

If undeliverable please return to:

Dr. Joemon T Varughese
9 Glover Rd.
Miltown, NJ 08850



FAMILY RETREAT

May 25th - 27th
Memorial Day
Weekend

Black Rock Retreat
A Christian Retreat Center & Summer Camp

Quarryville, PA

www.blackrockretreat.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2007

Vicar & President	Rev. Thomas Paul <i>revthomaspaul@yahoo.com</i>	(732) 602-9444
Vice-President	Dr. Samuel Thomas	(973) 538-1192
Secretary	Dr. Joemon T Varughese <i>jobi95@hotmail.com</i>	(732) 422-7128
Joint Secretary	Jose Cherian	(908) 851-0603
Treasurer	Varghese Varghese	(732) 577-0728
Accountant	Thomas Oommen	(732) 906-8830
Lay Leaders	John Varughese Sunil Kurien	(973) 808-1799 (732) 677-2507
Prayer Group Representatives:		
Prayer Group # 1	Mathew Cherukara	(908) 686-1061
Prayer Group # 2	Ragy Thomas	(732) 632-8892
Prayer Group # 3	Anil Mathew	(732) 258-8997
Prayer Group # 4	Thomas John	(732) 651-8867
Sunday School Supdt.	Pappen Varghese	(908) 281-2188
Choir Coordinator	Earlin George	(732) 207-1330
Youth Fellowship Sec.	Joshua John	(908)-907-7758
Sevika Sanghom Sec.	Annamma John	(732) 752-5033
Edavaka Mission	Sam Jacob	(732) 549-8925
Sabha Mandalam Rep.	Daniel Varghese	(908) 688-2830
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Thomas Mathew	(973) 285-4373
Building Committee	Andrew Pappachen	(973) 808-2077
Auditors	John Thomas Philip Prasad	(908) 470-1343 (732) 967-9272

Unspoken Secrets

southeast regional conference 2007

sin is crouching at your door,
it desires to have you;
but you must master it.
Genesis 4:7

SATURDAY APRIL 7, 2007
ST. STEPHENS MAR THOMA CHURCH
HOY AND HAMILTON AVE, FORDS, NJ

www.ststephensmtc.com

Josh (908)-907-7758 | Cheryl (908)-400-2271



BIBLE QUIZ

Please email your answers to
quiz@ststephensmtc.com
*At the end of the year, your earned points will
be totaled and the top scorers will get prizes!!*

FEET

- 1) What did the Israelites do in Egypt with their feet so that their crops would grow?
A - plucked the weeds, B - did a rain dance, C - irrigated them, D - fertilized them

- 2) Before the Israelites could enter the promised land, the priests had to place the soles of their feet where?
A - on the desert sands, B - in the Mediterranean Sea, C - on Mt. Sinai, D - in the waters of the Jordan

- 3) The Psalmist prophesied of the Messiah that God would make whom his footstool?
A - His mother, B - His disciples, C - The Pharisees, D - His enemies

- 4) In the New Testament, who prophesied of the Messiah that he would guide their feet in the way of peace?
A - Nicodemus, B - Mary, C - Zechariah, D - John the Baptist

- 5) Who did not want Jesus to wash his feet?
A - Mary, B - John, C - a Roman Centurion, D - Peter

- 6) A certain lame man's feet were strengthened when he was healed in what place?
A - the river Jordan, B - Meribah, C - the temple gate called Beautiful, D - the foot of the cross

- 7) Who did not receive enough inheritance to set his foot on?
A - Jesus, B - the disciples, C - Abraham, D - Moses

- 8) According to Ephesians 6, we should have our feet fitted with what?
A - the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace., B - spikenard, C - a piece of the cross of Jesus, D - sandals

- 9) According to the Apostle Paul in Romans (quoting Isaiah), the feet of the wicked are swift to do what?
A - find mischief, B - shed blood, C - get calloused, D - run a race

- 10) In Revelation, the 'one like the Son of man' had feet like what?
A - clay, B - fine gold, C - bronze, D - silver

ST. STEPHEN'S MARTHA THOMA CHURCH



**HOY AVE & HAMILTON STREET
FORDS, NEW JERSEY 08863**

**Vicar's Address
Rev. Thomas Paul
209 Michael Ct.,
Woodbridge, NJ 07095**

APRIL

**2007
Volume VIII
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www.ststephensmtc.com

A copy of this bulletin is available online

ACHEN'S MESSAGE!

Dearly Beloved in Christ,



*"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me".
(Luke 9-23)*

The Passion of Christ is the intense desire of God to redeem us from the bondage of darkness and to make us free from the clutches of sin. "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death." (Rom.8:1,2). Breaking himself as bread on the cross and pouring himself as the drink, Jesus satisfies the hunger and thirst of you and me. Our pain is a joy when we bear it for some one whom we love. God did the same for us. Jn.3:16 begins, "God so loved the world..." If we have true love within us we will carry our cross patiently, bear pain gladly and deny our selfishness for the sake of others. So Jesus on the cross is our true model and Jesus coming out from the tomb is our hope.

I thank God for His plan for me to be with you last three years. I thank God for strengthening me to do His work among you. I thank God for my family. I thank God for each one of you and for your special love for us. It is my wish and prayer that we meet again in this world for His glory and we all meet one day in His presence and glorify Him.

*God bless you and God bless St. Stephen's.
Wish you a Happy Easter.*

Yours in the love of the Lord,

Thomas Paul achen

Our New Address & Phone Number

St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church
Near Civil Station,
Palakkad, Kerala. PIN 678 001
Tel: 91-491-2530884

Wedding Anniversaries in April!!

6	Mrs. & Mr. Mathew and Saramma Cherukara	(908) 686-1061
12	Mrs. & Mr. Joseph and Annamma John	(732) 752-5033
15	Mrs. & Mr. Sunil Jacob and Bindu Philips	(609) 936-9364
18	Mrs. & Mr. Samuel Oommen and Susamma Samuel	(908) 320-0412
18	Mrs. & Mr. Sunil Varughese and Serah Thomas	(609) 275-9334
23	Mrs. & Mr. Saju C.and Sheeja Abraham	(732) 605-9888
28	Mrs. & Mr. Abraham Mattappallil and Susan Thomas	(908) 241-0638
29	Mrs. & Mr. Koshy Philip and Julia Koshy	(732) 286-0924
30	Mrs. & Mr. Thomas and Vincy Kurien	(732) 845-0031

Three Crosses

From Our Daily Bread | April 9, 2004

In many paintings of the crucifixion of Jesus, the center cross on which He hung is taller or higher on a hill than the other two. We can appreciate an artist's desire to give Christ a place of preeminence, but we have no reason to believe that Jesus was given an elevated or exalted position — higher than that of the two thieves. Those who crucified Jesus considered Him to be a common criminal, so the crosses were most likely on the same level.

As I think about this, I realize that Jesus was not out of reach — way above the poor sinners on the other crosses. I also think it is likely that the three crosses were very close together. The two thieves could carry on a conversation with each other above the shouting and tumult of the mob around them. In fact, if the dying thief's hand had not been nailed to the cross, he might very well have been able to reach over and put his hand on Jesus' hand. This I believe is significant. Jesus is within reach of all who will look to Him and touch Him with the hand of faith!

Yes, anyone can come to Him and receive forgiveness and new life. Have you reached out in faith to the One who died on a cross for you? —Mart De Haan

*They nailed His hands, they pierced His brow
As they cried with a fiendish glee,
"If Thou be the Son of God, come down!"
But He stayed on the cross for me! —Crooks*



Birthdays in April!!

1	Josh Cherian	s/o Sabu Cherian	(908) 927-9940
2	Rachel Oommen	w/o Thomas Oommen	(732) 906-8830
2	Bibina Varughese	w/o Joemon T Varughese	(732) 422-7128
2	Sahnila Varghese	w/o Philip Varghese	(732) 873-0811
6	Abraham Mathew	s/o Anil Mathew	(732) 258-8997
6	Roy M. Mathew	s/o Mathew M. Thomas	(732) 549-7437
7	Raji Renjith	w/o Renjith Abraham	(732) 855-1719
8	Maya Varkey	d/o Thomas Varkey	(908) 301-0084
9	Annie Varghese	w/o Jose Cherian	(908) 851-0603
10	Vinoj Mathew		(732) 726-1714
10	Sanjana Renjith	d/o Renjith Abraham	(732) 855-1719
11	Aleyamma Manalel	w/o Sam Jacob	(732) 549-8925
12	Alan S. Chacko	s/o Chacko Poovakunnel	(908) 964-0735
12	Koshy Philip		(732) 286-0924
16	Rachel Ragy Thomas	d/o Ragy Thomas	(732) 632-8892
16	Carol Kurian	w/o Linu Kurian	(732) 331-5062
17	Ron Thomas	s/o Jos Thomas	(732) 356-8975
17	Miriam (Asha) Thomas	d/o Philip M. Thomas	(732) 382-0033
18	Abraham Pulimoottil		(732) 283-4855
18	Philip M. Thomas		(732) 382-0033
18	Abigail Vinoj Mathew	d/o Vinoj Mathew	(732) 726-1714
18	Jonathan Abraham	s/o Shibu Abraham	(908) 213-0087
19	Rebecca Mary Varghese	d/o Pappen Varghese	(908) 281-2188
19	Mariamamma Thomas	w/o Mammen T. Thomas	(732) 422-0701
20	Sunil Skariah	s/o K.K. Skariah	(908) 822-2737
20	Sunil Jacob		(609) 936-9364
21	Reena Thomas	w/o Dr. Samuel Thomas	(973) 538-1192
28	Dhanya Mary Abraham	d/o Abraham Mathew	(203) 205-0764
30	Joshua John	s/o Sunny John	(732) 752-9250
30	Nithin S. Chacko	s/o Chacko Poovakunnel	908-964-0735
30	Ajit Mathews	s/o Philip Mathews	(732) 297-8303

ANNOUNCEMENTS!



PARISH DAY

Come celebrate our 8th Parish Day on Sunday, April 15th, 2007. Rev. Joseph Oommen, Diocesan Secretary will be our Celebrant and Chief Guest. All are requested to attend prayerfully to this joyous celebration.

ACHEN'S SEND OFF

As we all know, our Paul Achen, Kochamma, and Makkal will be returning to India (Palakkadu, Kerala) after their three years of service with us. We will have Achen's send off meeting on Sunday, April 22nd, 2007 after the Holy Qurbana. Please participate in this farewell meeting followed by lunch. Keep Achen and family in your prayers.

DIOCESAN COLLECTION

If you have not contributed to the Diocesan Sunday Collection Fund, please make appropriate donation. Please note, this collection is due to the Diocese by the end of April.

PRAYER MEETINGS

Sevika Sangom Prayer Meeting

There will be a Sevika Sangom prayer meeting on Tuesday April 10th, 2007 at 10:00 am at the residence of Mrs. Susan Mattappallil, 208 Maple Street, Roselle Park, NJ 07204 Tel: (908-241-0638)

Edavaka Mission Prayer Meeting

There will be a Edavaka Mission prayer meeting on Friday, April 13th, 2007 at 7:30 pm at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Varghese, 1784 Colgate Place, Union, NJ 07083 Tel: (908-688-2830)

Area Prayer Meeting

There will be an Area Prayer Meeting (Group #4) on Sunday, April 15th, 2007 at 6:00 pm at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. George Edukala, 4 Applebey St., Eatontown, NJ 07724 Tel: (732-389-8482)

Announcements (contd..)

YOUTH

The Southeast Region Spring Conference will be hosted by our Youth Fellowship on Holy Saturday, April 7th 2007. The theme of the conference is UN-SPOKEN SECRETS. Please come and join in the fellowship with our Youth.

April 14th Our youth will be participating at the Ascension Basketball Tournament at Dowingtown, Pa. Bring your noise makers and come cheer on our team to Victory.

BEREAVEMENT

Beloved father of Mr. Mathew Johnson, Mr. Regi Mathew, Mrs. Susan Thomas and Mrs. Mariamma Thomas was called to eternity on Monday, March 12th, 2007.

Beloved father of Mrs. Shirley (w/o Shaji Varghese, Bloomfield) was called to eternity on Sunday, March 11th, 2007.

We, the St. Stephen's family express our deepest condolence to the bereaved families.

PASSION WEEK 2007

Sadhya Namaskaram

April 2nd - April 4th (Monday-Wednesday) at 7:30 PM at Church

Pessaha Vyazham/Maundy Thursday

April 5th: Diocesan Thirumeni Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos will celebrate Holy Qurbana at 7:30 PM at Church.

Dhukha Velli/Good Friday

April 6th Service will begin at 9:30AM at Church
Please come and celebrate Passion Week with prayer.

EASTER SUNDAY

April 8th Holy Qurbana at **7:00 am**

FAMILY RETREAT

Our Parish Family Retreat will be held at Black Rock Retreat Center, Quarryville, PA. (<http://blackrockretreat.com/>) from May 25th to May 27th, 2007 during the Memorial Day Weekend.

Date	Time	Celebrant	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel	Sunday School
Hosanna (Palm Sunday) Jesus Lord of Peace							
1-Apr	10:45 AM	Rev. Thomas Paul (English)	Zechariah 9:9-17	Colossians 1:15-23	Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 21:1-11	No Sunday School
Sadhya Namaskaram							
2-Apr	7:30 PM	Rev. Thomas Paul	Isaiah 63:7-19	Hebrews 2: 1-18		Matthew 22:15-23	
Mon							
3-Apr	7:30 PM	Rev. Thomas Paul	Numbers 21: 1-16	Eph. 2: 1-10		Matthew 24: 1-28	
Tue							
4-Apr	7:30 PM	Rev. Thomas Paul	Lev. 16: 1-28	1 Cor. 5: 1-8		John 6: 60-70	
Wed							
Pessaha Vyazham/Maundy Thursday							
5-Apr	7:30 PM	Rev. Thomas Paul	Genesis 22: 1-14	Hebrews 5: 1-14		Matthew 26: 31-36	
Thu							
Dhukha Velli/Good Friday							
6-Apr	9:30 AM	Rev. Thomas Paul	Isa. 53: 1-12 Zech. 13: 1-9 Num. 21: 1-9	1 Pet. 1: 1-25 Gal. 3: 1-22 Heb. 3: 1-19		Mat. 26. 47-75 Mat. 27: 1-44 Mat. 27: 45-56	
Fri							
Easter Sunday- Resurrection							
8-Apr	7:00 AM	Rev. Thomas Paul (Malayalam)	Exodus 14:5-31	1 Corinthians 1:3-8	Colossians 3:1-11	Matthew 28:1-10	No Sunday School
New Sunday-Christ appearance to Apostles Thomas -Jesus who confirms the Faith-(1st Sunday after Easter)							
15-Apr	10:45 AM	Rev. Joseph Oommen (English)	Zephaniah 3:14-20	1 Corinthians 15:1-19	1 Corinthians 15:20-28	John 20:19-29	After Communoin
Faith Journey with the Risen Lord (2nd Sunday after Easter)							
22-Apr	10:45 AM	Rev. Thomas Paul (Malayalam)	Exodus 13:17-22	Hebrews 11:1-12	Jude 17-25	Luke 24:13-35	After Offertory
Restoring Jesus (3rd Sunday after Easter)							
29-Apr	10:45 AM	Public Service	Isaiah 25:1-9	Acts 8:18-24	2 Corinthians 12:14-21	John 21:1-14	