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P.O. Box 6635
East Brunswick NJ 08816



Christmas
Carol Service

Dec 19th

2009 OFFICE BEARERS

Vicar & President	Rev. Abraham Cherian	(732) 602-9444 <i>tojiachen@gmail.com</i>
Vice-President	Mathew Thomas	(732) 549-1437
Secretary	Joemon Varughese	(732) 422-7128 <i>jobi95@hotmail.com</i>
Treasurer	Jomon Thomas	(732) 543-0683
Accountant	Sabu Cherian	(908) 927-9940
Lay Leaders	Koshy Philip	(732) 286-0924
	Sunil Thomas	(732) 636-2838
<u>Prayer Group Representatives</u>		
Group # 1	John Thomas	(908) 470-1343
Group # 2	George Thomas	(732) 321-4171
Group # 3	Sunil Jacob	(609) 936-9364
Group # 4	Reji Mathew	(732) 727-3872
<u>Organization's Representatives</u>		
Sunday School	Jacob Chacko	(732) 249-7318
Choir	Earlin George	(732) 207-1330
Youth Fellowship	Anup Cherian	(732) 318-6925
Sevika Sanghom (Sec)	Suja Abraham	(732) 418-8840
Edavaka Mission (Sec)	Shibu Varghese	(973) 743-3374
<u>Sabha Mandalam & Diocesan Assembly Members</u>		
Sabha Mandalam	Andrew Pappachen	(973) 227-4129
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	John Mathews	
	Shibu Varughese (Edison)	

11) What were the names of the guards who conspired to kill the king?

- A - Ehud and Eglon
- B - Memucan and Hammedatha
- C - Agag and Hathach
- D - Bigthana and Teresh

12) Who discovered their plot?

- A - Esther
- B - Mordecai
- C - Haman
- D - Hathach

13) What was the name of Haman's wife?

- A - Hammedatha
- B - Rachel
- C - Zeresh
- D - Lucinda

14) The king asked Haman what he should do for 'the man the king delights to honour', who did Haman think the king was talking about?

- A - Hatac
- B - Haman
- C - Memucan
- D - Mordecai

15) Who was the king REALLY talking about?

- A - Hatac
- B - Haman
- C - Memucan
- D - Mordecai

16) When the king finds out that Esther is a Jew, what does he have done to Haman?

- A - Gives him a promotion
- B - Decapitates him
- C - Has him burned alive
- D - Has him hanged

17) The Jews still had a problem, even though Haman was dead, what was it?

- A - Haman had 10 sons
- B - Mordecai was also dead
- C - The kings edict could not be re-voked
- D - Zeresh aspired to be queen

18) Who was promoted to Haman's position?

- A - Mordecai
- B - Esther
- C - Hathach
- D - Memucan

19) What would the king do to accept someone who entered his presence unsummoned?

- A - Greet them
- B - Extend his sceptre
- C - Stand up
- D - Nod his head

20) What is the name of the Jewish feast which commemorates the account in Esther?

- A - The Passover
- B - Hanukkah
- C - Purim
- D - Rosh Hashanah



QUIZ - ESTHER

Please email your answers to
quiz@ststephensmtc.com

1) At the beginning of the book of Esther, king Ahasuerus hosts a big party which lasts how many days?

- A - 7
- B - 24
- C - 150
- D - 180

2) The king was enraged at the queen during the party because...

- A - They ran out of wine
- B - She disobeyed him
- C - He was insane
- D - She wouldn't dance

3) This advisor to the king suggests exiling the queen:

- A - Memucan
- B - Bigthana
- C - Harbona
- D - Carkas

4) What tribe was Esther from?

- A - Judah
- B - Asher
- C - Benjamin
- D - Levi

5) What was Esther's Hebrew name?

- A - Jezebel
- B - Hadassah
- C - Biztha
- D - Michal

6) Esther did not reveal the fact that she was Jewish because:

- A - of religious persecution
- B - She was ashamed of the fact
- C - She was an orphan and didn't know
- D - Mordecai told her not to

7) Haman disliked Mordecai because:

- A - He would not bow before him
- B - He was a Jew
- C - He ate garlic
- D - Haman was jealous of him

8) Haman wrote an edict commanding that all Jews should be killed on what day?

- A - The sabbath
- B - The twelfth day of the first month
- C - The thirteenth day of the twelfth month
- D - The sixth day of the fourth month

9) What was the name of the eunuch which attended Esther?

- A - Bildad
- B - Hathach
- C - Hagar
- D - Ebed

10) Esther invites the king to a banquet, and also invites one other guest... who?

- A - Haman
- B - Mordecai
- C - Hathach
- D - Memucan

ST. STEPHEN'S MARTHA THOMA CHURCH



423 DUNHAMS CORNER ROAD
EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 08816

Vicar's Address
Rev. Abraham Cherian
209 Michael Ct.,
Woodbridge, NJ 07095

December

2009

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ACHEN'S MESSAGE!



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Once again we are at the threshold of an Advent season and commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ on 25th December. The word 'advent' means coming and as its name suggests it is a time of preparation for the coming feast of Christmas. In our church we have 25 days of Fast begins on 1st December to prepare ourselves in body, mind & spirit to receive the Lord. As Sir Walter Scott writes it, "Heap on more wood! The wind is chill; But let it whistle as it well, we will keep our Christmas merry still."

With Christmas and the corner, you cannot forget the songs of Mary, Elizabeth, Zechariah, Simeon and the like, who rejoiced while they found favor with God in the midst of their long suffering and perseverance. Christmas also brings the angelic song of praise that brought good news of great joy to the world while a child was born and was laid in a manger. The world will be thankful to such people who will incarnate in like situations to impart life for others. Life begets life. Let's join with our friends and family with joy & celebrate the festival meaningfully.

On 6th December, we remember the importance of the birth of John the Baptist.

On 13th - Annunciation to Joseph, Exhortation to participate in the Divine plan of Salvation.

20th -- the Sunday before Christmas - The word became flesh.

On 21st -- Mar Thoma Church day. December 25th - Yeldho -The Birth of our Lord.

On 27th-- Christ's solidarity with the poor. 31st Thursday-- God is our Helper and Redeemer. A special time to look back and to rededicate ourselves for a new beginning with the Lord.

I take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support & prayers for the Thanksgiving programs and auction sale. May God bless you all abundantly in the days to come.

"Have a joyous 'Christmas and a prosperous New year"

yours in Christ

Toji Achen



Birthdays in December!!

21	Sheeba Abraham	d/o Abraham Pulimoottil	(732) 283-4855
21	Annie George	w/o Jacob K Varghese	(732) 527-0428
21	Elizabeth Koshy		(732) 557-4809
22	Aju J. Sam		(551) 580-1891
22	Ashwini Mariam Varughese	d/o Shibu Varghese	(732) 494-4199
22	Sani Abraham	w/o Benjamin Abraham	(732) 834-0024
23	Sunoj Mathew	s/o Late 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	(732) 348-8165
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



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 Yohanam	(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	(732) 348-8165
20	Jacob K Varghese		(732) 527-0428
21	Jos Thomas		(732) 356-8975

ANNOUNCEMENTS!



New Born

Mr. & Mrs. Sunil & Rani Thomas are blessed by the birth of their baby girl, Mariam Ann Thomas.

Mr. & Mrs. Jijy & Legy George are blessed by the birth of their baby boy.

Let's congratulate both families and keep them in your prayers.

Prayer Meeting

There will be a church prayer meeting on Sunday, December 6th at 6:00 pm at the residence of Late Mr. K.G. Mathewkutty, 54 South Mckinliey Avenue, Iselin, NJ. (732) 855-1719. All are requested to attend.

Please contact Achen, Church Secretary or your Prayer Group Representative, if you would like to conduct Prayer Meeting at your home.

Young Family Fellowship

There will be a young family fellowship (one day conference) at Ascension Mar Thoma Church, Philadelphia on Saturday December 12th, 2009 at 9:00am. All young families are encouraged to participate.

House Caroling

The House-to-House Carolers will be visiting the following areas during this month. This tentative schedule is given for your information, a representative or designee will be contacted you prior to the caroling. Your whole hearted participation is needed for the success.

December 5th: Somerset, Skillman, Bellmead, Hillsborough, Franklin Park, Branchburg and Basking Ridge.

December 12th: Union, Orange, Livingston, Parsippany, Morris plains, Sparta, Stewartsville, Forks (PA) and Long Valley

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

December 13th: North Brunswick, Plainsboro, Monmouth Junction and Dayton,

December 18th: Woodbridge, Edison, Clark, Staten Island

December 20th: Freehold, Manalapan Marlboro, Holmdel, Keyport, Eatontown, Colts Neck, Tinton falls.

Please contact the convener, Mr. Jomon K Thomas for details.

Carol Service

Our Christmas Carol service will be held on December 19th at our Church at 3:00pm.

Christmas and Watch Night Services

This year's Christmas Day service will be held on December 25th at 8:00 am. We will have our watch night service on December 31st at 9:00 pm. Watch Service Readings:

1 st Lesson Isaiah 6 1 - 13	2 nd Lesson Hebrew 13 7 - 21	Epistle 2 Corinthians 13 5 - 14	Gospel John 12 35 - 36
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Friendly Reminder

As we are approaching the year end, any dues to subscription or any other donations to church, please send the check to the attention of the trustee in the following address before 27th of December. Any payments made thereafter may not be included in the 2009 accounts.

Please mail payments to the trustee;
St. Stephens Mar Thoma Church
P.O. Box 6635, East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Condolences

We remember beloved Mathewkutty uncle who was called to eternity. Please keep the bereaving family in your prayers.

In loving memory of our Mr. K. G Mathewkutty



Date	Time	Celebrant	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel	Sunday School
6-Dec	10:00 AM	Birth of John the Baptist - Bible Sunday Word of God Light to the World					
		Rev. Abraham Cherian English	Genesis 1 1 - 24	2 Timothy 3 10 - 17	1 John 1 1 - 10	Luke 1 57 - 66	9:00 AM
13-Dec	10:00 AM	Annunciation to Joseph: Exhortation to participate in the Divine Plan of Salvation					
		Rev. Abraham Cherian Malayalam	Isaiah 40 1 - 11	Revelations 2 12 - 17	Philippians 4 4 - 9	Matthew 1 18 - 23	9:00 AM
20-Dec	10:00 AM	Sunday before Christmas					
		Rev. Abraham Cherian English	Isaiah 11 1 - 10	1 John 5 1 - 12	Romans 1 8 - 16	John 1 1 - 14	9:00 AM
25-Dec	8:00 AM	Yalco - Birth of our Lord					
		Rev. Abraham Cherian Malayalam	Micah 5 1 - 9	Colossians 1 15 - 20	1 Timothy 1 14 - 17	Luke 2 1 - 20	FRIDAY
27-Dec	10:00 AM	Church's Solidarity with the poor					
		Rev. Abraham Cherian Malayalam	Amos 8 1 - 7	2 Corinthians 9 6 - 15	Acts 4 32 - 37	Luke 4 16 - 21	9:00 AM