

# ST. JOHN'S MAR THOMA CHURCH

90-37 213 STREET, QUEENS VILLAGE, NY



NEWS LETTER- FEBRUARY 2017

VOLUME: XXVII ISSUE: 2

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

[www.stjohnsmtcny.org](http://www.stjohnsmtcny.org)

Vicar: Rev. Issac P. Kurien

Vicar4stjohns@gmail.com

If undeliverable, please return to:

St. John's Mar Thoma Church

90-37 213th Street

Queens Village, NY 11428

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are tongues, they will cease; where there are prophecies, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. 1Cor. 13:4-8



FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

## OFFICE BEARERS / BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR 2017

<b>Vicar / President</b>	Rev. Issac P. Kurien 718-468-4141- Church	718-465-2358 Parsonage 516-445-8552-Mobile
<b>Vice President</b>	Mr. Mathew P. George	516-742-3686
<b>Secretary</b>	Mr. Zachariah Mathai (Aji)	917-208-1714 secretary4stjohns@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr. Abraham Thomas	516-877-5925
<b>Accountant</b>	Mr. Cherian M. George	516-502-6334
<b>Lay Ministrants</b>	Mr. Zachariah Mathai (Soman) Mr. Saju David	516-328-8791 516-747-7033
<b>Sabha Mandalam</b>	Mrs. Elizabeth Philip	516-781-0205
<b>Dio. Assembly</b>	Mr. Eapen K. George Mr. Saji Thomas Mr. Roy C. Thomas	718-343-0505 516-775-1512 718-347-0346

### Organizations:

<b>Choir</b>	Mr. Samuel Thomas	516-216-5051
<b>Edavaka Mission</b>	Mr. Abraham C. Thomas	516-437-1888
<b>Senior Citizens</b>	Mr. C. V. Simonkutty	516-742-3520
<b>Sevika Sangham</b>	Mrs. Mercy Thomas	718-347-0346
<b>Sunday School</b>	Mr. Johnson P. Philip	516-739-3744
<b>Young Families</b>	Mr. Melvin John	718-343-0002
<b>Youth Fellowship</b>	Mr. Shawn Zachariah	516-328-8791
<b>Yuvajana Sakhyam</b>	Mr. Jinu Zacharia	516-974-9980

### Prayer Group Representatives:

<b>Bellerose</b>	Mr. Munna V. Sam	718-343-5036
<b>Eastern Long Island</b>	Mr. Varghese Chacko	516-433-3870
<b>Elmont / West Hemp.</b>	Mr. K. Idichandy	516-437-8562
<b>Floral Park / Glen Oaks</b>	Mr. Mathew Thomas	917-539-1652
<b>Garden City Park</b>	Mrs. Annamma Mathews	516-747-5473
<b>New Hyde Park East</b>	Mr. John Thomas	516-352-3054
<b>New Hyde Park West</b>	Mr. Anil Baby Philipose	516-352-4746
<b>Palli Bhagom</b>	Mrs. Sosamma Thomas	718-217-1740

### Auditors:

	Mr. Varughese P. Abraham	917-482-0799
	Mr. Sanu Mathew	516-222-0826
<b>Youth Chaplain:</b>	Rev. Shibi Abraham	516-437-0425

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

SUPERINTENDENT: Johnson Philip — H-516-739-3744; C-516-343-4036

<b>Nursery</b>		<b>Junior High, Grade 7</b>	
Christine Thomas	516-216-5051	Teena Mathew	516-488-2629
<b>Kindergarten</b>		Cyril Abraham	516-777-0791
Sharon Varughese	516-974-4823	<b>Junior High, Grade 8</b>	
Denson George	516-474-9716	Sherly Ninan	516-488-2574
Aji Thomas	516-741-0465	Sunitha Chacko	917-699-4451
<b>Primary Juniors, GR. 1</b>		<b>Seniors, Grade 9</b>	
Ginsey George	631-619-6869	Mercy Babu	516-538-2833
Joash Mathew	516-450-7301	Anchi Mathews	718-347-3488
<b>Primary Juniors, GR. 2</b>		<b>Seniors, Grade 10</b>	
Austin Sanu	646-670-1190	Santhosh George	516-298-0901
Dana Philip	718-465-3952	Koruthu George	516-354-7552
<b>Primary Juniors, GR. 3</b>		<b>Senior High, Grade 11</b>	
Rachel Philip	516-326-2629	Mathew P. George	516-742-3686
Jerrel Abraham	516-492-5117	Charles Abraham	718-551-1779
<b>Primary Juniors, GR. 4</b>		<b>Senior High, Grade 12</b>	
Rachel George	718-468-1224	Philip Varghese	718-347-2709
Joel Thomas	516-640-7949	Binu Chacko	347-262-8211
<b>Primary Juniors, GR. 5</b>		<b>Teacher Assistants</b>	
Joann Johnson	516-739-3744	Krupa Jacob	516-209-1050
Stacey Mathew	516-616-9446	Meekha Mathew	516-582-9855
<b>Juniors, Grade 6</b>		Silvy Thomas	917-868-7842
Laila George	631-462-1648	Sherry John	718-614-3731

### CHURCH FACILITIES MAINTENANCE TEAM

CONVENER: MR. MATHEW THOMAS 917-539-1652

Mr. Bob Abraham	516-603-3898	AUDIO/ VIDEO SYSTEMS TEAM	
Mr. Binu Eapen	516-519-8017	Mr. Bob Abraham	(516) 603-3898
Mr. K. Idichandy	516-437-8562	Mr. Sam George	(516) 581-6128
Mr. Saji Thomas	646-591-8465	Mr. Munna V. Sam	(718)343-5036
Mr. Abraham K. Varughese	516-358-3669	Mr. Shawn Zachariah	(516)305-7287

### PARSONAGE RENOVATION COMMITTEE

Convener: Mr. Sabu Lukose 516-902-4300

Mr. Thomas M. George	631-462-1648	Mr. John Mathews	516-747-5473
Mr. K. Idichandy	516-437-8562	Mr. Chacko Thomas	718-776-8103
Mr. Roy C. Thomas	718-347-0346	Mr. John T. Varkey	516-233-1128

## HAPPY FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES TO...

1. Shiji & Vinu Abraham 4  
**Offer prayer and thanksgiving  
on February 5**

2. Susan & Joseph John 6  
3. Mary & James Kutty 7  
4. Mariamma & Titus Cherian 8  
5. Raji & Binu Thomas 10  
6. Susamma & K. Alexander 11  
7. Annamma & John Mathews 12

**Offer prayer and thanksgiving  
on February 12**

8. Lijo & Shajan Koshy 13  
9. Soma & Thomas George 14  
10. Neethu & Roshith Mathew 15  
11. Sosamma & Jacob Varghese 16  
12. Anitha & Thomas Thomas 16  
13. Valsa & Abraham Abraham 19  
14. Lizamma & Abraham Thomas 19

**Offer prayer and thanksgiving  
on February 19**

15. Elsamma & Abraham Thomas 21  
16. Leyamma & Philip Thomas 22  
17. Suja & Varghese Chacko 22  
18. Mini & Anil Andrews 22  
19. Kitty & Alexander Achenkutty 24

**Offer prayer and thanksgiving  
on February 26**

*Happy Anniversary*

## MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

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

God has enabled us to enter into the second month of the new year. The first Sunday of the month is to be observed as medical mission Sunday. Jesus has set apart a significant amount of his time for healing ministry in His earthly mission. That mission still continues through the mission hospitals of the church. But in the present time we can see degradation of the spirituality and leaders want to be the healing performers or miracle performers. So they are organizing mass conventions to show their power than the power of God. Becoming channels of healing is the most important and Jesus should be the healer.

The great lent begins on the first Sunday of this month. Lent is a time for renewal. Renewing experience is not incidental, but willingness to be renewed is essential. I remind you to observe the lent and to experience the transformation in our lives. It is our practice to limit our luxuries in our lives during the lent season and to contribute the same for charity. I request your prayerful participation in the Lenten prayers. Let us uphold the Maramon convention in our prayers as it begins on 12<sup>th</sup> February. Conventions are meant for the spiritual renewal of the participants for the active participation of the mission of God. May God bless you all.

With prayers  
Issac Kurien Achen

## YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Dearly Beloved Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

*“Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, saying, “I called to the Lord out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.” Jonah 2:1-2*

From Monday, February 6th to Thursday, February 9th, is the ‘Nineveh Fast’ to commemorate the fast of Jonah. The book of Jonah is unique in the Bible. We all know the story of Jonah. Instead of portraying a prophet who is an obedient servant of the Lord, calling his people to repentance, it features a ‘disobedient’ prophet who flees from his mission and sulks when his hearers repent. But just as God was merciful to the inhabitants of Nineveh, God also showed mercy to Jonah and was willing to forgive him and give him another chance to fulfil his mission. It was while Jonah was in the belly of the large fish for three days and nights that Jonah prayed for God to save him.

Jonah prayed for God’s compassion and mercy and he received it. Afterwards he was willing to perform the mission that God had entrusted to him. Because of this the great city of Nineveh was able to repent, receive God’s mercy and was saved. This is the theme of Jonah, “it calls Israel to repentance and reminds it of its mission to preach to all the nations God’s mercy and forgiveness.”

This fast is to be a time when we realize just how we have sinned and failed in the mission that God has entrusted to us. We are to go and preach about the love and justice of God. We need to truly repent and be willing to go and do the mission that God has given us. To work for justice in the world, to share what we have with those in need, and to reconcile ourselves with those around us.

Like Jonah, we pray to God to help us. We pray for God’s salvation. We pray for God’s mercies. But we also need to pray that God gives us the strength to faithfully complete the mission that he has given us.

Yours in Christ's Service,  
Rev. Shibi Abraham

## HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS TO.....

1. Joy A. Chacko	2	44. Ronish Raju Varghese	16
2. Easow E. Mathunny	2	45. Ann M. Koshy	16
3. Philip M. Kallumpurathu	3	46. Stacy Mathew	16
4. Stacy Tony	3	47. Annamma Symon	17
5. Leena R. Mathew	3	48. Saramma Mathew	17
6. K. M. Thomas	3	49. Calvin Samuel Thomas	18
7. Koshy Thankachan	3	50. Shawn Jacob	18
8. Saramma Mathew	3	51. Suresh T. John	18
9. Abigail Alexander	4	52. Angelina Alexander	18
10. Susamma T Mathew	4	53. Anil Baby Philipose	18
11. Binny V Saji	4	54. Varghese George	18
12. Anetta G. Philip	4	55. Rejo M. Jose	19
13. Angela J. Panicker	4	56. Mathew Saju Varughese	19
14. Thomas T. Zachariah	5	57. Delcina Zachariah	19
15. Philip Cherian	5		
<b>Offer prayer and thanksgiving on February 5</b>		<b>Offer prayer and thanksgiving on February 19</b>	
16. C. V. Simonkutty	7	58. Annamma Mathew	20
17. Raina Ann Koshy	7	59. Savannah Noelle George	20
18. Jolly Itty Philip	7	60. Jins Mariam Moncy	21
19. Edwin K. Abraham	7	61. Marcia Lilly Raju	21
20. Geena S. Rajan	8	62. Kezia Susan Kurien	22
21. Achankunju Mathew	8	63. Jaya Sabu Lukose	22
22. Joash John Mathew	8	64. Manoj Samuel	22
23. Varghese John	9	65. Arjun Joseph Thomas	23
24. Teena Thampy	9	66. Jennifer Susan Jacob	24
25. Robin K. Varughese	10	67. Justin George	25
26. Roshith Thomas Mathew	10	68. Ann V Saji	25
27. Shajan T. Koshy	10	69. Naomi G. Isaac	25
28. Jenny E George	11	70. Christina Susan Thomas	25
29. Melbie Mariam Mathew	11	71. Marilyn S. Varghese	26
30. Jerry J. George	12	<b>Offer prayer and thanksgiving on February 26</b>	
31. John Mathew K.	12	72. Saramma Thomas	27
32. Michael Mathew	12	73. Rahelamma Thomas	27
33. Ammukutty Nainan	12	74. Jerine P. Jose	27
34. John D. Isaac	12	75. Saramma Mathunny	27
<b>Offer prayer and thanksgiving on February 12</b>		76. Romy T. Rajan	28
35. Thomas Philip	13	77. Lincy George	28
36. Jeron Chacko	13	78. Susan Philip	28
37. Ashley Sarah Jacob	13	79. John Poovappallil George	28
38. Joshua Sajan	14	80. Steven G. Thomas	28
39. Alan Eapen Alexander	15	81. Christer John Bijoy	29
40. Varghese Daniel	15	<b>Offer prayer and thanksgiving on March 5</b>	
41. Suja Thomas	15	<b>Happy Birthday!!!</b>	
42. Podiamma Baby	16		
43. Baby Jose	16		

## CONDOLENCES

Mrs. Julea Merlin Varghese at the passing away of her father in  
Mallappally at the age of 62

**When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you.  
When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall  
the flame scorch you. Isaiah 43:2**

### NOTE FROM THE 2016 TRUSTEES

Greetings in the Name of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ. Wish you all - A Happy & Prosperous New Year 2017.

We enclose a spread sheet of total contribution list for the year 2016 with this Newsletter. Much caution was observed in posting all receipts but in spite of that if you find any error or need any clarification, please feel free to contact us for review and correction latest by Sunday the 12th of Feb 2017.

We appreciate your whole hearted support and contribution during the year 2016

With prayers

Philip Oommen  
(Trustee; 2016)

Abraham Thomas  
(Accountant; 2016)

## THANK YOU

**Bellerose** area prayer group and Mr. Munna Sam for assisting with the church services and for preparing coffee for the social time during the month of January.

**Eastern Long Island** area prayer group will assist in the church services and social hour during the month of February

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

### February 5 – Holy Communion Service; Malayalam, 9:00 AM

Praise & Worship by Sunday School

Sermon- Lucas Chacko    Prayer- Kevin S. Mathew

1st Lesson		Isa. 42:1-9		Shibu Mathew
2nd Lesson		Acts. 8:1-13		Manju S. Mathew
Lay Asst.		Jam. 5: 13-18		Sabu Lukose
Gospel		St. Mark 7:31-37		

### February 12 – Holy Communion Service; English, 9:00 AM

Praise & Worship by Sunday School

Sermon– Brianna Mathews    Prayer - Jaiden Thomas

1st Lesson		Isa. 65:17-25		Santhosh T. George
2nd Lesson		Heb. 4:1-13		Cifi Sajan
Lay Asst.		Col. 1:15-24		Justin Babu
Gospel		St.Mark. 2:23-28		

### February 19 - Holy Communion Service; Malayalam, 9:00 AM

Praise & Worship by Sunday School

Sermon - Abraham Alexander    Prayer - Daniel Abraham Anish

1st Lesson		Gen. 6: 1-13		John T. Varkey
2nd Lesson		Rom. 5:12-21		Aleyamma Varkey
Lay Asst.		Rom. 7:14-25		John Mathew K.
Gospel		St. Mat. 7:15-23		

### February 26 - Holy Communion Service; English, 9:00 AM

Praise & Worship by Youth Fellowship

Sermon - Joel Thomas    Prayer - Joann Johnson

1st Lesson		Isa. 44:21-28		Jacob Joseph
2nd Lesson		1 Tim. 1:12-17		Juhi Thomas
Lay Asst.		Rom. 11:13-24		Alvin Lukose
Gospel		St. John 2:1-11		

## PRAYER GROUPS & ORGANIZATIONS

AREA PRAYER MEETINGS	
Bellerose Feb. 5th; 5 pm To be announced	Eastern Long Island Feb. 5th; 7 pm John Mathew K., 11 79th Ave., New Hyde Park
Elmont & West Hempstead Feb. 12th; 7 pm Roji Sam Koshy, 1399 Sweet- man Avenue, Elmont	Floral Park & Glen Oaks Feb. 19th; 7 pm Bob M. Nainan, 80-12 268 Street, Floral Park
Garden City Park Feb. 12th; 5 pm John Mathews, 7 Third Street, Garden City Park	New Hyde Park East Feb. 11th, 7 pm Bijoy Abraham, 189 Celler Ave., New Hyde Park
New Hyde Park West Feb. 26th; 7 pm Ninan Abraham, 905 N. 7th Street, New Hyde Park	Palli Bhagom Feb. 18th; 7 pm To be announced

## CHOIR PRACTICES

**Malayalam: Every Sunday after service unless announced otherwise**

**English: Every Saturday preceding the English Holy Communion Service at 4:30 PM**

## EDAVAKA MISSION PRAYER MEETINGS

Feb. 3; 7:30 PM (Friday)	No prayer meeting	
Feb. 10; 7:30 PM (Friday)	Prayer Meeting at Church	
Feb. 17; 7:30 PM (Friday)	Prayer Meeting at Church	
Feb. 24; 7:30 PM (Friday)	Abraham Thomas, 26 Seventh Street, Garden City Park	516-877-5925

## SEVIKA SANGHOM PRAYER MEETINGS

Feb. 2; 10 AM (Thursday)	Fasting Prayer Meeting at Church	
Feb. 9, 10 AM (Thursday)	At Church	
Feb. 16, 10 AM (Thursday)	Soma Thomas, 410 Brown Place, New Hyde Park	516-305-4632
Feb 23, 10 am (Thursday)	At Church	

## SENIOR CITIZENS FELLOWSHIP

Health & Recreational Program  
Every Wednesday at the church at 6 pm

## YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

Date and location to be announced

## YOUNG FAMILIES FELLOWSHIP

Date and location to be announced

## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Feb. 10, 6:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting	Church
Feb. 17, 6:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting	Church

## ALTAR BOYS AND COVENANT GIRLS ASSIGNMENTS

Date	Altar	Offertory & Kiss of Peace
Feb. 5	Calvin Sam Abilene T. Anil	Calvin Sam, Abilene T. Anil Reena Mathew, Stefie Thomas
Feb. 12	Cifin Sajan Chrisen Elias Bijoy	Cifin Sajan, Chrisen Elias Bijoy Safia Thomas, Samantha Thomas
Feb. 19	Abilene T. Anil Chrisen Elias Bijoy	Abilene T. Anil, Chrisen Elias Bijoy Reena Mathew, Safia Thomas
Feb. 26	Cifin Sajan Calvin Sam	Cifin Sajan, Calvin Sam Stefie Thomas, Samantha Thomas