



# St. Mary's

## SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLIC CHURCH

856 Hempstead Ave, West Hempstead, NY 11552

*Mailing address*

24 Westminster Road,  
West Hempstead, NY 11552



January 29, 2012

SEASON OF EPIPHANY

Vol. 9 No: 5

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

*Readings: January 29, 2012. Fourth Sunday of Epiphany .*

**First Reading.** Isaiah 46:5-13. **Second Reading.** Hebrews 7:23-28.

**Gospel.** John 2:1-11.

### *Parish Schedule*

Liturgical Celebrations:

#### **SATURDAY:**

8:30 AM Holy Mass and Novena to  
St. Alphonsa

#### **SUNDAY:**

3:00 PM Religious Education

5:00 PM Holy Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

On the day of Liturgical Service at the  
church: 4:30- 5:00 PM

Sacrament of the Sick:

Contact Rev. Fr. Vicar if anyone is  
seriously ill. -516-505-7940



### *Events Calendar*

- Feb. 12. Parish Council.
- Feb. 17. All souls Day.
- Feb. 19. Lent Begins.
- Feb. 20. Ash Monday.
- Mar. 2. First Friday.
- Mar. 11. Parish Council.
- Apr. 5. Holy Thursday.
- Apr. 6. Good Friday.
- January Volunteers. Floral Park.

**My Dear Children, Sisters and Brothers,**

In today's Gospel St. John presents the first miracle Jesus did at Cana in Galilee. A wedding is a time of celebration, a festival of God's blessings upon humanity- "God blessed them and God said to them: Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that crawl on the earth." (Genesis 1:28). The miracle at Cana reiterates God's blessing to the first man and woman in the Garden of Eden. The marriage at a deeper level speaks about love, unity and compassion; the wedding feast at Cana is a sign of God's love and compassion. Jesus' miracle saved the wedding party. The water that was changed into wine represents the New Covenant. The new covenant saves us from our embarrassment and shame that we would have to deal with our own wedding party – our final Judgment, which might lead us either to heaven or to shame. The first miracle in St. John's Gospel reveals to us that the promise of God the Father is being fulfilled in the fullness of time.

John's wedding narrative directs us to the sureness of the redemption of humanity. It shows that Christ is pivotal to the plan of salvation. John recounts that Jesus and his disciples were there with his mother for the wedding. The miracle at Cana is the first of the seven signs that Jesus performed according to the Gospel of John. Although the signs appear to be miracles on the surface, John presents them with a particular purpose. For St. John these signs have a strong symbolic significance that tells us about Jesus and his Messianic work. Each miracle unveils Jesus as the Messiah who is the fullness of God's revelation. The wine Jesus creates is apparently a face-saving gift to the groom and his family, but it reveals something more. The good wine is kept until the last – John 2:10. Jesus creates good wine, which is the redemption given to us by his grace. He produced the new wine when the old wine went out, which is the covenant and the law made through Moses. The wine running out in the narrative alludes to the animal sacrifices coming to an end, and the new wine portrays the new covenant that the Church partakes of. In the book of Hebrews the author states that Jesus Christ is the eternal High Priest who offers the perfect sacrifice for the sins of humanity. For the Evangelist the new wine is the symbolic of the new world with the arrival of the Messiah. In other words, it is like saying: the Messiah has finally come and now things are going to be better for the whole world. Jesus himself, the Messiah, the Anointed One of God, is the good wine. He has come to make all things new: "So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold new things have come." (2 Corinthians 5:17). Jesus is the only One who can provide us with Grace when 'the ways of the old' have run out and produce nothing and we are in need of redemption.

**Fr. Ligory Johnson Philips.**

### *Contact Information*

Vicar & Pastor: Rev. Ligory Johnson Philips

Email: [kattiakaran@yahoo.com](mailto:kattiakaran@yahoo.com) Phone: 516-505-7940

Cell: (281) 935 7275 Website: [www.stmaryssyro-malabar.org](http://www.stmaryssyro-malabar.org)

**KAIKARANS**

**Mr. James Thomas**—718 343 3948  
**Mr. Jose Madathikunnel**—718 470 0980  
*Email: trustees@stmaryssyromalabar.org*  
**WARD SECRETARIES**

Mr. Thomas P. Thomas (Queens) 516 792 3734  
 Mr. Job John (Floral Park) 718 347 0886  
 Mr. Thomas Karimpil (Brooklyn) 718 373 0249  
 Mr. Sebastian Joseph (Nassau & Suffolk) 516 763 5264  
 Mr. Mathachan Mancheril (N.H Park) 516 608 9383

**Diocesan Website: [www.stthomasdiocese.org](http://www.stthomasdiocese.org)**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

Contact: Mr. George Nampiaparampil, (718) 479 6769

1/29/ 2012	2/5/2012
Nevin John	Shawn Paul
Sandra John	Aaron James
Ronald Roy	Ashley Noble
Merin Davis	Rubeena Noble

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

1/29/ 2011	1/22/2012
Jose Thottukadavil	Varghese Bhavuk
Mary Nedumkallel	George Nampiaparampil
Tomy Madathikunnel	James Pattettu
Alex Mancherry	Jacob Karimpil

Contact: Mr. Alex Manchery (516) 775-1335

**MASS INTENTIONS**

1/28/12. Liz Poomkudy for Annamma Thomas.  
 2/12/12. Thomas Varickamackal for Mathai Varickamackal.  
 2/19. Jose Chittilappilly for Anthony Chittilappilly.

**കഴിഞ്ഞ ആഴ്ചത്തെ സ്തോത്രക്കാഴ്ച -  
 ആയിരത്തി നാനൂറ്റി പതിനെട്ടു.**



**PRAYER MEETINGS:**



2/10/12—Open

To schedule prayer meetings, please contact Mr. Jose Ouseph (718 347 4761) or your Ward Secretary.

**YOUTH FORUM**

**CELEBRATE A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY.**

We are in the season of Advent when we wait patiently for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is a very special time of the year because it is when our Savior was born. Imagine how you would celebrate your own birthday or a friend's birthday. Now imagine how we should be celebrating our Lord's birthday. We have a lot more preparing to do for the big day. We shouldn't have a lack of anticipation because it feels like the same routine every year. Instead, be joyful and reflect on what Christmas means to you and how you can have a personal encounter with God - making your relationship with Jesus stronger. As we decorate our homes with Christmas lights and spend time with our families, we must keep in mind the reason for doing all of this. Where did the origin of these festivities come from? We must remember to keep Christ first in Christmas. To prepare for His coming, we must become purify ourselves, becoming the best we can be, and continuing to keep Jesus in our hearts. Imagine making a home for Jesus to live in?! Well no need to imagine anymore because you can start building yourself up now and you'll find Jesus within you soon. It's never too late to say yes to Jesus.

Navya Simon

**Officers:**

Anish Kanattu: [anishkanattu@yahoo.com](mailto:anishkanattu@yahoo.com). President  
 Julia Kattuputhusseril: [JulKat78@yahoo.com](mailto:JulKat78@yahoo.com). V. President  
 Lydia Manchery: [lydiamanchery3000@gmail.com](mailto:lydiamanchery3000@gmail.com). Secretary  
 Navya Simon: [ambs0101@gmail.com](mailto:ambs0101@gmail.com). Joint Secretary  
 Blesson George: [blessmaniac21@gmail.com](mailto:blessmaniac21@gmail.com). Treasurer  
 Veena Cherian: [veenamay@gmail.com](mailto:veenamay@gmail.com). Joint Treasurer

**OUR MISSION**

We the faith-filled descendents 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 descendents. 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.

**SACRAMENTS**

Please contact our Pastor & Vicar Rev. Fr. Ligory Johnson Philips for the Sacraments of Marriage and Baptism. 516-505-7940.

**Active membership of six months required.**

**HOLY MASS**

As per the Diocesan directive, Holy Mass will not be celebrated at homes for any reason. We can have prayer services at home for special occasions. The vicar will be available to help. Anyone who wishes to announce intentions or special matters should provide the information to the Vicar or the Sacristan before the Mass.

**TOGETHER IN FAITH.**

**Sundays.**

3: 00 PM - 4: 00 PM Prayer Group meetings.

4: 15 PM - 4: 45 PM Rosary by Women's Group.

3rd Sunday of the month 2:00 PM– Youth Prayer Group.

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**OBITUARY**

Please pray for Mr. Augustine Varghese of Trichur, brother of Mrs. Mary Philip who passed away in Kerala.



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**IN YOUR CHARITY PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Mr. Cherian Jose Pallickaparampil, 89-63 Hollis Court Blvd, Queens Village, NY-11427 (718) -217-6585, Mrs. Rachel John, 72-65 Little-neck Pkwy, Glen Oaks, NY-11004, Mrs. Mariamma Varkey 1 Brisbane Street, New Hyde Park, NY-11040 .

**John 2:1-11.**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

(And) Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons.

Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim.

Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it.

And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from (although the servers who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom

and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

**READINGS**

**February 5, 2012.**

**First Reading: Isaiah: 48:12-20.**

**Second Reading: Hebrews: 6:9-15.**

**Gospel: John: 3:14-21.**

**Feb.4, Saturday. Hebrews 2:1-4.**

**Luke 8:16-18.**



**CCD**

**REGISTRATION OPEN FOR HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION.**

**Closes 1/29/2012.**

**WHY I SHOULD I CONFESS TO A PRIEST?**

Millon Jose

In Matthew 9:6, we read "But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins". Jesus tells us that, He was given authority on earth to forgive sins. Jesus said to the gathered disciples on the night of His resurrection, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you", and when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them "receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained". John 20:21-23.

"Amen I say to you, whatsoever you shall bind upon earth, shall be bound also in heaven; you shall loose upon earth, shall be loosed also in heaven" (Matthew 18:18). It is therefore clear from the words of Christ that the Apostles had power to forgive sins.

How did the Father send Jesus? Father sent Jesus with the authority on earth to forgive sins. Now, Jesus sends out His disciples with the same authority given to him by the Father.

So, with what authority must Jesus be sending His disciples out with? The authority on earth to forgive sins. Why would Jesus give the Apostles the power to forgive or to retain sins, if He wasn't expecting us to confess their sins to them?

Priest – A man sent with the same Authority! And how could they forgive or retain sins, if no one was confessing their sins to Priests?



*Christmas Carol Update.*

New Hyde park -	13,649
Queens -	9,300
Floral Park -	7,581
Nassau -	7,868
Brooklyn -	1,000
Total -	39,398

**JESUS**

### TAX RETURNS

INDIVIDUAL & BUSINESS



**BABU MUKALEL, CPA**

274 Jericho Tpke.  
Floral Park, NY 11001  
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Contact:

**Anil George, RN.**

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### HOUSE FOR RENT

Private house with two bedrooms, living room, eat in kitchen and balcony near transportation, schools and hospitals in Bellerose.



Contact: 718 926 8241

**February 5, 2012. Hebrews 6:9-15.** We are confident of things that belong to Salvation.

But we are sure in your regard, beloved, of better things related to salvation, even though we speak in this way.

For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love you have demonstrated for his name by having served and continuing to serve the holy ones.

We earnestly desire each of you to demonstrate the same eagerness for the fulfillment of hope until the end,

so that you may not become sluggish, but imitators of those who, through faith and patience, are inheriting the promises.

When God made the promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, "he swore by himself,"

and said, "I will indeed bless you and multiply" you.

And so, after patient waiting, he obtained the promise.

***THANKS To***

***Katherin Pattettu, Jose Thottam and George Luke for their diligence and dedication throughout the year to bring this Bulletin to you.***

***WOMEN'S Forum Meeting- 1-29- 2012 .***

***Eucharistic Ministers' meeting-2/5/2012.***

**From the Pope.**

“Coming into the world is never a choice; we are not asked first if we want to be born.

“Thanks to the faith, thanks to a profound and personal ‘yes’ to God as the origin and foundation of my existence, I welcome life as a gift of the Father Who is in heaven; a Parent Who, in the depths of my heart, I feel to be my Father, the Father or all my brothers and sisters in humanity, a Father Who is intensely good and faithful.

“This faith in God the Father rests upon Jesus Christ. His person and His history reveal the Father to us. To believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, enables us ‘to be reborn from above’, in other words from God Who is Love. This is the significance of the sacrament of baptism: it is a new birth which comes about thanks to the Holy Spirit.

**JOB OPENINGS**

MTA NYCTRANSIT & MaBSTOA have openings for various positions. For information and exam schedule contact 718 566 JOBS or <http://exam.nyct.com> or in person Exam information center, 180 Livingston St. Brooklyn.

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