## Birthdays

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Sarah Varghese | Nanuet |
| 5 | Saramma George | Valley Cottage |
| 5 | Salomi George | Spring Valley |
| 6 | P. D. Joshua | Spring Valley |
| 7 | Dr. Joseph Mathew | Edision |
| 9 | Blessy Binu | New City |
| 9 | Vijith M. Jose | Spring Valley |
| 10 | T. T. George | Spring Valley |
| 13 | Ann Marie Ninan | New City |
| 14 | Jessy Mathew | Bardonia |
| 15 | Anoop K. Cherian | Orangeburg |
| i6 | Benoj Joseph David | Spring Valley |
| 16 | Hayden Ann Binu | New City |
| 17 | Saneeta Ann Monzy | Monsey |
| 18 | George Kurian | Orangeburg |
| 19 | Nitin Pallathu John | Spring Valley |
| 20 | Sanjayan Joseph | New City |
| 20 | Shanny Philip Idiculla | Bergenfield |
| 20 | Jeremy Abraham Mathew | Congers |
| 21 | Toms Zachariah | Spring Valley |
| 21 | Jinu Ann Easaw | Cortlandt Manor |
| 21 | Aleyamma Mathew | Tappan |
| 27 | Amy Elizabeth Abraham | Nanuet |
| 27 | Jaison Mathew | Tappan |
| 28 | Saiji Cherian | New Windsor |

## Wedding Anniversaries

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5 | Nalonnil M. Mathews & Dr. Annie Mathews | Suffern |
| 7 | Jacob Chacko & Elizabeth Jacob | Spring Valley |
| 10 | Jacob Alexander & Mariamma Jacob | Nanuet |
| 11 | Samuel Mathew & Jessy Mathew | Bardonia |
| 14 | T. K. Koshy & Saramma Koshy | Congers |
| 15 | Thomas Abraham & Aleyamma Abraham | Garnerville |

Rev. Mathew Varughese
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LIGHTED TO LIGHTEN

# ST. JAMES MAR THOMA CHURCH

February 2012

VOLUME: XXII ISSUE: 2

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## Vicar's Message

***"Arise, Let us be going" (St. Matthew 26:46)***

The theme for 117th Maramon convention is "Arise, Let us be going" (Mat. 26:46). The context of this verse is Jesus' prayer at Gethsemane before his crucifixion. Jesus was troubled by his imminent death, but his disciples were sleeping. This shows the two aspect of the whole person that struggle with each other. Jesus himself is in this struggle, and his prayer moves from praying for deliverance from death to trust and commitment to God's will. When he finished his prayer, he said to his disciples 'Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand' (NRSV)

*Displacement Vs Discipleship.*

In the field of psychology, the word displacement is defined as transfer of emotions or behavior from the original focus to another less threatening person or object, or the substitution of one response or piece of behavior for another. Here, the disciples are in the displacement mentality they are trying to focus on sleeping, to avoid the disturbing thought of Jesus' death, which is a reality. Jesus is telling them 'Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand'. We too are in displacement mentality; we cannot displace the realities of life; we need to face it, realities like sickness and death, lose of job, etc.

Discipleship is not avoiding master at the time of struggle rather standing with the master even at the point of death. We should not sacrifice our morals and principles for momentary benefits.

*Jesus encouraged and empowered himself and his disciples through prayer.*

Jesus was in struggle, whether to submit himself for his father's will or to avoid death. The contrast of willing spirit and the weakness of the flesh are there in everyone. Like Jesus, we need to spend time with our heavenly father to empower ourselves to take up the challenges of life.

When we are discouraged and disheartened, remember we are not alone, our Lord Jesus is encouraging us to go further, he is telling us 'Arise, Let us be going, we are not alone Jesus is leading us from the front. Let us believe in the final words of Jesus, "surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." May the God help us to face the challenges of life.

In His Service,
Rev. Mathew Varughese.

## WORSHIP SERVICES

| Date | Time | Service |
|---|---|---|
| Feb. 5 | 10:15 AM | Holy Communion (Malayalam) |
| Feb. 12 | 10:15 AM | Holy Communion (English) |
| Feb. 19 | 10:15 AM | Holy Communion (Malayalam) |
| Feb. 26 | 10:15 AM | Holy Communion (English) |

**Sunday School 9:00 AM**

**Intercessory Prayer 9:45 AM**

**Holy Communion 10:15 AM**

Fifty days of great lent begins on February 20, 2012.

| DATE | THEME |
|---|---|
| Feb. 5 | Medical Mission Sunday. 'Healing to the Nation and people'. |
| Feb. 12 | 117th Maramon Convention Begins 'Arise Let us go forward'. |
| Feb. 19 | Pethurtha: Formation and Transformation of Life (Lent begins) |
| Feb. 26 | The Compassion of our Lord (2nd Sunday in Lent) |

## SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS

| Date | Service Assistant | Usher | Usher |
|---|---|---|---|
| Feb. 5 | Rajesh Mathew | Salomi George | Blessy Binu |
| Feb. 12 | Jeremy Job | Sarah Varghese | Ann Marie Ninan |
| Feb. 19 | George Kurian | Saramma George | Jinu Ann Easaw |
| Feb. 26 | Ajay Pappan | Saneeta Ann Monzy | Shanny P. Idiculla |



## SCRIPTURE READING ASSIGNMENTS

| Date | Lesson I | Lesson 2 |
|---|---|---|
| Feb. 5 | Nalonnil M. Mathews | Dr. Annie Mathews |
| Feb. 12 | Jacob Chacko | Elizabeth Jacob |
| Feb. 19 | Jacob Alexander | Mariamma Jacob |
| Feb. 26 | Samuel Mathew | Jessy Mathew |

## LECTIONARY

| Date | Lesson I | Lesson 2 | Epistle | Gospel |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Feb. 5 | 2King 2:19-22 | Rev.22:1-7 | 2Cor. 12:7-10 | St. Mark 5:25-34 |
| Feb. 12 | Joshua6:12-20 | Rev.22:5-17 | Rom. 13:11-14 | St. Mark 14:32-42 |
| Feb. 19 | Job 1:1-5 | Rom.12:1-15 | 2Cor. 5:16-21 | St. John 2:1-11 |
| Feb. 26 | 2Kings 5:1-16 | Jam. 2:1-10 | Acts 5:12-16 | St. Luke 5:12-16 |

## PRAYER MEETINGS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Feb. 4 | Prayer Meeting | At the Church, 7:00pm. |
| Feb. 9 | Sevika Sanghom | At the residence of Mrs. Valsamma Jose, 7:30pm. |
| Feb. 11 | Prayer Meeting | At the Church, 7:00pm. |
| Feb. 17 | Edavaka Mission | At the residence of Mr. P. D. Joshua, 7:30pm. |
| Feb. 18 | Prayer Meeting | At the Church, 7:00pm. |
| Feb. 25 | Prayer Meeting | At the Church, 7:00pm. |