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Chicago Mar Thoma Church

240 Potter Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016
(847) 296-4624

MONTHLY MESSENGER



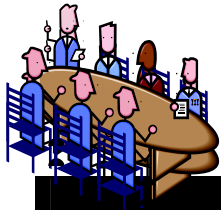
2010 March

The LORD said to him:

"I have heard the prayer and plea you have made before me; I have consecrated this temple, which you have built, by putting my Name there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there."

1 Kings 9:3

യഹോവ അവനോടു അരുളിച്ചെയ്തതെന്തെന്നാൽ: നീ എന്റെ മുമ്പാകെ കഴിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന നിന്റെ പ്രാർത്ഥനയും യാചനയും ഞാൻ കേട്ടു; നീ പണിതിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ ആലയത്തെ എന്റെ നാമം അതിൽ എഴുതാനും സ്ഥാപിപ്പാൻ തക്കവണ്ണം ഞാൻ വിശുദ്ധീകരിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു; എന്റെ കണ്ണും ഹൃദയവും എല്ലായ്പ്പോഴും അവിടെ ഇരിക്കും.



2009 MANAGING COMMITTEE

Vicar/President	Rev. Roy P. Thomas	847-803-4933
Vice-President	Mr. Anil Cherian	312-953-2348
Secretary	Mr. Philip Cherian	847-803-2977
Treasurer	Mr. Sunny Cherian	773-545-5097
Accountant	Mr. Jose Varghese	847-813-9888
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Lay Leader-Malayalam	Mr. George Mathew	847-679-3568
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Lay Leader-English	Mr. Jess George	847-623-7807
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Assembly Member	Mr. Sam Mathew	847-419-9521
Mandalam Member	Dr. M.V. Mathew	847-836-5883
Area 1 Representative	Mrs. Saramma Mathews	773-282-6366
Area 2 Representative	Mr. Sam Thundiylil	847-983-0577
Area 3 Representative	Mr. Johnson Thekkeveettil	847-581-9565
Area 4 Representative	Mr. Chinnamani Chockalingam	847-299-2703
Area 5 Representative	Mr. Mathew Varghese	847-297-4459
Area 6 Representative	Mr. Biju Jacob	847-427-8975
Area 7 Representative	Mr. Oommen (Jai) Cherian	847-392-5164
Area 8 Representative	Mr. Shaji Koshy	847-947-4468
Area 9 Representative	Mr. Mathew Varghese	847-231-4354
Area 10 Representative	Mr. Iype George	630-289-3076
Area 11 Representative	Mr. Stanley George	219-922-6892
Area 12 Representative	Mr. Thomas T. Jacob	262-886-8658
Sunday School	Mr. Joe Thomas	815-838-7452
Edavaka Mission	Mr. Abraham Philip	847-290-8189
Youth Fellowship	Ms. Shaina Adichithara	847-791-3188
Sevika Sanghom	Mrs. Biby Philip	847-803-2977
Choir	Leboy Thoppil	224-381-9484
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mrs. Suja John	847-298-4666
Auditor *	Mr. Achenkunju Mathew	847-749-2482
Auditor *	Dr. Abraham George	847-856-3925

* Not a Committee member



2010 MANAGING COMMITTEE

Vicar/President	Rev. Roy P. Thomas	847-803-4933
Vice-President	Mr. Yesudasan P. George	847-297-6272
Secretary	Mr. Benji Kurien	847-401-8300
Treasurer	Dr. Abraham George	847-856-3925
Accountant	Mr. Achenkunju Mathew	847-749-2482
Lay Leader-Malayalam	Mr. Mathai P. Easo	847-299-8335
Lay Leader-English	Mr. Jinoj Mathew	847-967-0317
Assembly Member	Mr. Eipe Varghese	847-541-5239
Assembly Member	Mr. Sam Mathew	847-419-9521
Mandalam Member	Dr. M.V. Mathew	847-836-5883
Area 1 Representative	Mr. Sunny Cherian	773-545-5097
Area 2 Representative	Mr. Yohannan Mathew	847-329-1272
Area 3 Representative	Mr. Eapen Mathew	847-581-0551
Area 4 Representative	Mr. Varghese V. Ninan	847-297-7087
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Area 6 Representative	Mr. Daniel C. Varghese	224-612-6111
Area 7 Representative	Mr. Oommen (Jai) Cherian	847-392-5164
Area 8 Representative	Mr. Jacob George	847-816-3155
Area 9 Representative	Mr. Mathew Varghese	847-231-4354
Area 10 Representative	Mr. Iype George	630-289-3076
Area 11 Representative	Mr. Shibu Koshy	219-865-8933
Area 12 Representative	Mr. Thomas T. Jacob	262-886-8658
Sunday School	Mr. Joe Thomas	815-838-7452
Edavaka Mission	Mr. Abraham Philip	847-290-8189
Youth Fellowship	Mr. Joshi Yesudasan	847-624-2095
Sevika Sanghom	Mrs. Biby Philip	847-803-2977
Choir	Mr. Johnson Thomas	847-581-9565
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Mr. Leboy Wilson	847-321-9434

OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS

Lay Leader - Malayalam	Mr. Biju Jacob	847-427-8975
Lay Leader - English	Mr. Jess George	847-623-7807
Auditor	Mr. Jose Varghese	847-813-9888
Auditor	Mr. Shani Abraham	847-673-5215

Contact Information for Achen



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 E-Mail: revroyphomas@gmail.com

Please visit us online at www.chicagomarthoma.org. Visit our monthly messenger online and find information on the Mar Thoma Church, our Chicago parish, and other parishes. For more information, please contact our **Webmaster, Mr. Sam George 630-855-5757 or the secretary.**

If you would like to access to the online church directory or the photo directory, you need a user ID and password combination. Please contact the secretary if you would like to get them.

CHICAGO MAR THOMA CHURCH 2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS (CHURCH AND VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS)

Org.	Event	Date (From)	Date (To)
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We will update this section once each organization finalizes programs for 2010

From the Vicar's Desk

PRACTICE CHRISTIANITY IN LIFE- WITNESSING CHRIST IN LIFE

Acts 1:8-“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.”

Christianity from the Greek word “kristos” literally means, “anointed one” is a monotheistic religion based on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Adherents of Christian faith known as Christians are the followers of Jesus Christ. Christians need to imitate Jesus Christ in all walks of their life. Each disciple must obey Bible and its message. Practicing fifty days of lent is a part of witnessing Christ through life in the eastern Churches. The Bible teaches us to lead a simple and peaceful life with God. The Church emphasizes the witnessing life of its believers.

Jesus' life and teachings as we see in gospels and Gal: 5:22(the fruits of the spirit), give specific ideas about a Christian life style. The life of Jesus himself is a sharing for the world. At last, Jesus shared His body and blood for the salvation of the world through the cross- that we remember in the celebration of Holy Qurbana. This way each believer has to sacrifice himself/herself fully for the redemption of the world and people. However, some of the spiritualities always offer blessings and material benefits through faith. The real church emphasizes renunciation and sacrifice of Christ through life.

The fruits of the spirit- love, joy, peace, longsuffering (patience), meekness (kindness), goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control are expressions of faith in life. We see all these qualities (fruits) in Jesus' life. Jesus loved all the people irrespective of the social class which they belonged to such as the rich, poor, sick, sinners, rejected. Therefore, as Christians we have the responsibility to love all the people like Christ. We must practice the love of Christ towards all people in different walks of life.

Secondly, the fruit is joy. In the midst of all suffering and cross Jesus was joyful in the dealings with others. Jesus celebrated life with his friends or disciples. Therefore, we also should enjoy life in the midst of all troubles.

Third, one is peace. In Mathew, 10:14 Jesus said “Do not think that I came to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace. I came to bring a sword”. The peace that He means is completely related

to justice. If there is no justice and equality in the society, there will be no peace.

Fourth, is longsuffering or patience. Jesus is a typical example of patience. He forgave all the torture towards him and prayed for his enemies.

Fifth, one is kindness. Jesus always expressed empathy, not sympathy towards other's needs. He reached out to the needy, healed, transformed and liberated them from satanic forces.

Sixth, one is goodness. Jesus is known as the man for others. He never did anything for himself but always lived and died for others.

Seventh fruit is faithfulness. He was faithful to the mission entrusted on Him by His Father.

Eighth, one is gentleness. At times of accusations, sufferings and ultimately crucifixion, Jesus was calm and quiet. He was so peaceful in nature.

Ninth, last not the least, is self-control. In all temptations, Jesus controlled himself as we could see the trial of satanic forces in the wilderness. He survived all the temptations.

Can we practice all these fruits in our life? We need to practice it not only for 50 days of lent but also throughout the life. The churches in Asian continent, where Jesus is born, are witnessing Christ and Bible in their life through lifestyle, dress code, value system and ethics as a community of faith. Church is a community who practice what they preach. We need to select the path of cross, sacrifice, renunciation, sharing, worshipping (Holy Qurbana), and work for the evangelization of interior villages, projects of different upliftment programs (Navajeevan center, Gramjyothi schools, Tribal hostels etc).

So, more than preaching, practice a Christian life-lead a witnessing life, pray for the Church, follow the footsteps of the forefathers by copying their values, ethics, faith and culture in our life. This will help our church to remain as a powerful church among other thousands of churches. May the God Almighty help us all to bear the fruits of the spirit in our life and remain strong in faith and witnessing.

Roy Achen

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES - MARCH

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Thomas Varghese	1
Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Arackal	1
Mr. and Mrs. George V. Adichithara	3
Mr. and Mrs. Cherian K. Chacko	9
Mr. and Mrs. Ambuji M. David	10
Mr. and Mrs. Gijo P Abraham	11
Mr. and Mrs. Shinoi Varghese	11
Mr. and Mrs. Sajan P Issac	21
Mr. and Mrs. Vinod P Daniel	23

CONDOLENCES

- ◆ Mr. George Thomas, brother of Mr. Johnson Thomas Thekkeveettil (area 3) in Los Angeles.
- ◆ Father of Mr. Shaji Koshy (area 8), Mr. Shibu Koshy (area 11) and Mrs. Sheela Varghese (area 3) at Niranam.

passed away. Please keep the bereaved families in your prayers.

Messenger Notes

Please inform the Vicar or Secretary of any *MESSENGER* corrections. Any changes in address & phone numbers should be informed to the Vicar, Secretary, and the Trustees.

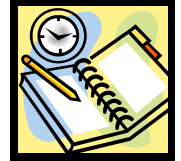
Please send items for upcoming editions of the *MESSENGER* to the Secretary by the 15th of the preceding month.

For any announcements to be delivered on Sunday, please inform the Vicar and the Secretary by 5 PM of the preceding Friday.

**FOR ALL MESSENGER AND ANNOUNCEMENT ITEMS,
PLEASE email THE SECRETARY, BENJI KURIAN
(benkurian1012@gmail.com)**



Jibu T. Philip	28
Sarun Thundiyl	28
Sophia E. Joseph	28
Mathai P. Joy	28
Abel Stephen	29
Biju Kurian	29
Sheila Cherian	29
Tony A. Muthalaly	29
Annie John	29
Benjamin J Oommen	29
Shawn J. Chacko	30
Rebecca S. Jose	30
Cigy Abraham	30
Merlin M. Thomas	31
Esther Mathai	31
Mary Varghese	31



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 2010	
7	08:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion in Malayalam
14	07:30 a.m. Contemporary worship in English (L2L) 09:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion in Malayalam
21	07:00 a.m. Holy Communion in Malayalam 09:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion in English
28 PALM SUNDAY	08:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion in English (Annual general body meeting)
29-31	(Monday – Wednesday) 07:00 p.m. Sandhya Namaskaram (Evening Worship)

APRIL 2010

1	(Maundy Thursday) 06:30 p.m. Holy Communion Service in Malayalam
2	(Good Friday) 09:30 a.m. Good Friday Service in English 06:00 p.m. Good Friday Service in Malayalam
4 (Easter)	09:00 a.m. Holy Communion in Malayalam

MAR THOMA LECTIONARY – MARCH

Date	Lessons	Epistle-Gospels
7 Sunday	Jesus Who honours Faith - (4th Sunday in Lent)	
	Isa.45:1-8	Gal.2:11-21
	Act.16 :6-15	St.Mat.15:21-28
14 Sunday	Christ's Victory over the evil power (5th Sunday in Lent)	
	Isa. 59:12-21	Eph.6:10-20
	Rom.8:31-39	St.Luke. 13:10-17
21 Sunday	Faith proclamation that removes darkness (36th Sunday)	
	Isa.42:1-9	1 Pet. 3:8-22
	Acts.12:1-11	St.Marks.10:46-52
28 Sunday	Hosanna - Jesus Realization of Hope (Theological Seminary Day)	
	Zech. 9:9-17	Phil.2:5-11
	Col. 1:15-23	St.Mat.21:1-11
29 Monday	Passion Week	
	Lev.2:1-16	
	Acts.13:26-43	
	St.Mat. 21:23-46	St.Mat.22:1-14
30 Tuesday		
	Isa 52:1-15	
	Acts. 13:44-52	
	St. Mat.22:34- 23:12	St.Mat.23:13-39
31 Wednesday	Passover	
	Isa.28:14-29	
	Col.1: 9-22	
	St.Mat.24:29-51	St.Mat.25:1-13

MAR THOMA LECTIONARY – APRIL

Date	Lessons	Epistle-Gospels
1 Thursday	Holy Qurbana (Eucharist): The Greatest Thanks Offering	
	Exo. 12:1-28	Gen.22:1-14
	Heb. 9:1-15	Heb. 5:1-14

BIRTHDAYS – MARCH

Mobi Abraham	1	Thomas George	14
Philipose Mathew	1	James K. Abraham	15
Sunil Mathew	1	Sam Mathew Samuel	16
Anitha Philip	2	Shibu Jacob	16
Alice Sabu	2	Varghese Mathai	16
Rejean Abraham	3	Sheryl John	16
Sanath John Sajan	3	Thomas C. Mathew	16
Annie Abraham	3	Shyla Mathews	16
Dolly Thomas	3	Jasmin Isaac	17
Dylan Matthew Joseph	4	Christopher Varghese	18
Christa Thomas	5	Ryan P. Thomas	18
Mariamanna Samuel	5	George Philip	18
Subeena C. Thomas	5	Kevin B Jacob	19
Chelsea Sara Oommen	6	Sanish George	19
Justina Stephen	6	Abraham George	19
Sandeep Mammen	6	Phebu George	19
Zachariah T. Chacko	7	George P. Mathew	19
Rajan John	7	Susamma Iype	20
George N. Mathai	7	Aju K. John	21
Senju Johnson	8	Alvin V. Chacko	21
Thomas C. Mathew	8	John Sreeba	21
Brian A. Kurian	9	Molly B. Jacob	21
Glenn O. Joseph	9	Ciby Mathew	22
Jamie Thomas	9	Sherin M. Zachariah	22
Koshy John	9	Jaysen Thomas	23
Ashley A. Mathew	10	Nidhi Ann Mathews	23
Gracy Cherian	10	Sunil M.Thomas	23
Kevin Kurian	10	Kaitlyn Valsa Philip	24
Angela E. Koshy	11	Praisly Mariam Cherian	24
Liji Jacob	11	Shon Mammen Thomas	24
Varghese Chacko	11	Swetha A. Mathai	24
Jean Mary John	11	Jassey C Thomas	25
John John	11	Neil David	25
Annamma Raju	11	Pushpa Iype	25
Nikhil Abraham Jacob	12	Mathews Abraham	25
K.T. Jayesh	12	Saramma Ammini Varghese	25
Abraham E Thomas (Jr.)	12	Brian C Oommen	27
Christine B. Rajan	13	Grace Marie George	27
Rebecca A. Philip	13	Nevin T. George	27
Shibu Abraham	13	Jerry Mathai Kutty	27
Sosamma Abraham	13	Sujai C Varghese	27
Jacob Cherian	13	Jennifer Mathew	28
K. K. Cherian	14		

Accountant: **Mrs. Lalu Thomas**

Teachers Representative(up to 1st): **Mrs. Suja Mathew**

Teachers Representative(2nd - 4th): **Mrs. Anitha Mathew**

Teachers Representative(5th - 7th): **Ms. Sheril Raju**

Teachers Representative(8th - 10th): **Mr. Lejay Jacob**

Regional Representative: **Mrs. Shoba Mathew**

Regional Coordinator: **Mr. Joe Thomas**

Zonal Representative: **Mrs. Bindu Varghese**

CHOIR

Malayalam Choir Practices will be held on 2nd & 4th Saturdays every month from 2 pm-4.30 pm. If there is any changes regarding the practice days & time, e-mail will be send out to all the Malayalam choir members.

YOUTH GROUP

Chapter 29

Friday, March 19th @ 7:00pm

Come check out the li'l tweaks we've made to the ministry to try to serve you better! We're excited for an awesome year and we expect God to do great things!

Questions? Contact Pushpa Iype [pushpaiype@gmail.com]

Churches Helping Churches

The Diocesan Youth Counsel has made plans to try to help the people of Haiti through prayers and financial contributions. Please see the attached document.

In addition, the CMTC YF will be partnering with "Churches Helping Churches" whose primary goal is in "Locating local communities of brothers and sisters in Christ, assessing the needs of local churches in hardest hit areas, rallying the church in North America to rescue and restore the church, wherever it is ravaged by natural disaster or human tragedy."

"So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith." Galatians 6:10

If anyone wants to give towards this fund please write a check out to the *Chicago Mar Thoma Church* with "YF- CHC" in the memo. For more info and to know how you can help by praying or financially supporting this cause visit churcheshelpingchurches.com

Questions? Contact Sijin Mathew [sjmathew8@gmail.com]

	St.Mat. 26:1-16	St.Mat. 26:17-30
2 Good Friday	Salvation through Jesus Christ	
	First Service	Second Service
	Isa. 53:1-12	Zech. 13:1-9
	1 Pet. 1:1-25	Gal. 3:1-22
	St.Mat. 26:47-75	St.Mat. 27:1-44
4 Easter Sunday	Resurrection : Foundation of Christian Faith	
	2 Kings. 4: 27-37	Col.3:1-11
	1 Cor. 15:1-20	St.Mat. 28:1-10



PRAYER MEETINGS – MARCH

DATE		Name & Address	Time	Area
Saturday	Sunday			
13		Mr. Thomas Mammen 6213 Wild Flower Ln. Gurnee, IL 60031 847-336-3086	6 p.m.	9
	14	Mr. Thomas C. Mathew 9341 Ozanam Morton Grove, IL 60053 847-965-5346	6 p.m.	3
20		Mr. Biju Jacob 1410 Tamarack Dr. Mount Prospect, IL 60056 847-427-8975	6 p.m.	6
	21	Mr. Koshy V. Abraham 9240 Maple Lane Des Plaines, IL 60016 847-375-8126	6 p.m.	4
26 (Friday)		Mr. K.V. Abraham 3530 Bradee Rd. Brookfield, WI 53005 262-781-4170	6 p.m.	12
27		Mr. M.M. Mathai 349 Greenview Dr. Park City, IL 60085 847-377-1809	6 p.m.	9
	Apr. 4	Mr. Jacob Thomas 2905 W. Jarvis Chicago, IL 60645 773-761-6941	6 p.m.	1

YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S SCHEDULE

Our Youth Chaplain, Rev. Alex Peter will be at:

- ✚ Bethel Marthoma Church on 1st Sunday
- ✚ St. Thomas Marthoma Church on 2nd Sunday
- ✚ Chicago Marthoma Church 3rd Sunday
- ✚ Detroit Marthoma Church on 4th Sunday

Alex Achen's contact details are as follows:

Address: 509 E. Lincoln St., Mount Prospect, IL 60056

Telephone: (847) 749-3288 (home)

(847) 630-0015 (cell)

Email: revalexpeter@gmail.com

BUILDING, LAND & FUNDRAISING



Construction Update:

By God's grace, our renovated church was consecrated on Jan. 30th as planned by our Diocesan Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius. We are covering the remaining small items with the contractors. We are thankful to God for his abundant providence and blessings.

Project Finance Update:

Now that the work is complete, **we need your support by contributing your this year's installment. Please do not wait until the end of the year.** We request that you make weekly or bi-weekly contributions to lessen the burden. However, you are encouraged, if possible, to pay the full amount remaining.

Adjacent Property Update:

Per approval of the general body, we have signed a contract to procure the adjacent property (280 Potter Road). The contract is currently under attorney review. If everything goes well, we will proceed to next steps. Please pray and contribute towards the down payment by the time we are able to close the deal.

Rev. Roy P. Thomas

SEVIKA SANGHOM

World Day of Prayer 2010 (Camaroon) will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010 from 9:30 a.m. at our church. Suja Kochamma, wife of Rev. Sabu Thomas will be the speaker. Please attend.

Sevika Sanghom office bearers for 2010:

Vice President	Mrs. Ponnamma Samuel
Secretary	Mrs. Biby Philip
Jt. Secretary	Mrs. Grace Yesudasan
Treasurer	Mrs. Sally Varghese
Area 1 Representative	Mrs. Omana Samuel
Area 2 Representative	Mrs. Mrs. Saly Mathews
Area 3 Representative	Mrs. Sheela Varghese
Area 4 Representative	Mrs. Annamma Cherian
Area 5 Representative	Mrs. Kunjumol Jose
Area 6 Representative	Mrs. Mrs. Beena Abraham
Area 7 Representative	Mrs. Mrs. Jessy Philippose
Area 8 Representative	Mrs. Anita Mathews
Area 9 Representative	Mrs. Sujatha Abraham
Area 10 Representative	Mrs. Susy Iype
Area 11 Representative	Mrs. Liji Shibu
Area 12 Representative	Mrs. Daisy Jacob
Zonal Members	Mrs. Shiny Thomas
	Mrs. Saramma Mammen
	Mrs. Aney Abraham
Auditors	Mrs. Esther Mathai
	Mrs. Susan Samuel

Bible Study for Sevika Sanghom and Edavaka Mission will be held in each region on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. as below:

Region A	2 nd Week (Areas 1, 2, 3, and 11)
Region B	3 rd Week (Areas 4 and 5)
Region C	4 th week (Area 6, 7, parts of 8 and 10)
Region D	1 st week (Areas 9, 12, and part of area 8)

YUVAJANA SAKHYAM

Yuvajana Sakhyam regular meeting will be held every second Sunday after second service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Foundation and Vision - Upper Class - TBA with Teachers

March-April: Craft Challenge-All students are invited to provide submittals before April 25th to your teachers.

April - 18 - Exam II

May 2 - Diocesan Exam - Registration is due by March 7th.

Bible Quiz - Please encourage your children to participate in the weekly event.

2010 Sunday School Committee Members

Superintendent: **Mr. Joe Thomas**

Secretary: **Mr. Jinoj Mathew, assisted by Mr. Jess George**

Treasurer: **Mr. Liju Jacob**