

ST THOMAS
MAR THOMA CHURCH, NY
34 MORRIS STREET YONKERS, NY 10705



*Vicar: Rev. John Philip [vicar@stthomasmtc.org]
Secretary: Mr. Sunil M. Varughese [secretary@stthomasmtc.org]*

NEWSLETTER VOL. XLV NO. 4

Vicar's Message

Dear Parishioners,

I greet you all in the name of Our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ who resurrected from dead. This year the month of April is blessed with the observance of Great Lent, passion week and the grand culmination of Easter. The Passion (from Latin *pator*, "to suffer, bear, endure") is the short final period before the death of Jesus, described in the four canonical gospels. Here we commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, fulfillment of prophecies and the beginning of the end of Jesus' earthly ministry.



This is the time for an introspection. I pray that it will be an opportunity for us to become more humble and identify with the sufferings of Christ. I thank you all for your wholehearted cooperation in this 50 days of Lent prayer and . I appreciate the Edavaka Mission office bearers , the families who hosting prayer meetings and those who leading the sermons these days.

On the first Sunday we meditate on " Jesus Christ who gives new vision to life " When he regained his full sight, he had a new vision to glorify God. April 11th we observe the 40th Friday, meditate on Christian discipleship that must overcome temptation. Second Sunday we observe Hossana and meditate on The cry for salvation : The coming of Messiah. When we enter into the Holy Week let us take time to reflect on His love, sacrifice, and victory over death. From Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, let us engage fully in the sacred observances of the Church. May we open our hearts to His presence and renew our commitment to following Him in all that we do. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday is a time to meditate on the *kénōsis* of Christ. The Greek word that is actually translated as such from the Greek verb *kenōō*, meaning "to empty" which is a verb form of *kénōsis*. It literally means to "make oneself into nothing. He, the Creator of the world, the God of humanity, the Son of God, chose to let Himself be scourged, beaten, spit upon, mocked, and crucified by His own creation. All the *kénōsis*, was rewarded with victory. Christ's resurrection, the Easter proclaimed victory over death, over sin, and over Satan himself. Without the resurrection, Good Friday is not Good News. The resurrection becomes the peace that was missing in the confusing puzzle of Good Friday. Without the resurrection of Christ, it all seems to have been in vain. On the new Sunday we meditate Assurance of faith beyond sight.

The Executive Committee for the new year is activated, and requests everyone's sincere cooperation in all activities and services of the Parish. Let me appreciate your participation in all the needs of the parish and I would like to remind you to confirm your generous participation in Charity works of our organizations, Subscription and Diocesan Day Collection. All organizations are reminded to cooperate in preparing annual plans as soon as possible, and all organizations and area prayer groups are reminded to schedule individual meetings during the spring and summer seasons. I pray and wish that the coming days will be a blessing to all of us. God bless us all.

With Prayer, Rev. John Philip

Youth Chaplain's Corner

**Glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit -
One true God! Amen!**



Beloved in Christ,

“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, ‘Your God reigns.’” Isaiah 52:7

During Holy Week, we walk with Jesus through suffering and sacrifice. We remember the feet that walked toward betrayal, carried a cross up Golgotha’s hill, and were pierced with nails for our sins.

Isaiah calls these feet beautiful, not because they were untouched by pain, but because they carried good news: peace, salvation, and the powerful truth that “Your God reigns.” Good Friday reminds us that love can look like a cross. But the story does not end there. On the beautiful Feast of the Resurrection, we remember those same scarred feet walked out of the tomb in victory!

The silence of death was broken by an angel’s announcement: “He is not here; He has risen, just as He said.” (Matthew 28:6)

The good news of Isaiah 52:7 was fulfilled in full. Jesus didn’t just proclaim peace, He became our peace. He didn’t just declare salvation, He conquered death to give it.

As we remember from the cross to the empty tomb this Holy Week, may we carry this message in our own lives, with steps that bring light into dark places, comfort into sorrow, and hope into despair.

Let our life, our walk, our witness declare: Our God reigns! Christ Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Prayerfully,
J Varghese Achen

Worship Service Schedule

Date	Time	Worship
Sun, Apr 6	9:30 am	<i>Praise & Worship</i> English Holy Communion Service The sixth Sunday of Lent
Fri, Apr 11	10:00 am	40th Friday in Great Lent Malayalam Holy Communion
Sun, Apr 13	9:30 am	<i>Praise & Worship</i> English Holy Communion Service Hosanna - Theological Seminary Day
Mon, Apr 14 - Wed, Apr 16	6:30 pm	Hasha: Passion Week Services
Thu, Apr 17	6:30 pm	Passover (Maundy) Thursday Malayalam Holy Communion Service
Fri, Apr 18	9:30 am	Good Friday Services First Service - English Second Service - Malayalam Third Service - Malayalam
Sun, Apr 20	9: 30 am	<i>Praise & Worship</i> English Holy Communion Service Kemta - Feast of Resurrection - Easter Sunday (End of Great Lent)
Sun, Apr 27	9:30 am	<i>Praise & Worship</i> Malayalam Holy Communion Service First Sunday after the Resurrection

Lectionary

Date	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Epistle	Gospel
Sun, Apr 6	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Acts 9:10-18	Philippines 3:7-16	St. Luke 18:35-43
Fri, Apr 11	Numbers 11:4-15	James 1:12-18	1 Thessalonians 3:1-8	St. Luke 4:1-13
Sun, Apr 13	Zechariah 9:9-17	Romans 11:16-24	Colossians 1:10-14	St. Matthew 21:1-17
Thu, Apr 17	Gen 22:1-14	Heb 5:1-14	I Corinthians 11:23-34	Matt 26:31-46
Sun, Apr 20	Isaiah 60: 1-22	1 Cor. 15: 1-19	1 Thess. 4: 13-18	St. Luke 24: 1-12
Sun, Apr 27	Genesis 32:22-32	Acts 26:8-18	Colossians 3:1-8	St. John 20:19-29

Area Prayer Meetings

Area	Date & Time	Location
Yonkers North	Sun, Apr 27 6:30 PM	Zoom Meeting ID: 935 0649 9316 Passcode: 703734

Young Family Fellowship

Date	Location
TBA	TBA

Sevika Sangham & Edavaka Mission

Date	Location
Fri Apr 4 10.00 AM	<i>Joint meetings will be held every Friday, 10am via Zoom.</i> Zoom Meeting ID: 935 0649 9316 Passcode: 703734
Fri Apr 11 10:00 AM	
Fri, Apr 18 10:00 AM	
Fri, Apr 25 10:00 AM	

Senior Citizens Fellowship

Date	Location
Thurs Apr 3 10:00 AM	<i>Senior Citizen Fellowship meetings will be held every 1st and 3rd Thurs of the month at 10am via Zoom.</i> Zoom Meeting ID: 935 0649 9316 Passcode: 703734
Thurs Apr 17 10:00 AM	

Sunday School

Lent Mission Project

The Sunday School is conducting a Lent Mission project. Students have received a Rice Bowl shaped piggy bank. The bowls will be collected on Easter Sunday and proceeds will be donated to Rice Bowls Organization, which feeds orphans across the world, including India.

Youth Fellowship

Date	Location
Sat, Apr 5 1:00 PM	Meeting with Youth Chaplain at Church

Youth Fellowship Housekeeping

NERYF Spring One Day Retreat

When: Saturday, April 19, 2024

Where: Bethany Mar Thoma Church

We invite all youth to join us for a day of spiritual renewal, worship, and fellowship this Holy Saturday of Passion Week. This retreat promises a refreshing experience with powerful messages and meaningful discussions. We are blessed to have Dr. Shaun Rajan (St. Andrew's MTC) and Jojin Mathew (Long Island MTC) as our leaders this year. Stay tuned for more details—and be sure to set aside this date and make arrangements to rejuvenate your spirit and strengthen your faith journey!

Combined Youth Fellowship Bible Study

There will be NO Youth Fellowship Bible Studies this month.

Monthly Parish Youth Fellowship Meetings

Our regular Parish Youth Fellowship Meetings continue to be wonderful occasions for us to deepen our faith and friendships. If you need further information about dates, times, or activities, please reach out to your Parish Youth Fellowship Secretary, who will have all the details. Let us make the most of these gatherings and encourage one another to grow in faith and unity.

College Visits – Let's Fellowship in Christ!

Whether you need a break from studies or a boost in your spiritual walk, we are here for you. Please keep an eye on the NERYF Instagram for exact dates and details regarding these visits. Remember the reassuring words of Matthew 18:20: "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

March NERYF Fifth Sunday Combined Holy Qurbana

Once again, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the youth of our region and the St. James Mar Thoma Church Youth Fellowship for coordinating the NERYF Fifth Sunday Combined Holy Qurbana. A special word of gratitude to Ms. Esther Mathew for her devotion and commitment. Let us continue to uphold this blessed ministry in our prayers and encourage our youth to remain a part of this meaningful time of worship and fellowship.

Obituary

Mrs. Aleyamma M. Thomas (87), our former member, residing at 1219 River Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666, w/o Late Mr. M.K. Thomas, was taken to her heavenly abode on March 14, 2025. Funeral Services were held on Saturday, March 22, 2025 at the St. Peters Mar Thoma Church, Washington Township, NJ.

Mrs. Lisamma Sebastian (65), the mother of our member Mrs. Stephy Robin, residing at 37 Montrose Road Yonkers NY 10710 was taken to her heavenly abode on March 22, 2025. Funeral Services were held on March 24, 2025 at the St. Joseph Catholic Church, Calicut.

Mrs. Annamma Eapen (93), the mother of our member Mr. Shaji Eapen, residing at 70 Juana St, Yonkers, NY 10707 was taken to her heavenly abode on March 29, 2025 in India.

Please continue to keep all the bereaving family members in your valuable prayers. May the peace of Christ bring them comfort during this difficult time.

“The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.”

Pslalm 34:18



Lent Prayers

Date	Location
Tue, Apr 1	Mr. M.C. Chacko 8 Flint Dr, Spring Valley, NY
Wed, Apr 2	Mr. Cheriyan Varughese 5 Via Trenta Ct, Yonkers, NY
Thu, Apr 3	Mr. John Thomas 31 Monrovia Blvd, Yonkers, NY
Fri, Apr 4	Mr. Mathew Abraham 6 Glen Ave, Portchester, NY
Sat, Apr 5	Mr. Thomas Oommen 313 old Westbury Rd, East Meadow, NY
Sun, Apr 6	Mr. Robin Punnoose 37 Montrose Rd, Yonkers, NY
Mon Apr 7	Mr. Samuel Ninan 707 Cottage Pl, Teaneck, NJ
Tue, Apr 8	Mr. P.T. Thomas 10 Carbery Ct, Pamon, NY
Wed, Apr 9	Mr. M.J. George 280 Mirth Dr, Valley Cottage, NY
Thu, Apr 10	Mr. Daniel P.K. Vaidyan 131 Harvard Dr, Hartsdale, NY
Fri, Apr 11	<i>No Lent Prayer</i> 40th Friday Holy Communion at 9:30AM
Sat, Apr 12	Mr. Johnkutty Geevarghese 36 Archer Ave, White Plains, NY

All Lent Prayers will begin at 6:30PM. On Saturday and Sunday Lent Prayers will be in English. If anyone would like to give the message for these sessions, please contact Achen.

Trustees

Message from the Trustees

- Diocesan Day Collection is due to Diocese in April, please submit your donation as soon as possible
- Recessa is \$3 per individual adult member
- Self Denial will be collected on Good Friday as usual
- Good Friday Offertory will help Seva Mandiram, Ankola

Family Conference

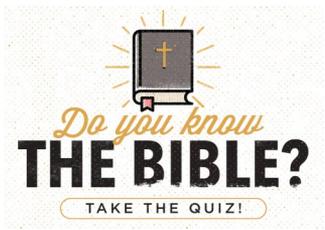
Diocese of North America of the Mar Thoma Church will host the **35th Family Conference** at **Marriott Melville, NY** from **July 03-06, 2025**. Please contact Registration Convener, Mr. Samuel K. Samuel (914) 693 8490 for more details.

March Bible Quiz Answers

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Acacia wood (36:31) | 7. Sacred anointing oil and the pure fragrant incense (37:29) |
| 2. Pure gold (37:6) | 8. HOLY TO THE LORD (39:30) |
| 3. Put to death (35:2) | 9. 70 talents and 2400 shekels (38:29) |
| 4. Topaz, onyx and jasper (39:13) | 10. Ten (36:8) |
| 5. Festival of Ingathering (34:22) | |
| 6. Mount Horeb (33:6) | |

March Bible Quiz Winners

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Annamma Mathew | 7. Mercy Rajan |
| 2. Mariamma A Mathew | 8. Celine George |
| 3. Sherly Vaidyan | 9. Sosamma Varghese |
| 4. Thankamma John | 10. Mariamma Thomas |
| 5. Leelamma John | 11. Susan John |
| 6. Saramma Thankachan | 12. Sosamma Abraham |



Bible Quiz Questions (Numbers:1-10)

1. എത്ര വയസ്സു മുതൽ എത്ര വയസ്സുവരെയാണ് ലേവ്യർ കൂടാരത്തിലെ വേല ചെയ്യുന്ന സേവയിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കേണ്ടത്?
2. വിശേഷ വിധിയായുള്ള ഏത് വ്രതം ദീക്ഷിക്കുമ്പോഴാണ് വീഞ്ഞും മദ്യവും വർജിക്കേണ്ടത്?
3. കാഹളം ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടത് എന്ത് ഉപയോഗിച്ചാണ്?
4. ഒന്നാം മാസം 14 -ആം തീയതി സന്ധ്യാസമയത്ത് എവിടെവെച്ചാണ് ഇസ്രായേൽ മക്കൾ പെസഹ ആചരിച്ചത്?
5. യഹൂദാഗോത്രത്തിൽ 20 വയസ്സിന് മുകളിലുള്ള പുരുഷന്മാരുടെ എണ്ണം എത്രയായിരുന്നു?
6. യാഗപീഠത്തിന്റെ പ്രതിഷ്ഠയ്ക്കായി ഒന്നാം ദിവസം വഴിപാട് കഴിച്ച പ്രഭു ആര്?
7. 'നീ ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് കണ്ണായിരിക്കും' എന്ന് മോശെ ആരോടാണ് പറഞ്ഞത്?
8. കൂടാരത്തിൻമേൽ നിന്ന് എന്ത് പൊങ്ങുമ്പോഴാണ് യിസ്രായേൽ മക്കൾ യാത്ര പുറപ്പെടുന്നത്?
9. ആരായിരുന്നു ലേവ്യർക്ക് പ്രധാന പ്രഭു?
10. യിസ്രായേൽ മക്കളുടെ ഇടയിൽ ആരുടെ സംഖ്യ എടുക്കരുത് എന്നാണ് യഹോവ മോശയോട് കൽപ്പിച്ചത്?

1. From what age should the Levites come to take part in the work at the tent of meeting?
2. Which special vow requires abstaining from wine and other fermented drink?
3. What should the trumpets be made of?
4. Where did the Israelites celebrate the Passover on the 14th day of the first month at twilight?
5. What was the number of males over 20 years old in the tribe of Judah?
6. Who was the leader who made offerings at the first day of the consecrated altar?
7. To whom did Moses say, 'You can be our eyes'?
8. When what lifted from above the tent do the Israelites set out?
9. Who was the chief leader of the Levites?
10. Who among the Israelites did Jehovah said Moses not to count?

April Birthdays

Bronx/Yonkers South/West

Mr. Joshua Samuel	9 Woodlands Ave	5
Mr. Aaron John Thomas	46 Leroy Ave	10
Mr. Joshua George Varghese	221 Rumsey Rd. Apt 2A	15
Mr. Eapen Mappurathu	421 N. Broadway, #35	16
Mr. Joe Thomas John	172 Vrendenburgh Ave.	19
Mr. Jibu C. Varghese	12 Stokes Rd Unit 2B	23
Ms. Lisa Mathew	2786 Bainbridge Ave., Apt. 3E	25
Jocelyn Ann Samuel	9 Woodlands Ave	25
Mr. Joseph Thomas	89 Travers Ave	25
Mr. Nellical John Mathew	576 ROUTE 304	26
Mr. Koshy Samuel	26 Post Street Apt. 4A	29

Manhattan/New Jersey

Dr. Koshy Koshy Jr.	33 Third Avenue	2
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Queens/Long Island

Mrs. Jaime S. Thomas	8 Locust Lane	3
Mrs. Jemi George	1600 Lowell Ave	4
Mr. Luke Varghese Philip	871 Abbott Street	22
Mr. John K. Mathew	23 Patriots Way	23
Mrs. Sheela Jacob	49 Gary Road	25

Rockland

Mr. Sunny P. Ninan	128 East Phillips Hill Rd.	5
Ms. Diana Anjali Chacko	51 Alexander Drive	11
Ms. Sruthi Merin Koshy	10 Sturbridge Court	11
Mrs. Nisha Mathai	576 ROUTE 304	11
Mrs. Leena Daniel	72 Old Middletown Rd	12
Mr. Blessen Kurian	29 Rosewood Drive	13
Mrs. Anissa Susan Kurian	29 Rosewood Drive	13
Mrs. Annie Monzy	12 Edison Court, Apt G	14
Mr. Rajan Chacko	5 Lester Drive	15
Mr. Koshy Abraham Jr.	833 Concorde Cir Unit 5202	17
Mrs. Sophia Varghese	6 Walnut Ct	18
Mrs. Deena C. Mathews	231 Morton Avenue	23
Mr. Melvin Binu	22 Old Brick Road	25
Mr. Caleb Edison Koshy	9 Dade Rd	27

April Birthdays Continued

Upper Westchester/CT

Mrs. Jeswin Jacob Chacko	49 Patton Drive	2
Mrs. Saramma Jose	40 Evarts Avenue	5
Raphael Stephen Mathai	135 Linn Ave	6
Mr. Sajan Abraham	20 Harriman Keep	7
Mrs. Betzy Skariah	368 Pine Brook Blvd	8
Mr. Nibu Jacob	181 Weed Ave	9
Mr. Justin Saji	288 Fisher Ave	12
Mrs. Reni Saji	288 Fisher Ave	12
Ms. Sydney Grace Paulose	1 Walnut Ave	16
Mrs. Ansu Thomas	9 Mitchell Place, Apt #1310	16
Dr. Suja Abraham	288 Spring Rd.	21
Mr. Levan G. Thomas	19 Drake Lane	22
Mrs. Asha Rajan	5 Wayne Way	23
Mr. Castle Abraham	4 Salk Dr	24
Mr. Luke George Simon	99 Aspen Lane	29
Ms. Lindsay Kuruvilla	5 Overhill Road	30

Yonkers East

Mr. K. Jacob	16 June Street	3
Mrs. Anisha Vaidian	309 Ovid Dr	8
Mrs. Mini John	160 Winthrop Ave	9
Mr. Tobin Madathil Alexander	23 Linda Lane	10
Mrs. Sajini Kuruvila	78 Amherst Drive	15
Jeremy P. Thomas	500 Bronxville Road	15
Mr. Melbin Aby Varughese	2210 Central Park Ave. #2	15
Mrs. Juby Alex	23 Linda Lane	16
Mr. Justin Thomas George	55 Patton Drive	20
Ms. Ashly Chinnu John	160 Winthrop Ave	20
Mrs. Leena Mathew	16 Simpson Place	22
Mr. Leny John	130 Heights Drive	30

Yonkers North

Mr. Mayfield Mathunni Eapen	71 Nimitz Road	3
Mr. Libin C. John	15 Bretton Road	4
Mrs. Sosamma Mathew	15 Bretton Rd	14
Mr. Shyam Mathai	194 Osmun Place	21
Johanna Saramma Daniel	29 Woodrow Dr.	26
Mr. Monsey Varghese	26 Emerald Street	28
Mrs. Mary Samuel	63 Price Street	30

April Wedding Anniversaries

Bronx/Yonkers South/West

Mr. Joseph Thomas & Mrs. Mariamma Joseph 14
30 Leroy Place

Manhattan/New Jersey

Mr. Jacob M. Varghese & Mrs. Annamma J. Varghese 24
24 Dalton Place

Mr. Ryan Patrick Curran & Mrs. Blessy N. Varkey 24
39 Hickory Hill Ct

Queens/Long Island

Mr. Jayson T. Jacob & Mrs. Sheela Jacob 12
49 Gary Road

Mr. Justin Jacob & Dr. Malini Susan George 22
8356 249th Street

Rockland

Mr. Mathew Ouseph & Mrs. Suja Ouseph 29
4 Arrow Lane

Upper Westchester/CT

Mr. Norman Jones & Mrs. Reni Mathew 18
4037 Bruner Ave.

Mr. Benoy Kochumman & Mrs. Simi Elsie Kochumman 24
288 Fisher Ave

Yonkers East

Mr. Joseph Eapen & Mrs. Sosamma Joseph 8
1026 Pitch Pine Street

Yonkers North

Mr. Cheriyan Varughese & Mrs. Annee Cheriyan 14
5 Via Trenta Court

Mr. Y. Varghese & Mrs. Sosamma Varghese 24
9 Emerald Street

Mr. Steve Varghese Mathew & Mrs. Irene Babukutty 25
437 Palisade Ave APT H 1

Executive Committee 2025

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>
Vicar / President	Rev. John Philip	(914) 450-3162
Vice President	Mr. John Abraham	(914) 772-8824
Secretary	Mr. Sunil M. Varughese	(845) 598-3994
Treasurer	Mr. Biju P. Varughese	(845) 596-0537
Accountant	Mr. Ullas P. Thannickal	(845) 300-5810
Lay Leader - Malayalam	Mr. M.J. George	(914) 924-7774
Lay Leader - English	Mr. Sean Thannickal	(845) 499-8976

AREA PRAYER GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Manhattan/NJ	Mr. Uthup Varkey	(201) 637-5890
Queens/LI	Mr. T.P. Jacob	(516) 554-1809
Rockland	Mr. Varghese Oommen	(845) 300-8153
Rockland	Mr. Sunny P. Ninan	(845) 634-4925
Upper Westchester/CT	Mr. Cheruthone Mathai	(203) 240-8510
Upper Westchester/CT	Mr. Manoj T. Mathew	(914) 229-1433
Yonkers East	Mrs. Jessy Kuruvilla	(914) 582-0710
Yonkers North	Mr. K.C. Thomas	(914) 374-7180
Yonkers West/South/Bronx	Mr. Thomas John	(914) 662-7535

MANDALAM & DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES

Sabha Mandalam	Mr. Cherian Varughese	(914) 316-2439
Diocesan Representatives	Mrs. Sherly Thomas	(914) 523-0535
	Mr. Levan G Thomas	(917) 406-1149
	Mr. Samuel K. Samuel	(914) 693 8490

ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Choir	Mr. Joseph Oommen	(914) 343-4652
Edavaka Mission	Mr. John K. Abraham	(845) 309-2965
Senior Citizen Fellowship	Mr. George M. Varkey	(845) 641-4754
Sevika Sangham	Mrs. Aleyamma Varghese	(914) 572-9173
Sunday School	Mr. Sajan Abraham	(917) 304-2121
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Shyju Varughese	(845) 461-4421
Young Family Fellowship	Mr. John Abraham	(914) 772-8824
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Jishu Samuel	(914) 690-4868

AUDITORS

Mrs. Liza Abraham	(845) 641-1050
Dr. Varghese Abraham	(914) 961-4405

St Thomas Mar Thoma Church
34 Morris Street
Yonkers, NY 10705

HE IS NOT HERE
HE IS RISEN
AS HE SAID

STAMP!
THANK S FOR
PICKING UP
NEWSLETTERS,
YOU ARE
HELPING THE
CHURCH SAVE
EVERY PENNY
COUNTS.