

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— NOVEMBER 2014
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www.stjohnsmtcny.org

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

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Youth Fellowship	Mr. Chris Mathew Thomas	516-637-7862
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<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
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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.

Last month we were witnessed the wonderful presence of God, through our Annual Convention. Let us continue the spiritual revival that we attained through the obedience to the Word of God.

As continuation to previous month's discussion about sacraments, this month we would like to concentrate on the study of the Holy Communion which is an Integral part of Christian life. The Biblical basis for celebrating the Holy Qurbana is found in Mt.26:19-30, Mk.14:16-26 Lk.22:13-20, 1 Cor.10:16-17 1 Cor.11:23-29 etc. It was during the age-old celebration of the Passover on the eve of His death that Jesus instituted a significant new fellowship meal that we observe to this day. It causes us to remember our Lord's death and resurrection and to look for His glorious return in the future. The word Communion is used for representing the Greek root 'Koinonia' which means greater sense of fellowship. Other words used to denote the Holy Communion are the Holy Qurbana (offering/sacrifice), the Eucharist (give thanks), the Lords Supper, the Lords table, breaking the bread etc. Each name signifies the profound meaning of this great Dominical Sacrament.

Holy Communion is commemoration of Christ-Event and a participation of Christ's passion, crucifixion and resurrection. It is a solemn reminder of God's offering of His son Jesus Christ to die on the Cross for the salvation of the whole created order. It is the offering of oneself unto God for His divine purpose. Thus it is the communion of these two offerings. We are called to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God (Rom.12:1). The Holy Qurbana is a sacrament of thanks giving and a sanctified dinning together of believers with our Lord as the Host. It is a symbol of reconciliation in the church. Jesus said if your brother has something against you, first reconcile with him, then offer your gift (Mt.5:23-24). Through Holy Communion we proclaim that church is a reconciled and reconciling community. As we partake in the Holy Qurbana we are reminded that we are all one in Christ – there is no difference on the basis of gender, background, color etc. (Gal.3:28) Faith community receive the bread and wine, in faith, as the body and blood of Jesus Christ and as a means to enter into a communion relationship with God, which cannot be explained in words but can be authentically understood as a living communion. Jesus said, 'Abide in me and I will abide in you'. (Jn.15:4-5)

Family night is time of expressing and developing our talents. In the month of November the Nation America celebrates the day of thanksgiving with a grateful heart. Let us thank God for the providence and the fellowship that we experience in this land. Let us all join together to worship God through these celebrations and services.

God bless you all.

With thanks and regards

Joji K. Mathew Achen

YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Why do I hate alcohol?

The immediate response that I am going to receive is 'hey you are a priest so you have to do that'. It is not only that I am an ordained minister that I hate alcohol but I am convinced and confident that a Christian should abstain completely from alcohol. Now I am ministering among the youth in New York and the frequent question that I receive is, is bible against alcohol? Is it sin to drink alcohol? I am also aware of the fact that among the Mar Thomites, my own people, there is a gradual increase in the consumption of alcohol as a part of social gathering.

Some people rank alcoholism as our second greatest health problem in America (others say 3rd or 4th). There are about 10 million alcoholics and 20 million persons who consume an immoderate amount of alcohol. About 70% use alcohol as a beverage. As a result, alcohol contributes to 205,000 deaths each year. Life expectancy of the alcoholic is reduced by at least a decade. One-half of all traffic fatalities are the direct result of the abuse of alcohol. It is directly connected to one-half of the homicides and one-third of the suicides. It costs business alone 19 billion dollars a year. And now one out of every twelve marriages comes apart over drinking.

I hear people say, they drink occasionally, and some others say they drink only as a part of social gathering, some consume alcohol everyday with a moderate quantity, and some others are struggling how to control the addiction of alcohol. Sure, there are those out there who can drink socially and in moderation. But every addicted person started drinking by looking at it in that perspective but gradually got addicted to it. Alcohol, even in moderation, takes away money and time that could be better spent elsewhere. Alcohol is a waste of time, money and positive energy and nothing you gain out of it.

I read a person explaining from his own life these consequences of drinking alcohol; 'Alcohol gives people the liquid courage to be cruel, to be bullies, to be violent and to humiliate the people they claim to love. Alcohol makes you look like a fool. Alcohol destroys families, weddings, reunions, holidays, birthdays, funerals, graduations, concerts, parties, and untold numbers of public events. Alcohol encourages criminality and causes suicides. Alcohol destroys businesses, ruins livelihoods, causes homelessness, devastates relationships and undermines trust'. I believe this is completely true, nothing we gain but loses many things.

I remember Thomas, who was one of our AA members and went back to his addiction after few months when I was a missionary in Wayanad. I took him twice back to our De addiction centre but finally I saw him hanged himself on a public bus shelter, leaving behind a lot of debts, a sick wife and two children. I can narrate many other pathetic stories like this that I saw as a result of alcohol. After coming to New York and working with the youth I saw many devastated lives, relationships and families due to the consumption of alcohol.

Some people has strong will power and self control but not many others have the same qualities so I believe in what Paul said " *Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall*" (1 Cor 8:13). If I am a stumbling block to my weak brothers and sisters then I am distorting the body of Christ. I saw many of our brothers and sisters drink only when alcohol is served in our parties. Are we making others to fall into sin by providing it? I make a humble request to all those who drink, occasionally or regularly, to abstain from it because we are not gaining anything out of it but loses many things, money, time, thinking capacity, health, family relations so on and so forth. In 1 Cor. 6. 19 Paul is reminding us "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own". Our body is created in the image of God and with a purpose and whatever destroys that image needs to be avoided. Then we will be able to witness him as a living sacrifice.

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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Nov 2nd- Sunday English Holy Communion at 9:00 am

(Sanctification of the Church / World Sunday School day)

Praise & Worship:

Sermon: **Ms. Angelina Alexander** Prayer: **Ms. Jaisy Chacko**

Lessons: 1st Lesson Prov.23:15-26 **Ms. Stefie Thomas**
 2nd Lesson Heb.12:1-13 **Ms. Christina Philipose**
 Lay Assistant: **Mr. Cyril Abraham**
 Epistle: 1 John.2:7-17 Gospel: **St.John.6:1-14**

Nov 9th — Sunday Malayalam CSI Holy Communion at 9:00 am

Festival of Unity of the Communion of Churches in India (CCI)

Praise & Worship:

Sermon: **Mr. Silas Chacko** Prayer: **Ms. Shanna Varghese**
Unity Sunday CSI Holy Qurbana Lead by Jubilee CSI Church

Nov 16th- Sunday — Malayalam Holy Communion at 9.00 am

(Annunciation to Zechariah)

Praise & Worship: By Youth Fellowship

Sermon: **Ms. Jessica George** Prayer: **Mr. Bently Joseph**

Lessons: 1st Lesson **1Chro.24.1-19** **Mr. Abraham C Thomas**
 2nd Lesson **Heb.5:1-10** **Mrs. Annie Thomas**
 Lay Assistant: **Mr. Achenkunju Mathew**
 Epistle **2 Cor.2:12-17** Gospel: **St.Luke.1:5-23**

Nov. 23rd - Sunday— English Holy Communion at 9:00 am

(Annunciation to Virgin Mary)

Praise & Worship:

Sermon: Mr. Arvin Eapen Prayer: Ms. Angelina Alexander

Lessons: 1st Lesson **Zech.2:10-13** **Mr. Abilene Anil**
 2nd Lesson **1 John.3:1-16** **Ms. Stefie Mathew**
 Lay Assistant: **Mr. Jerel Abraham**
 Epistle: **Eph.1:3-10** Gospel: **St.Luke.1:26-38**

Nov. 27th - Thursday— Thanks giving day service
at 10:00 am

Nov. 30th - Sunday— English Devine Service at 9:00 am

(Visitation of Virgin Mary to Elizabeth. St.Andrews the Apostle Day)

Lessons: 1st Lesson **Gen. 18:1-16** (To be Assigned)
 2nd Lesson **1 Pet.1:8-12** (To be Assigned)
 Lay Assistant: (To be Assigned)
 Epistle: **2 Cor.1:3-11** Gospel: **St.Luke.1:39-45**

PRAYER GROUP & ORGANIZATIONS

AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

<p>Bellerose Nov 1st Saturday 6.00PM Mr. Joseph C. Mathew 88-25 Billing St, Queens Village Tel # 718-464-8372</p>	<p>Eastern Long Island Nov 16th Sunday 7.30PM Mr. Biju Chacko 1802 McKinley Ave, East Meadow. NY11554 Tel # 516-214-4190</p>
<p>Elmont & West Hempstead Nov 15th Saturday 7.30PM Mr. Philip Thomas 196 Oakley Ave, Elmont Tel # 516-616-6338</p>	<p>Floral Park & Glen Oaks Nov 16th Sunday 5.00 PM Mr. Abraham Philip 1773 Stewart Ave, New Hyde Park Tel # 718-616-7327</p>

<p>Garden City Park Nov 15th Saturday 5.00 PM Mr. M.M Mathew 118 Elm Lane, New Hyde Park. Tel # 516-294-7583</p>	<p>New Hyde Park East Nov 9th Sunday 7:00PM Mr. John Thomas 2 Aster Dr, New Hyde Park Tel # 516-352-3054</p>
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<p>New Hyde Park West Nov 8th Saturday 7.00 PM Mr. Stanley Pappachan 1502 Highland Ave, New Hyde Pk Tel # 516-352-0810</p>	<p>Palli Bhagom Nov 22nd Saturday 7.00 PM Mr. Titus George 90-29 218 Street, Queens Village Tel # 718-217-0463</p>
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EDAVAKA MISSION PRAYERS

Nov 7th Friday No Prayer at the church– Regional convention

Nov 14th Friday 7.30 PM Prayer meeting At the church

Nov 21st Friday 7.30 PM Prayer meeting at the church

Nov 28th Friday 7.30 PM Prayer meeting At The Church

Regional Convention –2014 MTVEA– North East Region
 Nov 7th 7.00 PM St. Andrews MTC, 58 Crescent Pl, Yonkers NY 10754
 Nov 8th 7.00 PM Bethany MTC, 90 Old Orangeburg Rd, Orangeburg , NY
 Nov 9th 10.00 AM St. James MTC, 42-4th St, Hillburn, NY 10931

SEVIKA SANGHOM PRAYER MEETINGS

Nov 5th 10.00 AM (Wednesday)	Mrs. Shyla Abraham 47 Second Street , Garden City Pk	516 739 1848
Nov 8th (Saturday)	Couples Conference At St. Thomas MTC, Yonkers	
Nov 13th , 10.00 AM (Thursday)	Mrs. Saramma Cherian 90 Kamda Blvd, New Hyde Pk	516-502-4854
Nov 20th, 10.00 AM (Thursday)	Mrs. Aleyamma John 127 South Dr, Manhasset Hills	516-233-1128
Nov 27th 10.00 AM (Thursday)	Thanks Giving service At the church	

SENIOR CITIZENS FELLOWSHIP

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

Cottage Meeting:
(To Be announced)

YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

Cottage Meeting
Nov 9th Sunday at 1.30 PM
Mr. Anil Philipose
505 Lakeville Rd, New Hyde Park
Tel # 516-352-4746

CHOIR

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

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Nov 16th Sunday Youth Fellowship will lead Praise & worship.
**Nov 1st Saturday, Cottage meeting at 4.00 PM, Ms. Kathy Philip,
2772 Woods Ave, East Meadow, NY Tel # 516-781-0205.**
Nov 22nd Saturday 4.00 PM YF meeting at the church.

YOUNG FAMILIES FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship Meeting **To be announced**

BIRTHDAYS FOR NOVEMBER

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

Anjana Thomas
Anisha Thomas
Alex Abraham

Smitha Mathew
Jessy Lukose
Valsa Mathew Abraham
Merlin David
Moliamma Thomas
Philip J. Varghese
Subin G. Abraham
Mithosh Abraham
Abraham Thomas
Kunjamma Mathew
Christa S. Mathew
Sherry M. Zachariah
Koshy George
Anitha Thomas
Alvin Stanley
Tobin Abraham
Veena Susan John
Abraham Philip
Iype Abraham
Saram Titus
Jaison Joseph
Jincy Chacko
Tency Annie Mathew

Thomas Abraham
Merlyn George
Jacey Miriam Chacko
Abraham Varkey
Seth A Trigy
Joel Philipose
T. Varghese Mathai
Celine Mary Kurien
Paul Mathew
Shiji Abraham
Robert Abraham
Noel Lyju Oommen
Steffy G. Thomas
Miriam Mathew
Ashok G. Mathai
Shalin Varghese
Abraham P. Joseph
Rejula Mathew
Valsa Abraham
Lyju Oommen
Gethin George
Shawn John
Teresa Mathew
Thomas Mathew
Varghese Chacko
Silvy Thomas

Sujith David
Ajai Benjamin

Bobby Varghese
Mathew K. Cherian
Santhosh T. George
Sona D. Varughese
Thomas Kavunkal Thomas
Jerry Susan Abraham
Rachel Philip
Alexander Thomas
Derek Abraham
Rosamma Thomas
Abraham C. Abraham
Shane Varghese
Saji K. David
Salimma K. Zachariah
Justin J. Mathew
Debi Philip
Julie K. Johnson
Anju Thomas
Lilly Simon
Mathew Deepak David
Shiny Anil Philipose
Shijo Moncey
Zachariah Mathai
Betsy Mathew

Nima George Isaac
Symon C. Abraham
Lissimol George
Jeswin K. James
Rajan Tuthiel Abraham
Alvin George
Monica Susan Mathew
Lizzy Mathai
Benjamin George
Christina John Jacob
Joel George
Lejemol Samuel
Bensy Benjamin
Nina Abraham
Reshma Ann Itty

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR NOVEMBER

A Very Happy Wedding Anniversary to all.

Tena & Ashish Abraham
 Leelamma & Thomas Abraham
 Rosamma & Mathew Philip

Julie & Sajan John
 Sheeba & Eric Gill
 Elizabeth & Philip Oommen
 Nanma & Leni Georgekutty

Jolly & Itty Philip
 Susan & Oommen Philip
 Ponnamma & Varghese George
 Veena & Suseel Thomas
 Mariamma & Mammen Thomas

Marcia & Vinil Thomas
 Kunjujamma & T. John Mathew
 Aleyamma & John Varkey
 Sosamma & Kuttikattu Idichandy
 Usha & George Chacko
 Ammukutty & Bob Nainan

Important Dates to be remembered

Nov 1st World Sunday School Day.
Nov 9th Unity Sunday.
Nov 27th Thanks giving Day Service
Nov 29th Family Night.
Nov 30th Christmas House Caroling starts
Dec 5th Retreat
Dec 6th Silver Jubilee Inauguration
Dec 7th Episcopal visit- Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar
 Theodosius.

CHRISTMAS HOUSE CAROLING SCHEDULE

Date	Day	Area
11/30/2014	Sunday	Garden City Park
12/07/2014	Sunday	Floral Park/Glen Oaks
12/12/2014	Friday	Bellerose
12/13/2014	Saturday	Eastern Long Island
12/14/2014	Sunday	Elmont West Hempstead
12/19/2104	Friday	Queens Village
12/20/2014	Saturday	NHP West
12/21/2014	Sunday	NHP East

CONDOLENCES.

On Behalf of St. John's MTC, we express our sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Munna V. Samuel and family of Bellerose area prayer, in the demise of Mrs Beena Sam's Grand mother Mrs. Kunjamma Varghese.

On Behalf of St. John's MTC, we express our sincere condolences to Mr. Suresh T. John and family of New Hyde Pk West area Prayer group on the demise of his Father and our member Cpt. John Philipose

On Behalf of St. John's MTC, we express our sincere condolences to Mr. Thomas Mathew and family of New Hyde Pk West area Prayer group on the demise of his Father and our member Mr. P.T Mathew.

On Behalf of St. John's MTC, we express our sincere condolences to our former Vicar Rev. Jacob Varghese and family in the demise of Mrs. Grace Cherian mother of Jikku Kochamma.

THANK YOU

New Hyde Park East prayer group parishioners and Mr. John Mathew for assisting with the church services and for preparing coffee for social time during the month of October

New Hyde Park West area prayer group will assist in the church services and social hour during the month of **November** and **Pallibhagom** area prayer will be assisting in **December**.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

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

Nursery		Juniors, Grade 6	
Christine Thomas	516-216-5051	Laila George	631-462-1648
Dana Philip	718-465-3952	Johnson P. Philip	516-739-3744
Kindergarten		Teena Mathew	516-488-2629
Molamma Thankachan	718-468-4434	Junior High, Grade 7	
Linda Mathew	516-326-8526	Thankamma Abraham	718-343-9344
Aji Thomas	516-741-0465	Bently Joseph	516-822-5463
Primary Juniors, GR. 1		Cyril Abraham	516-777-0791
Bhavna Mathews	516-746-5222	Junior High, Grade 8	
Ginsey George	631-265-5730	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	718-614-3731	Anchi Mathews	718-347-3488
Angel C. Abraham	516-754-3688	Seniors, Grade 10	
Primary Juniors, GR. 3		Koruthu George	516-354-7552
Rachel Philip	516-326-2629	Santhosh George	516-298-0901
Joan Johnson	516-739-3744	Swithin Titus	718-217-0463
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	Senior High, Grade 12	
Primary Juniors, GR. 5		Philip Varghese	718-347-2709
Sherly Ninan	516-488-2574	Dr. Binu Chacko	347-262-8211
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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