



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

Sevika Sangham National Conference

Hosted by Los Angeles MTC
October 4-7, 2012

Reception for Mar Makarios, Episcopa, in Los Angeles

October 7, 2012

Yuvajana Sakhyam National Conference

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



MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

India became a free country at midnight between August 14 and August 15, 1947, thus ending over 200 years of British colonialism. As India celebrates the 65th Anniversary of its Independence Day on August 15, 2012, there are so many accomplishments that the country can be proud of. Yet, there are so many challenges that lie ahead. This year, India elected its 13th President, Sri Pranab Mukherjee. In his inaugural address on July 25, 2012, Sri Mukherjee stated that the 'national mission is to eliminate the curse of poverty and create such opportunities for the young that they can take our India forward by quantum leaps'.

During his public ministry Jesus Christ proclaimed: "...if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (Jn. 8: 36). Jesus, the savior of the world, is speaking about the salvation He brings through His great sacrifice of life on the cross of Calvary. In giving His life, Jesus Christ redeemed creation from the enslavement of sin and restored it to the position of son ship in the Kingdom of God. St. Paul in his letter to Galatians says, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery" (Gal. 5:1).

Freedom is costly. Freedom is to be respected with seriousness. Freedom is a privilege, but it also demands high responsibility. Let us live and breathe the freedom that Christ offers us in all its seriousness and with great joy. Let us cherish, protect and preserve our freedoms so that others could also enjoy this privilege.

Mar Theodosius, Diocesan Episcopa

NEWLY ORDAINED IN THE DIOCESE

2012 witnessed two Kassessa ordinations in the Diocese of North America and Europe.

Rev. Dn. Christopher Phil Daniel of the Mar Thoma Church of Dallas, Farmer's Branch and Rev. Dn. Larry Philip Varghese of the Trinity Mar Thoma Church, Houston were ordained as Kassessas of the Mar Thoma Church on July 28 and August 12, 2012, respectively.

Hearty Congratulation and best wishes for a fruitful ministry.



Rev. Christopher Phil Daniel



Rev. Larry Philip Varghese

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 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.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MTVEA MEETING AT BALTIMORE



The 9th National Conference of the Mar Thoma Voluntary Evangelists Association of the Diocese of North America and Europe was held at the Baltimore Mar Thoma Church from July 20-22, 2012. The theme of the conference was "This is my blood of the New Covenant". The Diocesan Episcopa Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius, Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos, Diocesan Bishop of the Mumbai Diocese, Rev. Dr. M. C. Thomas, Rev. K. E. Geevarghese, Rev. John N. Abraham, Rev. Oommen V. Varkey and Dr. Ashok Jacob were the leaders at this Conference. A total of 124 members from 10 parishes in the USA registered for the conference. The delegates left the conference with extreme satisfaction in attending a well organized and spiritually enriched conference.

GET TOGETHER WITH MAYOR NORAMIE F. JASMIN

A get together with Noramie F. Jasmin, the Mayor of Spring Valley, NY was held at the Sinai Mar Thoma Center, New York on Wednesday, August 1, 2012. at 7:00 p.m. The Diocesan Episcopa Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius presided over the meeting and welcomed the guest of honor and other delegates. The Mumbai Diocesan Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos, blessed the occasion with his presence and words of felicitation. The presence of the Achens from New York, the Diocesan office bearers and the Council members from the North East region made the meeting more meaningful.



NORTH EAST REGIONAL JUNIOR/SENIOR CONFERENCE



The North East Regional Sunday Schools hosted an exciting and spiritually enlightening Jr. Sr. Conference for all North East Sunday School 5th to 12th grade students from July 19th to 22nd, 2012, at the Ramapo College, NJ. Students learned and discussed what 'Take A Stand' means, both Biblically and in their own lives. Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius opened the conference on Thursday, and challenged the students to emulate Biblical leaders to "Walk the Talk". Rev. Dr. M.C. Thomas, Dr. T.V. Thomas, Rev. Jaisen Thomas and Rev. V.M. Mathew led various sessions expounding on the theme throughout the weekend. The Conference was a blessing for all of the students that attended.

SOUTH EAST REGIONAL JUNIOR/SENIOR CONFERENCE



The 1st Junior/Senior Conference of the Southeast Region Sunday Schools was held at Rowan University, Glassboro, New Jersey, from July 26th to 29th. More than 200 delegates attended this four-day conference. The theme for the conference was "God's Voice: Your Choice" taken from 1 Samuel 3:10. Diocesan Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius delivered the inaugural address and main talks were led by Dr. T.V. Thomas, and Dr. Anita Daniel of the St. Peter's Mar Thoma Church of New Jersey. Rev. Jaisen Thomas and Rev. Dr. Joe Joseph Kuruvilla, the youth chaplains of the region led the Bible study sessions. The conference was a blessing to all those who attended.

SILVER JUBILEE-LONG ISLAND MTC



The Long Island Mar Thoma Church (LIMTC) celebrated its Silver Jubilee on Saturday, June 30, 2012, with a public meeting, followed by a fellowship dinner and entertainment program. The occasion was blessed with the presence of our Diocesan Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius Episcopa, the Chief Guest of the Silver Jubilee Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos Episcopa (Mumbai Diocese), Bishop Zachariah Mar Nicholovos (Metropolitan of Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church), clergy from sister churches and other dignitaries from Government and Semi-Government bodies. The LIMTC also celebrated its 25th Parish day on Sunday, July 1, 2012. The occasion was very special and blessed by the presence of Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethos Episcopa. The celebrations were very well attended and, with gratitude, the participants reflected on God's blessings over the last 25 years. Everyone prayed that God will continue to bless the LIMTC.