

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

We are entering to the third month of this year. We experienced the blessings of God in our life and the safety in his hands in the winter season. There were several Natural Calamities in different parts of the world, and also in the country we live. We are asking God why, but there is no answer for most of our questions. Instead of asking why, can we thrive these difficulties in our life with hope and optimism. Can we move forward?

This month we are going to celebrate Easter, but how many of us can incorporate its true meaning. Easter is a sign of humility, truthfulness, honesty, integrity, love and compassion. Can we truthfully love one another without any barriers, then only the celebration of Easter will be meaningful to our life. Can we love those who are against us, like as Jesus Christ, “the true meaning of Easter”.

In the coming months we are going to organize different functions in our church. Please be part of the church and participate in all the activities of the church. We need everybody’s help. Please bring new ideas to make our activities attractive and meaningful. Jesus said “ You can’t put new wine into old wineskins”. Jesus was saying that you cannot have a larger life with old restricted attitudes. That lesson is still relevant today. Some of us are set in our ways, bound by our perspectives, and stuck in our thinking. God is trying to do something new, but unless we’re willing to change, unless we’re willing to expand and enlarge our vision, we’ll miss His opportunities for us. Please encourage others and have a good relation with every member of the church, hence make the term “St. Stephen’s family” meaningful.

God says, “Behold, I am doing a new thing. Do you not perceive it?” Notice, God is always ready to do new things in our lives. He’s trying to promote us, to increase us, to give us more. Yet, it’s interesting that God asked the question “Do you not perceive it?” In other words, are you making room for it in your own thinking? Are you believing for increase? Are you believing to excel at your job? Are you believing to be a more effective leader, or a better parent?

It’s time to enlarge our vision.

Yours in service,
Secretary



VICAR’S LETTER

Dearly beloved in Christ Jesus,

What happens when Jesus takes birth in your life? You get the courage to face the crises of life and to take up the cross. You stop to be part of society's deterioration, but become an agent of transformation. You can feel the presence of God everywhere and there is no vacuum or God free area. X'mas is divine accommodation - God is accepting the whole world though it is corrupted. When Jesus rules your heart you start conquering the world by loving it. What is our mission as followers of Christ?

Joseph had a mission, to protect the mother and child, the Savior child. Mary had a mission- to conceive the Savior and deliver him facing many hardships. The shepherds had to leave the place in the middle of the night as they responded positively to the words of the angels. Jesus had to bear the cross of the world's rejection, his own creation, and his own sheep. Today we are called to re-live the life of Jesus Christ through our life and witness.

The Tsunami is a strong wave in the middle of the sea, and the whole devastation happened is its effect. One single strong wave made history. The 33 yrs. earthly life of Jesus confined to a small locality made history. We are the waves of God, we can change the world with God .The cross is the powerful wave of love that divided the history. In this wave powers, cultures and lives of many people got shaken and are still shaking. It shook the life of Peter and this powerful wave captured the life of Paul. Yes, they all made history different. In our utter foolishness we try to escape this heavenly wave from devouring us and shaping us. So let us be humble enough to be victims of this wave of love and sacrifice so that we can be great victors.

We are looking forward to the visit of our Thirumeni, Rt.Rev.Dr.Yuyakim Mar Coorilos Episcopa on the 19th and 20th of this month. Let us thank God and pray for the First Communicants. May this time of Lent lead us to more meaningful repentance and rededication. God bless.

*In His Service,
Thomas Paul Achen.*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

EPISCOPAL VISIT



Rt.Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilose Thirumeni will be with us on 19th Saturday and 20th Sunday of March 2005. There will be a Youth Fellowship meeting on Saturday at 4.30 PM. Thirumeni will be available to address the Youths. There will be a Public meeting on Saturday at 6.30 PM. On Sunday the Holy Communion service will start at 10.30 AM. Please continue to pray that Thirumeni's visit will be a great blessing to our church.

PARISH DAY



We will observe April 17th as our Parish Day. There will be an evening entertainment Program on April 16th Saturday at 6.00 PM in the church conference hall. All the members are requested to participate in this joyful celebration and make this as a memorable event.

RAMBAN CONSECRATION

REV. DR. KU. ABRAHAM WAS CONSECRATED AS RAMBAN ON FEBRUARY 11, 2005. WE WISH HIM ALL THE BEST IN HIS MINISTRY AS A GREAT LEADER OF MAR THOMA CHURCH.



Worship Schedule & Lectionary

Date	Order of Worship	Celebrant	Time
Sun Mar.6	Holy Communion in English 1st Lesson: Hos. 6: 1- 6 2nd Lesson: Acts. 17: 22- 31	Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathew	10.45 AM
Sun Mar.13	Holy Communion in Malayalam 1st Lesson: Jer. 8: 18- 22 2nd Lesson: 1Pet. 3: 13- 22	Rev. Thomas Paul	10.45 AM
Sun Mar. 20	Holy Communion in English 1st Lesson: Zach. 9: 9- 17 2nd Lesson: Heb. 5: 5- 10	Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos	10. 30 AM
Sun Mar. 27	Holy Communion in Malayalam 1st Lesson: 2 King. 4: 27- 37 2nd Lesson: 1 Cor. 15: 12- 20	Rev. Thomas Paul	7.00 AM

FOR YOUR DILIGENT PRAYERS:

Continue to pray for God's blessings on our efforts to purchase a land/property/church of our own.

Pray for our first communicants.

Pray for our Achen & family.

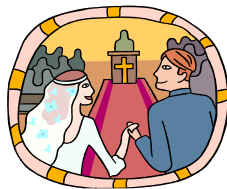
Pray for the sick People in our church.

Pray for those who are unemployed in our church, to get a suitable job.

Aleyamma J. Panickar w/o Jacob Panickar
 24th Dr. Nebu Thomas Alexander
 26th K.G. Mathewkutty
 27th Mammen T. Thomas
 27th Simon Mathews
 29th Elizabeth Jacob w/o Jacob Chacko
 30th Kiron I. Thomas s/o Sunil M. Thomas
 31st Anita Mathews d/o John Mathews

**WE, THE ST. STEPHEN'S FAMILY WISH
 YOU ALL A HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



12th Vi noj Mathew & Mini Vi - noj

WE, THE ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH EXTEND OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS FAMILY WHO CELEBRATE THEIR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS MONTH.

LOST & FOUND

Ladies watch and a Gold Ring. (Please contact secretary)

New Members



The following families have joined to our Parish.

MR. JOEMON VARGHESE & MRS. BIBINA VARGHESE, THEIR SON JONAH VARGHESE AND DAUGHTER ANGELICA VARGHESE. THEY ARE FROM ST. THOMAS MARTHOMA CHURCH, KOZHENCHERRY. THEY RESIDE AT 41 WHITNEY COURT, EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 08816. PHONE. NO. 732-967-0546

MR. SUNIL JACOB & MRS. BINDHU JACOB AND THEIR SONS ALBERT JACOB AND ALFRED JACOB. THEY ARE FROM ST. STEPHEN'S CSI CHURCH, KOTTANAD, TIRUVALLA. THEY RESIDE AT 11 BRIARDALE COURT, PLAINSBORO, NJ.08536 . PHONE. NO. 609-936-9364

We, the members of St. Stephen's Mar Thoma Church, with great pleasure, welcome you all to our family.

BIRTH

Santhosh & Sini Varghese are blessed with a baby boy named Alexander Jacob Varghese on Saturday February 26 th 2005.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BLESSED PARENTS

MALAYALAM CLASS SCHEDULE

Every Sunday at 1.30 PM in the basement nursery room.

PRAYER MEETING—AREA #3

There will be a prayer meeting at the residence of Mr. Jacob Chacko on March 12th at 6.30 PM. Phone. 732-249-7318

Sunday School Corner

“Bringing every child to Jesus”

March 2005 Sunday School Class Schedule:

03/06/2005: Sunday school after HQ (before Sermon)
 03/13/2005: Sunday school after offertory
 03/20/2005: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
 03/27/2005: Sunday school after offertory

SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

Preschool/Nursery: Shyla George & Tina Thomas
 KG: Becky Joseph & Benson Joseph
 1ST & 2ND Grade: Shirley Thomas & Shanta Thomas
 3RD & 4TH Grade: Anila Kurien & Sumy Cherukara
 5TH & 6TH Grade: Jacob Chacko & Sherry Varghese
 7TH & 8TH Grade: Sony Cherukara & Lisa Cherukara
 9TH & 10TH Grade: Betsy Joseph & Thomas Mathew
 Seniors: Philip Thomas & Saju Thomas

PASSION WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE

20TH PALM SUNDAY: 10.30 AM (HOLY COMMUNION)

21ST MONDAY: 7.30 PM (PUBLIC WORSHIP)

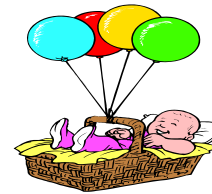
22ND TUESDAY: 7.30 PM (PUBLIC WORSHIP)

23RD WEDNESDAY: 7.30 PM (PUBLIC WORSHIP)

24TH MAUNDY THURSDAY: 7.30 PM (HOLY COMMUNION)

25TH GOOD FRIDAY: 10.00 AM (GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE)

27TH EASTER SUNDAY: 7.00 AM (HOLY COMMUNION)



Born in the Month of March

1st	Aleyamma Abraham	w/o A. Abraham
1st	Shibu A. Abraham	s/o A. Abraham
3rd	Mathew Johnson	
3rd	Dilip Skaria Abraham	b/o Saju Cherian Abraham
4th	Philip Thomas Stephen	s/o Dilip Stephen
5th	Sherry Varghese	d/o Daniel Varghese
5th	Jennifer Kurien	d/o Thomas Kurien
6th	Tara E. Thomas	d/o John Thomas
6th	Sunil M. Thomas	
6th	Jacob K. Sam	
6th	Jonathan Behanan Mathew	s/o Dr. Cecil Mathew
7th	Becky Joseph	d/o Joseph V. Joseph
9th	Sujit John	s/o John Varghese
11th	Revi George Varghese	
12th	Aleyamma Abraham	w/o Abraham Pulimoottil
12st	George Yohannan	
13th	Alexander Philip Cherukara	
15th	Chacko Sajjan Poovakunnel	
18th	Pappen Varghese	
18th	Rohen Varkey	s/o Thomas Varkey
18th	Sunil Kurien Cherian	
18th	Jeremy George	s/o George Edukala
21st	Annamma John	w/o Joseph N. John
22nd	Rev. Shibi Abraham	s/o A. Abraham
22nd	Pushpa J. Varghese	w/o John Varghese
22nd	Sara Margie Abraham	d/o Benjamin Abraham