



# ST THOMAS

## MAR THOMA CHURCH, NY

34 MORRIS STREET YONKERS, NY 10705



# April 2026

Vicar: Rev. John Philip [[vicar@stthomasmtc.org](mailto:vicar@stthomasmtc.org)]  
Secretary: Mr. John Abraham [[secretary@stmtcny.org](mailto:secretary@stmtcny.org)]  
Trustees: [[stmtctrustees@yahoo.com](mailto:stmtctrustees@yahoo.com)]

NEWSLETTER VOL. XLVI NO. 4

# Worship Service Schedule

Date	Time	Worship
Mar 30th Mar 31st April 1st	6:30 PM	<b>VESPERS</b> Service at Church
Thursday, April 2	6:30 PM	<b>Passover, Maundy-Thursday</b> <b>Malayalam Holy Communion Service</b>
Friday April 3	9:30 AM	<b>Good Friday Services</b> First Service - English Second Service - Malayalam Third Service - Malayalam
Sunday April 5	9:30 AM	<b>Easter Sunday</b> English Holy Communion Service Easter Great Lent ends Resurrection: Victory over death
Sunday April 12	9:30 AM	<i>Praise &amp; Worship</i> English Holy Communion Service New Sunday: My Lord and My God First Sunday after the Resurrection
Sunday April 19	9:30 AM	<i>Praise &amp; Worship</i> Malayalam Holy Communion Service Come and dine: Invitation by the risen Lord
Sunday April 26	9:30 AM	<i>Praise &amp; Worship</i> Malayalam Holy Communion Service Risen Lord: The co-traveler

## *Lectioary*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lesson 1</b>	<b>Lesson 2</b>	<b>Epistle</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Mon, Mar 30th	Isa 63	Heb 2		Matt 22:15-33
Tue, Mar 31st	Numbers 21: 1-16	Ephesians 2		St. Matthew 24: 1-28
Wed, Apr 1st	Lev 16:1-28	1Pet 4		Matt 25:14-46
Thu, Apr 2nd	Exod 12:1-17	Heb 9:1-15	1Cor 11: 23-34	Matt 26:17-30
Fri, Apr 3rd - 1	Isa 53	1Pet 1		Matt 26:47-75
Fri, Apr 3rd - 2	Zech 13	Gal 3		Matt 27:1-44
Fri, Apr 3rd - 3	Num 21:1-9	Heb 3:1-19		Matt 27:45-56
Sun, Apr 5th	Ezek 37:1-14	1Cor 15: 20-28	Rom 6:1-11	Mark 16:1-11
Sun, Apr 12th	Isa 45:21-25	Rev 1:9-20	Col 1:15-20	John 20:24-29
Sun, Apr 19th	1Kgs 19:1-8	Rev 3:14-22	Acts 27:27-36	John 21:1-14
Sun, Apr 26th	Exod 33:12-16	Acts 18:1-11	2Cor 4:7-15	Luke 24:13-35

## *Area Prayer*

Rockland	Sunday April 19 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM	<b>Via Zoom</b> ID: 935 0649 9316 Passcode: 703734
Queens / Long Island	Sunday April 12 <sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM	<b>Via Zoom</b> ID: 935 0649 9316 Passcode: 703734
Yonkers North	April 26 <sup>th</sup> , 6:30 PM	Mr. Cheriyan Varughese 5 VIA Trenta Court Yonkers, 10710

## Vicar's Message

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

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 *patior*, "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 Edavakamission office bearers , the families who hosting prayer meetings and those who leading the sermons these days.

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.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the office bearers and everyone who participated and worked diligently to make our Parish Day a success. The presence of distinguished guests—including Congressman George Latimer, Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Shelley B. Mayer, and our Rev. Christopher Phil Daniel—truly honored the occasion. We are especially proud that Congressman Latimer mentioned our Parish Day during his speech on the floor of the House of Representatives in Washington on March 17th.

On the first Sunday we meditate on " Resurrection : Victory over Death ", Easter reminds us that resurrection is the ultimate victory—life triumphing over death, hope rising from despair. In that promise, we find courage to believe that no ending is final, and every darkness can give way to light. On the new Sunday, we meditate the words "My Lord and my God", echo the deep awakening of faith, as doubt gives way to personal encounter and trust. Like Thomas the Apostle, we are invited to move from questioning to conviction, finding peace in recognizing the risen presence

**Continued on Page 6....**

# Youth Chaplain's Corner

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

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

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)

At that moment, the quiet of the tomb turned into the joy of life. What looked like a loss became a win. What seemed to be the end became a new and never-ending beginning. The sadness of Good Friday changed into the happiness of Resurrection morning. The good news of peace in Isaiah 52:7 came true. We must remember Jesus did not just talk about peace. He became our peace. He did not only talk about saving us. He made it happen, defeating sin and death and making a way.

As we will move in remembrance from the cross to the empty tomb this Holy Week, let us not only remember but also live out this truth. Let us bring this message into our daily lives by bringing light to dark places, comfort to those who are sad, and hope to situations that feel hopeless. May our words, our actions, and our very presence reflect the risen Christ. Let our life, our walk, and our witness boldly proclaim: Our God reigns! Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

Prayerfully,  
J Varghese Achen



## Youth Corner

### Authenticity

Our first Biblical Wellness Retreat for young adults ages 21 and older, centered on the theme **Authenticity**. This retreat will take place from May 28–31, 2026, at Camp of the Woods in Speculator, NY, and will be led by Rev. Larry Varghese and Roshin Kochamma. Parents please encourage your children to attend. Cost is \$340.

## North East Regional Youth Fellowship One Day Conference

**Leaders:**  
**Rev. Abraham Sudeep Oommen**  
(Drew University)  
**Mr. Abel Joshua**  
(Harvard Divinity School)

Date: Saturday, April 4th 2026  
Time: 8:00 AM  
Theme : **Stillness** (Romans 8:24-25)  
Venue: St. John's MTC, Queens Village  
\*\*carpool recommended

...Continued from Page 4 before us. On third Sunday meditate on "Come and dine: invitation of the risen Lord," it is a gentle invitation of the risen Lord, drawing us into communion, nourishment, and quiet restoration after our struggles. Like Simon Peter by the shore, we are welcomed not for our perfection, but for our willingness to receive love and begin again. On Fourth Sunday we meditate "The Risen Lord : co-traveller" The Risen Lord walks beside us as a quiet co-traveller, present even when we fail to recognize Him in the ordinary paths of life. Like Cleopas on the road to Emmaus, our hearts are set ablaze when we finally see that we were never walking alone.

As we step into this new financial year, I encourage all organizations to prayerfully and promptly prepare their annual plans, so that our work may flourish in service to the Lord and our communities. Let all organizations and area prayer groups also take this season as an opportunity to schedule inperson meetings during the spring and summer, fostering fellowship, guidance, and shared spiritual growth. This is a time to sincerely pray for an end to the wars taking place around us. May our prayers be heard before the throne of God and be graciously answered.

I take this opportunity to thank you all for the grace we have experienced from God over the past three years, and for your constant prayers and support. It has truly been a blessed and meaningful experience serving as the Vicar of this parish.

I am deeply grateful for your love, care, and cooperation throughout this journey. I pray that our parish will continue to be a space where God's grace is received, a place of true fellowship, and a community that nurtures and upholds the Mar Thoma tradition.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for the comfort and support you extended to us during our time of grief. Your love towards our family—especially the affection shown to our children—means a great deal to us. My sincere appreciation also goes to all the office bearers, executive committee members, various organizations, and prayer groups for your dedication and service. God willing, we will return to India on April 28th to begin our new ministry at the Mar Thoma Syrian Church in Vizag, Andhra Pradesh. We kindly ask that you continue to remember us in your prayers as we step into this new chapter.

As we move forward, I warmly welcome our new Vicar, Rev. Jubin Varghese, and his family. May the Lord bless their ministry abundantly and guide them in their service to this parish.

I pray and wish that the coming days will be a blessing to all of us. God bless us all.

With Much Prayer,  
**Rev. John Philip**

Please Join us for a

# Farewell Celebration

In Honor of

**Rev. John Philip & Family**

Sunday, April 26th, after service

St Thomas Mar Thoma Church, NY

## **ORGANIZATIONAL RETREAT**

Sunday April 12th 2026

All Organizational committee members must attend  
Others welcome!!

## **PARISH PICNIC**

Save the Date

**AUGUST 15, 2026**

Venue:

**SAXON WOOD PARK**

Pavilion A

500 Mamaroneck Ave, Harrison, NY



## Sevika Sangham & Edavaka Mission

Date	Location
Every Friday 10:00 AM	Via Zoom Zoom Meeting ID: 935 0649 9316 Passcode: 703734

## Senior Citizens Fellowship

Date	Location
Thursday April 16th 10:00 AM	Via Zoom Zoom Meeting ID: 935 0649 9316 Passcode: 703734

## Sunday School

Program / Location
Sunday School Every Sunday after Worship Service!

## Young Family Fellowship

Date	Location
TBA	To be Announced

## Yuvajana Sakhyam

Date	Location
TBA	To be Announced

## Youth Fellowship

Date	Location
TBA	TBD

## Bible Quiz

### BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS (Galatians )

- 1.Eternal life (6:8)
- 2.by the sprit (5:18)
- 3.Titus (2:3)
- 4.by faith (3:8)
- 5.Mount Sinai (4:25)
- 6.Peter(2:7)
- 7.the law (3:24)
- 8.Gal:1:8,9
- 9.by revelation from Jesus Christ (1:12,13)
- 10.Gal:5:22,23

*Thank you, dear Bible Quiz participants, for your dedication to learning God's Word and for your co-operation over the past three years. I truly appreciate each of you. Love you all, and may God richly bless you.*

*Ansa Kochamma*

## Bible Quiz Winners

Annamma Mathew  
Mariamma Thomas  
Sosamma Varghese  
Mercy Rajan

Sherly Vaidyan  
Susan John  
Sosamma Abraham, Yonkers  
Saramma Thankachan

# Capital Improvement YTD Collection

Name	Donation
<b>Bronx/Yonkers S./W.</b>	<b>\$3,700.00</b>
Accamma Verghese	\$1,000.00
Jolly Eapen	\$1,100.00
Lenny Thomas	\$1,100.00
P. John Joseph	\$500.00
<b>Manhattan/NJ</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
Sunil Thomas	\$5,000.00
<b>Queens/Long Island</b>	<b>\$2,200.00</b>
George David	\$1,100.00
T.P. Jacob	\$1,100.00
<b>Rockland</b>	<b>\$7,250.00</b>
Abey Cherian	\$1,100.00
Biju Varughese	\$350.00
Blessen Kurian	\$1,100.00
John Abraham	\$1,100.00
Koshy Thomas	\$500.00
M.J. George	\$400.00
Sunil Varughese	\$1,100.00
Ullas Thannickal	\$1,100.00
Varghese Oommen	\$500.00

Name	Donation
<b>Upper WestC./CT</b>	<b>\$5,501.11</b>
Daniel Vaidyan	\$1,100.00
John Thomas	\$1,101.00
Levan Thomas	\$1,100.11
Pallickal Easo	\$1,100.00
Saramma Thomas	\$1,100.00
<b>Yonkers East</b>	<b>\$4,900.00</b>
Jacob Vaidian	\$1,100.00
Jasmin Thomas	\$1,100.00
John Jacob	\$500.00
Shawn Thomas	\$500.00
Thomas Varghese	\$600.00
Wilson John	\$1,100.00
<b>Yonkers North</b>	<b>\$4,800.00</b>
Abraham George	\$1,100.00
Abraham Kankalil	\$500.00
Cheriyen Varughese	\$450.00
Mathew Zacharia	\$1,100.00
N.J. Mathai	\$1,100.00
Robin George	\$550.00

**Grand Total** **\$33,351.11**

All families are requested to contribute \$1,100 for the upcoming Capital Improvement work. Please submit your contributions to the Trustees *via Check or Zelle to: stmtctrustees@yahoo.com*

As per the General Body decision, please contribute \$125 per family towards the collection of Incoming and Outgoing Achens expenses *via Check or Zelle to: stmtctrustees@yahoo.com*

# April Birthday

## Bronx/Yonkers South/West

Mr. Joshua Samuel	9 Woodlands Ave	5
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. 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. Jeswin Jacob Chacko	15 Lawrence Ave	2
Mrs. Jaime S. Thomas	8 Locust Lane	3
Mrs. Jemi George	1600 Lowell Ave	4
Mr. Aaron John Thomas	19 Richfield St	10
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	10 Edison Court, Apt G, BLDG 1	14
Mr. Rajan Chacko	5 Lester Drive	15
Mr. Koshy Abraham Jr.	187 Oak Tree Rd	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. Nellical John Mathew	576 ROUTE 304	26
Mr. Caleb Edison Koshy	9 Dade Rd	27

# April Birthday

## Upper Westchester/CT

<b>Mrs. Saramma Jose</b>	40 Evarts Avenue	5
<b>Raphael Stephen Mathai</b>	135 Linn Ave	6
<b>Mr. Sajan Abraham</b>	20 Harriman Keep	7
<b>Mrs. Betzy Nireesh</b>	120 Third Street	8
<b>Mr. Nibu Jacob</b>	181 Weed Ave	9
<b>Mr. Justin Saji</b>	288 Fisher Ave	12
<b>Mrs. Reni Saji</b>	288 Fisher Ave	12
<b>Ms. Sydney Grace Paulose</b>	1 Walnut Ave	16
<b>Mrs. Ansu Thomas</b>	10 Dartmouth Terrace	16
<b>Dr. Suja Abraham</b>	288 Spring Rd.	21
<b>Mr. Levan G. Thomas</b>	19 Drake Lane	22
<b>Mrs. Asha Rajan</b>	5 Wayne Way	23
<b>Mr. Castle Abraham</b>	4 Salk Dr	24
<b>Mr. Luke George Simon</b>	99 Aspen Lane	29
<b>Ms. Lindsay Kuruvilla</b>	5 Overhill Road	30

## Yonkers East

<b>Mr. K. Jacob</b>	16 June Street	3
<b>Mrs. Mini John</b>	160 Winthrop Ave	9
<b>Mr. Tobin Madathil Alexander</b>	23 Linda Lane	10
<b>Mrs. Sajini Kuruvila</b>	78 Amherst Drive	15
<b>Jeremy P. Thomas</b>	500 Bronxville Road	15
<b>Mr. Melbin Aby Varughese</b>	2210 Central Park Ave. #2	15
<b>Mrs. Juby Alex</b>	23 Linda Lane	16
<b>Mr. Justin Thomas George</b>	55 Patton Drive	20
<b>Ms. Ashly Chinnu John</b>	160 Winthrop Ave	20
<b>Mrs. Leena Mathew</b>	16 Simpson Place	22
<b>Johanna Saramma Daniel</b>	29 Woodrow Dr.	26
<b>Mr. Leny John</b>	130 Heights Drive	30

## Yonkers North

<b>Mr. Mayfield Mathunni Eapen</b>	71 Nimitz Road	3
<b>Mr. Libin C. John</b>	15 Bretton Road	4
<b>Mrs. Sosamma Mathew</b>	15 Bretton Rd	14
<b>Mr. Shyam Mathai</b>	194 Osmun Place	21
<b>Mr. Monsey Varghese</b>	26 Emerald Street	28
<b>Mrs. Mary Samuel</b>	63 Price Street	30

# April Wedding Anniversary

## Bronx/Yonkers South/West

- Mr. Joseph Thomas & Mrs. Mariamma Joseph** 14  
24 Leroy Place
- Mr. Qubin Jose & Mrs. Christy Elsa David** 21  
89 Travers Ave

## 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
- Mr. Steve Varghese Mathew & Mrs. Irene Babukutty** 25  
930 Tooker Ave

## 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

## 2026 Program and Sub-Committees

Event / Sub-Committee	Convener(s)	Date / Notes
<b>Organizational Retreat</b>	John Abraham	Sun, April 12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Graduation Recognition</b>	Sajan Abraham	Sun, July 12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Parish Picnic</b>	Josen Joseph, Saju Mathew	Sat, August 15 <sup>th</sup> <i>Saxon Wood Park</i>
<b>Parish Convention</b>	Josen Joseph	Sep / Oct Date TBD
<b>Senior Citizens Recognition</b>	George M. Varkey	TBA
<b>Parish Retreat</b>	T. P. Jacob, Saju Mathew Danny Eapen	Sep / Oct Date TBD
<b>Thanksgiving</b>	Cherian Varghese Manoj Mathew	Thu, Nov 26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Christmas Carol Service</b>	Danny Eapen Manoj Mathew Sherly Thomas	Sat, Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Christmas House Caroling</b>	Sabu Joseph Saju Mathew	Nov 27,28,29 Dec 4,5,6,11,12,13,18
<b>Parish Day (2027)</b>	John Abraham	Sun, Jan 24 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Food Committee</b>	Thomas John (Sajan)	<i>Prayer Group and Organiza- tions will be assigned monthly</i>
<b>Ushers</b>	Geevarghese Kochummen Sabu Joseph	—
<b>Family Night</b>	Josen Joseph	Sat, Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Audio Video</b>	Sabu Joseph Danny Eapen	—

# Executive Committee 2026

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Home Phone</b>
Vicar / President	Rev. John Philip	(914) 450-3162
Vice President	Mr. Thomas Oommen	(914) 552-6566
Secretary	Mr. John Abraham	(914) 772-8824
Treasurer	Mr. Ullas P. Thannickal	(845) 300-5810
Accountant	Mr. Sunil M. Varughese	(845) 598-3994
Lay Leader - Malayalam	Mr. Josen Joseph	(914) 907-1190
Lay Leader - English	Mr. Saju V. Mathew	(845) 671-1820

## AREA PRAYER GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Manhattan/NJ	<i>not elected</i>	
Queens/LI	Mr. T.P. Jacob	(516) 554-1809
Rockland	Mr. Varghese Oommen	(845) 300-8153
Rockland	Mr. Sabu Joseph	(914) 364-6241
Upper Westchester/CT	Dr. Geevarghese Kochumman	(914) 629-7341
Upper Westchester/CT	Mr. Thankachen Geevarghese	(914) 417-1273
Yonkers East	Mr. Jacob Vaidian	(917) 757-4077
Yonkers North	Mr. Cherian Varughese	(914) 316-2439
Yonkers West/South/Bronx	Mr. Thomas John	(914) 662-7535

## MANDALAM & DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES

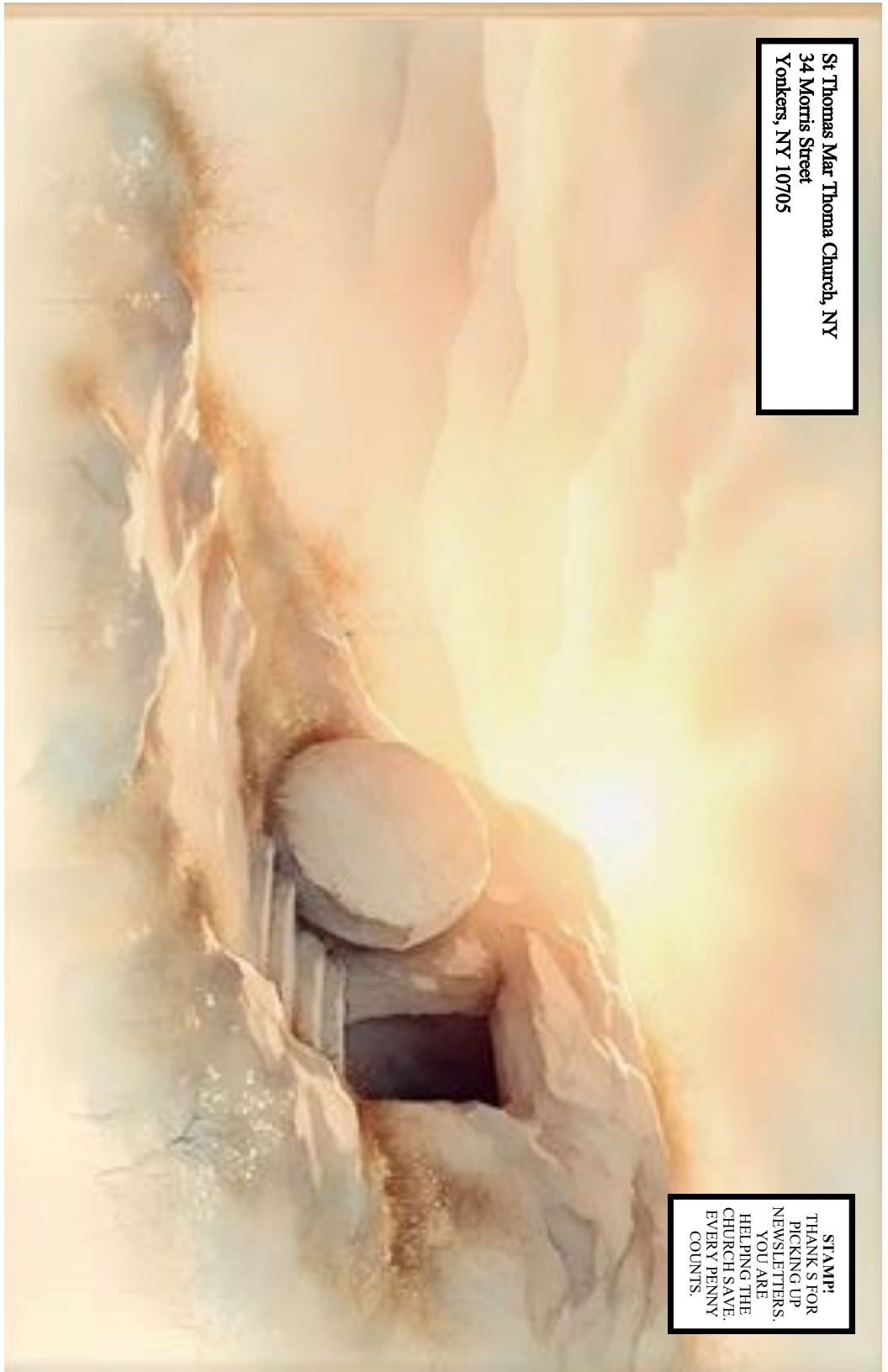
Sabha Mandalam	Mr. Biju P. Varughese	(845) 596-0537
Diocesan Representatives	Mr. P.T. Thomas	(845) 596-3030
	Mrs. Leena Daniel	(914) 441-8233

## ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Choir	Mr. Danny Eapen	(914) 338-6708
Edavaka Mission	Mr. Thankachen Geevarghese	(914) 417-1273
Senior Citizen Fellowship	Mr. George M. Varkey	(845) 641-4754
Sevika Sangham	Mrs. Rachel Varghese	(914) 525-1178
Sunday School	Mr. Sajjan Abraham	(917) 304-2121
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Shyju Varughese	(845) 461-4421
Young Family Fellowship	Mr. John Abraham	(914) 772-8824
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Manoj T. Mathew	(914) 229-1433

## AUDITORS

Mr. M.C. Chacko	(845) 300-1762
Mr. Sunil M. Thomas	(973) 985-2812



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

**STAMP!**  
THANKS FOR  
PICKING UP  
NEWSLETTERS.  
YOU ARE  
HELPING THE  
CHURCH SAVE  
EVERY PENNY  
COUNTS.