



**Ascension Mar Thoma Church**  
10197 Northeast Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19116  
Phone: 215-677-7322  
Web site: <http://ascensionmtc.org>

**NEWS LETTER – APRIL– MAY– JUNE: 2021**



*Happy Easter*

**VICAR**

**Rev. Jinson K. Mathew**

3892 Byron Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Ph: 215-947- 4274: Cell Ph: 267-312-9755

<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Mr. Kurian A. John</b>	<b>215-500-1630</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Mr. Lijo P. George</b>	<b>215-776-7940</b>
<b>Trustee-Finance</b>	<b>Mr. Subin V. Abraham</b>	<b>215-485-8512</b>
<b>Trustee-Accounts</b>	<b>Mr. Anaj Mathew George</b>	<b>267-467-8009</b>

(For Private Circulation Only)

From :

Lijo P. George  
Secretary, Ascension MTC,  
10197 Northeast Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19116  
[secretary.amc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.amc@gmail.com)

TO

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS : 2021

<b>Vicar</b>	<b>Rev. Jinson K Mathew</b>	<b>267-312-9755</b>
<b>Youth Chaplain</b>	<b>Rev. Thomas K.Mathew</b>	<b>516-661-7844</b>
<b>Vice President :</b>	<b>Mr. Kurian A. John</b>	<b>215-676-3755</b>
<b>Secretary :</b>	<b>Mr. Lijo P. George</b>	<b>215-776-7940</b>
<b>Trustee( Finance)</b>	<b>Mr. Subin V. Abraham</b>	<b>215-485-8512</b>
<b>Trustee( Accounts) :</b>	<b>Mr. Anaj Mathew</b>	<b>267-467-8009</b>
<b>Lay Leader ( Malayalam )</b>	<b>Mr. P.A. Mathew</b>	<b>267-672-5761</b>
<b>Lay Leader ( English )</b>	<b>Mr. Eype John</b>	<b>215-642-0076</b>

### **Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam / Assembly Members**

<b>Sabha Mandalam Member</b>	<b>Mr. Rojish Sam Samuel</b>	<b>267-808-1064</b>
<b>Dio. Assembly Member .</b>	<b>Mrs. Annamma Varughese</b>	<b>215-947-9604</b>
<b>Dio. Assembly Member .</b>	<b>Mr. Ebby Varughese</b>	<b>215-776-7122</b>

### **Prayer Group Representatives**

<b>Bethlehem :</b>	<b>Mr. George P. Mathai</b>	<b>215-677-1528</b>
<b>Jerusalem :</b>	<b>Mr John Varkey</b>	<b>215-578-1226</b>
<b>Nazareth :</b>	<b>Mr. Varghese T.A</b>	<b>215-856-3972</b>
<b>Salem:</b>	<b>Mr. M.A. Mathew</b>	<b>215-676-5046</b>
<b>Sharon :</b>	<b>Mr. Varghese Mathai</b>	<b>215-947-8118</b>
<b>Zion</b>	<b>Mr Jijomon Joseph</b>	<b>215-677-6131</b>

### **Members Representing Organizations**

<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>Mrs. Viney Jobin</b>	<b>267-574-2023</b>
<b>Youth Fellowship</b>	<b>Mr. Jerrin Varghese</b>	<b>215-917-3788</b>
<b>Yuvajana Sakhyam</b>	<b>Mr. Jitin Varghese</b>	<b>215-915-4003</b>
<b>Young Family Fellowship</b>	<b>Mrs. Bessie E. Mathew</b>	<b>225-969-3228</b>
<b>Sevika Sangam</b>	<b>Mrs. Mariamma Philip</b>	<b>215-677-2694</b>
<b>Edavaka Mission</b>	<b>Mr. K.Varghese</b>	<b>215-605-7535</b>
<b>Choir</b>	<b>Mr. Sumesh V. John</b>	<b>267-269-9810</b>
<b>Senior Fellowship</b>	<b>Mr. Kunjamma Ninan</b>	<b>856-669-7755</b>

### **Auditors**

<b>Auditor</b>	<b>Mr. Jimmy K. Jacob</b>	<b>267-689-8222</b>
<b>Auditor</b>	<b>Mr. Santhosh Philip</b>	<b>215-342-4323</b>

<b>April</b>	
April 10	8:00 AM Holy Ordination Rev. Dn Jeswin S. John
April 11	Episcopal Visit & First Communion, Executive Committee Dedication
April 16	06:30 PM Youth Send off Meeting
	07:30 PM Yuvajana Sakyam Send off Meeting
April 18	11:45 AM Rev. Jeswin S. John Felicitation
April 25	11:45 AM Rev. Jinson K. Mathew Send off Meeting
April 26	4:30 PM Vicar and Family Airport Drop off
<b>May</b>	
May 06	4:00 PM New Vicar Arrival
May 09	11:45 AM Mothers Day Celebration by Sunday School & Welcome New Vicar and Family
May 15	9:00 AM Carwash by Yuvajana Sakyam
May 30	10.30 AM Choir Sunday
<b>June</b>	
June 20	11:45 AM Fathers Day by Youth Fellowship
June 26	8:30 AM Church Picnic
June 29	Diocese Family Conference

## SPECIAL NOTE

### Monthly subscription Renewal

- ◆ All families of the parish must pay monthly subscription and \$150 offertory without pending.
- ◆ We need an average of \$40,000 a month for running our parish.
- ◆ Dues of all families will be carry forwarded and will be shown in the Annual Report
- ◆ Subsidy from Church for active members in using the rental facilities will be given to those members who fully comply (paid the complete dues till the date) with the financial responsibilities towards the church.

## CHURCH WEB SITE

**Our church web site is being updated regularly. Please check the website for any announcements or changes.**

**The web site address is:**

**<http://www.ascensionmtc.org>**

**Please go online and register for user ID and password.**

## *From Vicar's Desk*

*"I have set the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore, my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure."  
Psalms 16:8,9*



Dearly beloved in Christ,  
Easter Greetings!!

The whole world is going through a challenging and unprecedented situation beginning with wide spread of an epidemic in January 2020 that quickly became an emergency situation- COVID -19 spreading fear and uncertainty everywhere. More than 550,000 people lost their life in United states itself in the last one year and the deaths are continuing. We lost one member in April 2020 due to COVID- 19. We started to use alternative methods of community prayers and worship services using technological means from March 2020 immediately after the lockdown and learned to use the online platforms which helped and strengthened us. Due to the lockdown the revenue of the Parish reduced to a dangerous situation. We were not able to meet our monthly expenses and the Executive committee was forced to take personal loan, mortgage deferment for six months and EIDL loan from Federal Government. Good number of families came forward and supported the Parish wholeheartedly during this difficult situation. Let us continue to provide necessary care and support through our prayers and spiritual help to all members. May God almighty help us to overcome this situation soon and enable us to grow in faith and return back to our normal life and regular in person worship services, prayer fellowships and other activities of church.

The first quarter of 2021 is over and we are entering to the second. The Annual general body meeting of 2020 is over. The office bearers and Executive committee for 2021 has taken charge. I urge you to discharge your duties and responsibilities for the glory of God and the betterment of our Parish and Church. I thank the office bearers and Executive committee of 2020 and wish all the blessings for the new committee.

We the Ascension family are in great joy and proud that our Member Rev. Dn. Jeswin S. John is going to be ordained as a Clergy (Kassessa) of the Marthoma Church on Saturday, April 10,2021 at our Sanctuary. I take this opportunity to wish him all the best and on behalf of all of us I thank and appreciate his parents for understanding their son's interest and call for the full-time ministry of the Church and giving him wholehearted support during the training period.

This is the last letter through which I address you as the Vicar of Ascension Marthoma Church. We joined here on Thursday, May 4, 2017. We were welcomed and were given all necessary support and fellowship. All of you have been so nice to me, my wife Lisha, daughter Sreen and son Reuben and for that we have no enough words to say. As we are going, we would like to let you know how much we loved this parish and all of you. Sincere thanks to all for your prayers, fellowship, friendship and support that you all gave us during the last four years. I remember with gratitude Late. His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Marthoma Metropolitan Tirumeni and Late. His Grace Rt.Rev. Geevarghese Mar Athanasius Suffragan Metropolitan Tirumeni. Thanks to His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Theodosius Marthoma Metropolitan Tirumeni, His Grace Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Episcopa Tirumeni.

## Worship Schedule - June - 2021

Thanks to former Diocesan Secretary Achens Rev. Denny Philip, Rev. Manoj Idiculla and present secretary Rev. Aju Abraham, our former Vicar Binu C. Samuel and Sheeja Kochamma, Youth Chaplains Rev. Dennis Abraham, Rev. Prince Varghese and family, Rev. Thomas K. Mathew, Neenu Kochamma and children for their love, support and fellowship. A special thanks to the office bearers and Executive committee members of 2017,2018,2019, 2020 and 2021.

We got opportunity to visit most of the families several times as required except four families as we didn't get permission. Due to the Pandemic situation and lack of time we won't be able to visit all the families again. We will keep you in our prayers. God willing, we will be returning to India on Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> evening from Philadelphia.

Saying goodbye is difficult, especially to the loved ones, but I strongly believe that God purposely displaces us so that we become new avenues for His work. Our new appointment is to Hoskote Mission and Medical Centre in Bangalore as director and missionary where I started ordained ministry as an assistant missionary.

Keep three things in mind.

1. **Unity:** Unity is the hallmark of the Church and also among its members
2. **Discipline:** Discipline in the church in every activity done.
3. **Space:** Every member shall get a space in the functioning of the Parish.

I am happy that your new vicar Rev. Bibi Mathew Chacko is a great man of God, good leader and friend and I am sure that Ascension will reach new heights under his able leadership.

I wish Bibi Achen, Teena Kochamma and children all the best and our prayers.

May the good Lord enable us to work together for His glory.

Sd/-

Jinson K.Mathew Achen ,  
Vicar

March 26,2021 (40<sup>th</sup> Friday)



Sunday, June 06, 2020		
09:30 AM Malayalam Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	1 Kings 3 4 - 15	Col.1 3 - 24
Sunday, June 13, 2020		
09.30 AM English Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	Job 38 1 - 41	Rev. 21 1—8
Sunday, June 20 , 2020		
09.30 AM Malayalam Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	1 John 5 1-12	2 Thess. 2 13 - 17
Sunday, June 27, 2020		
09.30 AM English Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	Daniel 6 10 - 23	Col. 3 12 –17

## Worship Schedule - May - 2021



### *From Youth Chaplain's Desk*



Dearly Beloved in Christ

Easter Greetings. The pyramids of Egypt are famous because they contained the mummified bodies of ancient Egyptian Kings. Westminster Abbey in London is revered, because in it rests the bodies of English nobles and notables. Mohammed's tomb is noted for the stone coffin and the bones it contains. Arlington cemetery in Washington, D.C. is revered for it is the honored resting place of many outstanding Americans. But the Garden Tomb of Jesus is famous because it is empty.

The empty tomb tells us of God's ultimate power. A power that points to an ultimate purpose. Throughout his suffering, many times Jesus was told to show his power to escape his suffering and his death but he knew that beyond all demonstrations of power and miracles it was the ultimate power over death which had to be revealed. As we again commemorate this great miracle of victory over death, let us also be reminded that this is the greatest of all the promises that Christ has given to everyone who believes in him – the eternal life beyond the life here on this earth.

As we look back it's been a year since the Covid pandemic took the grip on this world and the Easter last year was so different and painful. This year the vaccinations has brought more relief and we hope and pray that God will provide for the whole humanity a complete deliverance from this pandemic. The year that went by also enabled us to understand that our fellowships and worships are not to be taken for granted but we should value each and every opportunity that we get to glorify God together.

I thank and praise God for Rev. Dn. Jeswin S. John (s/o of Johnson Simon and Susan John) who God willing will be ordained as the Kassessa of the Mar Thoma Syrian Church on the 10th of April 2021 in our parish. The dedicated prayers of the parents and also the willingness of Dn. Jeswin to accept this call that the Lord had for his life is a witness of how God can move among us and transform us for the purpose that he has for us. I hope and pray that all of us will be inspired by this witness and submit our dreams and desires into the hand of God Almighty and allow him to use us for His glory according to His purpose. Let us continue to pray for Rev. Dn. Jeswin S. John and his ministry to the church and the society in the years ahead.

I also praise and thank God for the ministry of our Sunday School which switched to a Virtual Mode since the Lockdown last year and has been consistently reaching out to all our children even with all the challenges. I hope and pray that all parents will truly pray for the teachers and the kids so that this ministry will not just be a time of learning a few stories and songs but result in the dedication an commitment of all our kids to the love and faith in Jesus Christ. Our Youth fellowship has also been regularly meeting virtually twice a month and I praise and thank God for the youths who have consciously taken out time to participate in these meetings. I also appreciate the parents who have encouraged their children for this. The various topics of study included the book of Mark, Book of James, Book of Philippians, "Spiritual Guidance – Being Mentored", "Dealing with Temptations", "Biblical Response to Transgenderism". I do accept the fact that we all have a lot to do, but at the same time spiritual nurturing is a very important aspect of our life and we should take an effort to find time once or twice a month to participate in the Youth fellowship. The Young family fellowship is also meeting virtually and I hope and pray that more couples will join us in the coming months.

Sunday, May 02, 2021		
10: 30 AM Malayalam Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gopel
	Ezekiel 34 15-24	Act. 4 32 - 37
Sunday, May 09, 2021		
10: 30 AM English Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	2 Kings 4 8-17	1Cor.15 12-19
Sunday, May 16, 2021		
10: 30 AM Malayalam Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	Ezekiel 37 1 -14	Act. 1 12-14
Sunday, May 23, 2021		
10: 30 AM English Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	Joel 2 28-32	Act 2 1-13
Sunday, May 30, 2021		
10: 30 AM English Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	Exodus 19 17-25	Galatians 4 1 -17

Our Vicar Rev. Jinson K. Mathew is also completing his term in this parish and moving back to India in the coming weeks. I praise and thank God for the blessed ministry of Jinson Achen, Lisha Kochamma, Sreen and Reuben to the parish and also the faith community in this region. His leadership and guidance was a blessing to all the families in the parish and to our ministry also. May God continue to bless his ministry and family in the years ahead. We await the arrival of the new Vicar Rev. Bibi Mathew Chacko and family in the early weeks of May 2021. Let us pray that his ministry will be a blessing to the parish and each one of us.

Please do feel free to reach out to us and we would love to be in fellowship and pray with you at any time. (Thomas achen : 516 -661 – 7844; Neenu Kochamma: 267-994-2365)

God bless  
Rev. Thomas K. Mathew

Youth Chaplain, Philadelphia Region

## Condolences

**As a Church, we express our heartfelt condolences to the following members of our parish in their bereavement and pray that , Almighty God give them comfort and peace that transcends all understanding.**

- ◆ Mrs. Ponnamma Mathew Ac # 183 Bethlehem Prayer Group
- ◆ Brother of our Member Mr. N.L Varghese Ac # 169 Zion Prayer Group
- ◆ Mr. George Varghese Ac # 283 Zion Prayer Group.
- ◆ Aunt of our members Mr. K. Johnson Act # 110 Bethlehem Prayer Group and Mrs. Viney Jobin Ac # 143 Salem Prayer Group
- ◆ Father of our members Mrs.. Mary N. Varghese Ac # 144 and Mrs. Shiny B. George Ac # 118 Jerusalem Prayer Group

## Worship Schedule - April - 2021

Sunday, April 04, 2021		
09.30 AM Malayalam Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/Gospel
	Isaiah 60 12-21	1 Cor.15 42-58
Sunday, April 11, 2021		
09.30 AM English Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	Genesis 32 22-32	Act. 9 1-28
Episcopal Visit		
Sunday, April 18, 2021		
09.30 AM Malayalam Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	Ruth 4 1-11	Col. 3 1-11
Puthen Kurubana		
Sunday, April 25, 2021		
09.30 AM English Holy Communion	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel
	Genesis 18 1-15	Romans 12 9-13
Send off - Vicar and Family		