

EBENEZER NEWSLETTER

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Onam Sadhya & Games

September 7th

Sunday Service

Malayalam Holy Communion

September 7th - 9:30 am

English Holy Communion

September 14th - 10:00 am

Malayalam Holy Communion

September 21st - 10:00 am

English Holy Communion

September 28th - 10:00 am

Youth Chaplain's Corner

Dearly beloved in Christ,

In Philippians 1:9–10, we read, “And this is my prayer: that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you determine what is best...”

The Apostle Paul, writing from a prison cell, opens his letter to the Philippians not with complaints or self-pity, but with a prayer—gentle, pastoral, and full of affection.

Though isolated and suffering, his heart remains with his people. His greatest concern is not his own hardship, but their spiritual growth. This is the mark of a true shepherd: one who intercedes on behalf of his flock even in the midst of his own trials.

In this short prayer, Paul lifts up three desires—each of which continues to guide us in our walk with Christ today.

First, Paul prays that Church love may abound more and more. This is not sentimental or shallow love, but a love shaped by deeper knowledge of Christ and rooted in life within His body, the Church. Christian love is never stagnant. It must grow—expanding in compassion, deepening in wisdom, and maturing in self-giving action. It is a love that serves, sacrifices, and endures. As we reflect on our own lives, we must ask: Is our love growing colder in a distracted world, or is it becoming more Christ-like with each passing day?

Second, Paul desires that the Church grow in discernment and learn to choose what is excellent. It is not enough to settle for what is merely permissible or culturally acceptable.

“... that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you determine what is best...”

The Christian life invites us into something more: a pursuit of what is best in the eyes of God. Discernment is the ability to recognize the difference between what is simply good and what is holy. When love is rightly formed, it does not blur our vision—it sharpens it. It helps us prioritize with clarity and live with purpose, longing above all to please God.

Third, Paul prays that we would live sincere lives. The Greek word translated as “sincere” refers to something tested by sunlight—examined openly, free from hidden cracks or deceit. Paul is not calling for perfection, but for authenticity.

This is hard. He urges us to cultivate a life that is honest, transparent, and whole. A faith that can be held up to the light and not be found wanting. This leads us to ask ourselves: Are we walking in the truth of God’s presence, or merely maintaining the appearance of faith?

Paul’s prayer is not bound to the first-century church in Philippi. It speaks with just as much power to us today. May our lives overflow with love that is active and wise. May our decisions be guided by holy discernment. And may our faith be sincere, reflecting the truth and beauty of the gospel.

Let us seek what is excellent. Let us reflect Christ in all that we do. And let us walk blamelessly in the light of His grace

JVarghese Achen

Youth Chaplain – Northeast Region



Housekeeping

1. As the new academic year begins, we know the semester brings excitement, challenges, and a fresh start. In the midst of it all, I would be so happy to walk with you, right where you are. That is why we continue college campus visits next month! Stay tuned for campus-specific details via Instagram and make plans to join us!

*Parents: If you have a college freshman studying at a campus within the Northeast region, please reach out and let me know with their campus and phone number. I would be happy to connect with them and walk alongside them during this new season of life.

This Month's Lectionary

September 7th Women: Proclaimers and Practitioners of Change	1st Lesson: Judges 4:1-9 2nd Lesson: Acts 9:36-42 Epistle: Romans 16:1-12 Gospel: St. Matthew 28:1-10	Bible Reading Assigned To: Sevika Sangham
September 14th Education that discerns divine purpose	1st Lesson: Proverbs 8:1-14 2nd Lesson: Acts 18:24-28 Epistle: James 3:13-18 Gospel: St. Matthew 7:21-27	Bible Reading Assigned To: Mr. Thomas T Samuel & Family
September 21th Senior citizens: Models of God's Righteousness	1st Lesson: Leviticus 19:30-37 2nd Lesson: Ephesians 6:1-9 Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:7-12 Gospel: St. Luke 2:25-38	Bible Reading Assigned To: Senior Citizens
September 28th Stewardship: Faithfulness and Transparency	1st Lesson: 2 Kings 12:4-15 2nd Lesson: Acts 5:1-11 Epistle: I Corin. 4:1-5 Gospel: St. Luke 19:12-24	Bible Reading Assigned To: Mr. Tibu Tharakan & Family

This Month's Parish Programs



Sevika Sangham Day

Date: September 7th
Time: During Service

Special Offertory



Student & Teacher Dedication

Date: September 7th, 2025
Time: During Service



Onam Sadhya & Games

Date: September 7th, 2025
Time: After Service



Harvest Fest Finale

Date: Sunday, September 21st
Time: After Service



Senior Citizen Day

Date: Sunday, September 21st
Time: During Service

Organization Announcements

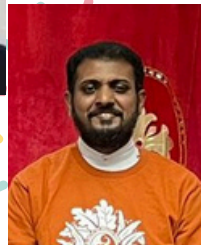
Ebenezer MTC Announcements Only

Sevika Sangham

All Sevika Sanghom members are kindly requested (those who are able) to visit another Marthoma family from our parish before the Sevika Sanghom day celebration. Please join us for the program " Know Your Neighbour ".

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace." Numbers 6: 24-26



September 4	Vipin T Kovoor	September 11	Feby Varghese
September 7	Ezekiel Abraham Varghese	September 15	Jose Cherian
September 7	Rebekah Elizabeth Jacob	September 21	Robin T Samuel
September 10	Reena Mathew (Kochamma)	September 24	Rev. Joel Thomas
September 10	Tisha Tharakan	September 29	Rini Clement



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

“Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart” Proverbs 3:3-4



September 5	Jacob Mathew Reena Mathew
September 10	Late Koshykunju Ninan Suja E Ninan
September 12	Titus Samuel Soji Samuel
September 14	Ryan Varughese Aisley Varughese
September 14	Nihal Joseph Easow Roopa Anna Nihal Easow
September 17	Late Mr. John Ivy John
September 18	Saju Mathews Mariamma Mathews
September 20	Prasad Thomas Bindu Prasad



Executive Committee Info.

Position	Name	Phone Number	Email Address
President	Rev. Joel Thomas	516-754-6110	urjoelthomas@gmail.com
Vice President	Susan Kurian	914-417-8503	susankurian18@yahoo.com
Secretary	Sneha Thomas	203-927-1572	snehathomas95@gmail.com
Trustee	Alexei Issac	603-320-6767	ialexei@gmail.com
Accountant	Vipin Kovoov	914-420-3669	vipin.kovoov@gmail.com
Lay Leader (Malayalam)	Eapen Joseph	914-310-4892	eapenancy@gmail.com
Lay Leader (English)	Jerry Chacko	908-395-8491	jerry.c.john@gmail.com
Sevika Sangham Secretary (REP)	Reena Mathew (NY)	914-9246482	mathewreena95@gmail.com
Edavaka Mission Secretary (REP)	C.S. Chacko	914-473-3664	chackocs@gmail.com
Yuvajana Sakhyam Secretary (REP)	Tony Mathew	203-767-2280	tony.thomasmathews@gmail.com
Youth Secretary (REP)	Rahul Joseph	914-772-0401	rahuljoseph246@gmail.com
Choir Leader	Feby Varghese	914-815-1555	feby80@gmail.com
Sunday School Superintendent	Reena Mathew (CT)	203-722-3196	jacobreena@gmail.com
Mandalam Representative	Thomas K Mathew	914-924-6094	thomaskkmathew@gmail.com
Diocese Representative	Jose Cherian	914-740-7987	josekutty1956@yahoo.com