



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

### Mar Thoma Jr./Sr. Conference North East Region

July 19-22 at Ramapo College,  
NJ

### Mar Thoma Voluntary Evangelists Association National Conference

Hosted by Baltimore MTC  
July 20-22, 2012

### National Youth Conference Hosted by Trinity MTC, Houston

August 9-12, 2012

### Sevika Sangham National Conference

Hosted by Los Angeles MTC  
October 4-7, 2012

### Reception for Mar Markarios Episcopa in Los Angeles

October 7, 2012

### Yuvajana Sakhyam National Conference

Hosted by Ascension MTC, PA  
October 12-14, 2012

## MESSAGE FROM

### DR. THOMAS MAR THEETHOS EPISCOPA

It was indeed a very joyous occasion for me to be a part of the 30th National Mar Thoma Family Conference of the Diocese of North America and Europe. The church is called to be the sign and sacrament of the Kingdom of God. Church, as the body of Christ, is an inclusive and redeeming community and is placed in the world. Hence to understand the mission of the church one has to understand the world. We are living in the globalized world which holds the culture of the market. The culture of the market and the culture of the Kingdom of God are diametrically opposite.

It is a myth that if I get more, I will be more important. "Self-worth and net worth" are not the same; your value is not determined by your valuables. The greatest things in life are *not things*. You may have a lot of things to *live on* and still have nothing to *live for*. The church is called to keep on

reminding the world the impending dangers of the present market which is spreading like virus. It is my wish and prayer that all the conferences of this summer (2012) make this Diocese more vibrant and sacramental.

Let me place on record my thanks to dear Theodosius Thirumeni and K. E. Geevarghese Achen for their love and support. May God bless us all.

**Mar Theethos+**



## A QUOTE FROM THE DIOCESAN EPISCOPA



"Remembering the covenant is indispensable for the faith community that grows. The act of remembering the covenant is to be continued in the life and witness of the faith community for its re-formation. It means to keep on remembering its roots and routes in the spiritual journey for a bright future. Remembering helps the church to review the identity as the people of God. It also helps to reformulate the social witness of the Church and to live the covenant relevantly in the given social space."

**-Mar Theodosius+, excerpt from the Presidential address at the National Family Conference**

## 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 Diocese of North America and Europe, all the individual members of our church, our vicars, and leaders.
  - b. Our nation as a whole and God's presence in this world.
  - c. The National Youth Conference hosted by Trinity MTC, Houston, TX August 9-12, 2012.

## DIOCESAN RECEPTION FOR MAR THEETHOS

The Diocese of North America & Europe of the Mar Thoma Church arranged a reception for the newly consecrated Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos, Diocesan Episcopa of Bombay Diocese, at the Long Island MTC on Sunday, July 1, 2012. The Diocesan Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius, presided over the program. The Most Rev. Zacharias Mar Nicolavas (The Metropolitan of the Northeast American Diocese of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church), The Most. Rev. Titus Mar Eldo, (Archbishop and Patriarchal Vicar of the Malankara Archdiocese in North America) and The Most. Rev. Ayub Mar Sylvanos (Arch Bishop of Malankara Knanaya Arch Diocese, North America) blessed the occasion and addressed the gathering. Rev. Oommen Varkey, Mr. Mathew P. George and Ms. Rena Titus offered felicitation to the new bishop. Rev. K. E. Geevarghese, Diocesan Secretary welcomed the gathering, Mr. Chacko Mathew, Diocesan Treasurer presented a gift to Mar Theethos on behalf of the Diocese and Rev. A. B. Binu, Vicar of Long Island MTC, extended the vote of thanks.

## DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of North America and Europe of the Mar Thoma Church was held at the Mar Thoma Church of Greater Washington on Wednesday, July 4, 2012 and Thursday July 5, 2012. The Diocesan Episcopa presided over the meeting. The Assembly meeting was blessed with the presence and leadership of Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos Thirumeni. Rev. Dr. M. C. Thomas led a study session on the theme, 'Covenant and Reformation'. Ninety-eight assembly members attended the meeting. The assembly honored Dr. T. M. Thomas for his contributions in the overall growth of the Diocese, particularly in Diocesan Sunday School. The Assembly passed the Diocesan Annual report and Accounts for the year 2011 and Annual budget for 2012. Decisions were taken for the administration of the Diocese and for its spiritual and financial growth.

## DIOCESAN CLERGY MEETING



The Annual Diocesan Clergy - Family Conference was held at the Mar Thoma Church of Greater Washington from July 3-4, 2012. Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius, Diocesan Episcopa, Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos and Rev. Dr. M. C. Thomas were the leaders. "The Covenant of the Minister and His Family" was studied. Fifty-one Achens and their family attended the meeting. The meeting felicitated the Diocesan Bishop for the blessed completion of 40 years of ordained ministry, Mar Theethos on his Episcopal consecration and all Achens who were celebrating their ordination jubilee. There were also separate sessions for Kochammas and Children.

## 2012 MAR THOMA CHURCH FAMILY CONFERENCE

The 30th session of the National Family Conference of the Diocese of North America and Europe was held at the National Conference Center, Virginia from July 5-8, 2012. Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos, Diocesan Bishop of Mumbai Diocese inaugurated this year's conference and led bible studies. Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius gave presidential address and exposed the theme; 'Remembering the Covenant for a Reforming Church'. Rev. Dr. M. C. Thomas, Director of TMAM Orientation and Research Center led the main talks. Worship services were led by Achens and delegates from various regions. Rev. Roy Geevarghese, Philadelphia and Rev. Thomas John, Los Angeles led devotional talks. There were separate sessions for Adults, Youths and children. Dr. Christopher Varghese led a session on Medical concerns. About 700 people from 270 families attended the conference in 2012. This was jointly organized for the first time by the Diocesan Council and the parishes of the South East Region.



## OKLAHOMA NATIVE AMERICAN MISSION-10 YEARS OF MINISTRY



The Camp with the Native Americans in Broken Bow, Oklahoma conducted from June 4 to 8, 2012 marked the 10 anniversary of the joint ministry between the Native Americans and the Mar Thoma Church. For the past decade the Mar Thoma Church has been working with the Native Americans in Oklahoma, preaching the word of the Lord, conducting camps, and leading rallies. This has led to the formation of friendships that has endured over several years and over hundreds of miles.



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