



Diocese of North America and Europe

# The Mar Thoma *Besorah*

The *Besorah* is an Official Publication of the Diocese of North America and Europe.

## EVENTS

**India Mission Trip**  
May 12-28, 2012

**Reception to Mar Theethos in NY**  
July 1, 2012

**Diocesan Clergy Family Conference**  
Venue: Washington MTC  
July 3-4, 2012

**Diocesan Assembly Meeting**  
Venue: Washington MTC  
July 4-5, 2012

**30<sup>th</sup> Mar Thoma Family Conference**  
July 5-8, 2012 in Leesburg, Virginia  
[www.mtfc2012.org](http://www.mtfc2012.org)

**National Youth Conference**  
Hosted by Trinity MTC, Houston  
August 9-12, 2012

## MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

One of the highlights of the Holy Week is, Jesus cleansing the Temple. Sugatha Kumari a noted social activist in Kerala said in an assembly of the clergy and laity of the Christian church that she likes the portrait of 'Jesus with the whip' at the Jerusalem temple more than the Madonna, crucifix, or the praying Jesus.

How is our place of worship where we gather? Does it need cleansing? It is a place where we gather for corporate worship, celebration of marriages, and baptisms. It is a place where we share our joy and sorrows. It is a place where our sins and failures are confessed; where forgiveness and healing are practiced. It is a place where our doubts and anxieties can be heard with understanding. It is a place where God welcomes all, and where we welcome others. It is a place where we confess our faith, and the Holy Qurbana is celebrated and shared. What more?

Jesus said, "This is my father's house". He added that it is the house of prayer. As we celebrate Easter, may the power of Jesus' resurrection enable us to make our places of worship a centre of transformation; where communion with God and the rest of the creation is a reality; and where we anticipate with joy and hope the great banquet in the Kingdom of God.

**Mar Theodosius**  
**Diocesan Episcopa**

## METROPOLITAN VISIT



The Mar Thoma Metropolitan visited our Diocese and attended various programs in the parishes. Thirumeni conducted Holy Qurbana service and led Holy week programs in various parishes of the Diocese. In addition, His Lordship led the consecration of the new worship places of St. John's Mar Thoma Church and Ebenezer Mar Thoma Church in NY. Metropolitan's Secretary Rev. Abraham C. Pulinthitta is also accompanying Thirumeni (More photos and news in the Diocesan website.)

## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

1. Consider attending/participating in the appropriate events.
2. Support the 'Manna' Project & 'A Tree for a House Project' in Mexico (\$30 for each tree sponsored). Contact [marthomadiocese@gmail.com](mailto:marthomadiocese@gmail.com) if you wish to participate by providing food for the residents or by planting a tree.
3. **Pray for:**
  - a. The India Mission Trip, from May 12-28, 2012. Contact Mrs. Laila Philip at [yarampath23@msn.com](mailto:yarampath23@msn.com) for information.
  - b. The Diocese of North America and Europe, all the individual members of our church, our vicars, and leaders.
  - c. Our nation as a whole and God's presence in this world.
  - d. The 30<sup>th</sup> North American Family Conference in 2012 at Leesburg, Virginia, from July 5 to 8, 2012. Register at [www.mtfc2012.org](http://www.mtfc2012.org). All arrangements are progressing very well. To date 184 families have registered. The Diocesan Council extended the deadline for registration to May 10, 2012, to accommodate registration of the clergy and their families who arrive in May. Please support the 2012 Conference Souvenir by providing advertisements or your best compliments.

1. Rev. Abraham Mathew, St. Thomas MTC, Delaware Valley
2. Rev. Benchamin George, Ebenezer and St. Andrews MTC- NY
3. Rev. Binu Varghese, Seattle MTC
4. Rev. George Varghese, Sehion MTC, Dallas
5. Rev. Jacob Varghese, St. John's MTC, NY
6. Rev. Jai Varghese, Atlanta MTC, GA
7. Rev. John M. M., MTC of Greater Washington, MD
8. Rev. Jose Abraham T., MTC New Jersey, Randolph
9. Rev. Mathew Varghese, St. James MTC, NY
10. Rev. Minoy N. Kuruvilla, MTC of Dallas, Farmer's Branch
11. Rev. Noble A. P., St. Paul's Mar Thoma Church, Dallas
12. Rev. Regi Zachariah, Colorado MTC/ Phoenix Congregation
13. Rev. Roy P. Thomas, MTC, Chicago, USA
14. Rev. Sabu Thomas, St. Thoma MTC, Chicago
15. Rev. Thomas Mathew, Hermon MTC Atlanta /St. Luke's MTC, FL
16. Rev. Varghese K. C. , Carmel MTC, Boston
17. Rev. Varghese Mathai, Salem MTC, NY
18. Rev. Varghese Mathew P., MTC of Oklahoma
19. Rev. Abraham Mathew, Bristol MTC, UK
20. Rev. K. J. Mathew, St. Thomas MTC Calgary and St. Thomas MTC Vancouver, Canada
21. Rev. Reji John, Trinity MTC, Edmonton, Canada

*We thank you Achens for your valuable ministry in our Diocese during the past years. May the Lord's blessings be with you as you take up your new responsibilities. Our best wishes and prayers are with you and your families.*

*He is Risen! Happy Easter!*  
*from the*  
*Diocese of North America & Europe!*



**MEXICO MISSION: A TREE FOR A FAMILY**



The Tree for a Family project was held on Saturday, March 17, 2012, at Colonia Mar Thoma, Mexico. Mr. P.T. Abraham and Mr. John Thomas led the project along with Mr. Mathew Jacob (Diocesan assembly member), Ms. Arlene Mathew (Diocesan council member), and three youth fellowship members from the Immanuel MTC Houston. Coconut, mango and other fruit trees were distributed to the residents at Colonia. The objective is to enable each family to plant and grow a fruit tree that could be a resource for them and for others in the community. Thus far, 38 trees were planted. Our members also played soccer and kickball, and had a fellowship lunch with the children and residents at Colonia Mar Thoma.



**LITURGY FOR DIVINE SERVICE, HOLY QURBANA AND OTHER SACRAMENTS & RITES**

The Diocese of North America and Europe of the Mar Thoma Church is happy to announce the publication of the revised and abridged **Order of Worship for Divine Service, Holy Qurbana, and Other Sacraments & Rite**. This book was released during the Diocesan Council meeting at the Staten Island Mar Thoma Church on March 24, 2012, as per the request of the Diocesan Secretary, Rev. K. E. Geevarghese. The Diocesan Episcopa, Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius released this book for the glory of God and for the blessing of the current generation by giving the first copy to the Diocesan Treasurer, Mr. Chacko Mathew. This book is in English and is distributed through the Literature Society of the Diocese.



*Those who are interested in getting a copy or a number of copies can contact: 516-377-3311 or email: marthomadiocese@gmail.com.*

**MESSENGER MONTH-MAY 2012**



The Diocesan Council has decided to observe May 2012 as the Messenger month in the Diocese of North America and Europe. This is to facilitate the circulation of the Mar Thoma Messenger, the official publication of our Diocese. Attempts are being made to have this publication reach all the houses of our Diocese and to improve the quality of this quarterly publication to generate interest amongst all age groups.

**ST. THOMAS MTC, BRISTOL BUILDING SHARING AGREEMENT SIGNED**

Bristol St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church (UK) entered into a new phase in its life and mission in Bristol by signing a partnership agreement with St. Anne's Church, a parish under the Church of England. The official signing event was held on March 8, 2012 at 6 pm at the St. Anne's Church, Bristol, in the presence of our Diocesan Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius and the Archdeacon, the Venerable Christine Froude of Malmsbury (more details are available at the Diocesan website).



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