ലാം പ്രതിമ ഉണ്ടാക്കരുതെന്നാണ് യഹോവ പറഞ്ഞത്?
9. എത്ര ദിവസമാണ് പുളിപ്പില്ലാത്ത അപ്പം തിന്നണം എന്ന് പറഞ്ഞത്?
10. ഏത് മരുഭൂമിയിലാണ് ഇസ്രായേൽ മക്കൾ മൂന്നുദിവസം വെള്ളം കിട്ടാതെ സഞ്ചരിച്ചത്?

PARISH DAY

In connection with our Parish Day we will have an English Convention on January 24, 25, and 26. We are also planning to conduct a Senior Youths Meeting on January 25th beginning at 4 PM. Dr. Vino Daniel, a well known speaker and physician will lead the convention. Everyone is requested to participate prayerfully.

JAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Rockland

Mr. Jerry John & Mrs. Ancy Andrews 7 Oak Lane	1
Mr. Sabu Joseph & Mrs. Smitha Sara Zachariah 306 North Little Tor Road	4
Mr. Thomas Mathew & Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas 248 Betsy Ross Dr	17
Mr. Shyam Joseph & Mrs. Anu Mary Shyam 21 Tamar Drive	18
Mr. Abraham P. Thomas & Mrs. Bibi Susan Abraham 8 Birret Drive	18

Upper Westchester/CT

Mr. Dylan M. Thomas & Mrs. Shiji M. Thomas 8 Sherbrooke Road	7
Mr. Johnson S. Parayil & Mrs. Chachy J. Parayil 232 Carol Avenue	8
Mr. Mony Lal Georgekutty & Mrs. Soosamma Mony-Lal 60 Valley View Rd	21
Mr. Geevarghese Kochumman & Mrs. Annamma Kochumman 288 Fisher Ave	24
Mr. P. C. Chacko & Mrs. Aleyamma E. Chacko 16 Vincent St	31

Yonkers East

Mr. Abhilash Abraham & Mrs. Shyja Oommen 61 Valerie Drive	15
Mr. Thomas Oommen & Mrs. Ani Thankachen Chacko 9 Dugan Lane	20
Mr. Sam V. Kuruvilla & Mrs. Jessy Kuruvilla 28 Balmoral Cress	21
Mr. Pradeep Kuruvilla & Mrs. Merina Andrews 38 Eisenhower Drive	28

Yonkers North

Mr. Varghese M. Yohannan & Mrs. Lovely V. Yohannan 10 Hudson view Drive	3
Mr. Shyam Mathai & Mrs. Sharon Raju George 194 Osmun Place	3
Mr. Paul Raju George & Mrs. Sarah Mathew 194 Osmun Place	11
Mr. Yohannan Yohannan & Mrs. Kunjamma Yohannan 103 Midland Ter.	29

Organizational Meetings

Joint Prayer Meeting Sevika Sanghom and Edavaka Mission

Event	Date & Time	Location
Friday Prayer	Fri, Jan 3 10.00 am	Cancelled
Friday Prayer	Fri, Jan 10 10:00 am	Church
Friday Prayer	Fri, Jan 17 10:00 am	Church
Friday Prayer	Fri, Jan 24 10:00 am	Church
Friday Prayer	Friday Jan 31 10.00 am	Church

Vicar's Message (Contd)

The 4th Sunday (January 26th) we are also celebrating as our Parish day. Rev. Abraham Sudeep Oommen (Doctoral student, Drew University) will be the chief guest. May the celebration be a blessing and a new energy to move ahead. We will have an English convention along with our Parish Day celebration on 24, 25 & 26 evenings, Dr. Vino Daniel, Philadelphia will be the main speaker, I request your prayerful participation. I request your prayerful participation in all the services.

May the Lord Almighty strengthen us all to walk with Jesus in the new year.

With Prayers
Rev. John Philip
Vicar

JAN BIRTHDAYS

Bronx/Yonkers South/West

Blessy Varghese	221 Rumsey Rd. Apt 2A	1
Mrs. Mariamma Mathew	14 Sunset Dr	2
Ms. Sherlyn Verghese	68 Linn Avenue	2
Mrs. Accamma Verghese	68 Linn Avenue	7
Mrs. Dania Abraham	14 Sunset Dr	15
Mr. Renjith Mathew	14 Sunset Dr	19
Mrs. Sarala Philip Varghese	16 Astor Place, #31N	20
Mr. Samuel George	26 Post Street Apt. 4A	31
Mr. Joseph Thomas	30 Leroy Place	31

Manhattan/New Jersey

Mr. Jayden Daniel Thomas	327 Merritt Drive	4
Mrs. Achamma Easo (Mother)	257 Bradley Ave.	9
Mr. Blessen Varghese Easo	701 Plympton Street	17
Mrs. Annamma J. Varghese	24 Dalton Place	20
Mr. Manu Thomas	327 Merritt Drive	24

Queens/Long Island

Ms. Ruby Abraham	1480 Horseshoe Dr.	2
Mr. Jobby Thomas	8 Locust Lane	13
Mr. Ian Thomas Jacob	49 Gary Road	16
Mr. Kuruvilla T. Abraham	1421 Alpha Street	23

Rockland

Mr. Aaron Thomas Cherian	27 Hemptor Rd	2
Mr. Sanjo Shyam	21 Tamar Drive	8
Mrs. Betsey Chacko	137 Lake Region Blvd	9
Mr. Justin Mathew Simon	5 Spruce Dr	9
Mr. Jubil J Oommen	892 Route 9W	13
Mr. Daniel Simon Abraham	4 Trotters Trail	17
Mr. Christopher Issac Chacko	51 Alexander Drive	18
Mr. Joshua Ouseph	4 Arrow Lane	23
Mrs. Sosamma Abraham	32 Eckerson Lane	26
Ms. Susan Ouseph	4 Arrow Lane	29

Upper Westchester/CT

Mr. Johnson J. Parayil	232 Carol Avenue	1
Mr. Christin Abraham	315 7th Avenue	4
Ms. Divya Sara Jose	40 Evarts Avenue	4
Ms. Isabelle Susan George	11 Chimney Pot Lane	16
Joanna Madelaine Mathai	135 Linn Ave	21
Mrs. Joyce Abraham	315 7th Avenue	22
Anya Vimala Abraham	20 Harriman Keep	24
Mrs. Gracey Mathai	10 Lilac Lane	25

JAN BIRTHDAYS

Mr. John C. Thomas	90 Mayfair Road	26
Mr. Sibil George	111 Centre Ave Apt 725	29

Vicar

Mrs. Ansa Ann Thankachen	34 Morris st	17
Mr. Aaric Phil John	34 Morris st	27

Yonkers East

Tony Jacob	28 Montclair Road	1
Mrs. Darly John	35 Linda Lane	3
Dr. Santhosh M. Alex	23 Linda Lane	10
Mr. Sam V. Kuruvilla	28 Balmoral Cress	10
Ms. Nida Kuruvilla	28 Balmoral Cress	12
Mr. Sherry George	55 Patton Drive	31

Yonkers North

Mrs. Mariamma Andrews	17 Argyle Terrace	1
Mr. Danny Matthew Eapen	71 Nimitz Road	2
Mrs. Jasmin T. Thomas	29 Woodrow Dr.	5
Mr. Paul Raju George	194 Osmun Place	10
Kevin Cherian	5 Via Trenta Court	21
Mr. Melvin C. Tom	45 Sandrock Ave	25

JAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Bronx/Yonkers South/West

Mr. V. T. Thomas & Mrs. Leila Thomas	5020 Goodridge Ave	1
Mr. Joby K. Chacko & Ms. Sherlyn Verghese	68 Linn Avenue	5
Mr. John A. Thomas & Mrs. Thankamma John	172 Vrendenburgh Ave.	10
Mr. Jibu C. Varghese & Mrs. Roji Joseph	12 Stokes Rd Unit 2B	14
Mr. Reji Thomas & Mrs. Susan Reji	15 Intervale Place	16
Mr. Anuj Varghese Joy & Ms. Renju Joseph	30 Leroy Place	28