

APRIL NEWSLETTER

EBENEZER MAR THOMA CHURCH

From Vicar's Desk

My most dearly beloved parish members,

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

Praising God for this new month. This is the last message I will be writing for the Ebenezer Mar Thoma Church, New York Newsletter. At the outset, I want to thank you for all the guidance, support, encouragement, love, and care rendered to me and my family during the last one year.

We joined Ebenezer Mar Thoma Church from on May, 2021 and from the beginning, God has provided us with new experiences and visions to do His ministry in this beautiful land. I started my ministry in this parish with three simple approaches, 'Pray' continuously for all, 'Proclaim' the Good News wherever possible and 'Prepare' the faithful members for the second coming of Jesus Christ. To rate a ministry is a futile exercise so I am not attempting to do that but I would like to thank God for His steadfast love and faith in me to entrust such a blessed community to me. And also, to thank you for understanding my abilities and inabilities and accepting me as I am.

Saying goodbye is always a hard thing to do. It's hard to believe how fast the year has gone by. Praise God for what He has accomplished in each of us through His Spirit. Thank you for sharing your love, warmth, homes, and most importantly your hearts with us. Your words of perpetual encouragement were inspiring all along.

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Although we are excited about the future, we will miss you all very dearly. We wish you the very best and pray that God continues to sustain you and your family and bless you in all that you do.

As I bid farewell, I want to encourage you with the words of St. Paul. In St. Paul's first letter to Thessalonians, he instructs (5:15-23) "See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seeks to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Nini, Diya, Ameya join me in extending our gratitude for all the love and support given in the past one year. We have nothing to give back but praying to Almighty God to bless you all so that you all can bless others.

May our Almighty God always abide with you, strengthen you and make you witnesses for His glory.

Please stay in touch and let's continue to uphold each other in prayer. God be with you till we meet again.

In His service,
Rev. Aju Abraham

**Rev. Aju Abraham, Vicar
Ebenezer Mar Thoma Church,
New York**

Message from Youth Chaplain

APRIL 2022 MESSAGE

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Let us praise God for enabling us to enter the fourth month of this year. Let us praise God that we are in the season of spring. There is an English proverb that says, "April showers bring May flowers." More than just the environmental aspect of it, this saying has a deeper meaning for us to think about. Our lives go through various seasons of trials and tribulations, when we face such times, we should always remember that it will come to pass and the challenges we face are part of our beautiful life. Without showers, flowers cannot survive. When we shed tears, it guides us to nourish our life so that we can grow fruitfully. When was the last time we went to the Lord with tears? God hears our tears, and it brings strength to our spiritual life when we genuinely bring tears of concern to our Lord. Many times, in our culture we see people financially sacrifice for ours and/or our children's welfare and future. But how much are we able to shed tears for our children. We need to remember that it is more valuable than any money or gift we can spend, it will guide our future generation in their walk with the Lord. Are we concerned about our and other people's spiritual life or materialistic welfare?

This month is part of our Lenten period, and we close it with the feast of the Resurrection. Usually, Easter is a time when we would see the churches packed, especially with people we have not seen in a while. We should understand throughout the Lenten season how much Christ had endured for us. In the ministry of the healing Christ led, we reflected on the willingness of God, God accepting the least and the last, and along with that God giving His time to ALWAYS be with us, never leaving us nor forsaking us and taking that love and suffered on the cross. We live in this world giving conditions to our faith and defining time as our time. God loved us unconditionally and are we able to give unconditional love to God? Are our church and personal prayer life seen as a burden to us or are we excited to serve our ever-loving God?

Our NERYF Holy Saturday Meeting is at 10 AM on the ZOOM platform, the main speaker is Rev. Tony Eapen Varkey (Asst. Vicar- St. Thomas MTC Thiruvilla). For all the youths of our region, please do pray and participate.

Happy Resurrection Day! May God bless you all.

Much love,

Jess M. George Achen

Rev. Jess M. George

Youth Chaplain North-East Region

Diocese of North America and Europe of the Mar Thoma Church

(516)532-6115 (Cell)

Sunday Worship Schedule

Date	Time	Service
April 3rd	10:00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)
April 10 th – Palm Sunday Rev. Aju Abraham's Farewell	10.00 AM	HQ Service (Malayalam)
April 13 th – Pesaha Service	6.30 PM	HQ Service (Malayalam)
April 15 th Good Friday 3 Services	9.30 AM	Malayalam/English
April 17 th – Easter Sunday	8.00 AM	HQ Service (English)
April 24 th	10.00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)

*****Sandhyanamaskaram at 7:00pm as in-person/Virtual on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday during Holy Week.**

Lectionary

April 3 rd	Christ who gives Hopeful Vision	
	1 st Lesson	Mic 7:7-20
	2 nd Lesson	Acts 9:10-18
	Epistle	Col 1:1-14
	Gospel	Mark 10:46-52
April 10 th	Hosanna "Lord Save Us"	
	1 st Lesson	Zech. 9:9-17
	2 nd Lesson	Rom. 11:16-36
	Epistle	Col 1:14-23
	Gospel	Mark 11:1-18
April 13 th	Hasha Passion Week	
	1 st Lesson	Isa 28:14-29
	2 nd Lesson	Col 1:9-22
April 15 th	Good Friday- Cross: Way of Salvation	
1 st service	1 st Lesson	Isa 53:1-12
	2 nd Lesson	1Pet 1:1-25
2 nd service	1 st Lesson	Zech. 13:1-9
	2 nd Lesson	Gal 3:1-22
3 rd service	1 st Lesson	Num.21:1-9
	2 nd Lesson	Heb.3:1-19
April 17 th	Easter: Celebration of Resurrection	
	1 st Lesson	Isa 60:12-21
	2 nd Lesson	1 Cor 15:42-58
	Epistle	1 Cor 15:20-28
	Gospel	Luke 24:1-12
April 24 th	New Sunday – "Jesus: Lord and God"	
	1 st Lesson	Gen 28:10-22
	2 nd Lesson	Acts 24:10-21
	Epistle	1 Thess. 4:13-18
	Gospel	John 20:19-29



Wedding Anniversary

Titus Kurian Sandra Titus	2-Apr
Abraham C Jacob Annakutty CJ acob	20-Apr
Gigo K Ninan Sweekratha	23-Apr



Birthday Wishes

Esha Anil	2-Apr
Mathew Isaac	3-Apr
Merin Kovoov	3-Apr
Silvi George	4-Apr
Arianna Susan Kovoov	4-Apr
Deepthi John	8-Apr
Reena Jose	11-Apr
Kevin Thomas	11-Apr
Solomon George Ben	12-Apr
Jeneene Varughese	12-Apr
Aaron Mathew Kovoov	15-Apr
Susan Kurian	18-Apr
Jaimie Cherian	18-Apr
Rahul E Joseph	23-Apr
Jensy Anil	23-Apr
Arvin Thomas Kovoov	24-Apr
Ivy John	27-Apr
Alice Varughese	28-Apr
Sooraj Mathews	29-Apr
Isaac Samuel John	29-Apr
Aisley Varughese	30-Apr
Sweekratha	30-Apr
Nikhil John	30-Apr

Bible Reading



The family of....	Date
George Thomas	04/03/2022
Jacob Varughese	04/10/2022
John C Mathai (Raju)	04/17/2022
John Samuel (Kochumon)	04/24/2022
Rev. Johnson Mathew	05/01/2022
Jose Cherian	05/08/2022
Kurian A Mathew	05/15/2022
Philip Parayil	05/22/2022
Rachel George	05/29/2022

Upcoming Events

Sandhyanamaskaram at 7:00pm every night via ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81243928868?pwd=TjdUODZQSndiQkl2amlRaEdSNEo5dz09>

Dial 1 646-876-9923; Meeting ID: 812 4392 8868; Passcode:406406