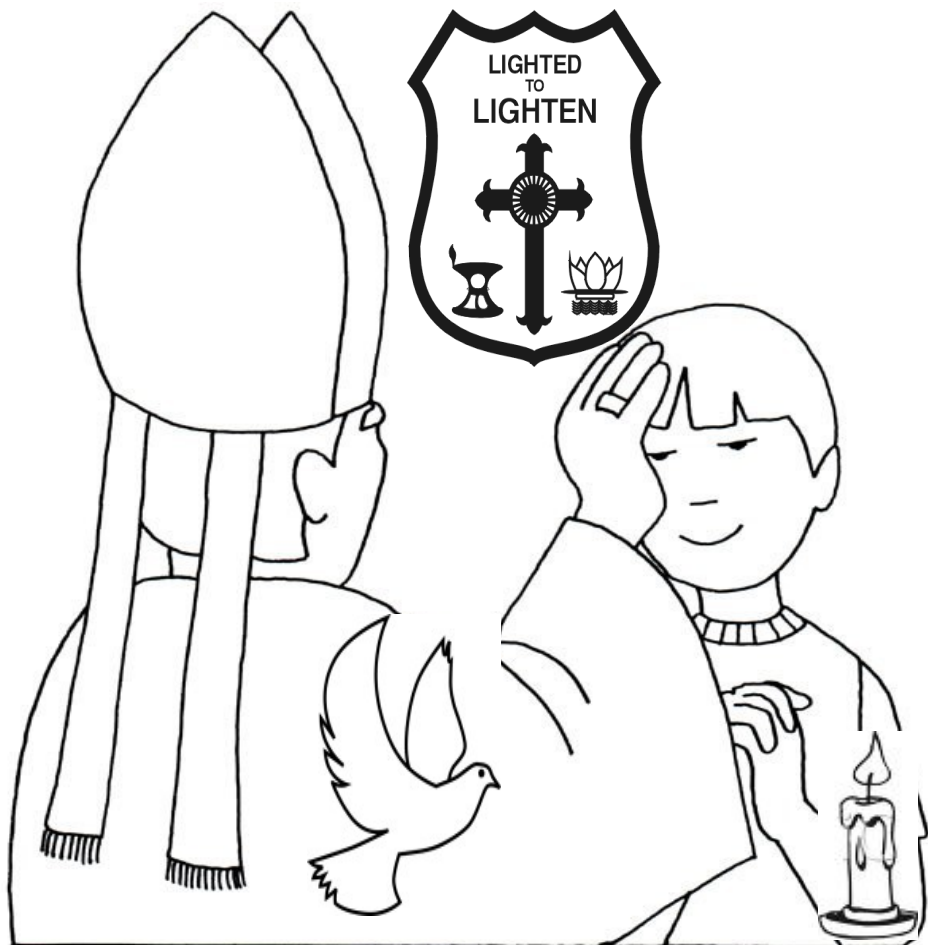


ST. JOHN'S MAR THOMA CHURCH

90-37 213 STREET, QUEENS VILLAGE, NY 11428



Worship — Sunday 9:00 am | Sunday School — After Worship

NEWS LETTER— SEPTEMBER 2014
VOLUME: XXIV ISSUE: 09

www.stjohnsmtcny.org

Vicar: Rev. Joji K. Mathew — jojimathewachen@gmail.com

OFFICE BEARERS / BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR 2014

Vicar / President	Rev. Joji K. Mathew Church — 718-468-4141	718-465-2358 (Par.) 718-450-2869 (Mobile)
Vice President	Mr. Thomas M. George	631-462-1648
Secretary	Mr. Beji T. Joseph (bejitjoseph@aol.com)	516-433-0386
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Dio. Assembly	Mr. Eapen K. George Mr. Saji Thomas Mr. Roy C. Thomas	718-343-0505 516-775-1512 718-347-0346
<u>Organizations:</u>		
Choir	Mr. Samuel Thomas	516-216-5051
Edavaka Mission	Mr. John Skariah	718-465-8857
Senior Citizens	Mr. C. V. Simonkutty	516-742-3520
Sevika Sangham	Mrs. Aleyamma John	516-233-1128
Sunday School	Mr. Abraham T. Abraham	718-343-5465
Young Families	Mr. Binu Daniel	917-597-6630
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Chris Mathew Thomas	516-637-7862
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Santhosh K. Philip	516-445-4935
<u>Prayer Group Representatives:</u>		
Bellerose	Mr. Munna V. Sam	718-343-5036
Eastern Long Island	Mr. John K. Mathew	516-437-0956
Elmont / West Hemp.	Mr. Daniel Varghese	516-488-7831
Floral Park / Glen Oaks	Mr. M. Thomas	718-343-7663
Garden City Park	Mr. Mathew P. George	516-742-3686
New Hyde Park East	Mr. John Mathew	516-233-1848
New Hyde Park West	Mr. Abraham C. Thomas	516-437-1888
Palli Bhagom	Mr. T. M. Thomas	718-217-1740
<u>Auditors:</u>		
	Mr. Philip Oommen	718-776-2585
	Mr. Easow Mathunny	718-360-1808
<u>Youth Chaplain:</u>		
	Rev. V. M. Mathew	516-437-0425

MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

Dearly beloveds in Christ,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

The beginning of the academic year gives us some kind of inspiration to reinforce the student experiences of our life. Continuous study is an inevitable part in one's growth to maturity. Any profession needs an educational life for its development. Every day we are compelled to learn something from our experiences. Let all our students experience the power of the Devine presence in their campuses and let us all open our eyes and ears to learn new things for our life through Christ our Lord. As a continuation of last month's discourse, this month we can learn about the Sacrament of Baptism. The Malayalam usage for baptism is Mamodisa, which is originally an Aramaic word, meaning washing, springing etc. The closest Greek word is baptisma. Baptism is the process of incorporating an individual into the body of Christ.

"Baptism is a sacrament, wherein the immersing with water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, (Mt.28:19) signifies and seals our engrafting into Christ." It is a process of identifying with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Child baptism is a time of pledge by the parents and God parents that they are ready to nurture the child in Christian values. It is the 1st step in Christian life for the journey towards the Kingdom of God. So the first step should be as early as possible.

Every sacrament is administered in the context of a faithful community. Faith is not an intellectual affair. We cannot limit the deepest possibility of the Grace of God, within the margins of age or mental growth. It is the trust, surrender and commitment to the Almighty.

This is a Dominical sacrament which means directly instituted through the Words of Jesus Christ. Jesus' Great Commission to the Disciples, in Mathew 28: 18-19 expose the fact that the baptism is for discipleship. Every sacrament is related to the discipleship, life in the kingdom of God. But baptism is the commencement of discipleship. Every image and metaphor used in the baptismal liturgy and the symbolic actions are of endorsing the dimension of discipleship. Without being a disciple of Jesus Christ, the meaning of Baptism will not be completed. So through baptism we take the first step to become the disciple of our Lord. As we all know discipleship is a way of life. Here baptism is a gift from God and is a challenge to live out.

Through baptism we have become the part of the body of Christ. We share in the priestly, kingly and prophetic ministry of Jesus Christ. Hence through baptism we have become the royal priest. The act of anointing, commissioning are all part of this royal priesthood. As a community ordained through the baptism, let us submit ourselves to the ministry of the Lord of baptism, who instituted it. Let us continue to be the His extensions in this world and reveal His life to the world.

This month we are celebrating the Sevika Sangham Day & Senior Citizen's Day.

This celebrations and observations may help us to strengthen the ministry of the organizations and the life of the parish.

God bless you all.

With thanks and regards

Joji K. Mathew Achen

YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

'Freedom is not free'

Recently we visited Washington DC and found this beautiful phrase 'Freedom is not free' at the Korean War memorial. It attracted all of our attention and it clearly tells the world something that every one of us has to remember in life. On July 4th we celebrated the independence day of United States and on August 15th we celebrated the independence day of India. In all these celebrations if we forget the cost of the freedom that we have today these celebrations are meaningless. There is a cost to every freedom that we have and someone else have already paid the price for it. We are living in a world that gives a lot of importance to individual freedom and it appreciates the exercise of this freedom to the extent of not hurting anyone. Some people want to use this freedom to do whatever they want without hurting anyone. In this scenario the common good or the good to the other is not addressed. So, is the freedom that we experience today beneficial to anyone? If not we need to rethink about it and reframe our ideas to reshape our freedom.

Galatians 5. 1 says "It is for **freedom** that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." What is the freedom of Christians who experience salvation? That is the point that Apostle Paul is trying to explain here. As a person who lives in Christ, experiences a freedom and that freedom is a mastery over the evil and sin. Christ's death on the cross defeated all the yokes of the slavery of sin and brought freedom from sin. Freedom from sin and the experience of salvation is not a freedom to sin again. When we are in Christ we experience a dominion over sin and we are no longer slaves to sin. This happens when we have the Grace of God because we are human beings and we are not capable enough to do that by our own. God will give us the grace to have a mastery over sin and that is the freedom in Christ.

But Paul asks another important question in Romans 6. 1- 4 "What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."

So Christ has set us free to experience a new life of freedom with Him and a freedom from sin. Christ paid the price for this freedom and that was His life. No one will pay their own life to set someone else free. That is the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. This freedom results in a new life and that life will lead many into this freedom and new life. Let us all experience this freedom to live in Christ and for Christ.

V. M. Mathew Achen, Youth Chaplain
194 Bregman Ave, New Hyde Park, NY
516-437-0425

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sep 7th- Sunday English Holy Communion at 9:00 am

(Education for Liberation-Education Sunday)

Praise & Worship:
 Sermon: **Ms. Jocelyn Johnson** Prayer: **Ms. Stefi Mathew**
 Lessons: 1st Lesson **Prov.8:1-12** **Mr. Saju David**
 2nd Lesson **Acts.8:26-38** **Mrs. Sharon S. Varghese**
 Lay Assistant: **Mr. Derek Abraham**
 Epistle: **Col.1:24-29** Gospel: **St.Mark.6:34-44**

Sep 14th – Sunday Malayalam Holy Communion at 9:00 am

(Women as Change makers- Sevika Sangham Day)

Praise & Worship: By Youth Fellowship
 Sermon: **Mr. Isaac Varghese** Prayer: **Ms. Tina Varghese**
 Lessons: 1st Lesson **Num.27:1-11** **Mrs. Saramma Cherian**
 2nd Lesson **Acts.16:11-15** **Mrs. Mary Kurien**
 Lay Assistant: **Mr. Abraham George**
 Epistle **Rom.16:1-16** Gospel **St.John.4:27-30**

Sep 21st- Sunday – English Holy Communion at 9.00 am

(The Sacrament of Baptism)

Praise & Worship:
 Sermon: **Ms. Sharon Varghese** Prayer: **Ms. Ashley Jacob**
 Lessons: 1st Lesson **Exo.14: 15-31** **Mr. Jobin John**
 2nd Lesson **Rom. 6:1-11** **Mrs. Anita Simon**
 Lay Assistant: **Mr. Shajan Koshy**

Sep 28th - Sunday— Malayalam Holy Communion at 9:00 am

(Accepting the Elderly– Senior Citizen Day)

Praise & Worship:
 Sermon: **Mr. Joel Mathew** Prayer: **Ms. Jennifer Jacob**
 Lessons: 1st Lesson **Isa. 40: 21-31** **Mr. K. Idichandi**
 2nd Lesson **Eph. 6: 1-9** **Mrs. Sosamma David**
 Lay Assistant: **Mr. M Thomas**
 Epistle: **1Tim. 5: 1-10** Gospel: **St. Luke 2:25-38**

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Sep 6th Saturday Youth Meeting @ 6.00 PM (Location TBA)
 Sep 14th Sunday Youth Fellowship will lead Praise & worship.
Sep 19th Friday Youth Meeting @ 6.30 PM at the Church.

YOUNG FAMILIES FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship Meeting Sep 7th 1.00 pm At the church hosted by Mrs. & Mr. Priya & Chris Thomas.

PRAYER GROUP & ORGANIZATIONS

AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

<p>Bellerose Sep 6th Saturday 7.30 PM Mr. Babu Thomas 235-08 Hillside Ave Queens Village NY 11427 Tel # 718-465-5548</p>	<p>Eastern Long Island Sep 27th Saturday 5.00PM Mr. Sanu Mathew 1766 Stone Ave East Meadow. NY11554 Tel # 516-222-0826</p>
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<p>Elmont & West Hempstead Sep 21st Sunday 5.00PM Mr. Santhosh K. Philip 960 Stewart Place, Franklin Place Tel # 516-445-4935</p>	<p>Floral Park & Glen Oaks Sep 21st Sunday 7.30 PM Mr. Lalan Varghese 82-33 258 Street, Floral Park Tel # 718-343-1494</p>
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<p>Garden City Park Sep 14th Sunday 5.00 PM Mr. Sajimon P. George 81 Fifth Street, Garden City Park. Tel # 516-248-1640</p>	<p>New Hyde Park East Sep 13th Saturday 7:30PM Mr. Biju P. Cherian 21 Corwin Ave, New Hyde Park Tel # 516-775-1835</p>
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<p>New Hyde Park West Sep 28th Sunday 5.00 PM Mr. Samuel Thomas 115 Brooklyn Avenue, New Hyde Pk Tel # 516-216-5051</p>	<p>Palli Bhagom Sep 20th Saturday 7.30 PM Mr. Philip Cherian 91-06 219 Street, Queens Village Tel # 718-465-3952</p>
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EDAVAKA MISSION PRAYERS

Sep 5th Friday 7.00 PM At Epiphany MTC Center A meeting

Sep 12th Friday 7.00 PM Prayer meeting with Onam programs @ church

Sep 19th Friday 7.30 PM At The residence of Mr. C.K Mathai
 515 Hillside Blvd, New Hyde Pk Tel # 516-437-0979

Sep 26th Friday 7.30 PM At The Church

St. Johns MTC Edavaka mission invites all to Harmony 2014, a Christian musical night on October 18, 2014, Saturday at 5 PM, at St. Johns MTC Queens Village. Please mark your calendar and attend this program.

SEVIKA SANGHOM PRAYER MEETINGS

Sep 3rd 10.00 AM (Wednesday)	Sevika Sangham Varam House visits	
Sep 10th , 10:00am (Wednesday)	Mrs. Annamma Mathews 7 3rd Street, Garden City Park	516-747-5473
Sep 12th , 6.30pm (Friday)	Onam Sadhya at the Church along with Edivaka Mission	
Sep 13th (Saturday)	Sevika Sangham Regional Kalame-la at Long Island MTC, Merrick	
Sep 14th (Sunday)	Sevika Sangham Day	
Sep 18th 10.00 AM (Thursday)	Mrs. Lizzy Chacko. 254-05 75th Avenue #2, Glen Oaks	718-343-1091
Sept 24th 10:00am (Wednesday)	Mrs. Sosamma Thomas 218-34 94th Avenue ,Queens Village	718-217-1740

SENIOR CITIZENS FELLOWSHIP

Health / Recreational Program: Every Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm

Cottage Meeting:

Sept 27th Saturday @ 10.00 AM

At the residence of **Mr. Daniel Varghese,**

Address: 13 John Ave, Elmont Tel # 516-488-7831

Sept 28th (Sunday) Senior Citizen Day

CHOIR

Malayalam Choir practice will be held every Sunday immediately after Holy Qurbana.

YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

**Cottage Meeting
Sep 7th Sunday at 2.30 PM
Mr. Thomas C. Mathew (Anil)
1498 Falmouth Ave, New Hyde Pk
Tel#516-775-1750**

BIRTHDAYS FOR SEPTEMBER

Happy Birthday. May God continue to bless the work of your hands and grant you continued favor in your life.

Rijo Mary George	Lejo Samuel
Joseph Zachariah	Tinu Thampy
Martin Tom Mathew	Abe Mathews
Aleyamma Mathew	Bency Kurien
Kenneth Mathai Thomas	Sajan P.John
Thampy Mammen	Jobi Chacko
Usha George	Evangeline Susan Jacob
Mary G. George	Kurian T. Mathew
George Titus	Ria Varghese
Meecha Susan Thomas	Vinitha Vijayan
Libin Thomas Babu	Shibu Idichandy
James Kutty	Aleyamma George
Geena Elizabeth George	Zachariah Thomas
Mariam David	Steven P. George
Jonathan Ethan Thayil	Sisil John
Anita GeeVarughese	Mariam Zachariah
Lizy Chacko	Deven Philip Mathews
Annie Thomas	Roy P. Raju
Oommen Philip	Valsamma Abraham
Baby Philipose	Beena V. Sam
Sosamma Jacob	Smithamol S. Chacko
Joel Sam Thomas	Thomas Koshy
Aleyamma Thomas	Rubi Varughese
Kevin Thomas	Manju Lyju Oommen
Jenisha George Saji	Ritchie Philip
Jaimie A. Abraham	Linda Mathew
Achenkutty Mathew	Sherin Varghese
Jeff Mathew	Flessy K. Thomas
Roshen Raju Varghese	Justin AbrahamThomas
T. M. Thomas	Premna Susan Alexander
Cifin Sajan	
Jayamole P. Pappachan	
Christian Sam	
Anu Samuel	
Sunitha V. Abraham	
Thejas Philip	
C. K. Mathai	
Melvin T. John	

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR SEPTEMBER

A Very Happy Wedding Anniversary to all.

Beena & Binny John
Susan & K. C. Abraham
Shiby & Trigy K.Thampy
Leelamma & Jacob T. Thomas
Ivan & Ani S. Thankachan
Vinitha & Binu M. Kurien
Teresa & Mathew P. Thomas
Mariamma & Raju Varughese
Achamma & Mathew T. John
Sheela & John Mathew K.
Molamma & Thankachan Lukose
Susan & M. O. Thomas
Annamma & Georgekutty Varughese
Sheeba & Binu Eapen
Bency & Binny Kurien
Annamma & Thomas Kutty
Quila & Bijoy Abraham
Alicekutty & Alexander Thomas
Aleyamma & Philip Cherian

Annamma & Zachariah Thomas
Elizabeth & Samuel V. Daniel
Sosamma & Varghese Daniel
Annamma & John Skariah
Shiny & Anil Baby Philipose
Mercy & Babu P. Samuel

Sunday School— Dates to be Remembered

Sep 7th , 2014 Bible Quiz, 5th Grade to 10th Grade– Book of Esther and Gospel St. Luke.

Sep 20th, 2014 NERS Talent Festival @ Long Island MTC

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT.

On behalf of the St. John's family, let's congratulate Mithosh and Princy Abraham of Bellerose prayer group on the birth of their Son. Let us congratulate the Parents.

On behalf of the St. John's family, let's congratulate Ashok and Nija Mathai of Bellerose prayer group on the birth of their Son, Ezra Mathai. Let us congratulate the Parents and Grand Parents Mrs & Mr. George Mathai and Mrs & Mr. Benni Mathew.

CONDOLENCES.

On Behalf of St. John's MTC, we express our sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Mathew P. Thomas and family of Bellerose area prayer, in the demise of his Mother in law Mrs. Mariyakutty Devasia .

Important Dates to be Remembered

- Sept 7th** First Auction.
Sept 14th Second Auction.
Sevika Sangham Day
Sept 21st Third Auction.
Sept 28th Senior Citizen Day
Oct 12th Edavaka Mission Day.
Oct 18th Harmony 2014– Hosted by Edavaka Mission
Oct 19th Youth Sunday.
Oct 23-26 Parish Convention.
Oct 26 Family Sunday.
Nov 1st World Sunday School Day.
Nov 9th Unity Sunday.
Nov 27th Thanksgiving Day.
Nov 29th Family Night.
Dec 5th Christmas house Caroling starts.
Dec 7th Diocesan Episcopal Visit/ Silver Jubilee Inauguration.
Dec 24th Christmas Carol Service.
Dec 31st Watch Night Service

THANK YOU

Floral Pk/Glen Oaks prayer group parishioners and Mr. M. Thomas for assisting with the church services and for preparing coffee for social time during the month of August

Garden City area prayer group will assist in the church services and social hour during the month of **September** and **New Hyde Pk East** area prayer will assist in **October**.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Superintendent – Abraham T. Abraham 718-343-5465 or 347-720-5041

Nursery		Juniors, Grade 6	
Manju John	516-724-5891	Laila George	631-462-1648
Christine Thomas	516-216-5051	Johnson P. Philip	516-739-3744
Dana Philip	718-465-3952	Teena Mathew	516-488-2629
Kindergarten		Junior High, Grade 7	
Molamma Thankachan	718-468-4434	Thankamma Abraham	718-343-9344
Bency George	347-834-2036	Bently Joseph	516-822-5463
Aji Thomas	516-741-0465	Cyril Abraham	516-777-0791
Primary Juniors, GR. 1		Junior High, Grade 8	
Bhavna Mathews	516-746-5222	Sunitha Abraham	917-699-4451
Joash Mathew	516-304-1262	Stacy Daniel	516-851-0317
Primary Juniors, GR. 2		Seniors, Grade 9	
Jyothi Thomas	516-921-8023	Susan Varghese	718-347-2709
Sherry George	718-468-1224	Anchi Mathews	718-347-3488
Nicole Thomas	718-347-0346		
Primary Juniors, GR. 3		Seniors, Grade 10	
Rachel Philip	516-326-2629	Miriam Mathew	718-464-8372
Joan Johnson	516-739-3744	Koruthu George	516-354-7552
Stacey Mathew	516-616-9446	Senior High, Grade 11	
Primary Juniors, GR. 4		Mathew P. George	516-742-3686
Rachel George	718-468-1224	Philip Oommen	718-776-2585
Rena Titus	718-217-0463	Chris Mathew Thomas	516-637-7862
Primary Juniors, GR. 5		Senior High, Grade 12	
Sherly Ninan	516-488-2574	Philip Varghese	718-347-2709
Mercy Babu	516-538-2833		

CHURCH FACILITIES MAINTENANCE TEAM

Vicar / President	Rev. Joji K. Mathew	718-465-2358 (Par.)
	718-468-4141	718-450-2869 (Cell)
Mr. Thomas M. George	(631) 462- 1648	
Mr. Philip Thomas	(516) 361-2564	(516) 921-8023
Mr. Biju Chacko	(516) 996-4611	(516) 214-4190
Mr. Mathew Thomas	(917) 539-1652	(718) 343-1054
Mr. Saji Thomas	(646) 591-8465	(516) 775-1512
Audio/Video Systems Team Members:	Mr. Sam George	(516) 581-6128
	Mr. Bob Abraham	(516) 603-3898
	Shawn Zachariah	Mr. Munna V. Sam
	(516) 305-7287	718-343-5036

If undeliverable, please return to:

St. John's Mar Thoma Church
 90-37 213th Street
 Queens Village, NY 11428

". The Fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline." Prov. 1:7

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