



Message from the Vicar

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Beloved St. James family members

“We have all become like one who is unclean; all our righteousness are like filthy rags.” Isaiah 64:6

A poor boy in dirty and torn clothes walked into a London orphanage. The superintendent asked the boy the purpose of his coming. The boy replied: “I would like to live here.” The man replied: “I do not know you; do you have any recommendations?” The boy held up his torn clothes and said, “nothing more than these rags, sir; I thought this should be sufficient proof to let me in.” Immediately, the superintendent swept him into his arms and into the orphanage, where he was washed and given new clothes and fed. Lenten season is specially set apart by the church when we repent of our sins and come home to the arms of a loving father by exchanging our rags with new clothes.

As we step into the month of March, we will be in a very profound and sacred season in our spiritual life - **Great Lent**. Great Lent will begin on March 2nd. This season offers us an opportunity for deep reflection, spiritual renewal, and a closer walk with Christ. Lent is a time to pause and examine our hearts, to repent, and to draw nearer to God through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a time to reflect on the sacrifices that Jesus made for our salvation and to respond with gratitude and a renewed commitment to follow Him. Christ’s journey to the cross was not imposed or accidental, it was a self-giving. The Church invites us not only to focus on giving up certain things but also on taking up the call to embrace the things that strengthen us to grow in faith. In these 50 days, let us seek opportunities for spiritual growth and reflection, whether through daily Scripture reading, or attending Lenten services.

This Lent is an opportunity and time for us to share what we have with others, and to remember and help those who cannot live like us. As a parish, we decided to give a new house to a most deserving family. It is our responsibility to fulfil it without delay. During this 50-day lent time, each family can raise and contribute \$ 100 for this project by setting aside \$ 2 per day. Lenten prayers are arranged from mid-lent on Wednesday, 26 March 2025. Those who are interested in arranging the Lenten prayer at home make the arrangements for that.

2 March 2025 Sunday will be observed as our Diocesan Sunday. It is our responsibility to participate in and contribute to the general growth and development of our Diocese. Requesting the participation of all families by making our contributions to the needs of the Diocese.

Lent isn’t merely a liturgical tradition; it’s an invitation- an invitation extended by the church but one that resonates from the very essence of our faith. As we journey towards the cross, let us remember that we do not walk this path alone - we walk it together, as a family of faith. May this Lenten season be one of deep spiritual renewal and hope as we look forward to the glory of the Resurrection.

God bless You All.

Ajith Varghese Achen

Church executive committee 2025

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	DATE	WORSHIP SERVICES: MARCH, 2025	TIME
Sun	2-Mar	Holy Communion Service (English)	10:15 AM
Sun	9-Mar	Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)	10:15 AM
Sun	16-Mar	Holy Communion Service (English)	10:15 AM
Sun	23-Mar	Holy Communion Service (Malayalam)	10:15 AM
Sun	30-Mar	Holy Communion Service (English)	10:15 AM

LECTIONARY-MARCH, 2025

Day	Date	Lesson: 1	Lesson: 2	Epistles	Gospels
Sun	2-Mar	Beginning of the Great Lent: Jesus who transforms everything			
		Deut 30:1-10	Rev 21:1-8	Rom 12:1-3	John 2:1-11
Sun	9-Mar	Christ who holds together the neglected (Second Sunday of the Lent)			
		Jer 33:6-11	Phlm 1:8-21	Jas 4:7-10	Mark 1:40-45
Sun	16-Mar	Jesus Christ who gives healing and redemption from sin (Third Sunday of the Lent)			
		2Kgs 5:1-14	Acts 16:16-18	Rom 5:6-11	Mark 2:1-12
Sun	23-Mar	Jesus Christ who makes redemption possible for everyone (Fourth Sunday of the Lent)			
		Hos 2:14-23	Acts 5:12-16	1Cor 1:18-25	Matt 15:21-28
Sun	30-Mar	Jesus Christ who grants the fullness of humanity (Fifth Sunday of the Lent)			
		Isa 66:12-15	Rom 3:23-31	1Pet 1:18-25	Luke 13:10-17



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: MARCH

Dates	Name	Town
3-Mar	Jessie & Anoop Cherian	Orangeburg, NY
15-Mar	Saramma & Chacko P. George	New City, NY



BIRTHDAYS - MARCH

Dates	Name	Town
2-Mar	Saramma C. Koshy	Congers, NY
5-Mar	Jaiden Abe Thomas	Nanuet, NY
5-Mar	Jerome Matt Thomas	Nanuet, NY
5-Mar	Reena J. Abraham	Poughkeepsie, NY
10-Mar	Jolly Tom	Congers, NY
11-Mar	Allen Ajay	Suffern, NY
11-Mar	Beena P. John	Spring Valley, NY

12-Mar	Steven V. Babu	Nanuet, NY
12-Mar	Josh Job	Flemington, NJ
12-Mar	Nikil K. Shoji	New City, NY
14-Mar	Daniel Thomas	Avenel, NJ
15-Mar	Hannah Binu	New City, NY
15-Mar	Eappen M. S.	Palisades, NY
16-Mar	Selwyn Alexander Jacob	Nanuet, NY
16-Mar	Timmy Yohannan	Valley Cottage, NY
20-Mar	Aju Mathew	New York
20-Mar	Mariamamma Philip	Spring Valley, NY
23-Mar	Nia Joseph	New City, NY
23-Mar	Isaiah Zachary Abraham	Poughkeepsie, NY
25- Mar	Benjamin Samuel	New City, NY
26-Mar	Allen Oommen George	Staten Island, NY
27-Mar	Susan John	Spring Valley, NY
28-Mar	Shaimi Jacob	New City, NY
29-Mar	Sherin Elsa Jacob	Nanuet, NY

Prayer Meeting.

Sevika sanghom prayer meeting will be held on March 22nd Saturday at 7:00PM at the residence of Mrs. Jolly Tom, 1 Hazen Ln., Congers, New York 10920.

Edavaka mission prayer meeting on March 8th Saturday at 7:00PM at the residence of Mr. Alexander Varghese, 1 East Palisades Ave, Nanuet, NY 10954,

Fasting prayer meeting on every third Friday at 10:30 AM via Zoom.

Senior citizen prayer meeting on every forth Wednesday at 7:30PM via Zoom.

Episcopal visit.

Our former diocesan bishop Rt.Rev.Dr. Issac Mar Philoxinus Episcopa will visit our Church and celebrate holy communion service on March 9th 2025 Sunday.



Sunday, Mar 9, 2025

St. James Marthoma Church
Newsletter
March 2025

253 Ehrhardt Rd.,

Pearl River, NY 10965

Psalm 3:3

*"But you,
Lord, are a
shield
around me,
my glory, the
One who
lifts my head
high."*