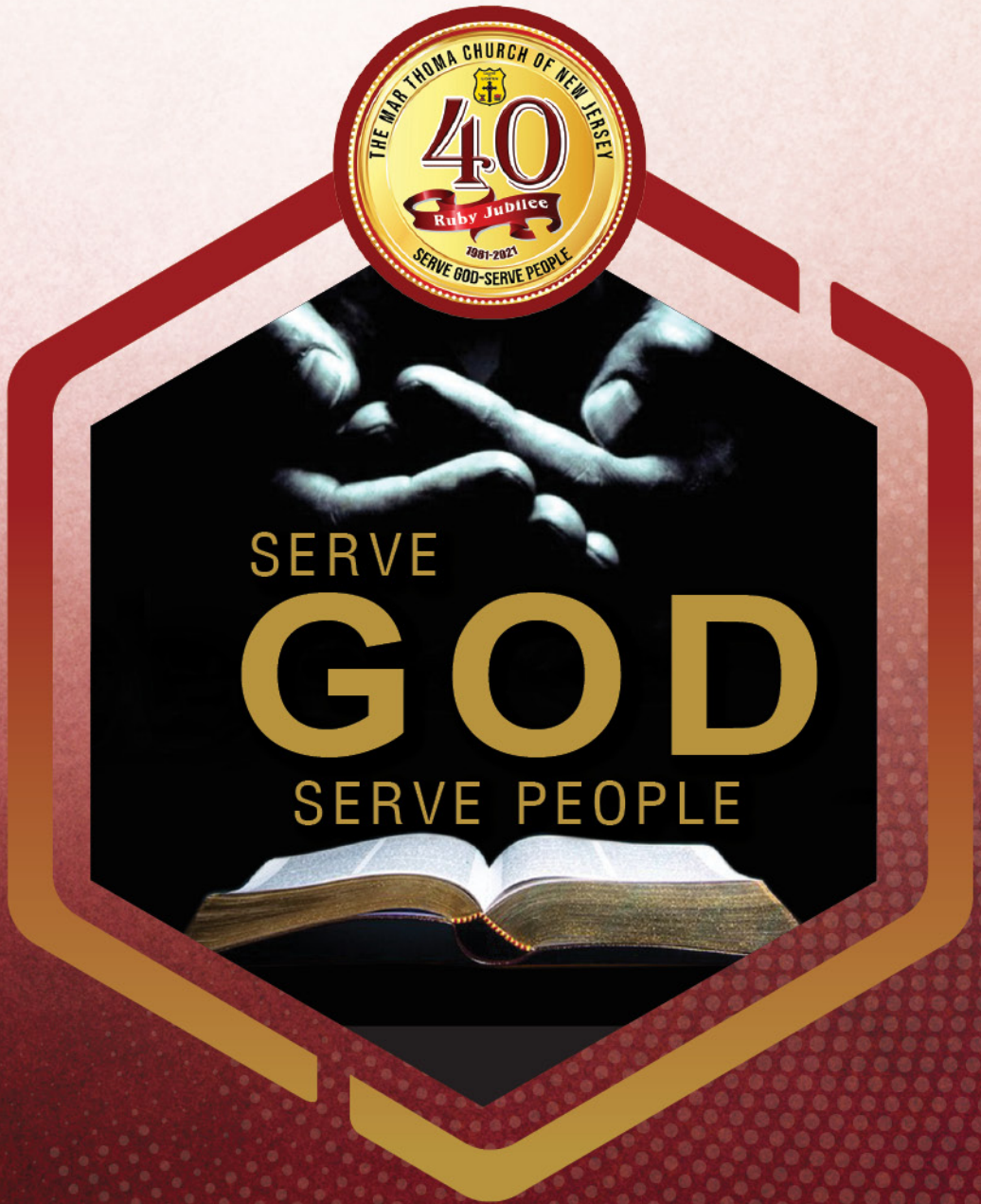
LIGHTED TO LIGHTEN

THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF NEW JERSEY



RUBY JUBILEE

CELEBRATION



"Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled" - Luke 14:23

We are immensely grateful for our Church Pioneers:

C. Thomas
Chacko Mathew
Easo Daniel
K. K. Zachariah
Mammen Thomas
Mathew John
Ravi Alexander

A. Abraham
Andrew Pappachen
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THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF NEW JERSEY



RUBY JUBILEE

CELEBRATION



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THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF NEW JERSEY

790 Route 10 West Randolph 07869

www.njmarthoma.org

Disclaimer: View published in the Ruby Jubilee Souvenir are solely the view of the Authors.

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HIS GRACE THE MOST REV. DR. THEODOSIUS

MAR THOMA METROPOLITAN

SUFFRAGAN METROPOLITANS

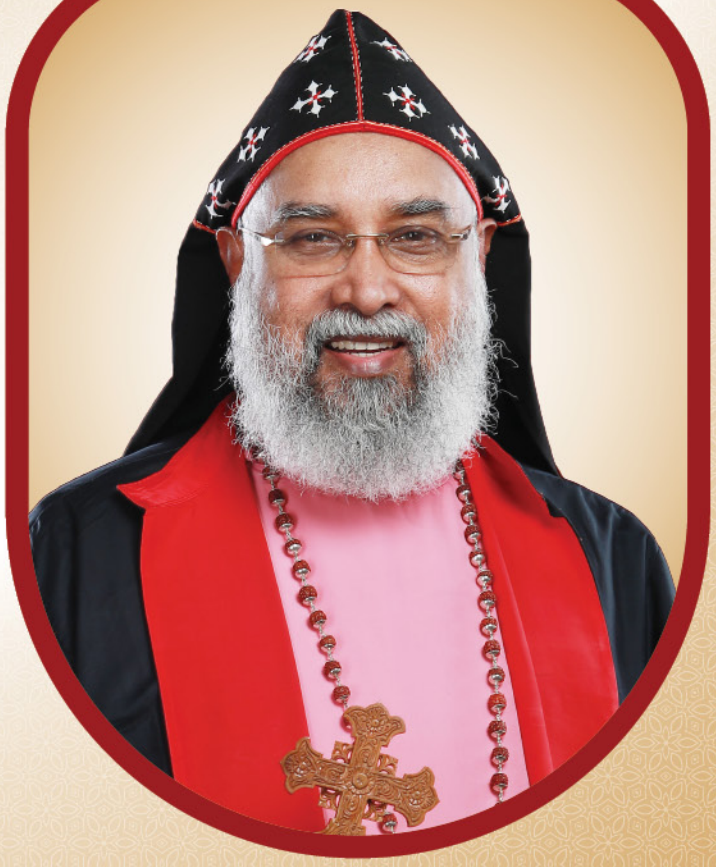


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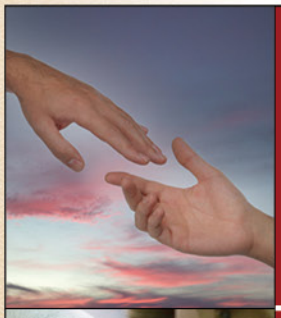


Rt. Rev. Dr. Gregorios Mar Stephanos
Episcopa



Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos
Episcopa

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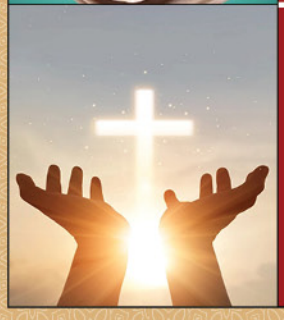
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Township of Randolph

Proclamation

MAR THOMA CHURCH OF NEW JERSEY

40th "RUBY" ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, the Mar Thoma Church, located at 790 Route 10 in Randolph, New Jersey, is a reformed Christian denomination originally established in Kerala, India, in approximately the year 52 AD when a disciple of Jesus Christ, Saint Thomas, visited the area; and

WHEREAS, the Mar Thoma Church was founded in New Jersey in 1981 and, since it was the first of the four Mar Thoma congregations established in the State, was privileged to retain the name "The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey is made up of a congregation of people united by their culture, faith, and the love of Jesus Christ, and has been blessed to grow with every passing year into a fellowship of diverse multigenerational believers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Marie Potter, Mayor of Randolph Township, Morris County, New Jersey, on behalf of the Randolph Township Council and our residents, do hereby recognize and celebrate the 40 Year "Ruby Anniversary of the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey.

1/6/2022
Date

Marie Potter
Marie Potter, Mayor





പത്രാധിപ കുറിപ്പ്..

മനുഷ്യ ഗണത്തിൽ നല്ലൊരു പങ്കാളുകളും ചരിത്ര മ്പേഷകരാണെന്ന് പൊതുവെ ഒരു ധാരണ ഉണ്ട്. അത് ഏറെക്കുറെ ശരിയാണെന്ന വാദഗതിയിൽ ഉറച്ചു നിൽക്കുന്നതാണ് ഉത്തമം. കാലഘട്ടത്തിന്റെ വലിപ്പ ച്ചെറുപ്പം എന്തുമാകട്ടെ, അവിടെയൊക്കെയും ഓരോ സംഭവങ്ങളുടെ ഓർമ്മകൾ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കും. മനുഷ്യ രാശിയുടെ ചരിത്രം തന്നെ ഓർമ്മകളുടെ ഏടുക ളിൽ നിന്ന് പുറപ്പെട്ട് പിൽക്കാലത്തു ആധികാരിക ഭാവം നൽകി രേഖപ്പെടുത്തിയതാണല്ലോ. പക്ഷെ, അതിൽ പലതും സന്തോഷവും, ദുഃഖവും, വേദനയും ഒക്കെ ഇടകലർന്നതാകാം.

നാല്പതാണ്ടുകൾക്കപ്പുറത്തുണ്ടായ ഒത്തുചേരലിന്റെയും, പരിശ്രമത്തിന്റെയും, വിയർപ്പിന്റെയും ഓർമ്മകൾ ഉണർത്തുന്നതാണ് ന്യു ജേഴ്സിമാർത്തോമ്മാ ഇടവകയുടെ ചരിത്രാരംഭം.ഒരുദുഃഖം എടുത്തു പറയട്ടെ: ഒപ്പമുണ്ടായി രുന്ന പലരും കാലയവനികയ്ക്കപ്പുറമെത്തി. ഏതാനും പേർ വാർദ്ധ്യകത്തിലും രോഗാവസ്ഥയിലും ഇരുന്നു കൊണ്ട് ഓർമ്മകൾ അയവിറക്കുന്നു. നാല്പതാണ്ടുകൾ പിന്നിടുമ്പോൾ ഇന്ന് നമ്മുടെ മുൻപിൽ തെളിഞ്ഞു നിൽക്കുന്ന ചിലചോദ്യങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ട്....

- നാളിതുവരെയ്ക്കും നാം എന്ത് നേടി?
- ഇപ്പോൾ നാം എവിടെ എത്തി നിൽക്കുന്നു?
- നാളെയെ കുറിച്ച് നമ്മുടെ വിചാരങ്ങൾ, പ്രതീക്ഷകൾ എന്താണ്?

ഇത്തരുണത്തിൽ ഒരു സ്മരണിക പ്രസിദ്ധികരി ക്കുന്നത് തികച്ചും ഉചിതമെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. ഇതിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനത്തിൽ സഹകരിച്ച്, സഹായിച്ച ഏവരെയും ഹൃദയംഗമായി നമിച്ച് കടപ്പാട് അറിയി ക്കുന്നു. എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് കമ്മിറ്റി , ജൂബിലി കമ്മിറ്റികൾ എന്നിവരുടെ വിവിധ സഹായങ്ങൾക്ക് നന്ദി അറിയിക്കുന്നു.

ആശംസകൾ, ലേഖനങ്ങൾ, ചിത്രരചനകൾ, പരസ്യങ്ങൾ എന്നിവ നൽകി സഹായിച്ചവർക്കും അളവറ്റ നന്ദി. പത്രാധിപ സമിതിയിൽ പ്രവർത്തിച്ച് ഈ യജ്ഞം വിജയമാക്കി തീർത്ത ബഹു. സാം റ്റി. മാത്യു അച്ചൻ, ശ്രീമതി ജീന ജേക്കബ്, ശ്രീമതി ഷീല കോശി, ശ്രീ തോമസ് മുല്ലശേരിൽ, കൺവീനർ ശ്രീ ബൈജു വർഗീസ് എന്നിവരോടുള്ള നിസ്സീമമായ നന്ദി അറിയിക്കുന്നു.

ന്യു ജേഴ്സി മാർത്തോമ്മാ ഇടവകയുടെ ചരിത്രവും, പ്രവർത്തനവും നമ്മുടെ ഓരോരുത്തരുടെയും മനസ്സിൽ അണയാ ദീപമായി തെളിഞ്ഞു നിൽക്കട്ടെ!

ആശംസകളോടെ,

അലക്സ് ജോർജ്

ചീഫ് എഡിറ്റർ.

MESSAGE



State of New Jersey, Office of The Governor
P.O. Box 001 - Trenton, 08625, (609) 292- 6000

GOVERNOR
PHILIP D. MURPHY
January 15, 2022

Dear Friends,

It is my honor to recognize the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey in commemoration of the Church's 40th Anniversary.

For nearly half a century, the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey has stood as a pillar of strength, comfort, and inspiration for parishioners and its surrounding community. Through sound leadership, multi generational fellowship, and worship, the Mar Thoma continues to serve as a staple of the West Randolph community.

As Governor, I commend the church's ministries and members present, past, and future for their unwavering commitment to their faith and those whom they serve, and I commend your congregation's commitment to faithfully enriching your community. This year's theme "Serve God- Serve People" memorializes your success as you continue to develop diversity within your collective culture and faith.

Congratulations on this wonderful milestone and best wishes to all for a memorable anniversary.

My very best,

Philip D. Murphy
Governor

MESSAGE



Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

Dr. Theodosius Mar Thoma Metropolitan

POOLATHEEN, THIRUVALLA P.O
PATHANAMTHITTA DIST. KERALA - 689 101, INDIA

I am happy that the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey, Randolph is publishing a Souvenir on the occasion of its Ruby Jubilee celebration in 2022. I appreciate the Vicar, Office bearers and the members of the Parish for the dynamic and witnessing involvement in the ministry and mission of the Church.

Church, the body of Christ, is called not to be static but to be dynamic and growing. Ruby Jubilee is a time to thank God for his grace and faithfulness in the life and ministry of the parish for the last four decades. The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey is one of the four parishes formed in 1981 from the Mar Thoma Congregation of Greater New York and became the first Mar Thoma parish in the State of New Jersey. From a small beginning God has guided and nurtured the parish in its spiritual and infrastructural growth. I hope and pray that the mission oriented Ruby Jubilee programmes like sponsoring 40 children for the Light to life project and other charitable and development activities will give an added momentum for the parish to move further in its journey with Christ.

You have selected a theme, **"Serve God - Serve People".** This is very relevant for the contemporary world . Jesus said, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me' (Mathew 25:40). Jubilee affirms renewal of relationship with God, human being and with land and nature. It includes various re-structuring of community relationship according to the divine commandments . This was a redemptive movement for the restoration of community. Our presence in the local community should bring in the love of God revealed in and through Jesus Christ. We experience that through our community living. Christian Mission is a life lived in response to God's purpose for us and for all his creations. The Cross reminds us of the great sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

I wish the Ruby Jubilee Celebration and the publication of the Souvenir all success.

Prayerful regards,
Yours in Christ's Ministry

Dr. Theodosius Mar Thoma Metropolitan
December 15, 2022



MESSAGE

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

OORSALEM ARAMANA, SUB STATION ROAD,
PRASANTHI NAGAR, KIZHAKKEKARA, KOTTARAKARA – 691506

Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilose
Suffragan Metropolitan

Dear Achen and Members,

I am happy to know that the Mar Thoma Church, N.J. is celebrating its Ruby Jubilee. For the past forty years God has been guiding and using this community for the expansion of His Kingdom. I praise God for his kindness shown to us, all these years. I am also grateful to the almighty God for the pioneers who came over here and founded the church. Where ever God has sent His people, they worshiped Him there by establishing churches and taking care of the community around them. The Mar Thoma Church has expanded mostly by initiative taken by lay leaders. We may be small in number but the magnitude of the impact we have had on the society is immense.

I appreciate members of the Mar Thoma Church N.J. for the initiatives to begin a project as the mark of the Ruby Jubilee Celebration. Sponsoring 40 children through the diocesan project "Light to Life" for a period of five years is a noble one. To participate in Light to Life project is definitely a mark of addressing the need of the less privileged children who have been denied their primary educational needs. By doing this ministry you are working along with Jesus for the liberation of such children. Jesus Said to His disciples: "Let the little Children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belong to such as these" (Matt: 19:14).

I congratulate the parishioners for making your Ruby Jubilee a memorable one by extending your helping hands to the less privileged. "The king will reply I tell you the truth, whatever, you did for the one of the least of these brothers of mine you did for me" (Matt. 25:40). By catering the needs of the people around us, we are imitating Christ.

May the Almighty God bless you and all your initiatives.

With warm greeting and prayers

Euyakim Mar Coorilose
Suffragan Metropolitan
December 23rd, 2021

MESSAGE



Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

Rt. Rev. Joseph Mar Barnabas
Suffragan Metropolitan

J.M.M MAR THOMA CENTRE, MAR THOMA CENTER,
MANNANTHALA P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 015

Greetings to all members of the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey

I am so happy to know that the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey is celebrating Jubilee of her existence in the United States of America. Along with all members of the parish, I too thank our Lord for all the blessings showered upon the parish for the last years. I thankfully remember the leadership efforts and dedicated work of the pioneer members to the community. As you celebrate the mile stone of the years of your existence, I wish the parish all blessings . As the theme of the Ruby Jubilee highlights; it is truly a faith journey of the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey in 'Serve God- Serve People ' and our Lord was merciful to our generations in this journey. As the parish celebrated the memory of these forty years, let us remember the faithfulness of our lord in this journey and humble before our Lord. Be strong in your faith in Lord Jesus Christ and uphold the values and heritage of the Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian church. Follow the good values and practices you received from your parents. Encourage youngsters to join the ministry of the church. Show your religion and faith through action to your neighborhood.

Praying for the success of Ruby Jubilee projects.
Yours in Christ's Service

Rt. Rev. Joseph Mar Barnabas
Suffragan Metropolitan

December 26, 2021



MESSAGE

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

OLIVET ARAMANA,
THITTAMEL, CHENGANNUR - INDIA

Rt. Rev. Thomas Mar Timotheos Episcopa

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Glad to note that The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey is planning to publish a souvenir on the occasion of Ruby Jubilee of the faith journey. Let us thank Almighty who guided, rejuvenated and built out a generation in relation to God, Church and society. I take time to congratulate Rev. Sam T. Mathew and all the office bearers who are toiling hard for the fulfilment of the magazine and also for the programmes which are planned for the occasion.

Anniversaries commemorate the values of togetherness and love. This year must be a time to recollect the memories and hardship of the people who toiled hard for the growth and upliftment of the church. Jubilee journey is the time where we see ourselves in relation to Christ. I am very happy to note this year's theme as 'Serve God-Serve People'.

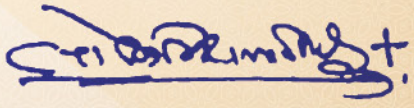
Church is a liturgical community. Servitude is the mission. As a liturgical community we are responsible to build a generation with social commitment who have a positive attitude towards the least, last and the lost. This is a time to restructure our own optic towards God, Church and society. As we celebrate Christmas these days, the message that we must give to the world is that we have a God who resides with the ground reality of human affairs.

At times of sorrow and voidness we must look towards our God who may lead us to green pastures.

As our motto of our Church is Lighted to Lighten, I am happy to note that the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey is lending hands to sponsor the children who are the beneficiaries of the Light to Life Project of the Diocese. We must enlive our faith in God through practice of faith. Extending our eyes to the needy and suffering, lending our arms to the weak and meek, outspreading our faith to all the world, thereby engraving Christ name inn each and every creation.

May the Triune God help us to bear Christ and to spread the light to the whole world through our words and deeds.

My prayers and best wishes.



Rt. Rev. Thomas Mar Timotheos Episcopa

December 18th, 2021.

MESSAGE



Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos

SINAI MAR THOMA CENTER
2320 S. MERRICK AVENUE, MERRICK, NY 11566

Dearly Beloved,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

I am glad that the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey, Randolph, is celebrating its Ruby Jubilee and a souvenir is being published to mark this blessed occasion. I congratulate the Vicar, the Executive Committee members, and all parishioners for the programs being arranged during the jubilee year to thank God for His manifold blessings showered upon the parish in its faith journey during the last 40 years.

Ruby Jubilee is a time to thank God for His grace and faithfulness in the life and ministry of the parish and especially for providing the resources to serve the community for four decades. The Church, as the body of Christ, is called to be a dynamic community that is committed to being the light of Christ to the world around, especially to the neighboring community. From its very inception, God has guided and nurtured the parish in its spiritual and infrastructural growth. I hope and pray that the Jubilee celebrations will widen our vision further and give an added momentum to the parish to move forward in faith, responding to the needs of the marginalized and the poor, inspired by the love of Christ.

For the people of Israel, Jubilee was a redemptive movement for the restoration of the community. May our presence in the local community spread the love of God revealed in and through Jesus Christ. May the Jubilee celebrations of the parish help us to renew our commitment as Christians to live a life worthy of God's calling and election.

I wish and pray that God may continue to strengthen the parish to be the light that gives new hope and renewed vision to those who are without hope and who wander in darkness.

May the blessing of God be with us all.

From the Sinai Mar Thoma Center, New York.

Yours in His Ministry,



Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos
January 27th, 2021.



MESSAGE

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

HERMON ARAMANA
ADOOR - 691 523, KERALA, INDIA

Rt. Rev. Dr. Abraham Mar Paulos Episcopa

Greetings from the Adoor and
Kottayam-Kochi Dioceses!

I am very happy that the Randolph Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey is celebrating 40 years of blessed ministry in the Diocese of North America and Europe. I appreciate your effort to publish a Ruby Souvenir to celebrate and thank God for the wonders of his love and to mark the highlights of your spiritual journey as a faith community. I appreciate all the humble efforts of the pioneers and their sincere and hard work in the early stages of the formation of the parish. The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey family is a diaspora community. Parish has preserved our Christian identity and helped our generations to be groomed in the faith of the Mar Thoma Church and her traditions. We remember and thank God for all the Bishops and Achens for their timely interventions and creative leadership at different crossroads of our history.

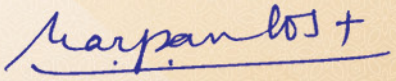
The church has only one mission that is to herald the reign of God into all life situations. We are called to be 'the light of the world' and 'the salt of the earth'. We have to be a 'sign and sacrament of the Kingdom of God'. There is no short-cut! It is hard work and we have to become his disciples and in turn 'apostles' to preach the message of the Kingdom of God to the ends of the earth. Jesus came into this world as a human being. God's love for this world was demonstrated through the establishment of the Kingdom of God. The 'new heaven and new earth' is a place of freedom, justice and peace. This love is so rampant and so contagious that the Son of God has offered himself on the Cross for the salvation of all creation. The world in which we live in today is waiting in earnest to hear the good news of the coming reign of God. We see and hear signs of death and decay from all corners. Peoples and nations are in distress and disarray during this pandemic. Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will bring 'release to the captives, freedom to the oppressed and preach the year of the Lord?"

Let us remind ourselves that we are all missionaries of the Mar Thoma Church in this part of the world. Let us invest our time and energy to spread the message of the Gospel in our neighborhoods and all over the land. This mission mandate cannot be overlooked or ignored. I challenge all our members, especially the young people of our church to'rise up and build and to hasten the coming of the Kingdom.

May God who "called us out of darkness to His marvelous light" lead and guide all of you to do his will and make 'heaven on earth'. My best wishes and prayers for the Ruby Jubilee year projects and celebrations.

With blessings and prayers

Yours in Christ's service



Dr. Abraham Mar Paulos Episcopa

December 22nd, 2021.

MESSAGE



Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

Rt. Rev. Dr. Mathews Mar Makarios Episcopa

MAR THOMA BHAVAN, NO. 77, 6TH AVENUE,
HARRINGTON ROAD, CHETPET, CHENNAI, INDIA

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

I am happy to note that The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey is celebrating the 40th Anniversary of its faith journey and publishing a souvenir to commemorate the Ruby Jubilee Year with a theme "Serve God – Serve People".

"Ecclesia" is a Greek word, meaning "gathering of those summoned", or "those called out" and is understood as "Church" or "Assembly", especially a religious congregation. A better translation of "Ecclesia" would be "community". Hence, "Ecclesia" is a community of chosen people for a specific purpose.

The Church or Ecclesia is not just a religious congregation, but also a fulcrum of their fellowship life and diaconal intervention in society. Being part of the Church thus enables a person to have kingdom experience and also empowers him/her to give meaning and direction to the life of any person with whom he/she associates. In the social milieu, the Church has been a strong influence in defining how society sees itself and its responsibilities, especially for those living on the margins of society. It has always stood as a counter force against those powers that dehumanize the society and has forever strived for creating a culture of love where peace and harmony dwell among human beings and also the rest of creation.

God has placed us in various parts of the world to be a blessing in the land. As we evaluate, let us ask ourselves what qualitative difference our presence makes in the society especially in the propagation of values, sharing and ecumenical relations as a whole in our Christian witness around. Let us rededicate ourselves for a more meaningful presence as a faith community in and around our society. I congratulate the vicar, the members of the souvenir committee and the members of The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey for the efforts being put in and also convey my best wishes for the Ruby Jubilee Year Celebrations and all programs and events planned.

With prayerful regards,
Yours in Christ's Ministry

Makarios †

Rt. Rev. Dr. Mathews Mar Makarios Episcopa

January 12, 2021



MESSAGE

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

EPISCOPAL JUBILEE INSTITUTE KOMPADY,
MANJADI (P.O.), PATHANAMTHITTA (DIST.),
KERALA – 689 105.

Rt. Rev. Dr. Gregorios Mar Stephanos Episcopa

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It gives me immense joy to hear that Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey is publishing a Souvenir as part of Ruby Celebration based on the Theme "Serve God – Serve People". I am so happy that our Parish plans to sponsor 40 students for the Diocesan Project as a part of Ruby Celebration.

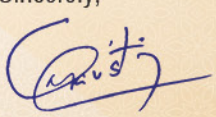
First, we must Serve God in truth, or in the way consistent with his word. Jesus came to do the will of his Father and we must do the same. Jesus said that we cannot serve two masters because we will either hate the one and love the other or we will be devoted to the one and despise the other. We cannot serve both God and money, or anything else (Matt. 6:24). We are not free to define our own terms of service, rather we have been freed that we might walk in the new way of the Spirit (Rom. 7:6). We must be faithful servants who do the will of God to the end (Matt. 24:45-50; 25:21-30). And this service must not be restricted to merely religious activity.

Second, we must Serve with unyielding determination. Serving God in this world is not easy, which explains the frequent reminders in the New Testament to serve the Lord. Jesus said, "Whoever loves his life will lose it, while whoever who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him" (John 12:25-26).

Finally - Our Service must be characterized by humility. The story of serving God is the story of His Grace. We must never think that our service in any way merits salvation. We are saved because of the perfect service of Jesus our Prophet, Priest, and King. We have no standing of our own and nothing we can do can ever put us right with God. Jesus, our Servant - Saviour, knew this better than anyone else. William Perkins says that "The main ends of our lives is to Serve God in the Serving of men in the works of our callings". Let us transform us by equipping ourselves with Almighty God to Serve Humanity.

Let our worship, fellowship and mission bring new meanings in our life and in the society around us. I congratulate the Vicar, Members of the Executive Committee, Souvenir Committee and the Faith community for publishing this Souvenir to mark this occasion as a blessed one. Let us pray that as we function as the Body of Christ, may we bring the love and the good news of His Kingdom around us and where our Almighty God has called us to serve

With Regards and Prayers
Yours Sincerely,



Rt. Rev. Dr. Gregorios Mar Stephanos Episcopa

December 15, 2021.

MESSAGE



Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos Episcopa

MAR THOMA CENTRE, MAKKADA P.O.,
CHELAPRAM, KOZHIKODE, KERALA-673 611

Greetings from the Mar Thoma Centre Kozhikode,

Happy to know that The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey is celebrating its Ruby Jubilee this year. This marks a historic moment in the life and history of the parish. The enthusiasm and exuberance of your parish is commendable. The light which our forefathers had lit several years ago is still shining.

This is the time to remember very fondly and gratefully those fabulous pioneers who had been instrumental in shaping this great parish. The legacy of this blessed parish has been built and nurtured over the last forty years by the toil of several vicars and above all, loyal and zealous parishioners who have been committed to live up to our motto 'Lighted to Lighten'. The forty years of The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey is a journey of faith, hope and loving service to generations of believers and people in the city of New Jersey.

On this auspicious and special occasion, I thank God for His constant guidance for the last forty years.

We have the mission to keep the torch burning and fulfill the mission of reaching out to others by spreading the light of the life-giving gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ across the city. Future generations should be equipped to accept the baton and keep the fire of love, commitment and selfless service in forming a faith community, burning.

I pray for God's blessings as you plan the different projects to mark the Ruby Jubilee Celebration.

May the Lord Bless you all.

Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos Episcopa

December, 12, 2021



Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

DIOCESAN SECRETARY

SINAI MAR THOMA CENTER
2320 S. MERRICK AVENUE MERRICK, NY 11566

Dearly beloved in Christ

I am extremely delighted to note that Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey, Randolph is celebrating its Ruby Jubilee and a souvenir is being published. I congratulate the Vicar in Charge, the Executive Committee Members and the members of the parish for their enormous effort in organizing the Jubilee Celebration.

Christ is our Compass and it demands a different life style. Let us follow the footsteps of Christ to bring glory and honor to our Masters name. Let our parish involvement be a time for careful listening, a time to open our hearts, a time to respond to the Gospel and to initiate a journeying with Christ.

It is the time to thank God for his grace and faithfulness in the life and ministry of the parish and especially for providing the resources to serve the community for the last four decades. Church, the body of Christ, is called to be dynamic and growing and to show the light of Christ to the world around. From a small beginning God has guided and nurtured the parish in its spiritual and infrastructural growth. I hope and pray that the Ruby Jubilee celebrations will widen our vision further and give an added momentum for the parish to move forward, responding to the needs of the marginalized and the poor, inspired by the love of Christ.

I Thank God for the visionary leadership of all the former achens who served the parishes last years and I wish all the best to the vicar to lead and guide the parish.

May I sincerely congratulate you on this special day of your parish day.

Prayerful regards

Rev. Aju Abraham
Diocesan / Bishop's Secretary

Message

General Convenor



ALEX MATHEW

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of God rises up on you" (Isaiah.60:1)

Greetings to all the parish members of The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey, in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It is a matter of immense joy that our parish has entered its Ruby Jubilee Year. As a community of believers, we are thankful to God for His manifold blessings, showered upon us, over the years.

Babylon held many of the Jewish people in captivity, deported them from their homeland and dear ones. It was a dark time where hopelessness covered as dark clouds over God's people. But through a prophecy, Isaiah brings a word of hope to a despairing people. It is a word of promise that "light" is coming. And that light of which Isaiah speaks of, is the very presence of God that the children of God have forgotten.

We also live in an age of stress and strain, and we confront various challenges in our daily life. Some of them may even raise questions about our faith and hope. The words of Isaiah to Israel "come forth and be light" will have the same meaning and relevance to the Christian Church today. We too are called to arise and shine! We too are called to come forth and be the light! When we do that, we are truly becoming the church Jesus wants us to be!

As we celebrate Ruby Jubilee this year, we remember all our elders - especially the pioneering members of our parish for their hard work to secure a place of worship for us. We are thankful to all the Vicars who served in our parish. We extend our appreciation and sincere thanks to Rev. Sam T. Mathew for his leadership and guidance during this Ruby Jubilee Year. I am also grateful to all the subcommittee conveners and members who worked hard to make this a meaningful and memorable celebration. We appreciate the dedication and sincere efforts of all the volunteers who worked behind the scenes.

The Souvenir, being brought out on the occasion, captures the magnificent moments in the faith journey of our parish. Over the last 40 years of our parish, two events that always evoked fond memories include the Family Conference and the Yuvajana Sakhyam Conference - both held under the leadership of our parish in 1988 and 2011, respectively.

I hope and pray that our Ruby Jubilee celebration will be an enriching experience for us to embrace the words of Isaiah - "Arise, Shine" to carry our rich legacy forward as a worshiping community. May we also be challenged to work together diligently as a witnessing community to expand His kingdom in the years to come.

May God bless us all,
With Prayerful Regards,

Alex Mathew
General Convenor



Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

VICAR IN CHARGE

MAR THOMA CHURCH OF NEW JERSEY

Dearly beloved in Christ,

It is my joy and pleasure to pen a few words in our Souvenir at the time of the 40th year celebration of the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey. I am appreciating the Ruby Jubilee Committee & Souvenir Committee for their studious work behind the venture.

When we look back into the history of our church, It was established on April 5, 1981 as per the Kalpana of Late. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Metropolitan. Its been the parent parish of all Mar Thoma churches in New Jersey and is proudly called The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey ever since. Let us express our gratitude towards God for the infinite blessings showered upon us as a faith community to enrich our spiritual fellowships and personal relationships. Thank God for the pastoral care through vicars and youth chaplains appointed by our dioceses from time to time. Our diocesian bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Episcopa has been bolstering us through visits, messages, advice and timely directions. When the church faced a problem of a resident vicar, Thirumeni appointed me with additional responsibility of our church apart from St. Peter's M.T.C., New Jersey. Then the General Body concluded on 22nd August, 2021 proposed to have a Ruby Jubilee celebration this year and decided to organize the Jubilee Committee and its sub committees. All the committees worked together to commemorate this as a remarkable event in the history of our church. The highlight of the celebration is, as a part of the Jubilee, the church has decided to sponsor 40 children of the 'Light to Life' project of our diocese for 5 years. I appreciate and express my gratitude to all the sponsors for taking the responsibility of this project.

Let us glorify his name for the wonderful ways which we passed through and the 40th year. The world faced a large pandemic and God protected us through His merciful ways. We will have many more years to be witness of Jesus Christ from generation to generation without losing our church's tradition and heritage. As a Mar Thoma community, we need to bear fruits for his kingdom. Let us remember the hard work of our old generation who are not with us since the formation of our community and all those who lead us today. I hope and wish The Mar Thoma church of New Jersey will be a blessing to the community around us. May our good God help us to celebrate the Ruby Jubilee with a new vision and mission. Once again, let me appreciate all the parishioners, Executive committee, Jubilee committee, especially for the dedicated work of the Souvenir committee.

With all good wishes and prayers. Yours in His service

Rev. Sam T. Mathew

Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church



REDEEMER MAR THOMA CHURCH

136 WYCKOFF AVE. WALDWICK NJ 07463

"To say that I am made in the image of God is to say that love is the reason for my existence, for God is love. Love is my true identity. Selflessness is my true self. Love is my true character. Love is my name.

- Thomas Merton

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Praise the Lord!

It gives me immense joy to greet you all in the name of our living and loving Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey celebrates its 40th anniversary as a parish.

The journey towards this milestone is no small feat; it is a testament of God's faithfulness and grace that has sustained this community of faith. The parish has been witness to the stories of many, stories of joy, struggle, pain and victory. It has been a haven for the distressed and a vehicle of faith for many in their pursuit for meaning and God. The story of this parish is that of a love that binds people to each other in a relationship that transcends familial ties. It is a very beautiful story and what is more amazing is that there are many more wonders ahead that are yet to be experienced.

At this juncture in the life of the parish, it is critical to remember His ways, renew our relationships and rededicate our lives for the glory of God. It calls us to pause, reflect and reform as we look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, Jesus Christ. We praise God for the pioneer families who earnestly prayed and tirelessly worked in advancing the cause of Christ in establishing this parish and encouraging its growth. We give glory to God for all the member families as they strive to fulfill God's mission. We also prayerfully look forward to next generation of faithful servant leaders who will stand up to spread His gospel amidst the challenges of the time.

YOUTH CHAPLAIN

O Church, awaken and arise! The past is great but, the future awaits! We are called to be a 21st century church in this nation, our home, the United States of America. We are not commissioned to be a missionally constrictive and ethnically exclusive community. For the church is called to "go out" to all people and witness the love of God. O Church, we have much to do and may the Holy Spirit guide our paths to truly fulfill His will in our lives, family and church. Yes, we are now 40 but, in His story we are still young and have a very long way to go!

As Youth Chaplain of the parish and on behalf of Redeemer Mar Thoma Church, New Jersey, we join with all of you in this faith celebration and pray God will continue to shower blessings upon us all. May God bless and lead the parish forward in ways that are truly awesome!

With Prayers,
Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Jaisen A. Thomas



REV. SAM T. MATHEW



REV. MATHEW VARGHESE



REV. JAISEN A. THOMAS

Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church



Wishing the very best to all the members of New Jersey Mar Thoma Church as it is entering it's Ruby Jubilee. Thanking Almighty Lord for blessing our Church for the past 40 years.

Let us remember our parents who provided leadership during the formation of the parish. Let us be grateful to them.

Let us pray for the present generation and for our Lord's immense grace to enable us to attain the completeness and fulfillment of our parents' visions.

It is through a witnessing life that we will be able to realize that the living church exists.

Paul says in his 1st epistle to Corinthians (Chapter 3: Verse 7) that: "So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow".

It's important to understand that only those who move forward with divine consciousness will reach their destination.

NEW VICAR

Let us live this short life given by God with divine thoughts.

Rather than being idle and static, let us continue our journey with the conviction that we still have a long way to go.

The beautiful and meaningful lines from Robert Frost's poem are significant here:

"The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep".

Let us continue our journey by surrendering ourselves before the Holy Grace of our Lord Savior. May God bless our parish.

Rev. Mathew Varghese Annicadu

Souvenir Editorial Board



REV. SAM T. MATHEW
VICAR IN CHARGE



BYJU VARGHESE
SOUVENIR CONVENOR



ALEX GEORGE
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SUB-EDITORS



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THOMAS MULLASSERIL



JEENA JACOB

Message

Souvenir Convenor



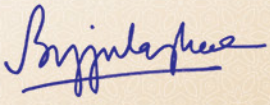
BYJU VARGHESE

Any celebration is a singular experience, the external influences fade, and we are drawn to the internal calling that resonates a lingering and resonating rhythm in the depths of our hearts. A Jubilee celebration is a momentous event in the journey of life and it's important to rejoice at attaining these milestones, to thank God for the immeasurable blessings, to rededicate ourselves and to continue the journey with love and trust.

Our Lord has blessed us to vibrantly nurture our faith for the last forty years in the state of New Jersey. I affectionately remember the founding members of our Parish. Their commitment, determination and perseverance helped to grow a worshiping community. As we read in Hebrew 13:7 "Remember your leaders who taught you the Word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives and follow the examples of their faith". God has certainly used many people in our parish to cultivate our spiritual life. Let's honor them and be grateful to God for them.

The redwood trees on the pacific coast are the tallest trees on earth and grow more than 300 feet. The interesting fact about them is that they don't have deep roots but still stay sturdy in the strong winds, weather, and storms. They can survive any calamities as the roots are intertwined with other Redwood trees extending up to 100 feet from the tree's base. The intertwining of roots with each other helps them, holding each other and greatly increasing their stability. As a diaspora community, let's humble ourselves and continue to be a strong faith community, supporting each other as we grow stable and tall. It gives me immense pleasure to be part of the Souvenir Committee and praise God for all the manifold blessings and guidance provided to implement this venture successfully. Theologian Mr. Henry Ward Beecher said, "Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul". I extend my sincere gratitude to our Vicar Rev. Sam T. Mathew and all my fellow members in the Souvenir committee that helped publish this beautiful souvenir. The souvenir committee and I express heartfelt gratitude to all the members who provided articles and felicitations for this publication. In these stressful times, I am especially humbled by the outpouring of endowment for advertisements and well wishes that enabled us to reach the monetary goal we set. Let's live to please God in every possible way. May the Almighty Lord help us to show the path forward and nurture our soul in the spirit to witness the power of the Gospel. May the lives of our forefathers, founding members and servants of God continue to inspire us as envisioned by William Carey "Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God".

May God Bless us All.



Byju Varghese
Souvenir Convenor



- Jebu Mathew

Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb”.

Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church



NO.'90, HARRINGTON ROAD,
CHETPET, CHENNAI - 600 031

VERY REV. MATHEW JOHN

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

I am pleased to know that the New Jersey Mar Thoma Church is celebrating the Ruby Jubilee anniversary, and at the outset I join with all the members of the church in praising God for this great milestone. From a humble beginning God made us to be a blessed witnessing community over the years. Forty years of togetherness enhanced our faith and love towards the Creator God, and enriched our commitment to the community at large. By being the sojourners in this land, we are called to perform a mediatory role between the Creator and the creation. This is a special privilege God has given us and we need to faithfully engage in the mundane realities.

In the wilderness journey, Israelites experienced God's presence in multiple ways. Wilderness was not a smooth road to destiny rather it was a learning ground in understanding and experiencing God's unceasing love and immeasurable protection. Jeremiah instructs the Israelites, "build houses and live in them," "plant gardens and eat what they produce,"multiply," and "pray for the welfare of the land" (Jeremiah 29: 5-7). Similarly, we being a pilgrim community, let us recognize and experience God's provisions wherever we are placed. We are called to incarnate God's mission in the places He is guiding us. We have a great responsibility to the land where we live. The New Jersey Mar Thoma church witnesses herself as a mission church through the vitalising strength of togetherness, sharing the resources and being a community of hope. I appreciate and congratulate all the generative and generous engagements of the church in the yester years, especially food for the hungry, medical mission at Hoskote, and supporting the needy with resources. I pray that may our Almighty God continue to strengthen the church to be a transformative agent and a witnessing community. Christ instructs us, "let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." In our everydaylives, we have a responsibility to fulfil, i.e., to acknowledge God's presence and be His stewards in the creation. Through this God's name will be glorified. Remember we are the residential address of our living and liberating God. I hope and pray that the celebration will energize and encourage everyone to lead a blessed Christian witness in our personal, family and community lives.

Prayers and wishes for all.
Yours in Christ,

Very Rev. Mathew John



Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

REV. SAMUEL MATHAI

NEDUNGOTTU PUTHENVEEDU
THALACHIRA P.O., KOTTARAKARA, KOLLAM, KERALA - 691 538

Greetings to you all in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

Many centuries ago, a man named Peter stood on the edge of a boat in the Sea of Galilee. Like all people who find themselves on an edge - whether physical or metaphorical - a decision had to be made. Peter's choices were either to step out onto water or remain in the boat, either to move out of his comfort zone or stay complacent in his own comfort zone. It was not an easy decision. Behind Peter were his friends. They know Peter's name in Aramaic means "rock." Rocks don't fare well on water, do they? Furthermore, the disciples thought that all throughout the Scripture, people are delivered from peril by staying in the boat: Noah stayed in the ark and Moses stayed in the basket. In fact, the only one who was tossed out of the boat was Jonah, and we know how that went. But before Peter stood the Lord. Peter's life was forever changed when Jesus first called Peter to follow him. That is what a disciple is, namely, one who follows. Since following Jesus, Peter has been on a soul-searching adventure. Peter has seen miracles that he could have hardly imagined. Now, he is being called to participate in a miracle that defies the laws of physics. What should he do? Should he step out onto the water or remain in the boat? What would you do? The life of faith is very much like this. All of us constantly find ourselves on an edge. Behind us is the past. We might not always like our past, but we have lived through it and we know what to expect. Before us is a future that we cannot predict. The temptation is to stay in the boat. But God always calls us into a future that is beyond our control and is rarely safe. As the old hymn reminds us:

Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea;
Day by day His sweet voice soundeth
Saying, "Christian, follow Me;"

Peter has a choice to make. No matter what he chooses, his life will be different. For instance, if Peter stays in the boat, nothing would have happened. Helen Keller once said, "Life is a daring adventure, or it is nothing at all." The life of faith is filled with adventure and miracles. Abraham & Sarah left their home to go to the Promised Land. David stood up to Goliath. Esther risked everything to save her people. You will never walk on water if you do not get out of the boat. Is it risky to get out of the boat? Absolutely! What happens if Peter steps out and immediately sinks? Even more risky, what happens if Peter steps onto the water and does not sink. This is the scariest prospect of all. Peter will be without excuse then. No longer will he be able to hide as an agnostic.

Marianne Williamson wrote,

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us". You playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine as God's children do. It's not just in some of us; it is in everyone. And as we let our own lights shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others. What will Peter do?

Peter takes a leap of faith and Peter walks. Peter walks on water. Peter makes it halfway to Jesus and then sinks. There is a lesson in this. Too often we think the hardest step is the first step. But that's not always true. Every step can be equally difficult, and that is why Jesus, we have. But he doesn't hesitate to call, "Lord, save me!" Notice that he doesn't call out to the disciples in the boat. He calls to Jesus. Peter knows that the very name of Jesus means "savior." Jesus left the comfort of eternity and stepped out onto the tsunami of this world in order to save us. In the waters of baptism, Jesus is there saving you. In the gathering of two or more, Jesus is there saving you. In this place, even now, Jesus is here saving you. Jesus is always here, always working, always going with you every step of the way. You never have to feel alone as you travel, even if you are sinking. Call out to Jesus. Jesus is there to save.

In Jesus Name,
Amen.

Rev. Samuel Mathai



- Jeremy Jacob



Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

REV. DR. M.C. THOMAS

DEPARTMENT OF OLD TESTAMENT STUDIES
MAR THOMA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
KOTTAYAM – 686 001

All praise and glory to God Almighty who has marvelously guided the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey in its 40 years journey of life and witness. It's indeed a matter of joy to join with the Parish in your anniversary celebrations. 40 years of journey was marked by rich memories and diverse experiences where we need to remember about ourselves that who we were and what and where we are now as a faith community in our self, identity, witness and living in a complex and incomprehensible period. It must be a time to enliven our memories because as we read in the Old Testament, God had been constantly reminding the people of ancient Israel to 'remember' that once they were in Egypt where they were least significant as 'no people' for Pharaoh but Yahweh had liberated them and had covenanted with them by making them as the people of God and set them in the promised land hoping that they will definitely be a 'light to the nations'. It's really a different question to reflect upon whether Israel succeeded in fulfilling God's intentions and purposed which is beyond the scope of this message. But as a Parish we need to consider it genuinely and seriously about our life and witness as we are in the Ruby year. As indicated, 40 years had been a time of different experiences and memories both painful and jubilant. By remembering our humble beginnings, we need to move forward with collective memories and shared goal to realize the Kingdom of God experience in our social space.

My family and myself join with you all in this glorious occasion by remembering your love, care and support that we had experienced in 2001-2003. As a research student in Drew University, I had so many limitations to spend my full time and energy to the parish. Yet the parish had understood my limitations and supported us in different capacities and we were really enriched by your love and care in our busy schedule. We do remember each and every person of the parish, your prayers, love and care. At this auspicious occasion, we as a family join with you all by wishing you God's divine grace and constant guidance and abundant blessings in your future living as well.

Yours in Him,

M.C. Thomas Achen,
Blessy Kochamma, Lydia and family
and Lynn (Sachu)

March 10, 2022

Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church



KARUMBIL HOUSE, NARANGANAM P.O.,
PATHANAMTHITTA DIST., KERALA, INDIA.

REV. DR. KOSHY MATHEW

Greetings to all in the wonderful name of our lord and savior Jesus Christ.

The ministry we did together at the New Jersey Mar Thoma Parish is still fresh and resonates in my mind. In the New Jersey area our church and parsonage buildings were environmentally beautiful. Our parish had been blessed with well qualified and robust offices holders and graceful elderly leaders

I cherish the magnificent heritage of that parish and the sensibility of my members. Me, my wife Mareen, daughter Kripa and son Abhisek join to felicitate all of you as you are preparing to celebrate the Ruby Jubilee and at the threshold of the Maha Jubilee after a decade.

These observations should enable us to chicken out the social and economic irregularities and different disasters of community life. Ruby celebration through Jubilee demands repentance and rejoicing in community life as we read in the book of Leviticus 25.

God takes control over all the areas of our life. When Zacchaeus got converted, he himself improvised his business, social and economic relationships. "Zacchaeus project" should envision us to see the sinful oppressive economic system that develops huge profits for few and poverty for many. Jubilee should enhance the religious and national leaders to calibrate our system.

I congratulate the Vicar Achan, office holders and all members of that parish.

Devotional greetings,

Koshy Mathew (Rev. Dr)



Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

REV. JOSE T. ABRAHAM

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL, E BLOCK, MASJID MOTH,
GREATER KAILASH III, NEW DELHI 110 048

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is with great pleasure that I express my sincere wishes and congratulations to all the members of the New Jersey Mar Thoma Church on the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Parish. I am glad that the Parish has initiated the release of a souvenir to commemorate the Ruby Jubilee.

Looking back, I praise God for His abundant blessings that have been showered upon the Parish for being a witness of His love, kindness, and mercy in and around New Jersey. Every celebration of a spiritual community is the acknowledgement of God's guidance and blessings received.

This is an occasion of thanksgiving. Let us thank God for his mercy in enabling us to lead a fruitful life in our faith journey.

The Church is a faith community, no one is excluded or isolated. We are dependent on another and we lead a life of co-existence. Each member is interconnected, the other is the extension of our life and we are the result of others. Our spirituality should be a journey to seek the other.

The world today has undergone a drastic change. Most of the time, we find ourselves living in the virtual world. We are in invisible prisons. Maintaining social distance, remaining isolated and working from home have become the new normal. We are missing the strong interpersonal and community fellowships. The need of the hour is to shift from being an ethnical community to being an ethical community. We should proclaim and propagate the ethics or the values of the Kingdom of God. That is, we should become a caring and compassionate community in this uncertain world. We should be sensitive and responsive to the cry of the people in agony, absorb the tears of the people in despair, and comfort people in real pain. Only then, our existence becomes purposeful, meaningful and fulfilling.

May this parish be one such community and be strengthened and cherished by the Holy Spirit. I sincerely pray for God's grace in enabling the parish to shine as Morning Star in the years to come.

Our sincere prayers and best wishes.

Joseachen & Family

Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church



KADAMMANITTA MARTHOMA CHURCH. KADAMMANITTA
PATHANAMTHITTA - 689 649. KERALA. INDIA.

I thank God Almighty for giving you this opportunity to celebrate and publish the souvenir on the occasion of the Ruby Jubilee year of The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey, Randolph.

I also thank God for all the pioneering members who had struggled and worked hard for the formation and growth of this Parish. I also like to remember with gratitude, the members who have left us and entered eternity. I still remember all the members who gladly joined in all of the Parish activities as members of the Edavaka Mission, Senior Citizen Forum, Yuvajana Sakhyam, Youth Alive, Sunday School, Sevika Sangham, and both the English and Malayalam Church choirs and thank God for their enthusiasm in lifting up the faith and traditions of our Mar Thoma Church. It is very hard to express in words the love, care and support we received from this Parish during our service in the year 2012-2015. All the Sunday worships were a blessing to us and the gatherings that followed the service energized us for the coming weeks.

REV. JACOB VARGHESE

This Ruby Jubilee year is an opportunity to remember with utmost gratitude what the Lord has done in our lives as individuals and as a community of Jesus Christ. It is also a time to move forward with confidence and renewed vision in the context of new challenges that awaits us in the future. St.John's 15:8 says that " By this my Father is glorified, that you may produce much fruit and so prove to be my disciples." I pray that the Lord Almighty will continue to shower his blessings upon you all as you enter this new era in the life of your Parish, that you may produce much fruit and so prove to be the disciples of Jesus Christ.

My family and I extend our sincere prayers and greetings to you all in this Ruby Jubilee year.

Thank you and may God bless you all!
Yours in His Vineyard,

Rev. Jacob Varghese,
Elsy Kochamma, Joel and Joan.



Message

Malankara
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

REV. PHILIP P. MATHEW

JERUSALEM MAR THOMA CHURCH, MANNARKAD,
PERUMBADARI P.O., PALAKKADU, KERALA.

We can serve God through serving people. Every Christian can be a minister not a pastor. Which means we can use our talents and gifts for serving the people. As part of the Ruby Jubilee our parish has decided to sponsor 40 children for the diocesan project "Light to Life" for five years, which is one of the beautiful ways to serve God through serving the people. I convey my wishes and prayers as the parish is celebrating the Ruby Jubilee.

In Luke chapter 10, we see Jesus selected another 70 people as his ministers and sent them out two by two to different towns where Jesus was about to go. Jesus told them a large crop is in the fields, but there are only a few workers. Ask the Lord in charge of the harvest to send out workers to bring it in.

Here we see the painful heart of Jesus towards the degenerating people of this world. All people are created in the image and likeness of our Father God. But all became corrupt and no one does right (ps. 14:3). Everyone lost their likeness of God by conforming to the evilness of this world. So, in order to change people's wicked way, God sent his only begotten son to this world. Jesus said "I am the way", which means this is the only way, this is the right way for the people to walk. Whoever walks through this way, will produce the Christian fruits, fruit of the spirit, thereby we can illuminate this world with good values. Finally, those who walk in Jesus's way will reach our Heavenly Father's house.

Jesus told them; I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. A Christian is sent to this world as a sheep not as a wolf. Wolf is attacking nature, but a sheep doesn't attack anybody. So, a Christian is sent to the world not to attack anybody, including nature, but to save the world, save the people.

Jesus lived as a sheep among wolves. The Religious people attacked Jesus during his ministerial time in this world. But Jesus never behaved as a wolf to anybody even at the time of His crucifixion, but lived as a lamb among wolves. Finally, Jesus became a Slain Lamb. Jesus became a Qurbana. If Jesus had behaved like a wolf, he couldn't have saved this world. But since Jesus became a Slain Lamb, He saved this world through his sacrifice. We have to sacrifice our body and blood for the Salvation of this world. We are not supposed to behave like a wolf, but live as sheep among wolves.

As the Parish is celebrating the Ruby Jubilee this year, let us all try to become a Qurbana, a living sacrifice in this world in order to save this world. "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and well pleasing to God, which is your rational act of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed and progressively changed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans. 12: 1,2)

Message

Malankara
Orthodox Syrian Church



ST. THOMAS ORTHODOX CHURCH,
50 FLANDERS-BARTLEY ROAD, MOUNT OLIVE, NJ

Psalms 150:1

"Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty firmament "

Greetings in the name of the Triune God! I would gladly like to join with you all on this blessed occasion of the 40th year anniversary of The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey, Randolph. It is indeed a great pleasure to extend prayers and blessings on this occasion on behalf of St Thomas Orthodox Church, Mount Olive New Jersey, and on my personal behalf. I also want to dearly congratulate everyone on 40 years of success, growth and building the kingdom of God by sharing His word with so many people. It is a perfect opportunity to celebrate the faithfulness of God over the past 40 years and a great time to look back and reflect on the divine providence of our good Lord. It is also a time of gratitude to keep yourself in focus, the sacrifices and dedication made by the pioneers and those who are still contributing in various ways toward the overall growth of the parish. It is also a time to fondly remember the guidance and leadership of all priests who have served in the parish over the past 40 years. Nothing that is done in honor of His name and for the people will ever be in vain.

REV. SHIBU DANIEL

Over the past two years, we have all experienced a worldwide health pandemic and we have slightly modified the style of public worship without changing our original identity as Christians. God has kept us through this difficult time and His will for His church has not changed. For this same reason let's continue to be a blessing to someone's life…

Thank you for always welcoming me and my parish with open arms and we will be grateful for the love, support and fellowship we enjoy together as neighboring parishes. May God continue to bless this church and use it as a great tool for His mighty works so the glory of God may reflect in the church through the life of every member.

Wishing Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey a very Happy & Blessed anniversary.

Psalms 100:5 "For the Lord is good, His mercy is everlasting and His truth endureth to all generations"

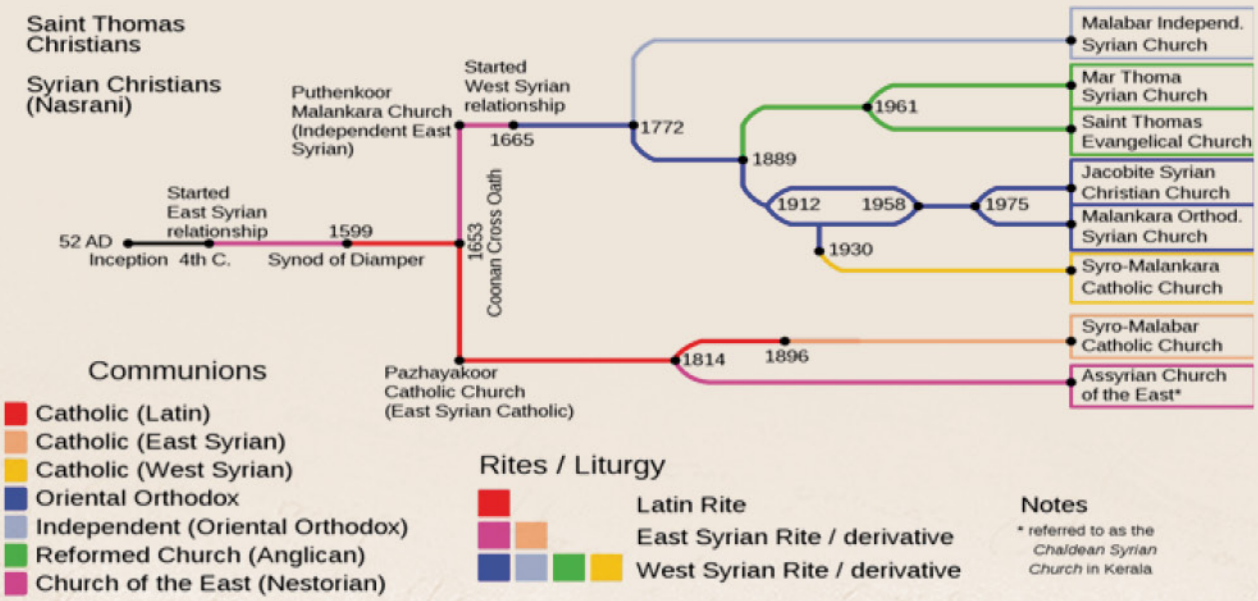
Thank you & God Bless us all

Fr. Shibu Daniel

Our CHURCH HISTORY

The Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church
(മലങ്കര മാർത്തോമ്മ സുറിയാനി സഭ)

also known as The Mar Thoma Church is one of the ancient Churches in the world. It is traditionally believed that St. Thomas (Mar Thoma in Syriac), the disciple of Jesus Christ came to India in AD 52 and established the Church on the Malabar coast. Kerala was known as Malankara then. The history and evolution of a[1] Saint Thomas Christian in India is depicted below: -

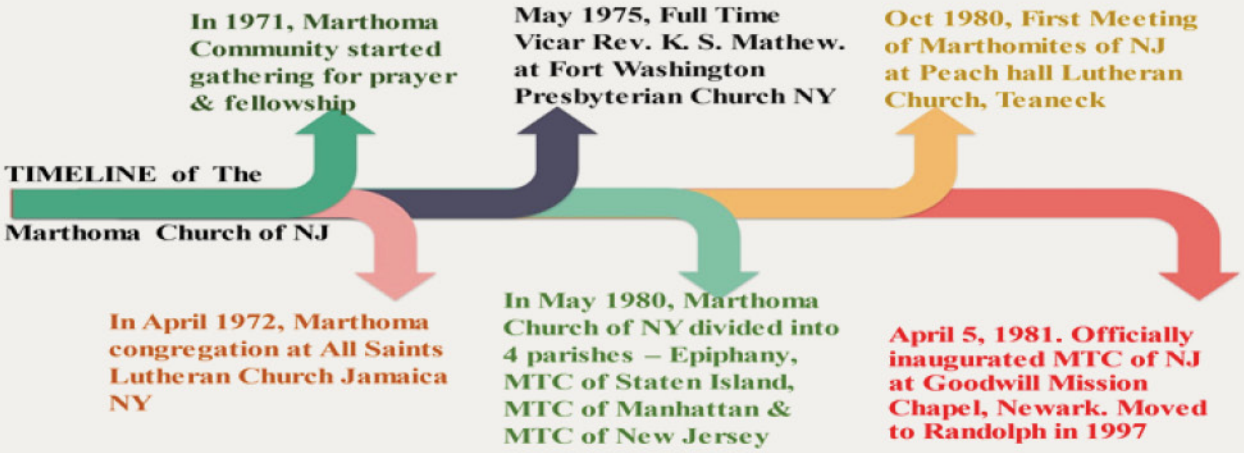


The Mar Thoma Church is Apostolic in origin, Universal in nature, Biblical in faith, Evangelical in principle, Ecumenical in outlook, Oriental in worship, Democratic in function, and Episcopal in character. The Church affirms its belief that it constitutes an essential part of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Being rooted in the Bible, the Church maintains its Episcopal heritage and value oriented democratic form of administration. The Mar Thoma Church has full communion with the Church of North India, Church of South India and the World Anglican Communion including the Episcopal Church in USA. At present, The Mar Thoma Church has nine Bishops and the Metropolitan is the Most Rev. Dr. Theodosius Mar Thoma. The Mar Thoma Church presently has above 1.6 million members. Though most of its membership is in the southern Indian state of Kerala, it has spread today in the 21st century with Indian diaspora to all continents.

The Indian community from Kerala immigrated to North America for studies and work in the 1970s. The first Mar Thoma congregation was formed in Queens, New York in April 1972. Later a joint congregation of members of the Mar Thoma Church and the Church of South India (CSI) was formed in Manhattan, New York and the Queens congregation was discontinued. The joint congregation was dissolved in May 1975. The 'Mar Thoma Congregation of Greater New York' was formed in May 1975, the first to gain formal approval (February 1976) with full time Vicar sent from India. The place of worship was the Fort Washington

[1] George Menachery, (ed.) The St. Thomas Christian Encyclopedia of India. (Kerala: B.N.K. Press, vol. 2 (1973), 1998

[2] The Mar Thoma Church - An Historical Sketch - Rev. Dr. T.P. Abraham



Presbyterian Church in Manhattan. Congregations formed in some other cities also gained an approved status soon after. As the congregations continued to grow, the larger ones were raised to the status of parishes. And finally, a Diocese of North America and Europe was established. Currently we have 100 parishes, 8000 families and approximately 70 Achens providing service at various parishes in the diocese.

According to the Kalpana of our late Metropolitan Most Rev Alexander Mar Thoma, dated September 7. 1980, The Greater New York congregation was divided into four, based on geographical basis, to be located at New Jersey, Staten Island, Queens, and Manhattan. The timeline of Mar Thoma Congregation in New York /New Jersey Metro is depicted above.

The First meeting of Marthomites in New Jersey was held on Oct 12, 1980, at Peace Hall, Lutheran Chapel in Teaneck, New Jersey. The Parish was officially inaugurated on April 5, 1981, at Good Will Mission Chapel, 79 University Ave, Newark. This was the first Mar Thoma Parish established in the state of New Jersey and has since been known as The Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey. We moved to Christ Episcopal Church, Glen Ridge NJ in May 30. 1982, and later to St Thomas Episcopal Church, 272 Roseville Ave, Newark in 1987. A Church and parsonage were purchased at 790 Route 10 West, Randolph, NJ and first communion service was held on March 2, 1997. The Rt. Rev Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus dedicated the Marthoma Church of New Jersey in Randolph, on October 4, 1997.

The first worship service was led by Late Rev. M.V. Benjamin with around 35 families. Currently our parish is blessed with 93 families.

During our Ruby Jubilee celebration, we gratefully acknowledge the services and counsel of former Bishops and Vicars. We continue having the blessings of receiving advice, leadership and guidance from the following influencers of our church - Late Most Rev. Alexander Mar Thoma Metropolitan, Late Most Rev. Philipose Mar Chrysostom Valiya Metropolitan, Late Rt. Rev. Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus Suffragon Mar Thoma Metropolitan, Late Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan, Most Rev. Dr. Theodosius Mar Thoma Metropolitan, Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos Suffragon Mar Thoma Metropolitan and our present Diocesan Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos. The vicars who have provided inestimable service are Late Rev. K J. Philip, Late Rev M V Benjamin, Very Rev. N.M. Cherian, Rev. Dr. Jacob Thomas (Assistant vicar), Late Rev. T.O. Joseph, Late Rev. John Mathew, Late Rev. Dr. Johnson P. Mathew, Rev. Mathew John, Rev. Samuel Mathai, Rev. Dr. M.C. Thomas, Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathew, Rev. Binu John, Rev. Jose T. Abraham, Rev. Jacob Varughese, Rev. Philip P. Mathew, Rev Simon Kurien. and present Vicar-In-Charge Rev. Sam T Mathew. The newly appointed Vicar is Rev Mathew Varghese.

We also remember and recognize the dedicated service of our Youth Chaplains: - Rev. Kurien George, Rev. Isaac P Johnson, Rev. Mathew Skariah, Rev. Roy A Thomas, Rev. Dr. Philip Varghese, Rev. Dr Joe Joseph Kuruvilla, Rev. Dennis Abraham & Rev. Prince Varghese and presently Rev. Jaisen A. Thomas.

We greatly appreciate the selfless service of the founders and pioneers of this parish and their contribution to the establishment and for the growth of the Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey. We fondly remember their dedication and immeasurable efforts. Our God Almighty immensely blessed our parish with great visionaries and eminent Vicars. Our members lead various roles in the center, region, and diocesan council. Our Church has also had the privilege to host a Diocesan family conference, Diocesan, Center & Regional conference of various organizations. May the Lord continue to bless our parish with great servants of God who will carry out the rich tradition and values with much zeal for the continued glory of God.

Byju Varghese

Former Vicars



Late Rev. M.V. Benjamin (1981)



Very Rev. N. M. Cherian
(1981-1984)



Late Rev. T. O. Joseph
(1984-1987)



Late Rev. John Mathew
(1987-1990)



Late Rev. Dr. Johnson P. Mathew
(1990 - 1993)



Very Rev. Mathew John (1993-1997)



Rev. Samuel Mathai (1997-2001)



Rev. Dr. M. C. Thomas (2001 - 2003)



Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathew (2003-2006)



Rev. Binu John (2006-2009)



Rev. Jose T. Abraham (2009-2012)



Rev. Jacob Varughese (2012-2015)



Rev. Philip P. Mathew (2015-2018)



Rev. Simon Kurien (2018-2021)

2021 Executive Committee			
President	Rev. Simon Kurien & Rev. Sam T. Mathew	Edavaka Mission	Mr. George Varughese
Vice President	Mr. M. C. Jacob	Sevika Sangham	Dr. Beena Mathew
Secretary	Mr. Alex Mathew	Sunday School	Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas
Treasurer	Mr. Alexander Thomas	Yuvajana Sakhyam	Dr. Unnee Ranjan
Accountant	Mr. Thomas Jacob	Youth Fellowship	Mr. Naithen Byju
Lay Leader	Mr. Babu Varghese & Mr. Joshua George	Prayer Group A	Mr. Alexander P. Mathai Mrs. Binu Jacob
Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam	Mr. George Koshy	Prayer Group B	Mr. Benny Varghese & Mr. Renny Thomas
Diocesan Assembly Member	Mr. Alex George	Prayer Group C	Mr. Shaffi Varghese Mr. Jacob Thomas
		Auditors	Mrs. Betsy Ranjan Mr. Shaji George

2022 Executive Committee			
President	Rev. Sam T. Mathew	Edavaka Mission	Mr. George Varughese
Vice President	Mr. Reji George	Sevika Sangham	Dr. Beena Mathew
Secretary	Mrs. Betsy Ranjan	Sunday School	Mrs. Elizabeth George
Treasurer	Mr. Alex Mathew	Yuvajana Sakhyam	Dr. Unnee Ranjan
Accountant	Mr. Shaji George	Youth Fellowship	Mr. Joshua George
Lay Leader	Mr. Babu Varghese & Mr. Joshua George	Choir Secretary	Mr. Vinod John
Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam	Mr. George Koshy	Prayer Group A	Mr. Alexander P. Mathai Mr. Thomas Mullassaril
Diocesan Assembly Member	Mr. Alex George	Prayer Group B	Mrs. Preethi Thomas Mrs. Jeny Prakash
		Prayer Group C	Mr. Shawn Cherian Mrs. Josny Shaji
		Auditors	Mr. Alexander Thomas Mr. Byju Varghese

Ruby Jubilee Committees

General Committee

Rev. Sam T. Mathew
(Vicar in Charge)

Alex Mathew
(General Convenor)

George Varughese
Dr. Unnee Ranjan
Jeena Jacob
Ajish Baby

Elizabeth Thomas,
Susan Alexander
Vinod John
Noby Byju

Healthcare Heroes

Renny Thomas
Dr. Beena Mathew

Pioneer Committee

George Varughese
Binu Jacob

Light to Life

Alex Mathew
Noby Byju
Susan Alexander
Dr. Unnee Ranjan

Finance

Alex Mathew
Shaji George
Thomas Jacob
Alexander Thomas

Souvenir Committee

Byju Varghese
(Souvenir Convenor)

Alex George
Jeena Jacob

Sheila Koshy
Thomas Mullassaril

Executive Committees 2021 & 22

Executive Committee - 2021



Not in picture - M.C.Jacob, Babu Varghese, George Koshy, Alex George, Benny Varghese

Executive Committee - 2022



Not in picture - Babu Varghese, George Koshy, Alex George, Shawn Cherian

Ruby Jubilee Committees

Ruby Jubilee Committee



Souvenir Committee



Health Care Heroes



Light To Life



Ruby Jubilee Finance



Ruby Jubilee Pioneer Committee



Church



Edavaka Mission



Prayer Group A



Prayer Group B



Prayer group C



Sevika Sanghom



Choir



Yuvajana Sakyam



Youth



Sunday School

