



# ST. JOHN'S MAR THOMA CHURCH

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

Our God, heaven cannot hold Him  
Nor earth sustain,  
Heaven and earth shall flee away  
When He comes to reign:  
In the bleak mid-winter  
A stable-place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty —  
Jesus Christ.

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER  
BY CHRISTINA ROSSETTI AND GUSTAV HOLST

truthforlife.org

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

## NEWSLETTER—MARCH 2025

### VOLUME: XXXV ISSUE: 3

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

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2025

<b>Vicar</b>	Rev. Johnson Samuel	516-560-9220, 718 465 2300 vicar4stjohns@gmail.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Mr. Eapen K. George	718-753-4772
<b>Secretary</b>	Mr. Zachariah Mathai	917-208-1714 secretary@stjohnsmtcny.org
<b>Trustee</b>	Mr. Beji T. Joseph	516-220-5344 trustees@stjohnsmtcny.org
<b>Accountant</b>	Mr. Sanu Mathew	646-261-7017
<b>Lay Ministrants</b>	Mr. Binny John Mr. Jess J. Chacko	516-830-5352 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>	Mr. Abraham C. Thomas	516-359-4451
<b>Parish Choir</b>	Mr. Samuel Thomas	516-216-5051
<b>Senior Fellowship</b>	Mr. M. Thomas	917-741-1747
<b>Sevika Sangham</b>	Mrs. Jessy Lukose	917-612-1913
<b>Sunday School</b>	Mr. Mathew Eapen	516-853-4929
<b>Young Family Fellowship</b>	Mr. Biju Mathew	516-603-3499
<b>Youth Fellowship</b>	Ms. Gina 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. Aparna Santhosh	516-445-4935
<b>Elmont &amp; West Hempstead</b>	Mr. Shibu Pappachan	929-438-9702
<b>Floral Park &amp; Glen Oaks</b>	Mr. C. K. Mathai	516-279-9709
<b>Garden City Park</b>	Mr. Mathew P. George	516-503-1735
<b>New Hyde Park East</b>	Mr. Bitto Cherian	516-618-9767
<b>New Hyde Park West</b>	Dr. Anna Abraham	516-492-0450
<b>Palli Bhagom</b>	Mr. George Cherian	718-614-1909
<b>Auditors</b>	Mr. Biju Chacko	516-996-4611
	Mrs. Liji Isaac	516-787-5437

## MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

Dearly beloved in Christ,

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

The Great Lent begins 02 March, with the Service of reconciliation known as "Shub' kono (Syriac for 'reconciliation'). The Sunday before is commemorated as Kothine (Syriac name for town of Cana) Sunday. In Lent, we meditate on the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, leading to His crucifixion. Fasting and prayer are practices that turn our physical life and spiritual eyes toward the mysteries of God. The purpose of Lent is to understand the healing and salvation offered to us by Jesus Christ, the great physician. The healing is part of reconciliation with God.

During the season of Lent, every member of the Church is expected to set apart a time for serious reflection, self-examination and renewed commitment with Fasting and Prayer. This is a time in which we specially wait upon the Lord in fellowship and are transformed to fulfill his will. Some restrictions regarding food, may be observed as self-imposed discipline which would certainly facilitate concentration more importantly leading to a feeling of deep concern for the hungry and poor and a real sense of self-denial. We observe 50 days as the Lent period including the 40 days in which our Lord fasted and 10 days commemorating His passion and crucifixion. Let us observe this year's Lent meaningfully and prayerfully. St. Paul says 'Therefore I urge you my brethren, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God- this is the spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the patterns of the world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is- his good, pleasing and perfect will ".Romans:12:1-2.

As we prepare for another season of Lent, let us use this time to introspect our lives and understand Christ's journey to the cross as a basis for us to move towards sanctifying ourselves to God-centeredness and move out of self-centeredness.

The Lenten period should guide us, let us take this season seriously with commitment and a contrite heart. May God bless us all.

With prayers,  
Rev. Johnson Samuel  
(Vicar)



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

### MARCH 2; HOLY QURBANA - MALAYALAM- 9:00 AM

Beginning of the Great Lent: Jesus who transforms everything

1st Lesson	Deut. 30:1-10	Shinoth Mathew
2nd Lesson	Rev. 21:1-8	Princy Kuruvilla
Epistle	Rom. 12:1-3	Abraham Thomas
Gospel	John 2:1-11	

### MARCH 9; HOLY QURBANA -ENGLISH- 9:00 AM

Jesus Christ who holds together the neglected (2nd Sunday of the Lent)

1st Lesson	Jer. 33:6-11	Thomas Abraham
2nd Lesson	Phlm 1:8-21	Leena Rinny
Epistle	Jas. 4:7-10	Aron Koshy
Gospel	Mark 1:40-45	

### MARCH 16 ; HOLY QURBANA - ENGLISH -9:00 AM

Jesus Christ who gives healing and redemption from sin (3rd Sun of the Lent)

1st Lesson	2 Kings 5:1-14	Riyan Koshy
2nd Lesson	Acts 16:16-18	Raina Koshy
Epistle	Rom5:6-11	Binu Daniel
Gospel	Mark 2:1-12	

### MARCH 23 ; HOLY QURBANA - MALAYALAM- 9:00 AM

Jesus Christ who makes redemption possible for everyone (4th Sunday of the Lent)

1st Lesson	Hos. 2:14-23	Shibu Pappachan
2nd Lesson	Acts 5:12-16	Suja Shibu
Epistle	1Cor. 1:18-25	E. V. Philip
Gospel	Mat. 15:21-28	

### MARCH 30 ; HOLY QURBANA - MALAYALAM- 9:00 AM

Jesus Christ who makes redemption possible for everyone (4th Sunday of the Lent)

1st Lesson	Hos. 2:14-23	Cherish James
2nd Lesson	Acts 5:12-16	Nisa Cherish
Epistle	1Cor. 1:18-25	Moncy Varghese
Gospel	Mat. 15:21-28	

## CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

### SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Tuesdays 10 AM	Health & Recreation Program at Church
Thursday, Mar. 13; 10 AM	Mr. Abraham C. Abraham 86 Greenway E, New Hyde Park
Thursday, Mar. 20, 10 AM	Mrs. Sosamma Idichandy 1356 Rosser Avenue, Elmont

### SEVIKA SANGHOM

Thursdays; 10:00 AM	Prayer Meeting at Church
Thursday, Mar. 13; 10 AM	Mrs. Lizzy Abraham 86 Greenway E, New Hyde Park
Thursday, Mar. 20, 10 AM	Mrs. Sosamma Idichandy 1356 Rosser Avenue, Elmont

### EDAVAKA MISSION

Fridays 7:30 PM	Prayer Meeting at Church
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### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays	At 12:30 pm at Church
Friday March 21, 7 pm	Basketball Fellowship

### YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

Date and location	To be announced
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### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

March 14; 7:00 PM	Robin & Ruby Varghese 110 Elzey Avenue, Elmont
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### YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

March 30	At church; hosted by Nisa & Cherish
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## YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Glory be to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - One True God! Amen.

Beloved family,

As we step into the Great Fast, we are invited to embrace a season of reconciliation, renewal, and profound reflection. The commencement of Great Lent is marked by the liturgy of Shubkono—a sacred gathering where we set aside our burdens and open our hearts to divine peace. In this holy service, our prayers call us to quiet our egos, cleanse our souls, and deepen the bonds within our community.

Drawing on the harmonious teachings of Scripture and the wisdom of our early Church Fathers, we find that genuine renewal begins with the transformation of the heart. As the psalmist pleads, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me” (Psalm 51:10), so also St. John Chrysostom reminds us that “Fasting is the medicine of the soul.” Together, these voices guide us away from mere outward practices, inviting us into a deeper journey of introspection and humility—one that reshapes our inner lives and reinforces our relationships with others.

Reimagining the story of the wedding at Cana, we encounter a narrative of transformation and abundance. Just as water is miraculously transformed into wine, our humble acts of kindness and reconciliation have the power to elevate the ordinary into the extraordinary. Each gesture of humility ignites hope and nurtures a more compassionate community.

May this Lent be a time of sincere reflection, soulful rejuvenation, and steadfast unity—a journey where our renewed spirits light the path to a kinder, more loving world. With heartfelt prayers and blessings for a transformative and meaningful Lenten season, God be with you all.

In Christ's Love,

JVarghese Achen





## AREA PRAYER MEETINGS

<b>BELLEROSE</b>	<b>EASTERN LONG ISLAND</b>
<b>March 1, 5:00 PM</b> Location to be announced.	<b>Saturday, March 22, 5 pm</b> Sanu Mathew 1776 Stone Avenue, East Meadow 516-222-0826
<b>ELMONT &amp; WEST HEMPSTEAD</b>	<b>FLORAL PARK &amp; GLEN OAKS</b>
<b>Sunday, March 9; 6:30 pm</b> Shibu Pappachan 127 Foster Avenue, Malverne 929-438-9702	<b>Sunday, March 16; 7 pm</b> Lizy Chacko 11 Irons Place, New Hyde Park 718-986-4856
<b>GARDEN CITY PARK</b>	<b>NEW HYDE PARK EAST</b>
<b>Sunday, March 2, 5:00 PM</b> Location to be announced	<b>Saturday, March 8; 7 pm</b> Bijoy Abraham 189 Celler Avenue, New Hyde Pk. 516-270-2643
<b>NEW HYDE PARK WEST</b>	<b>PALLI BHAGOM</b>
<b>Sunday, March 30; 7 pm</b> Thomas George 410 Brown Place, New Hyde Pk. 516-305-4632	<b>Saturday, March 15, 7 pm</b> George Cherian 90-02 218 Place, Queens Village 718-4681224

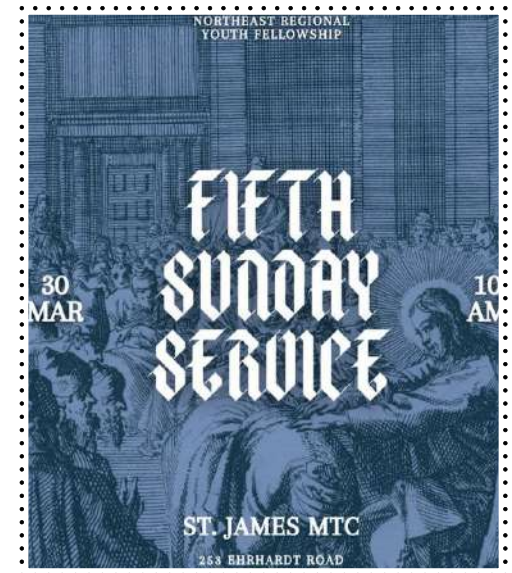
## WEBLINKS

**CHURCH ZOOM MEETING LINK:** [HTTPS://US04WEB.ZOOM.US/J/6526148353](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6526148353)

Church Online Directory	<a href="https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/">https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/</a>
App Store:	Instant Church Directory
Church Website -	<a href="http://www.stjohnsmtcny.org">www.stjohnsmtcny.org</a>
Diocese Website -	<a href="https://www.marthomanae.org/website/index.php">https://www.marthomanae.org/website/index.php</a>
Mar Thoma Website -	<a href="http://marthoma.in/">http://marthoma.in/</a>
App Store:	MARTHOMIAN

## DATES TO REMEMBER


March 2	Beginning of Great Lent
March 7	World Day of Prayer
March 30	5th Sunday Service at St. James MTC
April 13	Palm Sunday (ഓശാന ഞായർ)
April 18	Good Friday
June 27-29	Church Camp by Yuvajana Sakhyam
July 3	St. Thomas the Apostle's Day
July 3-6	Diocesan Family Conference
July 8-20	India Mission Trip 2025
July 26	Church Picnic (proposed)



## CONDOLENCES

Mr. Samuel Mathai, father of our member, Stacy Samuel (Eastern Long Island Prayer Group; wife of Binu Daniel) passed away in Houston, TX on Feb. 3. Mr. Samuel Mathai was a member of the St. Andrew's Mar Thoma Church, Yonkers, NY and was currently residing in Houston, TX. He originally hailed from Kundra in Kerala.

## BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

Mariamamma Jose	1	Josh P. Thomas	17
Rohit Mathew	1	Lizzykutty K. Abraham	18
Noble Philip	1	Chacko K. Thomas	18
Rincy Thomas	1	Sebastian Marco Valle	18
Sayu Biju	2	Anil T. Andrews	19
Naomi Mariam Thampy	2	Binu Daniel	19
Jino Joy Thomas	2	Justin Joseph	19
<b>Offer Prayer on March 2</b>		Stefi Mathew	19
Thomas M. George	3	Nigel Lyju Oommen	19
Bea Marie Isaac	3	Jayden Zachariah Thomas	19
Milan Liz Mathew	3	Bindu Mathew	20
Chrisben Abraham Bijoy	4	Linu Varghese	20
Annamma Mathews	4	Biji J. Jacob	21
Anita Simon	4	Ann Rachel John	22
Christopher Sam Babu	5	Brianna Thomas	23
Sosamma John	5	Nisa S. Varghese	23
David Joseph Simon	5	<b>Offer Prayer on March 23</b>	
Sona Mathew	6	Namita A. Mathew	24
Swana Thomas	7	Leelamma Mathai	25
Shaba Mary Aniyar	8	Sheeja Roy	25
Rachel Thomas	8	Jinu Zachariah	25
Jess J. Chacko	9	Jiya Daniel	26
<b>Offer Prayer on March 9</b>		Feba A. Roy	26
Hannah Mary Binu	10	Annamma J. Skariah	26
Georgekutty Chacko	10	Sophie Elizabeth Abraham	27
Jolly Daniel	10	Shylon Mathew	27
Suby Mathew	10	Lillian Abraham	28
Austin Sanu Mathew	10	Ezra Ninan Thampy	28
Tini Sara Titus	10	Jonathan Tony Thomas	28
Thankamma Xavier	10	Anil Thomas	28
Benjamin Thomas Mathew	11	Brendon John	29
Susan Thomas	11	Rishin Thomas Roy	29
T. C. David	13	Achamma John	30
Lisa David	13	Sheela J. Mathew	30
Monsey George	13	<b>Offer Prayer on March 2</b>	
Bibin Daniel Mathews	13	Susan Varghese	31
Justin T. Sam	13	<b>Offer Prayer on April 6</b>	
Sylas Thomas Chacko	14		
Gianna Mary George	14		
Joel P. Thomas	14		
Anna Alexander	15		
Jane S. Mathews	15		
Jeremy George	16		
<b>Offer Prayer on March 16</b>			
Elizabeth K. George	17		
Aaron John George	17		
Davis John	17		

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN MARCH

Jessy & Thomas C. Mathew 1  
**Offer Prayer on March 2**

Remi & Saji Thankachan 8  
**Offer Prayer on March 16**

Anna & Alexander P. Eapen 23  
**Offer Prayer on March 23**



welcome to

### ST. JOHN'S MTC FAMILY RETREAT



Sandy Cove Ministries, Maryland  
June 27 - 29 2025

Join us for a fun-filled summer of learning, exploring, and growing!



To Register Please fill out the below form  
<https://tinyurl.com/stjohnmtcny>



Zelle payment to  
st.johnsyjs@gmail.com

**CONTACT US**

Saj Samuel 551-227-0070  
Manosh Abraham 516-601-3058  
Binny John 516-830-5352  
cherish James 646-683-0489  
Riya Thomas 516-455-5257  
Santhosh Philph 516-445-4935

### RATES

2 Night 5-Meal Retreat Package

Room W /1st Guest - \$ 542  
Add'l Guest Ages 12 + - \$ 150  
Add'l Guest Ages 4-11 - \$ 110  
Infants/Toddler Ages 0-3 - \$ 0



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

Alvin Francis, Anil Philipose	Binny John, Justin Mathew
Jerin Jose, Thomas C. Mathew	Varghese P. Abraham
Munna Sam, Steven Thomas	John Mathew, Jeron Chacko

Binu Thomas 516-322-3919

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



# SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

**SUPERINTENDENT: Mathew Eapen - P: 516-853-4929**

Nursery		Grade 7	
Christine Thomas	516-713-2725	Suby Mathew	516-661-8168
Gina George	917-400-3562	Benita John	929-245-0070
Kindergarten		Grade 8	
Melini Valle	347-933-2470	Sunitha Chacko	917-699-4451
Jeron Chacko	917-868-1379	Jessy Lukose	917-612-1913
Grade 1		Grade 9	
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		
Grade 2		Grade 10	
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		
Grade 3		Grade 11	
Rachel Philip	516-326-2629	Teena Mathew	516-578-2966
Noel Oommen	516-998-6443	Alex Abraham	516-637-0154
Grade 4		Grade 12	
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
Grade 5		Substitutes	
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
Grade 6			
Jaisy Mathew	347-666-5505		
Minti Thomas	516-661-8168		

**If undeliverable, please return to:**

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



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