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Anil Mathew
1235 Huron Rd.
North Brunswick, NJ 08902



*Christmas
Carol Service*

Dec 20th

2008 OFFICE BEARERS

Vicar & President	Rev. Abraham Cherian	(732) 602-9444 <i>tojiachen@gmail.com</i>
Vice-President	John Mathews	(732) 356-6192
Secretary	Anil Mathew	(732) 552-8053 <i>anilmathew74@yahoo.com</i>
Treasurer	Joseph Abraham	(732) 331-4076
Accountant	Reji K. Thomas	(732) 568-1754
Lay Leaders	John Varughese	(973) 808-1799
	Blessen Joseph	(732) 841-0814
<u>Prayer Group Representatives to Executive Committee</u>		
Group # 1	Mathew Cherukara	(908) 686-1061
Group # 2	Mathew M. Thomas	(908) 247-2960
Group # 3	Philip Mathews	(908) 625-7500
Group # 4	Koshy Philip	(732) 604-5200
<u>Organization's Representatives to Executive Committee</u>		
Sunday School	Jacob Chacko	(732) 249-7318
Choir	Earlin George	(732) 207-1330
Youth Fellowship (Sec)	Becky Joseph	(732) 672-6747
Sevika Sanghom (Sec)	Suja Abraham	(732) 418-8840
Edavaka Mission (Sec)	Dr. Joemon Varghese	(848) 248-5862
<u>Sabha Mandalam & Diocesan Assembly Members</u>		
Sabha Mandalam	Andrew Pappachen	(973) 808-2077
Diocesan Assembly	Dr. Samuel Thomas	(973) 722-0154
<u>Other Contacts</u>		
Sunday School Supdt.	Saju Thomas	(609) 466-1474
Choir Secretary	Sunita Varkey	(908) 301-0084
Auditors	Byju Abraham	
	Mathew Keecheril	



PROPHECY OF EZEKIEL

Please email your answers to
quiz@ststephensmtc.com

1) When the word of the LORD came to Ezekiel, where was he?

- A - In the Temple
- B - In Babylon (by River Chebar)
- C - In Bethlehem
- D - In bed

2) Why was he there?

- A - He was a captive
- B - To worship
- C - He was tired
- D - To buy some food

3) Among the Israelites at that place, who held the highest rank?

- A - the General
- B - King Solomon
- C - King Jehoiachin
- D - Queen of Sheba

4) What was Ezekiel's job?

- A - Priest
- B - Prophet
- C - Necromancer
- D - Levite

5) The prophet saw a vision of four living creatures with four faces. What did the faces look like?

- A - Gold Silver Brass Iron
- B - Scorpion Serpent Hornet Ox
- C - Cherub Bear Lion Seraph
- D - Man Lion Ox Eagle

6) What did the prophet do when he saw the vision?

- A - He trembled
- B - He fell on his face
- C - He convulsed
- D - He shouted for joy

7) God sent the prophet to the house of Israel and repeatedly referred to it as a _____ house.

- A - rebellious
- B - iniquitous
- C - idolatrous
- D - magnificent

8) The prophet was given a scroll and told to do what with it?

- A - Write upon it
- B - Eat it
- C - Burn it in the fire
- D - Read it

9) God inflicted upon Ezekiel a disability that was strange, considering he had just been made a prophet. What was the disability?

- A - Blindness
- B - Deafness
- C - He was made dumb
- D - Madness

10) Because of his disability, in what way did Ezekiel prophesy about the siege of Jerusalem?

- A - He used sign language
- B - He wrote on the ground
- C - He used a writing tablet
- D - He built a model

11) God told Ezekiel to bake bread over a fire, using what as its fuel?

- A - Wood
- B - Human excrement
- C - Olive Oil
- D - Dry bones

12) What was the purpose of this sign?

- A - To teach humility
- B - To demonstrate sanitation
- C - To show how the Israelites would defile
- D - To show it's use as a fuel

13) When the Ezekiel protested, God allowed him to bake the bread using what as fuel?

- A - Cow's dung
- B - Coal
- C - Olive oil
- D - Wood

14) Ezekiel was to cut off his hair and his beard and divide the hair into how many parts?

- A - Twelve
- B - Three
- C - Seven
- D - Forty

16) God took the prophet in a vision to the temple at Jerusalem to see what?

- A - God's glory
- B - The abominations committed there
- C - The future
- D - The fate of the Nation of Israel



Birthdays in December!!

22	Ashwini Varughese	d/o Shibu Varghese	(732) 494-4199
22	Sani Abraham	w/o Benjamin Abraham	(732) 834-0024
23	Sunoj Mathew	s/o K. G. Mathewkutty	(732) 855-1719
25	Judith C Joy	w/o Santosh George	(732) 297-8412
26	Tara Mathews	d/o Philip Mathews	(732) 297-8303
26	Alexander P Prasad	s/o Joseph Prasad	(732) 845-0703
27	Victoria Ann Thomas	d/o Saju Thomas	(609) 466-1474
27	Rina Varghese	w/o Pappen Varghese	(908) 281-2188
28	Rency Mathew	d/o Mathew M.Thomas	(732) 549-1437
30	Sunil S Vaughese		(609) 275-9334
30	Shirley Thomas	w/o Thomas John	(732) 651-8867
31	Bobby P Mathew		(908) 281-0101

Wedding Anniversaries in December!!

1	Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Keecheril & Rajamma Mathew	(732) 418-1548
4	Mr. & Mrs. George & Rene Thomas	(732) 321-4171
5	Mr. & Mrs. Shibu Varghese & Gracekutty Varkey	(973) 743-3374
14	Mr. & Mrs. Philip & Lovely Prasad	(732) 967-9272
15	Mr. & Mrs. Sabu & Suma Cherian	(908) 927-9940
17	Mr. & Mrs. Tony & Malvika Cherukara	(908) 397-2621
26	Mr. & Mrs. Geogie & Geetha Varughese	(732) 355-0830
27	Mr. & Mrs. Suresh Babu & Sini Varghese	(732) 494-0561
27	Mr. & Dr. Shiju & Pamela Abraham	(732) 252-6226
28	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Elizabeth Mathew	(973) 285-4373
29	Drs. Joseph Philip & Nancy Joseph	(732) 662-5813

ST. STEPHEN'S MAR THOMA CHURCH



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

Vicar's Address
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Woodbridge, NJ 07095

December

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A copy of this bulletin is available online

ACHEN'S MESSAGE!



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

" Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to those on whom his favor rests " [Lk. 2: 14]

Christmas is closing in us again and if we push our way past the tinsel & glitter and part time santas somewhere we might find a crib where the child lies on straw to reminds us the simplicity of a defenseless new born babe.

Christmas isn't a winter date but is a state of mind that reaches into all those grey days when the cribs are put away and the decorations are taken down. It reaches into all those months when we have no heavenly peace to sing about and when we are tempted to live out our bad days in a state of armed neutrality.

Christmas is about a vulnerable child needing the pure air of the earth, the strength of others, the first reassurance of love and that vulnerable child is every one of us.

The present scenario around us reminds the lack of security for life. Without sacrifice and intimacy in our family relationship we are inviting the unexpected. We do need an open mind to see the reality around us and we should need a deep- rooted relationship in Christ to face the current situation. Where are we now ? Christmas is all about love. Love needs to be practical- love needs to flow -- love needs to make happy.

From December 1st, the 25 days fast begins and on 21st we are celebrating the Mar Thoma church day. Let us take part in the services prayerfully and make ourselves available to the Immanuel [God with us].Let's all join the hundreds to condemn the recent attacks in India & different parts of the world.

I also take this moment to thank all of you for the prayerful support rendered for the Thanksgiving Day offertory & auction.

"I wish you all a joyous Christmas & prosperous New Year"

with love & prayers
Toji Achen



Birthdays in December!!

1 Anne George	w/o Abraham George	(973) 992-5425
1 Shaju George		(732) 572-2671
1 Annamma Mathew	w/o R. K. Mathew	(732) 605-0370
1 Roshan Reji	s/o Regi Mathew	(732) 727-3872
2 Shiju Abraham	s/o A. Abraham	(732) 252-6226
4 George Varghese		(570) 476-6055
4 Anil Cherian	s/o Annie Cherian	(732) 393-9371
4 George Thomas		(732) 321-4171
4 Jomon K Thomas		(732) 543-0683
5 Sarah George	d/o Abraham George	(973) 992-5425
5 Lizy K Thomas	m/o Davis Thomas	(732) 918-1171
6 Alfred W Jacob	s/o Sunil Jacob	(609) 936-9364
6 Albert P Jacob	s/o Sunil Jacob	(609) 936-9364
6 Elizabeth M. Prasad	w/o Joseph Prasad	(732) 845-0703
7 Mohan George Jacob		(973) 759-8037
7 Sinu George	d/o George Yohanan	(718) 317-2548
8 Pameela Abraham	w/o Shiju Abraham	(732) 252-6226
9 Sabu M Cherian		(908) 927-9940
10 Jacob Chacko		(732) 249-7318
12 Joanna Susan Abraham	d/o Rev. Abraham Cherian	(732) 602-9444
12 Thomas John		(732) 651-8867
13 Leni Abraham		(609) 448-2312
16 Shylon Mathew	s/o Thomas Mathew	(973) 285-4373
17 Nithin Philip Mathew	s/o Mathew Keecheril	(732) 418-1548
20 Alwyn S varghese	s/o Shibu Varghese	(973) 743-3374
20 Jacob K Varghese		(732) 527-0428
21 Jos Thomas		(732) 356-8975
21 Sheeba Abraham	d/o Abraham Pulimoottil	(732) 283-4855
21 Annie George		(732) 527-0428
21 Elizabeth Koshy		(732) 557-4809
22 Aju J. Sam		(551) 580-1891



ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Purchase of Church:

As we are proceeding to the final phase of church purchase located at 423 Dunhams Corner RD, East Brunswick, NJ, we are looking to close this purchase by the first week of December. If God willing we may be able to have our Christmas carol service in the new church. We have secured our mortgage for up to \$700,000 and have received most of your committed dollars (Very few families still need to pay). The appraised value of the church & property is **1.4** million dollars.

Please pray for the closing of the property.

It's December:

Please pay all of your dues to our trustees before end of this month. You are required to pay a minimum of \$100 for each month as subscription.

Christmas Carol Service:

Christmas carol service will be on Saturday, December 20th at 6:00pm. The parish will be entertaining you with Christ-Centered programs. Please come and join us with your family and friends.

Christmas Day Service:

We will be celebrating Christmas on December 25th at 7:30am.

Bishop's farewell Meeting & Holy Communion:

Our diocesan bishop's (Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos Episcopa) farewell meeting with Holy Communion will be held at Teaneck, NJ at 6:30pm. Please come and join with your family and friends.

Watch Night & New Year's Service:

Watch night & New Year's service with Holy Communion will start at 10:00pm on Dec 31st.

Date	Time	Celebrant	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel	Sunday School	Refreshment
7 Dec	11 AM	Rev. Abraham Cherian (English)	Isa. 55:1-13	Rom 15:1-6	2 Pet 1:1-11	St. Luke 1:56-66	No Sunday School	
14 Dec	11 AM	Rev. Abraham Cherian (Malayalam)	Isa. 9:1-7	Rom 1:1-7	1 John 5:1-15	St. Mat. 1:18-23	After Offertory	Mrs. & Mr. Aleyamma Kuruvilla
21 Dec	11 AM	Rev. Abraham Cherian (English)	Zech 2:10-13	Heb 1:1-12	Eph 3:14-21	St. Mat 2:1-12	After Communion	
25 Dec	6:30 AM	Rev. Abraham Cherian (Malayalam)	Isa 11:1-9	Phil 2:1-11	Col 1:15-20	St. Luke 2:1-7	No Sunday School	Sevika Sangom
28 Dec	11 AM	Rev. Abraham Cherian English	Isa 45:1-7	Acts 17:16-31	Gal 2:15-21	St. Mark 7:24-30	After Communion	

Edavaka Mission:

We will have our Edavaka Mission meetings (Praise & worship, Bible Study) every Wednesday at 7:30pm in our church. All families should try to attend this meeting for your spiritual growth.

Church Prayer Meeting:

All Prayer groups are encouraged to hold the area prayer meetings every week. Interested families please contact your Area Representatives.

Youth League Meeting:

There will be youth league meetings on 2nd and 4th Fridays at 7:00pm.

Newborns:

The following members were blessed with newborns.

Annie George & Jacob Verghese was blessed with a baby boy **Joshua Jacob Verghese** on Oct 30th, 2008.

Chancal Cheeran & Anup Cherian was blessed with a baby boy on Nov 17, 2008.

Both the families are thankful to the Lord for this blessing. Please keep them in your prayers.

Condolence:

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

Beloved mother of Annamma Abraham (Leelamma - w/o Mr. Varughese Abraham (Joy)) aged 80 died in last week of October in Kerala. Their phone number is (732) 251-1728

Beloved father of Pushpa Varughese (w/o Mr. John Varughese (Raju)) aged 89 died last month in Kerala. Their phone number is 973-808-1799.

Beloved father of Saramma Papachan (Somini- w/o Andrew Papachan) died today in Kerala. Their phone number is 973-808-2077.

Refreshments:

Families are encouraged to sponsor/provide refreshments on Sundays. If you are interested, please contact the Secretary.

Church Premise Cleaning:

Prayer group 4 members will be responsible for cleaning the Church premise after Sunday's church service for this month. Members please volunteer.

Christmas House to House caroling Schedule:

Following is the Christmas house to house caroling schedule. If you have any inconvenience visiting your house on the scheduled date, please contact Dr. Joemon Varughese.

November 29

Woodbridge, Iselin, Edison, Metuchen, South Plainfield, Clark, Scotch Plains

November 30

Sayreville, Milltown, Monroe, Helmetta, Parlin, East Brunswick

December 6

Somerset, Belle mead, Piscataway, Ewing, Branchburg, Skillman, Hillsborough

December 7

Belleville, Bloomfield, Westfield, Roselle Park, Elizabeth, Linden, Rahway, Hoboken, Staten Island

Events Calendar 2008

Date	Events	Time	AM/PM	Day
12/6/2008	X'Mas House to House Carol	12:00	PM	Saturday
12/7/2008	X'Mas House to House Carol	2:00	PM	Sunday
12/20/2008	Christmas Carol	6:00	PM	Saturday
12/25/2008	Christmas Service	7:30	AM	Thursday
12/28/2008	Bishop's farewell meeting	6:30	PM	Sunday
12/31/2008	New Year's/Watch Night Service	10:00	PM	Wednesday