

# EBENEZER

# NEWSLETTER

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**'After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proof that He was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.' Act 1:3**

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

As we are in the season of the Great Lent, let us struggle together and refresh our spiritual life. Jesus Christ turned the water into wine. A life in Christ is new and sweet. A life without Christ is bitter and empty.

The end of Great Lent brings us to Holy Week. Holy Week is filled with deeply solemn and beautiful evening services that express the Passion of Christ up to his Crucifixion, Death and Burial. I encourage you to drink deeply of this living water and be a part of as many services as you can. May God bless each of you and your families on this Lenten journey to the joy of His Resurrection!

## Sunday Service

**Malayalam Holy Communion**

April 6th - 10:00 am

**Malayalam Holy Communion (Hosanna)**

April 13th - 10:00 am

**English Holy Communion (Easter)**

April 20th - 09:00 am

**English Holy Communion**

April 27th - 10:00 am

## Holy Week Schedule

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Jesus is worthy of our complete devotion, our love and our commitment to Him. We love Jesus because He first loved us and demonstrated that love by dying on the cross, being buried in the tomb and then the third day He rose from the grave. Let us reveal our love to Him by being obedient to Him. May the power that of the cross and resurrected Christ be an inspiration for us as we move forward in our spiritual journey. Let us use the power of the cross and the resurrected Christ as a driving force for our lives, as we journey together! May the joy of the resurrection of our Lord be an inspiration for us to move forward in our journey with Him, and to be true ambassadors of faith (2 Cor 5:20), living lives holy, pleasing, and acceptable to our Triune God. Let us experience Christ together, as a faith community. Let us patiently wait for His return!

Saturday April 5th we will have our Choir Retreat. Congratulations for our New Junior Choir too!

it can provide comfort and can be incredibly uplifting; For I am convinced that God has given us all gifts, and we should use them to his glory. Thanks to all our Choir Members!

Please mark your calendar for our Parish Family Night on Saturday April 12th. May I invite your wholehearted participation.

I would like to convey my sincere thanks to you all for making our Executive Committee Retreat and YuvaJana SakhyaM Food fest festival a grand success.

I am happy about some of your generosity, spirit, hard work, and willingness to help our church.

May God accept all your offerings and bless you in abundance for the years to come!

Dearly Beloved, it's time to move to a new place. From May 1, 2025 onwards, we are assigned to a parish in Kerala, Palakkad.

You are such an amazing Church, and it has been such a blessing to be your Vicar.

**"He first loved us and demonstrated that love by dying on the cross, being buried in the tomb and then the third day He rose from the grave."**

I am continually blown away by your compassion, generosity and willingness to serve. I can only hope that I have inspired all of you as much as you have inspired me. Thank you so much for all that you do.

We are thankful to God Almighty for the blessed worship life and blessed memories we had at Ebenezer, New York. What a privilege it has been to share the journey of faith with you. Our lives have been interwoven in the fabric of faithful service to our Lord and Savior. We count it among our deepest joys.

We thank you for the Love, Prayers, Support and Dedication you have shown towards us during our three-years ministry at Ebenezer Mar Thoma Church, New York.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to office bearers, executive committee members and other spiritual organizations of 2022 through 2025. We wanted to say a big thank you for your time and effort in helping in our Church ministering during the past years.

All through the Bible, God's people are called to be ready to go where God is leading them; and with those many examples as our guide, we will say yes to what God has envisioned as the next chapter in our lives. Please continue to Pray for our ministry. We will miss you all deeply. We will miss your love and support. Please give your new minister, Rev. Joel Samuel Thomas the same support and encouragement you have given to us. We will continue to hold you in our prayers and ever be the friends to you that we have been.

I give thanks to God for the unique flavor of our shared ministry together.

Love and blessings, now and always

**Rev. George Abraham  
Vicar**



## Youth Chaplain's Corner

Beloved in Christ,

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'" - Isaiah 52:7

During Holy Week, we walk with Jesus through suffering and sacrifice. We remember the feet that walked toward betrayal, carried a cross up Golgotha's hill, and were pierced with nails for our sins.

Isaiah calls these feet beautiful, not because they were untouched by pain, but because they carried good news: peace, salvation, and the powerful truth that "Your God reigns." Good Friday reminds us that love can look like a cross. But the story does not end there. On the beautiful Feast of the Resurrection, we remember those same scarred feet walked out of the tomb in victory!

The silence of death was broken by an angel's announcement:

"He is not here; He has risen, just as He said." (Matthew 28:6)

As we remember from the cross to the empty tomb this Holy Week, may we carry this message in our own lives, with steps that bring light into dark places, comfort into sorrow, and hope into despair.

Let our life, our walk, our witness declare:

Our God reigns! Christ Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

*Prayerfully,  
JVarghese Achen*

**"Peace, salvation, and the powerful truth that 'Your God reigns.'"**

The good news of Isaiah 52:7 was fulfilled in full. Jesus didn't just proclaim peace, He became our peace. He didn't just declare salvation, He conquered death to give it.



## Youth Fellowship HouseKeeping

### NERYF Spring One Day Retreat

When: Saturday, April 19, 2024

Where: Bethany Mar Thoma Church

We invite all youth to join us for a day of spiritual renewal, worship, and fellowship this Holy Saturday of Passion Week. This retreat promises a refreshing experience with powerful messages and meaningful discussions. We are blessed to have Dr. Shaun Rajan (St. Andrew's MTC) and Jojin Mathew (Long Island MTC) as our leaders this year. Stay tuned for more details—and be sure to set aside this date and make arrangements to rejuvenate your spirit and strengthen your faith journey!

### Monthly Parish Youth Fellowship Meetings

Our regular Parish Youth Fellowship Meetings continue to be wonderful occasions for us to deepen our faith and friendships. If you need further information about dates, times, or activities, please reach out to your Parish Youth Fellowship Secretary, who will have all the details. Let us make the most of these gatherings and encourage one another to grow in faith and unity.

### College Visits – Let's Fellowship in Christ!

Whether you need a break from studies or a boost in your spiritual walk, we are here for you. Please keep an eye on the NERYF Instagram for exact dates and details regarding these visits. Remember the reassuring words of Matthew 18:20: "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

### March NERYF Fifth Sunday Combined Holy Qurbana

Once again, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the youth of our region and the St. James Mar Thoma Church Youth Fellowship for coordinating the NERYF Fifth Sunday Combined Holy Qurbana. A special word of gratitude to Ms. Esther Mathew for her devotion and commitment. Let us continue to uphold this blessed ministry in our prayers and encourage our youth to remain a part of this meaningful time of worship and fellowship.

# This Month's Lectionary

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|--|--|--|
| <b>April 6th</b><br>Jesus Christ who gives new vision to life; The sixth Sunday of Lent  | 1st Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14<br>2nd Lesson: Acts 9:10-18<br>Epistle: Philippians 3:7-16<br>Gospel: St. Luke 18:35-43  | <b>Bible Reading Assigned To:</b><br><br>Mr. C.S. Chacko & Family  |
| <b>April 13th</b><br>Hosanna - Theological Seminary Day; The cry for salvation: The coming of the Messiah                            | 1st Lesson: Zechariah 9:9-17<br>2nd Lesson: Romans 11:16-24<br>Epistle: Colossians 1:10-14<br>Gospel: St. Matthew 21:1-17  | <b>Bible Reading Assigned To:</b><br><br>Mr. Chris John & Family   |
| <b>April 16th</b><br>Passover (Maundy); Celebration of the Divine plan of salvation  | 1st Lesson: Genesis 22:1-14<br>2nd Lesson: Hebrews 5:1-14<br>Epistle: I Corinthians 11:23-34<br>Gospel: St. Matthew 26:31-46   | <b>Bible Reading Assigned To:</b><br><br>Mr. Jerry Chacko & Family   |
| <b>April 18th</b><br>Good Friday; The redeeming suffering and death of Jesus Christ  | 1st Service: Isaiah 53 (1L)<br>1 Peter 1 (2L)<br>St. Matthew 26: 47-75 (G)<br>Zechariah 13 (1L)<br>2nd Service: Galatians 3 (2L)<br>St. Matthew 27: 1-44 (G)<br>Numbers 21: 1-9 (1L)<br>3rd Service: Hebrews 3: 1-19 (2L)<br>St. Matthew 27: 45-56 (G) | <b>Bible Reading Assigned To:</b><br><br>(1) Mr. Eapen Joseph & Family<br>(2) Mr. Feby Varghese & Family<br>(3) Mr. George Thomas & Family |
| <b>April 20th</b><br>Kemta – Feast of Resurrection – Easter Sunday (End of Great Lent); The resurrection that gives hope of new life | 1st Lesson: Isaiah 60<br>2nd Lesson: 1 Cor. 15: 1-19<br>Epistle: 1 Thess. 4: 13-18<br>Gospel: St. Luke 24: 1-12  | <b>Bible Reading Assigned To:</b><br><br>Mr. Jacob Mathew & Family   |
| <b>April 27th</b><br>New Sunday — Assurance of faith beyond sight; The first Sunday after Resurrection                               | 1st Lesson: Genesis 32:22-32<br>2nd Lesson: Acts 26:8-18<br>Epistle: Colossians 3:1-8<br>Gospel: St. John 20:19-29   | <b>Bible Reading Assigned To:</b><br><br>Mr. Jacob Varughese & Family  |

# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



All Services/Worship will be held at Church

## PALM SUNDAY (HOSANNA)

Sunday, April 13 | 10:00 AM

## SANDHYANAMASKARAM

Monday, April 14 | 7:00 PM

## SANDHYANAMASKARAM

Tuesday, April 15 | 7:00 PM

## PESAHA (MAUNDY)

Wednesday, April 16 | 7:00 PM

## SANDHYANAMASKARAM

Thursday, April 17 | 7:00 PM

## GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 18 | 9:30 AM

## EASTER

Sunday, April 20 | 9:00 AM

# This Month's Parish Programs

## 50-Day Great Lent Prayer



We warmly invite you to join us for 50 days of prayer, fasting, and spiritual renewal. This sacred time offers an opportunity to draw closer to God, seek His grace, and prepare our hearts for the joy of the Resurrection.

Starting: Sunday, March 2, 2025 @ 7:00 pm (Daily)

[Zoom Link](#)

Dial: 1 646-876-9923

Meeting ID: 812 4392 8868; Passcode: 406406



## Ebenezer Choir Retreat

*This will be a wonderful time of worship, fellowship, and spiritual renewal. We encourage all choir members and their families to join us for this special gathering.*

Date: Saturday, April 5th

Time: 10:00 am



## Ebenezer's Family Night

Please complete the Google Form to confirm your attendance and provide details about your performance. <https://forms.gle/g7EjtZ9P31pM93Uc6>

Date: Saturday, April 12th

Time: 4:00 pm



## Rev. George Abraham & Family's Farewell

Date: Sunday, April 20th, 2025

Time: Immediately After Church Service

# Organization Announcements

*Ebenezer MTC Announcements Only*

## Sevika Sanghom

Sevika Sangham is collecting \$100 from Sevika Sanghom members. Please make the check payable to EMTC and write "Sevika Sanghom" in the memo. Kindly hand the check to either Reena Kochamma (SS Secretary) or Soji Samuel (SS Trustee).

## Choir

None

## Yuvajana Sakhyam

None

## Sunday School

None

## Edavaka Mission

None

## Youth

None

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# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” Numbers 6: 24-26



|         |                  |          |                |          |                |          |                 |          |                  |
|---------|------------------|----------|----------------|----------|----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------------|
| April 2 | Jeneene Varghese | April 4  | Arianna Kovoor | April 15 | Aaron Kovoor   | April 23 | Jensy Anil      | April 29 | Isaac John       |
| April 2 | Esha Anil        | April 4  | Rebah Justin   | April 17 | Nihal Easow    | April 24 | Arvin Kovoor    | April 30 | Aisley Varghese  |
| April 3 | Mathew Isac      | April 8  | Deepthi John   | April 18 | Susan Kurian   | April 27 | Ivy John        | April 30 | Sweekratha Ninan |
| April 3 | Merin Kovoor     | April 11 | Reena Jose     | April 18 | Jaimie Cherian | April 28 | Alice Varughese | April 30 | Nikhil John      |
| April 4 | Silvi George     | April 12 | Solomon Ben    | April 23 | Rahul E Joseph | April 29 | Sooraj Mathews  |          |                  |



# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

“Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart” Proverbs 3:3-4



|          |                                      |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| April 2  | Titus Kurian<br>Sandra Titus         |
| April 17 | Rijin Jose Cherian<br>Tiya Thomas    |
| April 20 | Abraham C Jacob<br>Annakutty C Jacob |
| April 23 | Gigo K Ninan<br>Sweekratha           |

