

JULY NEWSLETTER

EBENEZER MAR THOMA CHURCH

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From Vicar's Desk

July 01, 2022

‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.’ St. John 14:27

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

July 3rd is well known as St Thomas Day. The day is devoted to Thomas the Apostle. We remember with gratitude the life of St. Thomas, who came to India in A.D 52, and was martyred for preaching the Gospel.

Independence Day, or ‘Fourth of July’, is an important holiday in the United States, marking the official start of American independence and freedom from Great Britain, through the Declaration of Independence. On July 4th, many families and friends meet for fellowship (as everyone is off from school and work due to this being a federal holiday), and on a public level, there are fireworks shows, parades, carnivals, fairs, outings, picnics, games, etc. which take place. These private and public events focus on celebrating the history, heritage, tradition, culture, and freedom of America.

In Paul's letter to the Galatians, 5:1, he reminds us, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." (NIV). Independence Day is a time of celebration of the blessings we experience through freedom. However, it is a challenge for one to exercise his/her freedom in a responsible manner, without compromising Christian values and ideals.

First Sunday of July is set apart as **Christian Stewardship -Tithe offering Sunday**. When you put the Lord first, he promises to open heaven and pour out his blessings into your life! Throughout the years, God has released great blessings when his children whole-heartedly followed him. If you "Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing." Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV). What a great promise from Scripture!

Please do join for the Wednesday Bible study and Saturday Prayer meetings. Let us allow the Gospel to infiltrate more of our everyday life. Then we will have the foundation for an effective witness. Please mark your calendar for our Parish Picnic on Saturday July 16. Our Sunday school is arranging VBS from July 22-24. Dear children, we will have a great time together as we are going to learn more about the Bible in fun and exciting ways such as singing, hearing stories, playing games, making crafts and more. So please be prepared.

I take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued generosity and prayers in supporting the ministerial work in our parish. May God continue to bless you all. Prayers for you all.

Yours in Christ's ministry,

Rev. George Abraham
Vicar
Ebenezer Mar Thoma Church,
New York.

Message from Youth Chaplain

July 2022 MESSAGE

Dearly beloved in Christ,

As we embrace the 7th month of this year, let us praise God for His abundant blessings. God guides us to understand His goodness even in trials and hardships so that we can abide in His goodness rather than relying or depending on ourselves.

We commemorate July by celebrating the 246th Independence Day. Let us give thanks to God for our nation and our leaders. Let us pray for the political leaders of our land for God-given wisdom and strength. We are placed in this land not without a purpose but purposefully. Let us surrender ourselves to God in being part of God's mission to build this nation to move towards God-centeredness rather than selfish motives.

On July 3rd we commemorate St. Thomas Day as it recognizes the Apostle to India, St. Thomas. Although he was known as doubting Thomas, that was not his character, he should be known as honest Thomas. He grew out of his doubts and acknowledged Christ as "My Lord and My God" (St. John 20:28). Let us also learn from the strengths and weaknesses of St. Thomas and give all our doubts and uncertainty to God and continue to grow in our faith.

July 1st is our NERYF BBQ, held at the Youth Chaplain's Parsonage. Let us thank God for all of us to move past the pandemic restrictions and enjoy in-person fellowships for His glory in all that we do. Our Diocesan Youth Fellowship Conference is held on July 28-31, 2022, hosted by the Philadelphia Mar Thoma Church, let us prayerfully participate by meditating on the theme "Slip-Not" based on Psalms 37:24 'Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the Lord holds them by the hand'.

May July guide us to live more faithfully for His glory. God bless us 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
July 3 rd – Sunday Tithe Offering Sunday Clergy Appreciation Day	10:00 AM	HQ Service (Malayalam)
July 10 th – Sunday	10.00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)
July 17 th - Sunday	10.00 AM	HQ Service (English)
July 24 th – Sunday VBS final day	10.00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)
July 31 st - Sunday	10.00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)

Lectionary

July 3 rd - St. Thomas the Apostle's Day, "Apostle Thomas – Faithful unto Death"		
	1 st Lesson	Isa 52:7-15
	2 nd Lesson	1Thess 1:2-9
	Epistle	2Tim 3:10-17
	Gospel	John 11:10-16
July 10 th – Priests: Ambassadors of Christ, Priest's Sunday.		
	1 st Lesson	Ezek. 33:1-7
	2 nd Lesson	1Pet 5:1-11
	Epistle	2Cor. 5:14-21
	Gospel	John 10:1-11
July 17 th – "Anointing the Sick – Sacrament of Healing"		
	1 st Lesson	Jer 8:15-22
	2 nd Lesson	Rev 22:1-5
	Epistle	James 5:13-20
	Gospel	Mark 6:7-13
July 24 th – The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony		
	1 st Lesson	Gen 24:10-27
	2 nd Lesson	Heb 13:1-6
	Epistle	Eph 5:20-32
	Gospel	Matt 19:1-12
July 31 st – Theological Education for the Confirmation of Faith		
	1 st Lesson	Deut 6:1-13
	2 nd Lesson	Gal 3:1-14
	Epistle	1Cor 4:14-21
	Gospel	John 3:10-21



Saji Thomas	Suja Mary Thomas	4-Jul
Thomas K Mathai	Annamma Thomas	5-Jul
Ben George (Rajan)	Kunjamma Ben	13-Jul
C.S. Chacko (Raju)	Aleyamma Chacko	19-Jul
Thomas K Mathew	Beena Annie Mathew	21-Jul
Ajus K Ninan	Jaimie Cherian	21-Jul



Richy Tom Mathew	15-Jul
Gabriel John	17-Jul
Dona Shino	22-Jul
Sara Parayil	25-Jul
Rinju John	25-Jul
Jacob Varughese	30-Jul
Aleyamma John	30-Jul
Sali D Varghese	30-Jul

Bible Reading



The family of....	Date
Tibu C Tharakan	07/03/2022
Titus Samuel	07/10/2022
Viju V Varughese	07/17/2022
Vipin T Kovoov	07/24/2022
Abraham Jacob	07/31/2022
Abraham Oonnoonny	08/07/2022
Alexie Isaac	08/14/2022
Benjamin Jacob	08/21/2022
C.S. Chacko (Raju)	08/28/2022

Upcoming Events

1. July 3rd, 2022, Sunday
 - a. Tithe Offering
 - b. Priest's Sunday (Clergy Appreciation Day)
2. July 16th, 2022, Saturday- Parish Picnic (Convener: Mr. C.S. Chacko) at Lyon's Park, Port Chester, NY 10573
3. July 22nd, 23rd, & 24th, 2022 – VBS at Church

Wednesday Bible Study and Saturday Prayer Meeting at 7:00pm via ZOOM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81243928868?pwd=TjdUODZQSndiQkl2amlRaEdSNEo5dz09>

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