

ST. ANDREWS MAR THOMA CHURCH

58 Crescent Place
Yonkers, NY 10704
(914) 776-5738

www.standrewsmtcny.org



Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

Monthly Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2017

Vicar: Rev. Sony Philip
50 Crescent Place
Yonkers, NY 10704

Parsonage: (914) 207-0011
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2017

President	Rev. Sony Philip	(914) 207-0011
Vice President	Mr. John K. Thomas	(516) 326-8693
Secretary	Mr. Sunil Varghese	(914) 433-7980
Treasurer	Mr. K.O. Abraham	(914) 964-0308
Accountant	Mr. Benny Mathew	(914) 378-8028
Lay Leader (Mal)	Mr. A.V. George	(914) 969-4040
Lay Leader (Eng)	Mr. Jesse Samuel	(845) 553-5374
Sabha Mandalam	Mr. Chacko P. Thomas	(347) 810-8733
Diocesan Assembly	Mr. Reny Samuel	(845) 362-3802
Edavaka Mission	Mr. Binu Daniel	(914) 346-8548
Sevika Sanghom	Mrs. Mariamma Varughese	(845) 680-6537
Yuvajana Sakhyam	Dr. Priji Joseph	(914) 346-8445
Youth Fellowship	Ms. Akhila Reny	(845) 367-1862
Sunday School	Dr. Jenny Mathews	(914) 937-7159
Choir	Mr. Jacob K. Philip	(914) 525-7191
Prayer Group Area 1	Mr. George John Chalunkal	(914) 968-6101
Prayer Group Area 2	Mr. A.V. Varghese	(914) 937-6519
Auditor 1	Mrs. Tessy Cheriyan	(914) 361-1372
Auditor 2	Mr. George John	(516) 359-9786

VICAR'S MESSAGE

THE BLESSINGS OF A WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY

" Better is one day in Your Courts, than a thousand elsewhere"
-(Psalms:84:10)

Dear Believers in Christ ,

As God's children , it is our natural desire to praise, honor and worship God for everything that He does for us in our lives. This is highlighted in Psalm 84, as the Psalmist 'yearns' and even 'faints' for the courts of the Lord. We want to praise and worship the Lord God for being our creator , our sustainer and our provider. He is giving us comfort, guidance and strength in all the situations we experience in our lives. Psalms 84 reminds us what a true blessing it is to worship our Lord and to be in His presence, especially in a worshipping community. Why we wouldn't want to experience this blessing?

"Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; they are ever praising You"(Psalms -84:4) Through our words , songs and prayers we are focusing on God and submitting to Him the praise and honor. The plurality of this verse highlights the importance of the community aspect of worship. The blessings of worship are experienced when His children come together and collectively submit prayers and praise not only for what he has done in our lives as individuals , but what He has done through us a worshipping community.

" Better is one day in Your Courts, than a thousand elsewhere"(Psalms-84:10)

Out of seven days in the week, we have opportunity to come together at least one day into the house of The Lord and experience the blessings being part of a worshipping community. As the Psalmist highlighted, it is better to have the opportunity to have one day in The Lord's house than being elsewhere. How many of us really take this opportunity to be with God and worshipping community? Let us examine ourselves. This month we are celebrating our national festival Onam . This month we are also observing Sevika Sangam day and Senior Fellowship day. So let us stand for empowerment of women and concern for aged people. May God Almighty bless each one of us.

With Love and Prayer
-Sony Achen

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS TO:

Date Name

9/01 Mr. Alvin Reny
9/02 Mrs. Mariamma Varughese (Rockland)
9/02 Mr. Eapen Joseph
9/04 Mrs. Mariamma Varughese (Yonkers)
9/11 Dr. Jenny Mathews
9/13 Mr. Asish John
9/12 Ms. Faryn George

Date Name

9/22 Ms. Precious M. Thomas
9/22 Mr. Cilin Philip
9/22 Mr. John K. Thomas
9/23 Mrs. Mariamma George
9/27 Ms. Princy Eapen
9/28 Mr. K.A. Abraham

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES TO:

Date Name

9/01 Mrs. & Mr. Mathew Abraham
9/02 Mrs. & Mr. Libin George Thomas
9/08 Mrs. & Mr. Thomas K. Daniel
9/15 Mrs. & Mr. V.T. Koshy
9/16 Mrs. & Mr. Sunny Varghese
9/24 Dr. & Mr. Ginu Abraham

CONDOLENCES:

Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas (97), mother of our parish member Mr. Thomas Mathew (Bronx) was called to her heavenly abode. On behalf of our parish, we extend our sincere condolences to the bereaving family members and relatives of the departed and pray that they find the peace and comfort knowing that their loved one is now in the loving hands of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

YOUTH CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

“Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I tell you? I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them. That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house.” Luke 16:46-49

All of us are builders, each day we are building our lives, and we are also involved in building the lives of our families and friends. Building our lives on Jesus is like building our lives on a rock. It takes time and effort. But we need to understand that in every life there will come storms. There will come trials and tribulations. There will be difficulties and hardships.

Jesus never promised an easy life to his followers. He was very honest to his followers and told them that “I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!” John 16:33 (NRSV). Because Jesus overcame the world, through him, we too can overcome the world and any trials and tribulations.

Jesus does not describe any difference between the skills and resources of the two builders. The only difference is where each one chose to build their house. The person who built a house on the ground without a foundation was shortsighted and foolish. His concern seemed to be on the present and on getting the house built quickly. He was able to build his house quicker and easier, but without the necessary foundation, he lost everything in the storm.

Dearly beloved in Christ, as many of our children are starting a new academic year, we need to uphold them in prayers. They will face many challenges and temptations. They may be tempted to take the “the gate (that) is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, (Matthew 7:12)” because others are doing it. We have to pray that God grant them the Grace to take “the gate (that) is narrow and the road (that) is hard” because this is the road that leads to life, “and there are few who find it. (Matthew 7:13)” We have to pray that they build their lives on the Rock, that they build their lives on Jesus and obey his word.

Rev. Shibi Abraham

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Time</u>
9/03	Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)	10:30 am
9/10	Holy Communion Service (English)	10:30 am
9/17	Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)	10:30 am
9/24	Holy Communion Service (English)	10:30 am

LECTIONARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lessons</u>	<u>Epistle/Gospel</u>
9/03	Prov. 8: 1-12 Acts 8: 26-38	Col. 1: 24-29 Mark 11: 15-18
9/10	Num. 27: 1-11 Acts 16: 11-15	Rom. 16: 1-16 John 4: 23-30
9/17	Isa. 40: 21-31 Eph. 6: 1-9	1Tim. 5: 1-10 Luke 2: 25-38
9/24	Dan. 1: 1-21 Acts 10: 9-16	1 Pet. 2: 1-10 Matt. 5: 13-16

Program & Meetings

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Venue/Residence</u>
Area 1 <i>and</i> Edavaka Mission Prayer Meeting (<i>combined</i>)	Sunday Sept. 3 6:30 pm	Mrs. & Mr. Jacob Mathew Sr. 1 Via Trenta Ct Yonkers, NY (914) 961-0323
Area 1 <i>and</i> Edavaka Mission Prayer Meeting (<i>combined</i>)	Sunday Sept. 17 6:30 pm	Mrs. & Mr. Sunny Varghese 64 Hearthstone Rd. Yonkers, NY 10710 (914) 961-7464
Area 1 <i>and</i> Edavaka Mission Prayer meeting (<i>combined</i>)	Saturday Sept. 23 7:00 pm	Mrs. & Mr. Abraham Kuriyan 859 Palisade Ave, Apt. 1E Yonkers, NY 10703 (914) 652-7553
Area 2 <i>and</i> Edavaka Mission Prayer Meeting (<i>combined</i>)	Saturday Sept. 30 7:00 pm	Mrs. & Mr. Mathew Abraham 68 Croton Ave, Apt. A4 Ossining, NY 10562 (914) 923-9768
Sevika Sangham Prayer Meeting	Friday Sept. 8 10:30 am	Mrs. Sosamma Thomas 61 Davenport Rd. Yonkers, NY 10710 (914) 961-8621
Youth Fellowship Prayer Meeting	Friday Sept. 22 7:00 pm	Mr. Sherin Abraham 859 Palisade Ave, Apt. 2 Yonkers, NY 10703 (914) 433-7133

Program & Meetings *(continued)*

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Venue/Residence</u>
Sevika Sangham Day Onam Sadya	Sunday Sept. 3	St. Andrews MTC Yonkers, NY
Senior Citizen Fellowship Day	Sunday Sept. 17	St. Andrews MTC Yonkers, NY
Mar Thoma Voluntary Evangelist Association N.E. Regional Meeting	Saturday Sept. 23 9:00 am	Ebenezer MTC Port Chester, NY

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish Convention

October 6-8, 2017

Main Speaker : Mr. C.J. Thomas (Punalur)

Apple Picking Day

Saturday October 7

Organized by Senior Citizen Fellowship

******* Reminder *******

****SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL RE-START ON SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 10 ****