

The Mar Thoma Church Staten Island  
134 Faber Street  
Staten Island, NY 10302

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



For Private Circulation only

**THE MAR THOMA CHURCH STATEN ISLAND**

134 Faber Street, Staten Island, NY 10302

Telephone: (718) 556-3192 • [mtcsi.org](http://mtcsi.org)

**NEWSLETTER—JULY 2019**

**VOLUME: XXXIX**

**NUMBER: 7**



*Wish you all a Happy  
Independence Day!*

**Rev. Johnson P. Abraham**

*Vicar/President*

**PARSONAGE**

154 LaGuardia Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10314

Tel.: (718) 370-7664 • Cell: (917) 932-4575 • Email: [revjohnsonpa@gmail.com](mailto:revjohnsonpa@gmail.com)

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE/ LECTIONARY—JULY, 2019

Date	Service/Time	First Lesson	Second Lesson	Epistle/Assisting	Gospel
<b>SUNDAY JULY 07</b> <b>CHOIR DAY</b>	Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. <b>MALAYALAM</b>	Mal. 3:7-12 Roshin Mammen	Phili. 4:10-20 Aneena Panicker	Heb. 2:1-4 Mani Varughese	St. Luke 21:1-4
<b>SUNDAY JULY 14</b>	Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. <b>ENGLISH</b>	Exo. 29:1-21 Arun Chacko	Ephe. 5:1-14 Reba George	2 Cor. 11:23-31 Allen Cheriyann	St. Luke 10:1-11
<b>SUNDAY JULY 21</b>	Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. <b>MALAYALAM</b>	Josh. 4:1-9 Mathew Rajan	1 Cor. 10:1-11 Bensy Mathew	1 Tim. 6:11-16 Jithu Job	St. Mat. 13:1-9
<b>SUNDAY JULY 28</b>	Holy Communion 9:00 a.m. <b>ENGLISH</b>	Hos. 2:16-23 Anish Chacko	Ephe. 5:20-33 Kesiah Varughese	Heb. 13:1-6 Allen Panicker	St. Mat. 19:1-6

### TELEPHONE PRAYER

Telephone Prayer on Wednesday July 3rd at 8:00 p.m.  
Prayer Line Number: (605) 472-5485 I.D. 537772#

## Best Parish Award-2018



*Mr. Sunil K. George, Secretary; Mr. Chacko Abraham, Treasurer; and Mr. Sony K. Ninan, Accountant receiving the Diocesan Best Parish Award-2018 from Vicar Rev. Johnson P. Abraham and Youth Chaplain Rev. Jess Mathew George.*

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2019

### Office Bearers

		Home #	Cell #
Vicar & President	<b>Rev. Johnson P. Abraham</b>	(718) 370-7664	(917) 932-4575
Vice President	<b>Mr. Jacob Chacko</b>	(718) 698-6310	(917) 831-0918
Secretary	<b>Dr. Thomas K. Jose</b>	(718) 317-2263	(718) 877-7287
Treasurer	<b>Mr. Varughese P. Varughese</b>	(718) 761-6847	(718) 578-1185
Accountant	<b>Mr. James T. Philip</b>	(718) 761-1295	(718) 869-3395
Lay Leader (Malayalam)	<b>Mr. Shaji George</b>	(917) 831-6108	(917) 831-6108
Lay Leader (English)	<b>Mr. Justin Mani</b>	(718) 698-7463	(718) 873-4616

### Area Prayer Group Representatives

Bradley	<b>Mr. Thomas Varughese</b>	(718) 698-2431	(718) 775-7851
Hylan Blvd./NJ	<b>Mrs. Aney Raju</b>	(718) 727-4026	(718) 902-7695
North Shore	<b>Mr. Jacob Cheriyann</b>	(718) 983-0549	(917) 697-8623
Willowbrook	<b>Mr. Skaria Mathai</b>	(718) 983-5873	(917) 995-5278

### Organizational Representatives

Choir	<b>Dr. Shyla Roshin</b>	(718) 698-6101	(646) 262-8105
Edavaka Mission	<b>Mr. Mani Varughese</b>	(718) 698-7463	(917) 439-6153
Sevika Sanghom	<b>Mrs. Susan T. George</b>	(718) 761-8103	(718) 838-8705
Sunday School	<b>Mr. Vivin Varughese</b>	(718) 370-7588	(917) 753-0572
Youth Fellowship	<b>Mr. Arun Chacko</b>	(718) 727-0097	(347) 876-3297
Yuvajana Sakhyam	<b>Mr. Sony K. Ninan</b>	(718) 477-7562	(347) 840-3708
Young Family Fellowship	<b>Dr. Sheeja Thomas</b>	(908) 722-4146	(917) 520-0192

### Sabha Mandalam and Diocesan Assembly Members

Sabha Mandalam	<b>Mrs. Molly Mathews</b>	(718) 761-2395	(917) 238-7523
Diocesan Assembly:	<b>Mr. Jose Varughese</b>	(718) 477-9747	(917) 817-4115
	<b>Mr. Philip Jacob</b>	(718) 370-2318	(646) 206-1537

### Auditors

<b>Mr. Koshy P. Koshy</b>	(718) 987-5108	(718) 290-0068
<b>Mrs. Sara George</b>	(718) 698-6715	(917) 232-8920

### *Secretary's corner*

Dear friends,

June was a memorable month for us. We celebrated our 39th parish day and 3 of our children became active communicants of the Church through First Communion. We were blessed by the presence of our Thirumeni and Diocesan/Bishop's Secretary Rev. Manoj Idiculla. We honored all our graduates, our milestone birthday members and one family that celebrated 50 years of wedded married life. It is nothing but God's abundant mercy and blessings. We extend our prayers and congratulations. VBS for children also went well.

Sincerely

Jose.

### **PARISH PICNIC! Please Save the Date! A lot of Fun and Games for all ages!**

Our 2019 Parish Picnic is scheduled to be held on Saturday, July 20 at the Henry Kaufman Campgrounds–Staten Island, 1131 Manor Road, Opposite to JCC. In order to organize the picnic better and cost effective, please inform the Picnic Convener Mr. Jacob Chacko; your Prayer Group Representative; or the Office Bearers by Sunday, July 14th that you will attend the picnic or not.

### **Two Days Trip to Washington D.C. and Maryland!**

Yuvajana Sakhyam is conducting a Two Days Trip to Washington D.C. and Ocean City (MD) on August 23–24, 2019. All who are interested please contact trip conveners Mr. Viji Abraham (347) 636-0119 or Mr. Sony K. Ninan (347) 840-3708 for further information.

Details are posted on the Church Notice Board.

### **Diocesan Conferences**

Youth Fellowship Conference–Dallas Farmers Branch MTC  
July 25–28, 2019

Senior Fellowship Conference–Ascension MTC, Philadelphia  
September 25–28, 2019

Yuvajana Sakhyam Conference–Christos MTC, Philadelphia  
October 4–6, 2019

Sevika Sanghom Conference–Trinity MTC, Houston  
October 10–13, 2019

*For more information, please contact the respective organization Secretaries.*

### **From the Desk of the Vicar**

Dearly beloved in Christ

This month we are celebrating the US Independence Day. In a country where we are free to choose, free to speak, free to go wherever we want to, free to worship or not to worship, free to decide many things by ourselves, freedom has been a part of our thinking throughout generations. Yet we are not satisfied with this freedom and we feel that we are missing something, isn't it?

Galatians 5:1 says "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free". Here God does not want us to do whatever we want that would lead us into slavery of our selfish desires. Rather, He wants us to be free and to live unselfishly, thus do what is right and glorify God through loving service to others. In Galatians 5:13 it says "You, my brothers, were called to be free but do not use your freedom to indulge in sinful nature, rather, serve one another in love". So let us ask ourselves "Are we free in its real sense or are we still slaves to our desires?"

Last month we celebrated our 39th Parish Day blessed in the presence of our beloved Thirumeni Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Episcopa. We recognised our senior most members who worked hard for building this church in Staten Island. They contributed their hardwork, prayers, time and wealth for the goodwill of our church. Three students took their First Holy Communion. We, the church, appreciate their parents and godparents for nurturing them in the God's way. We honored those who celebrated their milestone birthdays as well as 50th wedding anniversary. We congratulate the Graduate students. We ask Lord to strengthen each one of them in Faith.

May God help us with strength, peace of soul and mind. Let us be a blessing for others.

Servant of God  
Rev. Johnson P. Abraham

## Youth Chaplain's Corner

Dearly beloved in Christ,

July is an important month for all of us. For one, we celebrate our nation's independence. Let us thank God for all of His grace for the independence of our nation for the last 243 years. Independence Day should remind us that God is the One who journeys with us. We can see His blessings on us as a result from persistence and dedication, going through difficulties in life and ultimately accomplishing His will and purpose. Of all the success that we celebrate, let us understand the hardships and discouraging moments that we went through to get there. It is a reminder for all of us to persevere, not looking on obstacles of failure that come our way making us think what we are doing is impossible and to give up. But to strive and strengthen ourselves during the difficult times and appreciate the outcome. Our nation's fathers went through a lot in order for us to live in a free country. God is a God who journeys with us. Let us never forget that.

Secondly, July 3rd is a very special day we as a church commemorate which is St. Thomas the Apostle Day. As we read St. John 20:24-29, we can relate to Thomas so much in our journey of faith and being in doubt and also discouraged. Thomas was a man who was genuine in his doubt. That genuineness got him to seek answers and be able to understand the truth as he exclaimed "My Lord and My God", being the first apostle to refer to Jesus Christ as God. In our life situation as well, we have to be truthful to where we stand and also look unto God, trust Him, be on our knees and submit to Him. God reveals Himself more in our relationship we have with Him. The stronger our relationship with God the more we have the assurance of the truth of who He is and grow in our faith.

Let us pray that this month be a blessing to all of us to enjoy the summer and to grow spiritually.

Much love,  
Jess Achen

### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

**Men's Bible Study: July 14, Sunday-4:00 p.m.** at the residence of Mr. Tim Joseph, 335 Mountainview Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10314.

July will entail fundraiser events to help raise money for the YF and Diocesan missions. Food will be sold on the Sundays and a Rec Day will take place on July 6th. Please contact the YF Committee if you'd like to help and please help support.

Our Youth men will participate in the STYL and Dynasty Basketball Tournaments on the 13th and 20th respectively. Please come out and support our guys as they represent our Church.

## July Wedding Anniversaries

*Wishing each one of you a Blessed Married Life. Celebrate this special day by partaking in the Wedding Anniversary Thanksgiving Prayer during the Holy Communion Service.*

No.	Date	Name	Address
1.	7/04	Stella & Jacob Cherian	42 Deppe Place
2.	7/07	Sobhana & Thomaskutty Joseph	142 Mann Avenue
3.	7/08	Silby & Babu Varghese	64 Holden Boulevard
4.	7/08	Elsy & Skaria Mathai	188 Walcott Avenue
5.	7/12	Tiji & Biju Raju	629 Targee Street
6.	7/16	Sosamma & Abraham P. George	268 Warwick Avenue
7.	7/19	Veena & Stanley A. Thomas	268 Warwick Avenue
8.	7/20	Sunu & Sunil K. George	323 Mountainview Avenue
9.	7/22	Leelamma & Johnson George	203 Westwood Avenue
10.	7/23	Sara & Jubin George	203 Westwood Avenue
11.	7/24	Rincy & Siju Rajan	229 Byrne Avenue
12.	7/27	Ashly & Jose V. Joseph	79 Ash Street, NJ
13.	7/30	Mariamamma & John K. Mathai	572 Mosel Avenue

## 2019-IMPORTANT DATES

1.	July 11-14	Junior/Senior Sunday School Conference
2.	July 20-Saturday	Church Picnic
3.	July 25-28	Youth Fellowship Conference/Dallas Farmers Branch MTC
4.	August 1-4	Edavaka Mission Conference/St. Mathews MTC, Toronto
5.	August 17-Saturday	Youth Fellowship Basketball Tournament
6.	August 18-Sunday	Dedication for College Students
7.	September 1-Sunday	Dedication for School Students
8.	September 21-Saturday	Family Night
9.	September 25-28	Senior Fellowship Conference/Ascension MTC, Philadelphia
10.	October 4-6	Yuvajana Sakhya Conference/Christos MTC, Philadelphia
11.	October 10-13	Sevika Sanghom Conference/Trinity MTC, Houston
12.	October 18, 19, 20	Church Convention
13.	November 3-Sunday	Church General Election-2020
14.	December 1-Sunday	Thanksgiving Sunday Lunch
15.	December 21-Saturday	Christmas Carol
16.	December 25-Wednesday	Christmas

## July Birthday Celebrations

*Congratulations! We pray and thank God for all His blessings received last year. Please participate in the Sunday Birthday Thanksgiving Prayer during the Holy Communion Service.*

No.	Date	Name	Address
1.	7/02	Mr. Rex Eapen	346 Buchanan Avenue
2.	7/03	Mr. Raji C. Jacob	66 Birchard Avenue
3.	7/04	Miss Gina Abraham	16 Roosevelt Avenue
4.	7/04	Mr. Sujin George	44 Steers Street
5.	7/05	Dr. Biju Raju	629 Targee Street
6.	7/05	Mr. Varughese K. Varughese	657 Collfield Avenue
7.	7/05	Master Christopher Thomas	859 Bluestone Lane, NJ
8.	7/06	Mr. Aibel Jose	79 Ash Street, NJ
9.	7/06	Mrs. Aney Raju	629 Targee Street
10.	7/07	Miss Diya Thomas	127 Valesi Drive, NJ
11.	7/08	Miss Aksha Babu	64 Holden Boulevard
12.	7/08	Miss Soniya Mathai	281 Brielle Avenue
13.	7/08	Master Jonas Sunny Chacko	108 Wade Street
14.	7/09	Mrs. Anitha John	216 Hawthorne Avenue
15.	7/09	Master Aaron Kunjachan	390 Harold Street
16.	7/10	Mrs. Sibi George	203 Westwood Avenue
17.	7/10	Mr. Anthony Chacko	283 Martin Avenue
18.	7/10	Mr. Shelby Varughese	28 Steers Street
19.	7/14	Mr. Nithin Varughese	657 Collfield Avenue
20.	7/15	Mr. Chacko P. Kurian	247 Byrne Avenue
21.	7/16	Miss Ava Sara Ninan	436 Buchanan Avenue
22.	7/16	Mrs. Stella Cheriyan	42 Deppe Place
23.	7/16	Miss Jessica Aleyamma Joseph	188 Walcott Avenue
24.	7/18	Mr. Abel George	323 Mountainview Avenue
25.	7/18	Miss Gini Thomas	16 Roosevelt Avenue
26.	7/18	Mr. Wilson Mathew	576 Westwood Avenue
27.	7/19	Mr. Thomas Lal Jr.	196 Quinlan Avenue
28.	7/19	Mr. Sinu Kunjumon	148 Castleton Avenue
29.	7/19	Mr. Vivin Varughese	21 Roosevelt Avenue
30.	7/22	Mr. Allen Chacko	57 Livermore Avenue
31.	7/22	Miss Sneha Thomas	175 Sunset Avenue
32.	7/24	Mr. Thomas Mathai	240 Suffolk Avenue
33.	7/24	Mr. Nicky Wilson	576 Westwood Avenue
34.	7/25	Mr. Thomas Varughese	127 Suffolk Avenue
35.	7/26	Mr. Jestin Thomas	64 Galloway Avenue
36.	7/26	Mrs. Lissy Thomas	49 Jasper Street
37.	7/27	Miss Neethu Thomas	1309 Vincenzo Dr., NJ
38.	7/28	Mrs. Annamma Philip	22 Athena Place
39.	7/29	Mr. Tomas Campbell	337 Chain O'Hills Road, NJ
40.	7/30	Mr. Geevarughese Panicker	461 North Gannon Avenue
41.	7/30	Miss Lilly Rose Lal	196 Quinlan Avenue

## MONTH AT A GLANCE-JULY 2019

### Organizations and Area Prayer Meetings

#### HYLAN BLVD./NJ PRAYER

July 13, Saturday-7:00 p.m. at the residence of **Mr. Varughese Raju**, 629 Targee Street, Staten Island.

#### NORTH SHORE PRAYER

July 6, Saturday-7:00 p.m. at the residence of **Mr. Jacob Cheriyan**, 42 Deppe Place, Staten Island.

July 27, Saturday-7:00 p.m. at the residence of **Mr. John Samuel**, 216 Hawthorne Avenue, Staten Island.

#### SEVIKA SANGHOM BIBLE STUDY

July 1, Tuesday-10:00 a.m. at the residence of **Mrs. Saramma Mathew**, 572 Westwood Avenue, Staten Island.

July 16, Tuesday-7:00 p.m. at the residence of **Mrs. Sheeba Mani**, 6 Deppe Place, Staten Island.

#### FASTING PRAYER

July 5, Friday-10:00 a.m. at the residence of **Mr. Chacko Abraham**, 1091 Willowbrook Road, Staten Island.

July 12, Friday-10:00 a.m. at the residence of **Mr. Mathew George**, 469 Woolley Avenue, Staten Island.

July 19, Friday-10:00 a.m. at the residence of **Mr. Varughese T. Abraham**, 171 Willard Avenue, Staten Island.

July 26, Friday-10:00 a.m. at the residence of **Mr. Joykutty George**, 23 Area Place, Staten Island.

#### EDAVAKA MISSION PRAYER

July 12, Friday-7:30 p.m. at the residence of **Mrs. Dolamma Panicker**, 461 North Gannon Avenue, Staten Island.

July 19, Friday-7:30 p.m. at the residence of **Mr. Varughese George**, 21 Roosevelt Avenue, Staten Island.

July 26, Friday-7:30 p.m. at the residence of **Mr. James T. Philip**, 175 Sheraden Avenue, Staten Island.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

### CHOIR PRACTICE

Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

### SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

July 17, Wednesday–10:00 a.m. at the Church, 134 Faber Street, Staten Island, NY 10302. All Seniors are kindly requested to attend.

### YOUNG FAMILIES FELLOWSHIP

July 28, Sunday–Immediately following Worship Service at Church.

### YOUNG WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP AND SEVIKA SANGHOM

A combined meeting of the Young Women's Fellowship and Sevika Sanghom will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the Church.

### New Born!

Mr. Bino John and Dr. Princy John are the proud parents and Mr. George V. John and Mrs. Checha V. John; and Mr. Babu Varghese and Mrs. Ani Varghese are the proud grandparents of a baby girl Abigail Faith John born on June 1, 2019.

*Congratulations and we wish all God's blessings to the proud parents and grandparents.*

### CONDOLENCE

Mrs. Rachel John, mother of our member Mr. Stanly Mammen John, 127 Suffolk Avenue, Staten Island, was called to eternal rest on Saturday, June 8, 2019, in Kerala, at the age of 89. The funeral service was held at Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday, June 11, 2019.

As a Parish we express our sincere condolences and heartfelt sympathies to the bereaving family. Please keep them in your prayers.

### Scenes from the 39th Parish Day Celebrations

