

Birthdays

2	Saramma C. Koshy	Congers
4	Chinnamma Mathews	Nanuet
5	Ammukutty K J	Nanuet
5	Reena Abraham	West Nyack
5	Joval J. Mathew	Tappan
8	Angelina E.Daniel	Florida
10	Jolly Tom	Congers
11	Beena P. John	Spring Valley
11	Allen Ajay	Suffern
12	Josh Job	Congers
12	Stevan V. Babu	Nanuet
14	Nalonnil M. Mathews	Suffern
14	Daniel Thomas	Avenel
15	M. S. Eapen	Tappan
16	Selwyn A. Jacob	Nanuet
16	Timothy Yohannan	Valley Cottage
19	Johnson George	Bergenfield
20	Mariamamma Philip	Spring Valley
21	Jinsey Jacob	Tappan
23	Isaiah Zachary Abraham	West Nyack
25	Anju George	Orangeburg
25	Jyoti Mathews	Flemington
27	Susan John	Spring Valley
28	C. T. Abraham	New City
28	Shaimi Jacob	Spring Valley
29	Sherin Elsa Jacob	Nanuet
30	Amanda E. Mathew	Nanuet
31	Sherlin Philip	Spring Valley

Wedding Anniversaries

7	Ninan C. Thomas & Annamma Ninaan	New City
15	Chacko P. George & Saramma George	Valley Cottage

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ST. JAMES MAR THOMA CHURCH

March 2012

Vicar's Message

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Compromise is suicidal.

On the 40th Friday of lent we meditate on the victory of Jesus over the temptation of Satan. The three synoptic evangelists place the experience of desert in relation with the baptism of Jesus presented shortly before. Evangelist Mathew compares Jesus' wilderness experience with the Israelites wandering for forty years in the wilderness on the way to the promised land.

Jesus' determination in the face of temptations corroborates the commitment of his baptism.

Jesus began his ministry with his baptism. At the time of baptism Holy Spirit confirmed him as the son of God and thus Jesus inaugurated his mission.

All the three temptations were to use his condition of son of God unduly. Jesus refuses to use his privilege for his benefit, therefore, giving guidelines to his followers not to use the grace received for their own benefit. (Sharing the word through Liturgical year, By Gustavo Gutierrez. P 45) Following Jesus is not a privilege placing us above others rather a service demanding us to be a servant.

Jesus never used miracles to impress people, his miracles were the signs of life not the performance of power.

In the third temptation, Jesus was asked to bow down the satan, and the satan offered all powers of the world to Jesus. Jesus refuses to compromise with the satan for the temporal power. Every now and then, we are facing the temptation of compromise. When we compromise our principles for our temporal benefit then that is suicidal. Having a positive attitude toward God does not mean living unrealistically were we tell everybody nice, up-beat things all the time, whether they are true or not, Jesus was against phony baloney. He did not compromise his commitment to God, to make the satan feel good.

It is better to be killed for a right cause than to commit suicide as a coward.

In His Ministry,
Rev. Mathew Varughese.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

Date	Time	Service
Mar. 04	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam) (Diocesan Sunday)
Mar. 11	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (English)
Mar. 18	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (Malayalam)
Mar. 25	10:15 AM	Holy Communion (English)
Mar. 30	7:30 PM	40th Friday Holy communion (Malayalam)

Sunday School .9 AM

Intercessory Prayer. 9.45 AM

Holy Communion. 10.15 AM

DATE	THEME
Mar. 04	Jesus who absolves our sin
Mar. 11	The zeal of Faith
Mar. 18	Restoration through worship
Mar. 25	Annunciation to virgin Mary : Messiah fulfillment of the promise
Mar. 30	40th Friday: Victory over temptation through the word of God

SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS

Date	Service Assistant	Usher	Usher
Mar. 04	Varghese Thomas	Susan John	Jolly Tom
Mar. 11	Joval J. Mathew	Sarah Varghese (Nanuet)	Sally C. Ninan
Mar. 18	George Thomas	Ashley Karakal	Melissa S. Mathew
Mar. 25	Jeremy Job	Jerry John	Stanly Varghese
Mar.30	Gigi Tom	Mariamamma Philip	Beena John

SCRIPTURE READING ASSIGNMENTS

Date	Lesson 1	Lesson 2
Mar. 04	Chacko P. George	Saramma George
Mar. 11	Reena Abraham	Stevan V. Babu
Mar. 18	Anju George	Jinsey Jacob
Mar. 25	Sherlin Philip	Selwyn A. Jacob
Mar. 30	Mariamamma Joshua	Doly Thomas

LECTIONARY

Date	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Epistle	Gospel
Mar. 04	Isa 1: 1-20	1 John 1:5-26	Heb. 9:24-28	St. Mark 2:1-12
Mar. 11	Isa. 45: 1-8	Acts . 16: 6-15	Gal. 2: 11- 21	St. Matt. 15: 21-28
Mar. 18	Isa. 59: 9-21	Rom. 8: 31-39	Eph 6:10-20	St. Luke 13:10-17
Mar. 25	Isa. 42:1-9	Acts. 16:19-34	2 Cor. 11:18-28	St. Mark 10:46-52
Mar. 30	Num. 21: 4-9	1 Cor. 1: 18 -31	Gal. 6: 11- 16	St. Matt. 4: 1-11

40th Friday Holy Communion.

40th Friday Holy communion on Friday, March 30, 2012 at 7:30 PM.

PRAYER MEETINGS

Mar.10	Clarkstown	At the residence of Mr. Abraham Mathew, 7:00PM
Mar. 12	Sevika Sanghom	At the residence of Mrs. Chinnamma Mathews, 7:00PM
Mar. 17	World Day of Prayer	Bethany MTC Orangeburg, 9:30 AM
Mar. 17	Prayer Meeting	At the Church. 7:00 PM
Mar. 24	Regional Meeting	Ebenezer MTC, 406 King Street Portchester, 9:30 AM
Mar. 24	Special Prayer	At the residence of Mr. Jacob George, 7:00PM
Mar. 30	Holy Communion	40th Friday. 7:30PM
Mar. 31	Prayer Meeting	At the Church. 7:00 PM