



Merry Christmas

St. James
Marthoma
Church
Newsletter
December
2024

Message

IN THIS ISSUE

Beloved St. James family members

“The Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.” Ps.118:23

For our St. James family, this month of December is very significant. By the grace of God, we fulfilled all renovation activities of the newly purchased church building at Pearl River. The dedication of the Church Building is on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at 9:30 am. After the Dedication, we have a short public meeting scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. and is expected to conclude at 12 p.m. The first Holy Communion at our new church in Pearl River is on Sunday 8, 2024 at 9:00 am. On that day, some of our children will receive the first Communion during the service and we celebrate our 34th parish day. You are all reminded to participate in the one-day income offerings during the Parish Day Celebration. We have various sub-committees to ensure all arrangements are carried out smoothly. I urge all our parish members to make every sincere effort to prayerfully attend these functions with our families, friends, and relatives.

We can thank God for all the factors that helped bring us to the reality of the new church building. Proper decisions and suggestions of our parish general body, executive committee, building committee, and office-bearers help us to prepare a new church building. The financial support and strength to acquire our new church building and property in Pearl River is made possible through the sale of our Wesley Hills property, purchased in 1995. We can thank God for the pioneers and founding families of St. James Mar Thoma Church who made every effort for the future growth and stability of our parish. As a faithful community, this is a God-given opportunity to rejuvenate, rededicate, and submit ourselves before the God Almighty.

We are entering the last days of the year. December's name derives from the Latin word decem (meaning ten) because it was originally the tenth month of the year in the calendar of Romulus c. 750 BC, which began in March. We are going through the most important days in the Christian life. For us, the highlight of December is ‘the message of the Holy Birth.’ Two elegantly dressed ladies arrived at a five-star hotel and ordered food. As they were enjoying themselves a friend who passed by asked them: “What are you celebrating?” One of them replied: It is my son’s second birthday.” “But where is he?” “Oh, I left him with my mother. He is very mischievous. He will not let us eat in peace. We are all preparing to celebrate Christmas without the real presence of Christ. Christ has become a nuisance during the festivities of Christmas. Also, we are bidding farewell to one more year of our life and stand on the threshold of a new year. May this New Year bring us a fresh start, a chance to renew our mind, body, and spirit.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year 2025.

Ajith Varghese Achen

Church executive committee 2024

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	DATE	WORSHIP SERVICES: December, 2024	TIME
Sun	Dec 01	Holy communion service in English	10:15 AM
Sun	Dec 08	Holy communion service in English and Parish Day	09:00 AM
Sun	Dec 15	Holy communion service in Malayalam	10:15 AM
Sun	Dec 22	Holy communion service in English	10:15 AM
Wed	Dec 25	Holy communion service in English	08:30 AM
Sun	Dec 29	Holy communion service in Malayalam	10:15 AM
Tus	Dec 31	Holy communion service in English	10:00 PM

LECTIONARY- December - 2024					
Day	Date	Lesson: 1	Lesson: 2	Epistles	Gospels
Sun	Dec 01	Beginning of 25 Days Lent, Meeting of Virgin Mary and Elizabeth: Mutual acceptance of two partners in God's salvation plan; Bible Sunday			
		Exod 7:1-7	Acts 9:26-31	Rom 15:5-9	Luke 1:39-45
Sun	Dec 08	Birth of John the Baptist: the child set apart for the divine plan and the family that nurtures him accordingly			
		Mal 3:1-4	Acts 16:1-5	2Tim 1:3-10	Luke 1:57-66
Sun	Dec 15	Annunciation to Joseph, Joseph: the Model of discipleship for the People of God			
		Isa 7:10-17	1Thess 5:12-22	2Pet 1:5-11	Matt 1:18-23
Sun	Dec 22	Arrival of the Saviour of the World			
		Isa 11:1-10	Acts 3:19-26	Heb 1:1-12	John 1:9-18
Wed	Dec 25	Birth of Jesus Christ: Peace on Earth; End of 25-day Lent			
		Mic 5:1-9	Gal 4:1-7	Phil 2:5-11	Luke 2:1-14
Sun	Dec 29	God who led us till now			
		1Sam 7:1-12	Rom 8:31-39	2Thess 2:13-15	Matt 11:25-30
Tus	Dec 31	Into the New Year with the God of Hope			
		Jer 29:8-14	Jude 1:20-25	Eph 4:17-24	Matt 7:7-12



Birthday –December

Dates	Name	Town
Dec 01	Steven Tom	Congers, NY
Dec 16	Bindu Abraham	Nanuet, NY
Dec 17	Joel George Thomas	Spring Valley, NY
Dec 17	Jessy Cherian	Orangeburg
Dec 18	John Navaratnam	Orangeburg

Dec 21	Stacy Sara Jacob	Nanuet, NY
Dec 23	Diya Varghese	Congers, NY
Dec 23	Christian Mathew Jose	Bardonia
Dec 27	Vincent Abraham	Bergenfield, NJ
Dec 30	Jisha Jacob	Tappan, NY



Wedding Anniversary – December

Date	Name	Town
Dec 01	Aleykutty & Eappen M.S.	Palisades, NY
Dec 08	Bindu & Linu Abraham	Nanuet, NY
Dec 26	Rebeca & Toms Zachariah	Spring valley, NY
Dec 27	Siji & Shaju Pappan	Spring valley, NY
Dec 31	Alice & Rajan Mathew	Nanuet, NY

Every 3rd Friday's at 10:30 AM fasting prayer meeting via zoom.

Senior citizen's prayer meeting on every 4th Wednesday at 7:30PM via zoom.

Upcoming Events – 2024

December 8 th Sunday	Parish day.
December 13,14 & 15	House caroling
December 22 nd Sunday	Church Christmas carol service in the evening.
December 25 th Wednesday	Christmas day service – Holy communion in English at 8:30AM.
December 31 st Tuesday	Watch night service – Holy communion service in Malayalam at 10:00PM

St. James MTC Pear River Church dedication service on December 7th 2024, at 9:30AM follows the public meeting. Parish day celebration on December 8th Sunday immediately after the holy communion service.



**Christmas carol service
on December 22nd Sunday
at 6:00PM.**

**Christmas day service
on December 25th
Wednesday at 8:30AM**

**St. James Marthoma Church
Newsletter
November 2024**

**253 Ehrhardt Rd.,
Pearl River, NY 10965**

Luke 2:10-12

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."