

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

EBENEZER MAR THOMA CHURCH

From Vicar's Desk

Beloved Parish members,

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I am reminded of a story about an old lady who always cried and was never grateful for anything. Her elder daughter was an umbrella merchant and her younger daughter was a noodle vendor. On sunny days this old lady cried that nobody is going to buy umbrellas and her daughter's business will be in trouble. On rainy days this lady would cry saying my younger daughter wouldn't be able to dry the noodles and sell them. So, every day, rainy or sunny, she grieved for one of her daughters and didn't find any reason to thank God. Understanding her problem one day a monk told this lady that he will help her to be happy and thankful always. He told this lady not to think about her elder daughter on sunny days and not to think about her younger daughter on rainy days. On rainy days she needs to thank God for the umbrella business of her elder daughter and on sunny days she needs to thank God for the noodle business of her younger daughter. Later, this lady was so happy and was grateful to God for some reason. Like two sides of coin, there are things that make us worried and that make us happy. Thanking for something and everything is a matter of attitude.

Let us develop an attitude of gratitude within us. We need to be thankful for everything, no matter what form it takes. If we are sick, we can thank God that we are alive. Be thankful for our family, friends, talents, opportunities, the universe, and all that are part of our life journey. We need to educate our children, dear ones, and friends on the significance of feeling gratitude. Concentrate on what we have rather than what we don't have. As we are getting ready to celebrate Thanksgiving, let us make sure that we have an attitude of thanksgiving.

Let us keep praying and participate wholeheartedly in the upcoming events this month - World Sunday School Day celebration. As we start a new month, let us thank God for His countless blessings.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 says "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you". Praise the Lord.

Stay Blessed,

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

Message from Youth Chaplain

NOVEMBER 2021 MESSAGE

Dearly beloved in Christ,

As we reflect on the eleventh month of the year, we can see that the weather is getting colder by the day and wonder how time just flew by so quickly. It is a month to be thankful as we look back to last year around this time when we were restricted and uncertain about the pandemic. This year, slowly things are getting to be more relaxed, and we are getting back to the old normal one step at a time. It can be frightening for some who are still in the fear of the pandemic but let us be assured that our God is seeing all that is happening and is guiding us for the better. He has great plans for us, and we should not be shaken but trust in Him alone. The past year and a half had changed people emotionally, mentally, and physically. The lockdown had brought forth different stresses that took a great toll on our well-being. It is more stressful as we look onto the situation and try to convince ourselves into thinking that we are in control. Philippians 4:6-7 says "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." How much are we surrendering ourselves and all our situations towards prayer? Are we able to remind ourselves that God is in control? Amid the storms that come towards us, are we able to be assured of the peace that comes from God? His peace surpasses all our understanding. We are limited beings that are to surrender ourselves to God in whom nothing is impossible. He is the One who reminds us that His righteous right hand is upon us, and He will never leave us. This month's lectionary themes are reminding us of the same in which we have the seasons commemorating the annunciations to Zachariah and the Virgin Mary, as well as the sharing of the good news through the blessed visitation of Mary to Elizabeth. Yes, we approach the season of Christmas. Let us remind ourselves through meditating this month that the coming of our Savior is the instilling of the Hope God gives us that will NEVER leave us. Let us continue to put our trust and hope in Him. Let us be thankful that we exist in this world and also be thankful in all the circumstances that come our way because God chose for us to exist because He loves us unconditionally.

This month as the North-East Regional Youth Fellowship, we will have our Fall One Day Conference on the Zoom platform hosted by the Jerusalem Mar Thoma Church, Connecticut on November 27th. I encourage all our youths to attend the conference. Men's Bible Study is on Tuesdays and the Women's Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 8 PM.

May God bless all of you this month! Have a blessed November!

Much love,

Jess 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
November 7 th (World Sunday School Day)	10:00 AM	HQ Service (English)
November 14 th	10.00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)
November 21 st	10.00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)
November 28 th	10.00 AM	HQ Service (Malayalam)

Lectionary

Lectionary Theme Hudus Eetho-Renewal of the Church		
07 Sunday	First Lesson	Genesis 21: 1-7
	Second Lesson	2 Timothy 3: 13-17
	Epistle	Ephesians 6: 1-9
	Gospel	Luke 18: 15-17
Lectionary Theme Annunciation to Zachariah-Unity Sunday		
14 Sunday	First Lesson	1 Chronicles 24: 1-19
	Second Lesson	Revelation 7: 9-17
	Epistle	2 Corinthians 4: 7-15
	Gospel	Luke 1: 5-23
Lectionary Theme Annunciation to Virgin Mary		
21 Sunday	First Lesson	1 Samuel 2: 1-11
	Second Lesson	Galatians 4: 1-7
	Epistle	Ephesians 1: 3-10
	Gospel	Luke 1: 26-38
Lectionary Theme Visitation of Virgin Mary to Elizabeth		
28 Sunday	First Lesson	Genesis 18: 1-15
	Second Lesson	1 Thessalonians 3: 6-13
	Epistle	Romans 10: 9-17
	Gospel	Luke 1: 39-45



Tibu C Tharakan	Sheba Tibu	3-Nov
Thomas Kovoov	Susan Thomas Kovoov	5-Nov
Jose Cherian	Reena Jose	27-Nov



Kunjamma Ben	2-Nov
Aby K Varghese	3-Nov
Merlyn George	10-Nov
Alvin J Mathew	10-Nov
Nathaniel T Varghese	10-Nov
Marina Molly Samuel	14-Nov
Mathew George	15-Nov
Mathew A Mathew	18-Nov
Abraham C. Jacob	25-Nov
Susan Thomas Kovoov	25-Nov
Jaison John	25-Nov
Annakutty C. Jacob	26-Nov
Dr. Minnie John	27-Nov
Leelamma Abraham	28-Nov
C.S. Chacko (Raju)	30-Nov
Thomas K Mathai	30-Nov

Bible Reading



The family of....	Date
Sunday School Students	11/07/2021
Rev. Johnson Mathew	11/14/2021
Jose Cherian	11/21/2021
Kurian A Mathew	11/28/2021
Philip Parayil	12/05/2021
Rachel George	12/12/2021
Ryan K. Varghese	12/19/2021
Saji Thomas	12/25/2021
Thomas K Mathai	12/26/2021
Thomas K. Mathew	12/31/2021

Upcoming Events

1. November 6th, 2021, Saturday – 2021 Parish Convention at 7:00pm via Zoom platform.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81243928868?pwd=TjdUODZQSndiQkI2amlRaEdSNEo5dz09>

Dial 1 646-876-9923; Meeting ID: 812 4392 8868; Passcode:406406
2. November 7th, 2021, Sunday- World Sunday School Day; Family Dedication Day (Special Offertory)
3. November 27th, 2021, Saturday- Family Night (Conveners: Ms. Sneha Thomas/Mr. Feby Varghese)
4. November 28th, 2021, Sunday – General Body Meeting to Elect 2022 Office Bearers and Executive committee members.

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=TjdUODZQSndiQkI2amlRaEdSNEo5dz09>