



# ST. JOHN'S MAR THOMA CHURCH

90-37 213<sup>TH</sup> STREET, QUEENS VILLAGE, NY



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**Worship - Sunday 9:00 am | Sunday School - Sunday 12:00 pm**

## NEWSLETTER—DECEMBER 2024

### VOLUME: XXXIV ISSUE: 12

**www.stjohnsmtcny.org**  
**Vicar: Rev. Johnson Samuel**

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2024

<b>Vicar</b>	Rev. Johnson Samuel	516-560-9220, 718 465 2300 vicar4stjohns@gmail.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Mr. John Mathew	516-426-0378
<b>Secretary</b>	Mr. Santhosh K. Philip	516-445-4935 secretary@stjohnsmtcny.org
<b>Trustee</b>	Mr. Beji T. Joseph	516-220-5344 trustees@stjohnsmtcny.org
<b>Accountant</b>	Mr. Biju Chacko	516-996-4611
<b>Lay Ministrants</b>	Mr. Sabu Lukose Mr. Jess J. Chacko	516-902-4300 718-300-3866
<b>Sabha Mandalam</b>	Mr. Thomas C. Mathew	516-996-6065
<b>Diocesan Assembly</b>	Mr. Jain George Mr. Roy C. Thomas	516-225-7284 516-587-1924
<b>Diocesan Assembly (EN)</b>	Mr. C V. Simonkutty	516-742-3520
<b>Organization Representatives</b>		
<b>Edavaka Mission</b>	Mrs. Mariamma Zachariah	516-312-7263
<b>Parish Choir</b>	Mr. Samuel Thomas	516-216-5051
<b>Senior Fellowship</b>	Mr. Mathew P. George	516-742-3686
<b>Sevika Sangham</b>	Mrs. Jessy Lukose	917-612-1913
<b>Sunday School</b>	Mrs. Mercy Babu	516-859-5473
<b>Young Family Fellowship</b>	Mr. Biju Mathew	516-603-3499
<b>Youth Fellowship</b>	Ms. Geena George	917-400-3562
<b>Yuvajana Sakhyam</b>	Mr. Saj Samuel	551-227-0070
<b>Prayer Group Representatives</b>		
<b>Bellerose</b>	Mr. Mathew P. Thomas	718-877-8918
<b>Eastern Long Island</b>	Mrs. Aleyamma John	516-974-5073
<b>Elmont &amp; West Hempstead</b>	Mr. Daniel Varghese	917-575-7957
<b>Floral Park &amp; Glen Oaks</b>	Mr. C. K. Mathai	516-279-9709
<b>Garden City Park</b>	Mrs. Lilly Simon	516-458-8918
<b>New Hyde Park East</b>	Mr. Bitto Cherian	516-618-9767
<b>New Hyde Park West</b>	Mr. Binny John	516-830-5352
<b>Palli Bhagom</b>	Mr. John Skariah	718-465-8857
<b>Auditors</b>	Mr. Sanu Mathew	646-261-7017
	Mr. George Thomas	516-849-9255

## MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR



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

December is a very significant month in our calendar, especially for the Christian community. All around the world, Christians celebrate Christmas. From mid-November to Christmas, we prepare ourselves in commemorating the birth of Christ Jesus. Beginning from the annunciations to the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth. Commemorating the birth of the forerunner John the Baptist, and on the 25th of December celebrating the birth of Christ Jesus. It is a time to help us understand what it really means to come together as a family during the Christmas season, understanding that Christ came to this world to reunite, reconcile and share love. As we share with one another the gifts of Christmas, let us remember the loving grace and mercy of Christ giving His all self forever eternal salvation. This month is also that advent season in guiding ourselves in devotional discipline through the 25 days fast. Let us all pray that this short fast period will be a blessing to spend more time in prayer and to in depth understand who Christ is to us at a personal level.

People celebrate Christmas everywhere. Christmas is not just a time for enjoyment and having fun with friends. For many of us Christmas is a time to receive so many gifts from our parents and friends. Others think Christmas is a time of sending cards and gifts to one another. For some, Christmas is the only time when they will go to church and meet the church members. What does Christmas mean to us? Christmas is not a time to receive but to give ourselves to God. It's a time of wonder, worship, witness. Jesus' birth was a miraculous birth; it was privilege for both wise men and shepherds that they could worship the Lord with deep gratitude of devotion to God. The wise men wonder at the star of Bethlehem; they came to Jesus, worshiped Him and witnessed Him among the nations. Likewise, shepherds were marveled at the sayings of the Angels; they were wonder and worshiped Him when they saw Jesus in the manger and witnessed Him everywhere they went. What about us today as we are celebrating Christmas.

As we are entering the last month of this year, let us thank Almighty for adding one more year in our life. It is not because of our merit but on His grace. Let us rededicate our lives before God and enter a New Year with new resolutions by holding the hands of God. I pray that New Year may be a blessed year for all of us. May God bless all of us to be a blessing for others. Wishing everyone a blessed Christmas and a humbling New Year.

With prayers,

Rev. Johnson Samuel

(Vicar)

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

### DECEMBER 1; HOLY QURBANA - MALAYALAM- 9:00 a.m.

*Meeting of Virgin Mary and Elizabeth*

1st Lesson	Exodus 7:1-7
2nd Lesson	Acts 9:26-31
Epistle	Romans 15: 1-9
Gospel	Luke 1:39-45

### DECEMBER 8; HOLY QURBANA –ENGLISH- 9:00 a.m.

*Birth of John the Baptist*

1st Lesson	Malachi 3:1-4
2nd Lesson	Acts 16:1-5
Epistle	2 Timothy 1:3-10
Gospel	Luke 1:57-66

### DECEMBER 15; HOLY QURBANA - MALAYALAM 9:00 a.m.

*Annunciation to Joseph*

1st Lesson	Isiah 7:10-17
2nd Lesson	1Thessalonians 5:12-22
Epistle	2Peter 1:5–11
Gospel	Matthew 1:18-23

### DECEMBER 22 ; HOLY QURBANA - ENGLISH- 9:00 a.m.

*Arrival of the savior of the world*

1st Lesson	Isiah 11:1-9
2nd Lesson	Acts 3:19-26
Epistle	Hebrews 1:1-12
Gospel	John 1:9-18

<b>DECEMBER 29; DIVINE SERVICE– ENGLISH– 9:00 a.m.</b>	
<i>God who led us till now</i>	
1st Lesson	1Samuel 7:1-12
2nd Lesson	Romans 8:31-39
Epistle	2Thesselonians 2: 13-15
Gospel	Matthew 11:25-30

**SENIOR FELLOWSHIP**

Tuesday's 10:00 am	At Church
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**SEVIKA SANGHOM**

Thursday's 10:00 am	At Church
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**EDAVAKA MISSION**

Friday's 7:30 pm	At Church
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**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday's 12:30 pm	At Church
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**YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP**

	Not Scheduled
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**YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**

	Not Scheduled
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**YUVAJANA SAKHYAM**

	Not Scheduled
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**YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE**



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

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As we approach Christmas, our hearts are filled with joy and anticipation, celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, who came into the world to bring salvation and hope. The Apostle Paul, in his letter to the Philippians (2:5-11), provides profound insight into the true significance of Christmas through the concept of kenosis, which means self-emptying.

St. Paul reminds us that Jesus did not cling to His equality with God but humbled Himself, becoming a servant. His ultimate act of humility and obedience led Him to the cross, where He died for the redemption of humanity. This divine act of humility, love, and selflessness is the cornerstone of our faith and the essence of the Christmas message.

During the Christmas season, we are often caught up in celebrations, decorations, and traditions. While these are meaningful expressions of joy, St. Paul's words challenge us to look deeper. The season calls us to adopt the attitude of Christ—to reflect His humility, love, and obedience in our lives. It is a time to grow into His likeness, not seeking status or recognition but serving others selflessly and living for God's purpose.

May this Christmas be a season of transformation, where we embody the spirit of kenosis and reflect the light of Christ in our families, communities, and beyond. Let us serve with humility, love with sincerity, and live in obedience to God's will, so that Christ is glorified in all we do.

Wishing you all a blessed and meaningful Christmas & Happy New Year!

Prayers and Best Wishes,

JVarghese Achen  
5165326115

## AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

<p><b><u>Bellerose</u></b> Not Scheduled</p>	<p><b><u>Eastern Long Island</u></b> Not Scheduled</p>
<p><b><u>Elmont &amp; West Hempstead</u></b> Not Scheduled</p>	<p><b><u>Floral Park &amp; Glen Oaks</u></b> Not Scheduled</p>
<p><b><u>Garden City Park</u></b> Not Scheduled</p>	<p><b><u>New Hyde Park East</u></b> Not Scheduled</p>
<p><b><u>New Hyde Park West</u></b> Not Scheduled</p>	<p><b><u>Palli Bhagom</u></b> Not Scheduled</p>


## YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

### **Youth Fellowship Housekeeping**

#### **Monthly Parish Youth Fellowship Meetings**

Monthly Parish Youth Fellowship Meetings are happening, and they're filled with activities to deepen our faith and friendships. For more information, please reach out to your Parish Youth Fellowship Secretary, who will have all the details. Let's make the most of these gatherings!



#### **Combined Youth Fellowship Bible Study**

When: Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 7:00-8:30 pm

Where: Youth Chaplain's Parsonage

Come ready for a night of spiritual growth, connection, and deep discussion! All are invited, and we'd love for you to join us as we dive into God's Word together.

#### **December College Visits – Let's Fellowship in Christ!**

Students! Join in on an opportunity to grow together, share life, and encourage one another on campus! Your Youth Chaplain is excited to join you for fellowship, support, and prayer. Whether you need a break, a boost, or a few moments of community, we're here for you. Here's where you can join us:

University of Buffalo: Date: December 10, 2024 Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

University of Connecticut (UConn): Date: December 3, 2024 Time: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

University at Albany: Date: December 2, 2024 Time: 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

#### **NERYP Fifth Sunday Combined Holy Qurbana and Christmas Celebration**

Join us on December 25, 2024, at Epiphany Mar Thoma Church in Ozone Park. Rev. Christopher Daniel, (President of Center B YF) will be the main celebrant, and Ms. Melanie John, member of Jerusalem Mar Thoma Church, Connecticut, will share the message. Let us make this a special time of worship and fellowship. We encourage everyone to carpool and make this event a blessing for all involved. More details to follow. Parents, please remember to carpool and send your youngsters to this wonderful event!

## BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER

Mathew Philip	1	Reni Thomas	19
Sosamma Mathew	1	Selin Mathew	19
Rexy Sam	1	Saj Samuel	20
Shantamma Jacob	1	Johnson Philip	21
Offer prayer on December 1		Karen Sam	21
Irine Thomas	2	Renju Varghese	22
Rinsu Mathew	2	Chrisen Bijoy	22
Thankamma Philipose	3	Offer prayer on December 22	
Deepak David	4	Stella Mathew	23
Jacob Joseph	5	Cyril Thomas	24
Kunjumol Thampy	5	M. Alexander	24
Priya Reji	5	Baby Samuel	24
Varughese Abraham	5	Jocelyn Johnson	24
Elias John	7	Anu Varghese	24
Remi Saji	7	Mariamamma Thomas	25
Christine Cherian	7	Marilyn Thomas	25
Josiah Mathew	8	Chrismal Abraham	25
Mercy Thomas	8	Samuel Thomas	25
Roshini Cherian	8	Mariamamma Thankachan	26
Offer prayer on December 8		Aleyamma Mathai	27
Mariamamma Abraham	9	Shanu George	27
Renitha Roy	9	Reju John	27
Pappachan Mathai	11	Seena Mathunney	28
Bently Joseph	11	Arlin Thomas	28
Luke Roy	11	Anchamma Mathews	29
Reji John	11	Jaisy Mathew	29
Omana Mathai	12	Marvin Gill	29
Justin Joy	12	Offer prayer on December 29	
Melini Abraham	12	Alvin Francis	30
Adam Philip	12	Mini Jacob	31
Christopher Thomas	12	Offer prayer on December 31	
Diana Gevarghese	13		
Shawn Zachariah	14		
Naina Mathew	15		
Blessley Babykutty	15		
Dhilan Abraham	15		
Offer prayer on December 15			
Binitha Varughese	16		
Aleyamma Cherian	16		
Sam George	17		
Vinu Abraham	17		
Sherin Robin	18		
Eric Gill	18		
Stacy John	18		
Naveen Chandapillai	19		
Jerrin Chacko	19		
Joel Mathew	19		
Jaime Jose	19		

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN DECEMBER

Lizzykutty & Abraham C. Abraham	8
Offer prayer on December 8	
Sosamma & Rajan A. Thuthiel	9
Soosamma & Varughese Abraham	10
Anna & Anil Thomas	11
Jessy & Manoj Mathai	14
Offer prayer on December 15	
Rosamma & Abraham C. Thomas	17
Offer prayer on December 22	
Deenu & Bibin Daniel Mathews	26
Princy & Tinu K. Thampy	26
Meena & John K. Oommen	26
Mary & Thayil George M.	28
Offer prayer on December 29	
Nisa & Cherish P. James	31
Sheena & Shinoth T. Mathew	31
Aparna & Santhosh K. Philip	31
Offer prayer on December 31	

## CONDOLENCES

Mr. M. S Samuel (95 years), Mandappuzha, Mylapra, father of Mr. Joy Samuel and Mrs. Jolley Jacob (New Hyde Park West prayer group), passed away earlier today in Kerala

We express our deepest condolences to children Mr. Joy Samuel & Mrs. Jainey Joy, Mrs. Jolley Jacob & Mr. Jacob Changarampallil, grandchildren Justin, Jeremy, Kripa, and extended family members. Kindly request everyone to uphold them in your prayers.

## ZOOM MEETING LINK

Church Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6526148353>

*“ Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your  
nightly prayer”*

*Maya Angelou*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

**SUPERINTENDENT: Mercy Babu - H: 516-538-2833 C:516-859-5473**

<b>Nursery</b>		<b>Grade 7</b>	
Christine Thomas	516-713-2725	Suby Mathew	516-661-8168
Gina George	917-400-3562	Benita John	929-245-0070
<b>Kindergarten</b>		<b>Grade 8</b>	
Melini Valle	347-933-2470	Sunitha Chacko	917-699-4451
Jeron Chacko	917-868-1379	Jessy Lukose	917-612-1913
<b>Grade 1</b>		<b>Grade 9</b>	
Jerry Joseph	516-360-6663	Anchi Mathews	516-469-1526
Ginsey George	631-619-6869	Hema Sam	646-291-9246
Joash Mathew	516-450-7301		
<b>Grade 2</b>		<b>Grade 10</b>	
Angelina Alexander	516-401-8236	Bently Joseph	516-643-4212
Sneha Saj	516-424-6558	Binu Daniel	917-597-6630
Nigel Oommen	516-800-7104		
<b>Grade 3</b>		<b>Grade 11</b>	
Rachel Philip	516-326-2629	Teena Mathew	516-578-2966
Noel Oommen	516-998-6443	Alex Abraham	516-637-0154
<b>Grade 4</b>		<b>Grade 12</b>	
Rena Titus	201-370-6697	Philip Varghese	718-347-2709
Lizi Mathew	516-426-0377	Binu Chacko	347-262-8211
		Ashish Abraham	516-554-1947
<b>Grade 5</b>		<b>Substitutes</b>	
Leena Abraham	917-817-5115	Beji Joseph	516-220-5344
Jins Moncy	516-503-6019	Mathew Eapen	516-853-4926
		Koruth George	516-354-7552
		Justin Babu	516-643-6117
<b>Grade 6</b>			
Jaisy Mathew	347-666-5505		
Minti Thomas	516-661-8168		

**AUDIO / VIDEO TEAM - sjmtcny@gmail.com**

Alvin Francis, Anil Philipose Binny John, Justin Mathew

Jerin Jose, Thomas C. Mathew Varghese P. Abraham

Binu Thomas 516-322-3919

**WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR Sanu Mathew 646-261-7017**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Sunday, December 1– Parish Day
- Sunday, December 22, 5: 30pm – Carol Service
- Wednesday, December 25, 8 am– Christmas Day Service
- Tuesday, December 31, 9:30 pm– Watchnight Service
- December Weekends– House caroling (Carolers will visit only the members who request a visit. Please reach out to your prayer group representative by Sunday, November 24th if you would like to invite the carolers to your residence on the day assigned to your area)

**House Caroling Schedule**

Sunday, December 1 Eastern Long Island (Glen Head, Syosset, Plainview, Suffolk County)

Friday, December 6 Floral Park & Glen Oaks

Saturday, December 7 Elmont & West Hempstead

Sunday, December 8 New Hyde Park West

Friday, December 13 Pallibhagam, Bellerose

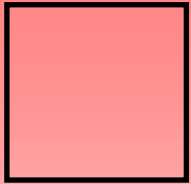
Saturday, December 14 Eastern Long Island (East Meadow, Hicksville, Jericho)

Sunday, December 15 Garden City Park

Friday, December 20 New Hyde Park East.

**If undeliverable, please return to:**

St. John’s Mar Thoma Church  
90-37 213<sup>th</sup> Street  
Queens Village, NY 11428



**FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY**