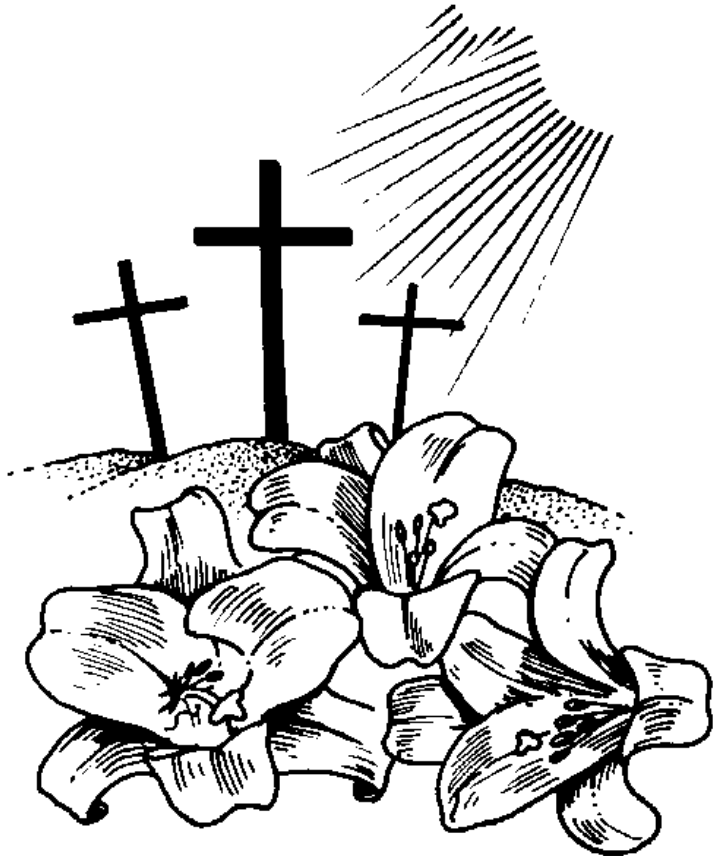


ST. JOHN'S MAR THOMA CHURCH

90-37 213 STREET, QUEENS VILLAGE, NY 11428



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

NEWS LETTER— MARCH 2016
VOLUME: XXVI ISSUE: 3

www.stjohnsmtcny.org

Vicar: Rev. Issac P.Kurien vicar4stjohns@gmail.com

OFFICE BEARERS / BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR 2015

Vicar / President	Rev. Issac P. Kurien Church — 718-468-4141	718-465-2358 (Par.) © 516-445-8552
Vice President	Mr. Mathew P. George	516-742-3686
Secretary	Mr. Zachariah Mathai (Aji)	917-208-1714 secretary4stjohns@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mr. Philip Oommen	718-776-2585
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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. C. K. Mathai	516-437-0979
Senior Citizens	Mr. C. V. Simonkutty	516-742-3520
Sevika Sangham	Mrs. Mercy Thomas	718-347-0346
Sunday School	Mr. Johnson P. Philip	516-739-3744
Young Families	Mr. Melvin John	718-343-0002
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Shawn Zachariah	516-328-8791
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Jinu Zacharia	516-974-9980
<u>Prayer Group Representatives:</u>		
Bellerose	Mr. Munna V. Sam	718-343-5036
Eastern Long Island	Mr. Varghese Chacko	516-433-3870
Elmont / West Hemp.	Mr. K. Idichandi	516-437-8562
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Garden City Park	Mrs. Annamma Mathews	516-747-5473
New Hyde Park East	Mr. John Thomas	516-352-3054
New Hyde Park West	Mr. Stanley Pappachan	516-352-0810
Palli Bhagom	Mr. T. M. Thomas	718-217-1740
<u>Auditors:</u>		
	Mr. Bob Abraham	516-603-3898
	Mr. Easow Mathunny	718-360-1808
<u>Youth Chaplain:</u>	Rev. Shibi Abraham	516-437-0425

MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

Dearly beloved in Christ,
Greetings to you in the name
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Gracious God has enabled us to enter into one more Lenten year and to observe it faithfully. It is a time for us to experience the presence of Christ in our lives. The theme for 2016 Lent is 'Be with Him; Be Useful'. Therefore, spent time with Jesus. It is a time from being to becoming. I hope and pray that the holy spirit work in you to experience the power of transformation. We are meditating the meaning of Cross these days. Cross put forward a new model for discipleship. Cross always challenges the status quo of the world.

Cross reminds us about the total obedience. This obedience always requires surrender. Our Lord Jesus exemplified the meaning and depth of obedience. Holy Spirit is the wonderful counselor who always speaks to us inwardly. It is our choice to listen or not. But the time is limited for all to be learned. Cross always challenges us the possibility of unending life. It is a possibility for each one of us. World always offers a life of enjoyment. But the bubbles have short life. Cross demands certain things to have eternal life. May the God give us the strength to work for the renewal experience. Easter should be an experience than a celebration. Unless we observe lent, we have nothing to break on Easter. Hence I request you to prayerfully participate in Lent and celebrate the hope of Easter.

May God bless you all.

With prayers
Issac Kurien Achen

YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This month we celebrate the most important events in the Christian faith. We commemorate the suffering, death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. It's a time to reflect and remember the selfless sacrifice that Jesus the Christ made on the cross, and to celebrate the forgiveness and hope we have through Him. Jesus' death and resurrection is the defining event of Christianity and the foundation of our faith. Christians have commemorated it every time they worship, not just at Easter.

In the Roman Empire, crucifixion had been the cruelest and slowest way of killing a criminal. It was so barbaric and brutal that it was never used on a Roman citizen. Jesus suffered a great deal to deliver us from our sins and transgressions. He was the true suffering servant of God as told in the book of Isaiah.

"He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces, he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we account him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. (Isaiah 53:3-5)"

This depicts the length, breadth, height, and depth of the love of God.

But as we all know, the cross is not the end. Easter is the day when God made His powerful pronouncement against death and His victorious declaration for life by resurrecting His Son, Jesus. God has transformed the cross from a symbol of shame and death to a symbol of glory, power, and life. Because of what Jesus achieved on the cross we have the power, vision, and endurance to live a victorious life in this world and in the world to come. For Paul the cross was a source of power and a way of life. The cross gave meaning to his sufferings and gave him the strength to face the different challenges of his missionary journeys.

We should always thank God for sending His Son to die for our sins. We should also thank Jesus for suffering and dying for us. We should also thank him for giving us hope. Hope that will enable us to face the future, no matter what it may contain. This hope is something that we have to share with others. Hope that things will get better, even if we are suffering now. Hope that allows us to reject whatever wounds, weakens, or destroys human life. May the Lord help us to celebrate our lives, make us witnesses of the true Christian hope, and enable us to comfort others.

Rev. Shibi Abraham

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 6 – Holy Communion Service; Malayalam, 9:00 AM

Transforming the Oppressive Structures

Praise & Worship by Sunday School

Sermon: Aidan Mathews; **Prayer:** Jeff Mathew

1st Lesson: Nahum 1:1-15 Thomas C. Mathew

2nd Lesson: Acts 16:25-34 Mini Jacob

Lay Assistant: Jinu Zachariah

Epistle: Acts 4:32-37 **Gospel:** St. Luke 13:10-17

March 13 – Holy Communion Service; English, 9:00 AM

Cross: New Model for Discipleship

Praise & Worship by Sunday School

Sermon: Sona Varghese; **Prayer:** Jenisha Saji

1st Lesson: Gen. 26:12-33 Justin Joy

2nd Lesson: 2 Cor. 11:20-31 Melissa John

Lay Assistant: Cyril Abraham

Epistle: 2 Cor. 1:3-11 **Gospel:** St. Mark 10:45-52

March 20 - Holy Communion Service; Malayalam, 9:00 AM

Hosanna: Lord Save Us (Theological Seminary Day)

Praise & Worship by Youth Fellowship

Sermon: Linsy Benjamin; **Prayer:** Stacy Mathew

1st Lesson: Zech 9:1-12 Renjith Koshy Mathew

2nd Lesson: 1Timo 4:6-16 Anna Abraham

Lay Assistant: Thomas George

Epistle: Heb 5:5-10 **Gospel:** St. Luke 19:28-40

March 27 - Holy Communion Service; English, 9:00 AM

Kemta: Resurrection; Celebrating boundless transformation

Praise & Worship by Sunday School

Sermon: Joel Philipose; **Prayer:** Celine Cherian

1st Lesson: Gen 23:1-19 Alvin Stanley

2nd Lesson: Col. 3:1-11 Stella Mathew

Lay Assistant: Charles V. Abraham

Epistle: 1Thess 4:13-18 **Gospel:** St. Mat. 28:1-10

CHOIR PRACTICE

Every Sunday after the Holy Communion Service

PRAYER GROUPS & ORGANIZATIONS

AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

<p>Bellerose (1st Saturday) Lenten Prayer</p>	<p>Eastern Long Island 4th Saturday; March 26, 7 pm Beji T. Joseph 30 Cambria Road, Syosset 516-822-5463</p>
<p>Elmont & West Hempstead 2nd Sunday; March 13, 7 pm Mathew T. Philip 1331 World Avenue, Elmont 516-326-9079</p>	<p>Floral Park & Glen Oaks (3rd Sunday) Passion Week, No prayer</p>
<p>Garden City Park 1st Sunday, March 6, 7 pm M. M. Mathew 118 Elm Lane, New Hyde Park 516-294-7583</p>	<p>New Hyde Park East 2nd Saturday; March 12, 7 pm Bijoy Abraham 189 Celler Avenue, New Hyde Pk 516-270-2643</p>
<p>New Hyde Park West (4th Sunday) No prayer; Easter</p>	<p>Palli Bhagom 3rd Saturday; March 19, 7 pm John Skariah 92-28 218 Place, Queens Village 718-465-8857</p>

EDAVAKA MISSION PRAYER MEETINGS

March 4, 7.30 PM	Mr. Thomas George	516-305-4632
(Friday)	410 Brown Pl. New Hyde Park	
March 11; 7.30 PM	Mr. Roy C. Thomas	718-347-0346
(Friday)	267-12 82nd Ave., Floral Park	
March 18; 7:30 PM	40th Day of Lent	
(Friday)	Holy Communion at Church	
March 25; 7.30 PM	Good Friday	No prayer
(Friday)		

SEVIKA SANGHOM PRAYER MEETINGS

March 2nd, 10.00 AM (Wednesday)	Fasting Prayer At Church	718-465-2358
March 10th, 10.00 AM (Thursday)	Mrs. Annamma Thankachan 74-31 Littleneck Pkwy Glen Oaks	718-3474336
March 17th, 10.00 AM (Thursday)	Center A Sevika Sanghom Meeting; Epiphany Mar Thoma Church, 103-10 103rd Street, Ozone Park	718-845-2920
March 24th	Passion Week; No Prayer	
March 30th, 10 AM Wednesday	Mrs. Lali B. Joseph 30 Cambria Road	516-822-5463

SENIOR CITIZENS FELLOWSHIP

March 15 Mr. C. V. Simonkutty 516-742-2520
76 4th Avenue, Garden City Pk.

Health & Recreational Program

Due to the Lent Sandhya Namaskaaram the Health and Recreational Programs will be held at 5 pm in March at the Church

YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

Date and location to be announced

YOUNG FAMILIES FELLOWSHIP

Date and location to be announced

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Every 1st and 3rd Friday at the Church

BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH

1. Rincy Johnson	1	38. Anna Alexander	15
2. Mariamma Jose	1	39. Jane S. Mathew	15
3. Rohit Mathew	1	40. Jeremy George	16
4. John Zachariah Oommen	1	41. Aaron John George	17
5. Noble Philip	1	42. Elizabeth K. George	17
6. Sayu Biju	2	43. Davis John	17
7. Elizabeth T. Sam	2	44. Josh P. Thomas	17
8. B Mary Varughese	2	45. Lizzykutty K. Abraham	18
9. Thomas M. George	3	46. Chacko K. Thomas	18
10. Bea Marie Isaac	3	47. Anil T. Andrews	19
11. Annamma Mathews	4	48. Binu Daniel	19
12. Anita Simon	4	49. Justin Joseph	19
13. Jasmin Mary Varughese	4	50. Stefi Mathew	19
14. Christopher Sam Babu	5	51. Nigel Lyju Oommen	19
15. Sosamma John	5	Offer prayer and thanksgiving	
16. Manuel Mathew	6	on March 20	
17. Sharon S. Varughese	6	52. David Abraham	21
Offer prayer and thanksgiving		53. Valsamma George	21
on March 6		54. Biji J. Jacob	21
18. Marilyn N. Abraham	7	55. Shibi (Rev.) M Abraham	22
19. Akkil Alex Kurien	7	56. Ann Rachel John	22
20. Rachel Thomas	8	57. Elizabeth Philip	22
21. Jess J. Chacko	9	58. Brianna Thomas	23
22. Georgekutty Chacko	10	59. Nisa S Varghese	23
23. Jolly Daniel	10	60. Leelamma Mathai	25
24. Austin Sanu Mathew	10	61. Jinu Zachariah	25
25. Suby Mathew	10	62. Annamma J. Skariah	26
26. Saju Joseph Thomas	10	63. Sophie E. Abraham	27
27. Tini Sara Titus	10	64. Shylon Mathew	27
28. Thankamma Xavier	10	Offer prayer and thanksgiving	
29. Benjamin T. Mathew	11	on March 27	
30. Susan Thomas	11	65. Riva Eapen	28
31. Lisa David	13	66. Anil Thomas	28
32. T. C. David	13	67. Brendon John	29
33. Monsey George	13	68. Achamma John	30
34. Justin T. Sam	13	69. Sheela J. Mathew	30
Offer prayer and thanksgiving		70. Philip K. Thomas	31
on March 13		71. Susan Varghese	31
35. Sylas Thomas Chacko	14	Offer prayer and thanksgiving on	
36. Joel P. Thomas	14	April 3	
37. David Chacko Philip	15	<i>Happy Birthday to all!!!</i>	

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR MARCH

Jessy & Thomas C. Mathew 1

Anna & Alexander P. Eapen 23

**Offer prayer & thanksgiving on
March 6**

**Offer prayer & thanksgiving on
February 27**

Remi & Saji Thankachan 8

Abu & Mini Varghese 12

**Offer prayer & thanksgiving on
March 13**



ALTAR BOYS AND COVENANT GIRLS ASSIGNMENTS

Date	Altar	Offertory	Kiss of Peace
3/6	Ajay Benjamin	Chrismal Abraham	Chrismal Abraham
	Chrismal B. Abraham	Chrisen Bijoy	Chrisen Bijoy
		Reena Mathew	Reena Mathew
		Stefie Thomas	Stefie Thomas
3/13	Cifin Sajan	Cifin Sajan	Cifin Sajan
	Alvin Lukose	Alvin Lukose	Alvin Lukose
		Sharon Varghese	Sharon Varghese
		Sefia Thomas	Sefia Thomas
3/20	Rohit Mathew	Rohit Mathew	Rohit Mathew
	Abilene T. Anil	Abilene T. Anil	Abilene T. Anil
		Reena Mathew	Reena Mathew
3/27	Ajay Benjamin	Ajay Benjamin	Ajay Benjamin
	Calvin Sam	Calvin Sam	Calvin Sam
		Stefie Thomas	Stefie Thomas
		Semantha Thomas	Semantha Thomas

THANK YOU

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

New Hyde Park West area prayer group will assist in the church services and social hour during the month of March.

LENTEN SANDHYA NAMASKAARAM SCHEDULE

No.	Date	Name	Address
1.	3/1, Tues,	Abraham Thomas,	515 N. 10th Street, New Hyde Pk.
2.	3/2 Wed,	Roji Sam Koshy,	1399 Sweetman Avenue, Elmont
3.	3/3, Thur,	at Church	
4.	3/4, Fri.,	Thomas George,	410 Brown Pl., New Hyde Park
5.	3/5, Sat.,	Sanu Mathew,	1766 Stone Ave., East Meadow
6.	3/6, Sun	M. M. Mathew,	118 Elm Lane, New Hyde Park
7.	3/7, Mon	Saji David,	65 Fourth Street, Garden City Park
8.	3/8, Tues	Zachariah Mathai,	519 N. First Street, New Hyde Park
9.	3/9, Wed	John Mathews,	7 3rd Street, Garden City Park
10.	3/10, Thur	Oommen Philip,	511 N. 2nd Street, New Hyde Park
11.	3/11, Fri	Roy C. Thomas,	267-12 82nd Avenue, Floral Park
12.	3/12, Sat	Bijoy Abraham,	189 Celler Avenue, New Hyde Park
13.	3/13, Sun	Mathew T. Philip,	1331 World Avenue, Elmont
14.	3/14, Mon	Mathew P. George,	415 Horton Hwy, Mineola
15.	3/15, Tues	C. V. Simonkutty,	76 Fourth Ave., Garden City Pk.
16.	3/16, Wed	Sabu Lukose,	110 Plympton Ave., Roslyn Hts.
17.	3/17, Thur	Eapen K. George,	80-04 265 Street, Floral Park

18. 3/18, Fri 40th Day of Lent; Holy Communion at Church

19. 3/19, Sat John Skariah, 92-28 218 Pl., Queens Village

20.	3/20	Sunday	at Church
21.	3/21	Monday	at Church
22.	3/22	Tuesday	at Church
23.	3/23	Wednesday	at Church
24.	3/24	Thursday	at Church
25.	3/25	Friday	Good Friday

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

On Behalf of St. John's family, congratulations to Anju and Lino Alex at the birth of their son **Noah Alex** and Nanma & Leni George at the birth of their daughter **Sabeena Noval George**. May God bless the families and the new additions.

PASSION WEEK ARRANGEMENTS

Date	Time	Lesson	Lesson Reading	Assisting
18 Mar 16 40 th Fri	Mal 7.00 pm	1 Lesson - Num. 21:1-9 2 Lesson - Heb. 12:1-13	Mr. C. V. Simonkutty	Mr. Zachariah Mathai Mr. Beji T Joseph
			Mrs. Sosamma Thomas	
21 Mar 16 Mon	Mal 7.00 pm	1 Lesson - Lev. 2:1-16 2 Lesson - Acts. 13:26-43	Mr. C. K. Mathai	Mr. Zachariah Mathai Mr. Abraham C Thomas
			Mrs. Mariamma Jose	
22 Mar 16 Tue	Mal 7.00pm	1 Lesson - Isa. 52:1-15 2 Lesson - Acts. 13:44-52	Mr. Binu Thomas	Mr. Zachariah Mathai Mr. John Thomas
			Mrs. Lissy Mathai	
23 Mar 16 Wed	Mal 7.00 pm	1 Lesson - Isa. 28:14-29 2 Lesson - Col. 1:9-22	Mr. P. P. Varghese	Mr. Zachariah Mathai Mr. Scaria Varughese
			Mrs. Soma G Thomas	
24 Mar 16 Thu	Eng 6.30 pm	1 Lesson - Exo. 12:1-17 2 Lesson - Heb. 9:1-15	Mr. Easow Mathunny	Mr. Justin Sam Mr. Philip Oommen
			Mrs. Jessica Eapen	
25 Mar 16 Fri 9.00 am	Mal 1 st	1 Lesson - Isa. 53:1-12 2 Lesson - 1 Pet. 1:1-25	Mr. Varghese P. Abraham	Mr. Zachariah Mathai Mr. John Scariah
			Mrs. Aleyamma Varkey	
	Mal 2 nd	1 Lesson - Zech. 13:1-9 2 Lesson - Gal. 3:1-22	Mr. Jinu Zachariah	Mr. Zachariah Mathai Mr. Cherian Panavelli
			Mrs. Annamma Mathews	
Eng 3 rd	1 Lesson - Num. 21:1-9 2 Lesson - Heb. 3:1-19	Mr. Binu Chacko	Mr. Justin Sam Mr. Joel Thomas	
		Mrs. Ann Koshy		

If undeliverable, please return to:

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

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." Matthew 18:20