



St. Mary's

SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLIC CHURCH

926 Round Swamp Road,
Old Bethpage, NY 11804.

www.stmaryssyroomalabar.org



February 4 2018

Season of Epiphany

Vol. 15 No: 5

*St. Thomas, our Father in Faith
Pray for us*

Readings: February 4, 2018

Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

First Reading : Isaiah 48:12-20

Second Reading : Hebrews 6: 9 15

Gospel : John 3:14 -21

Pastor/Vicar

Fr. John Melepuram

Cell : (215) 808 4052

Email : johnmelepuram@gmail.com

Liturgical Celebrations

Sunday: 8:00 A.M– Malayalam

10:30 A.M—English

Monday-Tuesday : 9:00 A.M

Thursday: 7:00 P.M.,

Novena to St. Alphonsa

Friday: 9:00 A.M, 8:00 P.M

Adoration : 10:00 A.M - 8:00 P.M

Saturday: 9:00 A.M.,

Novena to St. Mary

CCD: Sunday: 11:30 A.M.

Reconciliation: Before Mass on the
day of Liturgical Service at the church

Events Calendar

February 11 : Pethurtha (Great Lent)

February 11 : Parish Council

February 12 : Ash Monday

February 16 : Way of the Cross

February Volunteers St. Teresa of Calcutta

March Volunteers: St. Alphonsa Ward.

April Volunteers: St. Anthony Ward.

May Volunteers: St. Augustine Ward

June Volunteers St. Chavara Ward

Message from John Achan!

One Year with lots of Event-filled Opportunities and Happiness!

May I take this opportunity to THANK you all for everything
we did together!



February 5th is the First Anniversary of my ministry in this Parish.

Lots of good times we could experience each other. I was looking back where we came from
and what we have accomplished with the help of God. Thank God for the blessings. Let us
move forward with hope & blessings from the Lord as well!

Looking back to the one year I feel much proud of you, for your commitment, understanding,
appreciation, support and encouragement.

God provided me this great Parish community to minister HIM and HIS people.
During this past one year lots of things happened in our Parish Community,
some are regular events, some others are strange to many. We started with Lent
and Easter celebrations - Daily stations of the Cross, Lent Retreat, Junior Youth
Retreat, two services on Good Friday, Different programs for CCD students
(Travel with Jesus, Egg hunting), Senior Boys taking the role of Apostles for
washing of feet ceremony, Eucharistic Procession with CCD children etc. First
Holy Communion and Confirmation, Recognition of the Graduates, Combined
Feast Celebration of St. Thomas & St. Alphonsa, Dynasty Basketball Tournam-
ent, Youth Retreat at Huntington Seminary, Pilgrimage to Velamkanni Matha
Shrine at Miraculous Medal Shrine in Philadelphia, 10 Days Rosary devotions,
Parish Thirunal, Bishops Visits and Mission Appeals, Laying the Foundation for
the Multi-Purpose Hall, Pilgrimage to St. Joseph's shrine in Montreal, Christmas
Caroling and Christmas Celebration with two services on Christmas Eve – one at
4 PM with Nativity Procession and Holy Mass with CCD children & Families,
Angel's Choir singing for Mass, and the other at 8 PM with Adults Choir for
Christmas Mass. God has blessed us with so many event-filled year to thank
HIM and has opened a door to the future with lots of hopes and expectations.

It gives me great boost and enthusiasm to work again with God's blessing. God has opened
and will open again for us a horizon of opportunities to work, to achieve and to accomplish
through you and me. Let's walk and work with the Lord for a better future.

Next week (February 11th) onwards we start the holy season of LENT – a time to reflect,
renew and reform us all.

Thanks

John Achan

KAIKARANS

Mr. James Thomas : 516 782 6855
 Mr. Vincent Vathapallil : 516 395 1492
 Mr. Biju Puthussery : 516 312 1169
 Mr. Jacob Mudakodill : 718 666 7435
 Email: trustees@stmaryssyromalabar.org

WARD SECRETARIES

Mr. Jimmy Scaria-St. Jude. 516 508 1081
 Mr. Ranjit Pathaden-St. Joseph. 347 869 9224.
 Mrs. Philomina Mathew -St. Chavara. 516 437 2404
 Mr. Vincent Joseph-St. Alphonsa 516 395 2231
 Mr. Jacob Mudakodil-St. Anthony. 718 666 7435
 Mrs. Leela K. Joseph -St. George. 516 302 7348
 Mr. Manuel Mathew-St. Augustine. 516 74 5115
 Mr. Johnson George-St. Theresa-631 206 4425



PRAYER MEETINGS:

St. George ward: February 10 6:00 PM
 Alex Francis & Reena,
 1420 Eric Ln, East Meadow, NY

St. Chavara ward: February 11 6:00 PM
 Reji Kurian & Selvi, 640 South 8th Street , NHP

St. Jude ward: February 17 6:00 PM
 Martin & Lucy Manayani, 233-36, 87th Ave, Queens Vlg, NY



Parishioner's Email Distribution List

Receive the weekly bulletin, important notices and any changes to the church schedule, (i.e. inclement weather cancellations, mass time changes, etc.). Emails will be sent out to those whom have in the distribution list. If you are not receiving emails, add your email to the distribution list by sending an email to

trustees@stmaryssyromalabar.org

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

<u>2/4/2018</u>	<u>2/11/2018</u>
Alex Mancherry	Veronica Thanicatt
James Thomas	Mary Nedumkallel
Aleyamma Mathew	Jose Thottukadavil
George Nampiarampil	Tomy Madathikunnel

Viju Mathew	Jeriks Tom
	Shiji Mathew

MASS INTENTIONS

02/04/18 Lawrence Varghese
 02/10/18 Vincent Vathappallil
 02/16/18 Samuel George
 02/17/18 Tomichan Varghese
 02/17/18 Jessy James
 02/22/18 Joseph & Beena
 02/24/18 Marykutty Vattamala

Sunday Mass Schedule (From February 4th)

8:30 AM – Malayalam Mass

10:15 AM – CCD

11:30 AM - English Mass



Mark Your Calendars



February 11 : Pethurtha (Great Lent starts)
 February 12 : Ash Monday 9:00 AM (Two services)
 Ash Monday 7:30 PM (Two services)
 March 21 : Palm Sunday
 April 01 : Easter

Lent Retreat:

March 15 and 16 (6:00PM -9:00 PM),
 March 17 and 18 (9:00 AM - 5:00 PM);
 Preacher: Fr. Mathew Asariparambil

OUR MISSION

We the faith-filled descendants of St. Thomas the Apostle, and the members of the Syro-Malabar hierarchy nourished by the rich traits of one of the ancient cultures, thrive to impart our faith and culture to the whole world and especially to our descendants. Through worship, motivation, support and education we foster spiritual growth, Syro-Malabar traditions and values. With open hearts and helping hands we respond to the needs of our community and the world.

Contact Information

Vicar : Rev. John Melepuram : Cell: 215 808 4052
 Email: johnmelepuram@gmail.com Website: www.stmaryssyromalabar.org

SMCC Essay Competition 2017 Category 2 winning Essay by Dona Jin

Topic : How can we be merciful in our daily life

A Guide to Mercy**By Dona Jin**

In Luke 6, Jesus says, "Be merciful just as your Father in heaven," (Luke, 6:36). But what does this mean? In a world infested by sin, the likelihood of any of us being as merciful as the Father is unimaginable. He, is the Father that watched us inflict ourselves with sin and still persists to love us. He, is the Father that gave up his Son in love for us and wouldn't hesitate to do it again. How many of us can say that we could do that? How many of us can be as merciful as Our Father in Heaven? Mercy isn't easy. It's something you work hard at every day and yet it can be found in the simplest of acts.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus shows us mercy in its true form. Three men passed a wounded man on the street. The first and the second passerby saw the man on the street and ignored him. The third however, the Samaritan took the injured man to an inn, took care of him and paid for his expenses. So what is the difference? The first two men behaved as by the law and avoided contact with him, conceivably on the chances of ritual defilement and did what was lawfully right. The third, however gave up all discrimination and took care of a stranger whom he barely knew despite the law. This act of mercy in which he gives up his own comfort, time and money proves him to be the most righteous of the three men and is symbolic of who Jesus wants us to be.

As a teenager, mercy comes as easily to me as rain in the desert. School, social life, and community activities can make it easy to forget about mercy. It is much easier to lash out and yell and scream than it is to take a breath and forgive. Mercy in and of itself is a virtue that is acquired through a lifetime of work. However, it's the small things that really show how merciful we are and not the show we put on for everybody else. Mercy is forgiving someone even though they may not deserve it. It is the act of not sighing when your parents ask you to do something. It is giving up your comfort quietly for the comfort of others. It is not getting angry at the screaming child who just won't stop crying. While being nice is holding back your tongue, being truly merciful is learning how to control your mind. At home, mercy can be shown in not complaining in doing the chores or through making time to talk and listen meaningfully to your parents. Mercy means not talking down on someone based on their intellectual capacity, age or gender. Mercy is allowing someone to freely express their opinion without fear of retaliation. At school, mercy can be translated into several actions. Mercy is when you neglect labels and sit at lunch with a person who is alone. Mercy is not only helping your friends when they are in need but also anyone else who requires it. It is putting yourself behind and recognizing those who need help. Outside in the real world, mercy is what makes a, "world less cold and more just," (Pope Francis). Mercy can be seen when you give up your seat in the bus or train not for the thank you but for the pleasure of giving. Mercy is not complaining at long lines at the market and instead giving praise to God for the blessings you were given.

Being merciful isn't something that comes easily. It is something that is achieved in your search for God, and found as you develop a relationship with the Father. However, we can achieve this virtue by being more vigilant of our actions towards others, both physical and verbal. We can achieve this by being sensitive to other people's lives and with acting with the knowledge that their lives are readily different from ours and that they may face several challenges. So through the act of mercy, let us unite ourselves, our community and the whole world to live in peace.

MULTIPURPOSE HALL CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

Footing and Foundation wall is complete. Multipurpose hall slab work done. Hollow-block and steel structure work going on. Walls are up.



Capital Campaign Updates. 12/31/17.

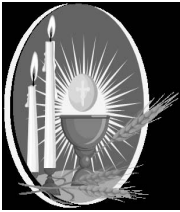
Active membership: 468 Families Pledged: 352. Targeted Pledge: 5,000,000.
Amount Pledged: 2,710,312. Cash Received: 1,912,652. Pledge balance to Collect: 797,660

Capital Campaign	Ward	Phone number
George Cheripuram	St. Jude	516 734 1273
Roy Kulakkattolickal	St. Joseph	718 343 1218
Zacharias Joseph	St. Chavara	516 343 1742
Babu Joseph	St. Alphonsa	516 439 6687
Tony Nambiaparambil	St. Anthony	516 754 6388
Mercy Joseph	St. George	516 763 5264
Biju Puthussery	St. Augustine	516 312 1169
Joe Varghese	St. Theresa	214 300 5127

OFFERINGS:

1/28/18
Sunday Collection \$2690

Thank you.



OFFERINGS WILL BE APPRECIATED.

HOST AND WINE, CANDLES : \$100.00 for one month.

*February offering by
Sajan and Reesamma
Ponmankal Family*

Thank You



**Altar
Flowers**

Sponsoring the Flowers on the Altar :

Sponsoring our altar flowers is a memorable way to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, remember a loved one who has passed, or to honor any other special occasion. A \$100 donation compensates the cost of the flowers for a week. If you would like to sponsor the Altar Flowers, please contact trustees for more details.



St. Joseph Ward Prayer Meeting

SACRAMENTS

Please contact our Pastor & Vicar Rev. Fr. John Melepuram for the Sacraments of Marriage and Baptism. Cell : 215-808-4052
Active membership of six months required.

Obituary

Please pray for the departed souls.

**READINGS**

February 11, 2018

Isaiah 58:1-10

Ephesians 4:17-24

Matthew 4:1-11

February 10, 2018

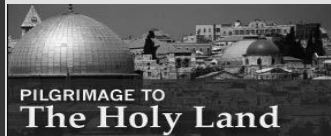
1 Corinthians 15: 50 - 57

Matthew 23: 1-12



June 2nd 3:00PM
**Holy Communion/
Confirmation**

February 18th 2018,
Sunday
Poduyogam



**Youth Holy Land
Pilgrimage
(July 16-24, 2018)**

- Rate: \$1800.00, including air ticket, lodging, food, entrance fees etc.
- We will visit almost all the important holy places related to Jesus life. We are also planning to have Mass in the boat when we travel through the sea of Galilee.
- They are trying to have an interaction with the Catholic Youth team from Holy Land, with Music, Prayer and dialogue If you have any other questions, Please let me know, John Achan.



Alter Servers Meeting

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