

# NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

## EBENEZER MAR THOMA CHURCH

### From Vicar's Desk

NOVEMBER 2023

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St. Matthew 19:14

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

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

God is good all the time. Let us strive to always keep our focus on Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. God has a purpose and plan for our lives and let us strive to live in the center of His will for each one of us. The church is the bride of Christ. Christ said do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some are. We need each other to face the trails and temptations we have to face each day. Every one of us needs someone that we can talk and share with. Always remember that we can talk with the Lord, and that we were created to have fellowship with Him daily. God wants us in His church so we can uplift, love, and encourage each other as we worship and serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The first Sunday of the Month of November is celebrated throughout the world as Sunday School Day. We will be observing our Sunday School Day on November 12th. Rev. Jess M. George will be our chief guest.

Robert Raikes (1735- 1811), an English Publisher, started the first Sunday School in the city of Gloucester in England in 1780. The Mar Thoma Sunday School Samajam was established on 25 February 1905, at the Maramon Convention. Our forefathers and mothers realized this as a glaring need and began to engage the children by teaching them the life of Jesus Christ. Children born in Christian homes must be trained to carry on the work done by their parents. They must be brought to the saving knowledge of Christ and equipped to be leaders when they come of age. Sunday school education is crucial to carry on the future of the church. I appreciate all our Sunday school children for their enthusiasm in attending classes and parents for bringing them. I am proud and grateful for each our Sunday school teachers for their wholehearted service. Let's continue to uphold our Sunday school students and teachers in prayer. Please mark your calendar for our Family Night 2023, on Saturday 11th November.

As we prepare for Thanksgiving and Christmas let us not become so busy that we forget that Jesus Christ is the ultimate one we give thanks to. Also, Christmas is His Birthday, let us celebrate Him and His love that was shown to us that first Christmas. He is the reason for the season. As decided by the Parish Executive Committee, house to house caroling will be conducted on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) as well as December 9<sup>th</sup> (Saturday). Saturday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM is our Christmas Carols service.

The spirit of what Thanksgiving is all about -- Giving Thanks to the Lord! This world may be scary at times, but God has promised to never leave us nor forsake us. He said, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9). This Thanksgiving, I am thankful to God for each of you! It is a joy and a privilege to be your brother in Christ and serve alongside of you in the cause of Christ. Together, may our service to the Lord "overflow in many thanksgivings to God" (2 Corinthians 9:12)! Wish you all a blessed Thanksgiving Day!

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

### NOVEMBER 2023 MESSAGE

Dearly beloved in Christ,

This month's lectionary themes are reminding us of many events. One is that we celebrate World Sunday School Day. Let us thank God for the ministry of Sunday School. Especially for our children to learn more about the Word of God, as well as equip them to follow God throughout their life. Our challenge should be to not enable only one hour per week of Sunday School, but even in everyday life, we should teach the children how to live to love and fear God. I have seen some parents who just drop their children off to Sunday School but do not stay for service. We should in action teach our children what faith is to us and genuinely embed that faith to our kids. Our children are watching and listening to us, they learn from us more than we verbally teach them. Let us live out the Sunday School experience all throughout our lives.

We are also preparing ourselves in the celebration of Christmas through commemorating the annunciation to Zachariah and the Virgin Mary, as well as the sharing of the Good News through the blessed visitation of Mary to Elizabeth. Let us remind ourselves through meditating this month that the coming of our Savior is the instilling of the Hope God gives us that He 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 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 at St. James Mar Thoma Church on November 25th. Please encourage all our youths to attend the conference.

NERYF will also have the regional retreat on February 16-18 at the Montrose Bible Conference in Pennsylvania. Please note the date and encourage our youths to attend. More details regarding the retreat to follow.

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

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)**

## Worship Schedule

Date	Time	Service
Nov 5 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday	10.00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)
Nov 12 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday World Sunday School Day	10.00 AM	Holy Communion Service (English)
Nov 19 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday General Body Meeting	10.00 AM	Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)
Nov 26 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday	10.00 AM	Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)

## Lectionary

**\*\* November 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Lectionary is switched as we are celebrating World Sunday School Day on 12<sup>th</sup> with Jess Achen.**

**Nov 5 <sup>th</sup> – Hudosh Eetho – Renewal of the Church; Festival of Unity of CSI, CNI and Mar Thoma Church.		
	1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson	Josh 22:21-29
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson	Eph. 4:1-7
	Epistle	1Cor. 12:12-27
	Gospel	John 10:11-18
**Nov 12 <sup>th</sup> – Kudosh Eethos – Sanctification of the Church: Beginning of the Liturgical Year; World Sunday School Day: Children to be Partakers in the Concerns of Christ.		
	1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson	Prov. 3:1-8
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson	1John. 3:1-12
	Epistle	Eph. 6:1-4
	Gospel	John 6:1-14
Nov 19 <sup>th</sup> – Annunciation to Zechariah: God's Intervention that paves the way of Salvation.		
	1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson	Judg. 13:2-14
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson	Heb. 6:9-12
	Epistle	Heb. 11:6-12
	Gospel	Luke. 1:5-23
Nov 26 <sup>th</sup> – Annunciation to Virgin Mary: Call to be the Mother of the Savior of the World; Diaspora Sunday.		
	1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson	Zech. 2:10-13
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson	Rom. 1:1-7
	Epistle	1Cor. 1:26-31
	Gospel	Luke. 1:26-38



## Wedding Anniversary

Tibu C Tharakan	Sheba Tibu	3-Nov
Jose Cherian	Reena Jose	27-Nov



## Birthday Wishes

Kunjamma Ben	2-Nov
Aby K Varghese	3-Nov
Alvin J Mathew	10-Nov
Preema Mary Cherian	11-Nov
Mathai Oommen	11-Nov
Marina Molly Samuel	14-Nov
Mathew George	15-Nov
Mathew A Mathew	18-Nov
Abraham C. Jacob	25-Nov
Annakutty C. Jacob	26-Nov
Dr. Minnie John	27-Nov
Leelamma Abraham	28-Nov
Rosamma Mathai	28-Nov
C.S. Chacko (Raju)	30-Nov
Thomas K Mathai	30-Nov

## Bible Reading



The family of....	Date
Jose Cherian	11/05/2023
Sunday School Children	11/12/2023
Kurian A Mathew	11/19/2023
Philip Parayil	11/26/2023
Rachel George	12/03/2023
Ryan K. Varghese	12/10/2023
Saji Thomas	12/17/2023
Thomas K Mathai	12/24/2023
Thomas K. Mathew	12/31/2023

## Upcoming Events

1. November 11th, 2023, Saturday – Family Night (Conveners: Mr. C.S. Chacko/Trustees)
2. November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Sunday- World Sunday School Day Celebration
3. December 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 9th - Christmas Carol House Visits (Conveners: Mr. C.S. Chacko/Eapen Joseph/Rahul Joseph)
4. December 23rd, Saturday - Christmas Carol Service at church
5. December 25th, 2023, Monday – Christmas Day - English Holy Communion Service at 8:00am
6. December 31st, 2023, Sunday, 9:30pm- Watch-night Service; No Morning Service
7. 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