

# SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

## EBENEZER MAR THOMA CHURCH

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### From Vicar's Desk

#### **Dearly beloved in Christ,**

Often we waste our time worrying about how things - our health, studies, job, family, religious and social life - will be resolved especially during this pandemic. Though we say that everything works out for the best, it is very hard to digest this saying in our day-to-day life. In such situations to engage optimistically in our daily activities is tough. We forget to be grateful for what we have, and we are tempted to give-up. Here comes the significance of miraculous and mysterious ways of God in our crisis.

We always want to have some surprises in our unfortunate circumstances, and we definitely have some that are truly exciting. We wait for the involvement of divine power or supernatural power in our heartbreaking life situations and will be disappointed if things are beyond our control and planning. Do not be dismayed at the various bewildering experiences. God's ways are mysterious and miraculous; it is this faith that motivates us to face the challenges ahead. No one hesitate to say that the extraordinary ways we had are being caused by God. But we habitually neglect God's goodness and everlasting love when tribulations increase. We need to trust God even if the situations are incomprehensible. "You are the God who works wonders; you have made known your might among the peoples." (Psalm 77:14). The book of Genesis picturizes Joseph's life to explain the mysterious ways of God in history

Hence, let this pandemic may be a time to see and meditate the mysterious and miraculous ways of God.

The church observes Family Sunday this month with the theme: "Family: A manifestation of the Kingdom of God." Family is one of the institutions that has been shaken badly by the major challenges emerging around us. The issues that emerged during this pandemic time accelerated tensions within the family structure. The stress created by the long hours of work and the mental stress of children that are not properly addressed on time prevented the family members from maintaining healthy relationships among them. It is only through our family prayer time with children and the family members that we can ease the tensions created by these situations. The messages of this year's parish convention meetings focus on "Godly response to Crisis." Let us all pray and prepare to listen to the Word of God and be blessed to continue our witness in this nation.

The annual Mandalam Meetings of our church for the first time is going to be conducted online this month from October 12-14 with an attendance of 1451 participants around the globe. Let us uphold our Metropolitan and the Mandalam members in our prayers for the smooth functioning of the meetings. We are also coming to the close of another financial year after two months. All are requested to remit your subscriptions and dues to the parish and organizations as early as possible.

With prayerful regards,

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

### Message from Youth Chaplain

#### OCTOBER 2021 MESSAGE

Dearly beloved in Christ,

October is a month in our liturgical year in which we think and understand our priorities as well as maintain the relationships God has bestowed upon us. October is the time of the year in which we as a church commemorate and meditate on the importance of the family unit. Family is an important relationship that God places us. God chose imperfect people to be placed in a family to learn many skills, especially the skills of love, commitment, tolerance, and unity. This is not possible with us as we understand we are imperfect. This is only possible when we look unto the One who is perfect, our unconditionally loving God. The family is the first institution God ordained in this world, followed by the Church and then the community. Therefore, Christian nurture should begin in the home itself. Being part of a Christian family is indeed a great blessing, a privilege, as well as a responsibility, and a challenge. The family should influence one another in faith. As a family, the aim should be to please God and not the world around us. Looking at the life of Noah and his family, we

As a reminder, on Tuesdays at 8 PM, Men's Bible Studies are held and on Wednesdays at 8 PM, women's Bible Studies are held on a weekly basis. I encourage our youths to find time and attend it. Let us pray that the 10th month of this year be a blessing to us and that we can guide ourselves to bless the world around us.

Much Love,

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
October 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00 AM	HQ Service (Malayalam)
October 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)
October 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 AM	HQ Service (English)
October 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)
October 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.00 AM	Divine Service (English)

## Lectionary

Date	Lesson 1- Lesson 2	Epistle-Gospels
<b>03 Sunday</b>	<b>Voluntary Evangelist's Day- Carriers of the Gospel</b>	
	Genesis 12: 1-9	2 Timothy 4: 1-6
	Romans 1: 8-16	Matthew 28: 16-20
<b>10 Sunday</b>	<b>Christian Approach to the Differently Abled</b>	
	2 Samuel 9: 1-12	2 Corinthians 12: 1-10
	Acts 3: 1-10	Matthew 15: 29-31
<b>17 Sunday</b>	<b>Youth Sunday-Search for a Meaningful Life</b>	
	Daniel 1: 1-17	1 Timothy 4: 12-16
	Ephesians 6: 10-18	Mark 10: 17-22
<b>24 Sunday</b>	<b>Christian Family Dedication Sunday-Replica of the Kingdom of God</b>	
	1 Samuel 1: 21-28	Ephesians 3: 14-21
	Colossians 3: 18-25	Luke 2: 41-52
<b>31 Sunday</b>	<b>Koodosh Eetho-Sanctification of the Church</b>	
	Jonah 3: 1-10	1 Peter 1: 13-19
	Hebrews 9: 11-23	Matthew 21: 12-17



Robin Chacko	Ashley Chacko	12-Oct
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Josefina Parayil	4-Oct
Rev. Aju Abraham	5-Oct
Kevin Joe Chacko	7-Oct
Ancy Joseph	13-Oct
Thomas Kovoov	14-Oct
Varghese C Abraham	15-Oct
Joshua Johnson Mathew	17-Oct
Jincy Varghese	21-Oct
Beena Annie Mathew	22-Oct
Justin John	23-Oct
Sanil Abraham	26-Oct
Kurian A Mathew	28-Oct
Abeyson C. Jacob	30-Oct
Johnson Parayil	31-Oct

## Bible Reading



The family of...	Date
Edavaka Mission Members	10/03/2021
Jacob Varughese	10/10/2021
Youth Sunday – Youth members	10/17/2021
John C Mathai (Raju)	10/24/2021
John Samuel (Kochumon)	10/31/2021
Rev. Johnson Mathew	11/07/2021
Jose Cherian	11/14/2021
Kurian A Mathew	11/21/2021
Philip Parayil	11/28/2021

## Upcoming Events

1. October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 Sunday - M.T. Voluntary Evangelists Association day
2. October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Sunday- Youth Sunday
3. October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Sunday – Family Sunday
  - a. Family Dedication Day (Special Offertory)
4. November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Sunday- World Sunday School Day
5. November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Saturday- Family Night (Conveners: Ms. Sneha Thomas/Mr. Justin John)

**Bible Study: Every Wednesday at 7:00pm via ZOOM**

**Prayer Meeting: Every Saturday at 7:00pm via ZOOM**

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