

# THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS FARMERS BRANCH

## CHURCH

11550 LUNA ROAD  
DALLAS, TX 75234  
TEL: (972) 830.9300



## PARSONAGE

3621 CANYON OAKS  
CARROLLTON, TX 75007  
TEL: (972) 939.0699

Items to be included in the lifetimes should be submitted to the Secretary by the 3rd Sunday of each month. If information is incorrectly printed, please contact the Vicar and Secretary to make the corrections. Please feel free to contact the Vicar or Secretary with any questions or comments. Your feedback is appreciated.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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# MAR THOMA LIFE TIMES

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS, FB

AUGUST 2011



BACK TO SCHOOL

*Sports Tournament 2011  
Friday, August 5th-6th*




The Mar Thoma Church of Dallas  
Farmers Branch

11550 Luna Road, Dallas, TX 75234  
972.830.9300  
www.mtcdallasfb.org

# WORSHIP



# SCHEDULE

<p><b>Aug 7</b> <i>Reformation Call for Mission</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>DAL/MESQUITE</b></p>	<p><b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:30 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana <b>(ENGLISH)</b></p> <p>SPORTS TOURNAMENT</p> 	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Josh 24: 14-25 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Rev 3: 14-22 <b>Epistle:</b> Rom 1: 8-17 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Luke 24: 44-49</p>
<p><b>Aug 14</b> <i>Reformation Day- Living According To the Gospel</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>FW&amp;MID CITIES &amp; Office Bears</b></p>	<p><b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:30 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana <b>(MALAYALAM)</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">PARISH DAY</div>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> 2 Kings 23: 1-11 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> 1 Pet 4: 1-11 <b>Epistle:</b> Rom 12: 1-11 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Luke 3: 1-14</p>
<p><b>Aug 21</b> <i>Reformation Through The word of God</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>GARLAND</b></p>	<p><b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:15 AM:</b> Adult Bible Study <b>10:15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana <b>(MALAYALAM)</b></p>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> 2 Chr. 34: 29-33 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Heb. 8: 1-13 <b>Epistle:</b> 1 John 2: 3-15 <b>Gospel:</b> Mat 7: 24-29</p>
<p><b>Aug 28</b> <i>Sacrament of Marriage</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>IRVING NORTH</b></p>	<p><b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:15 AM:</b> Adult Bible Study <b>10.15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana <b>(ENGLISH)</b> Sunday School</p> 	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Gen. 1: 26-31 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Rev. 19: 1-10 <b>Epistle:</b> Eph. 5: 21-32 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Mark 10: 1-9</p>
<p><b>Sept 4</b> <i>Education for Self formation</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>IRVING SOUTH</b></p>	<p><b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:15 AM:</b> Adult Bible Study <b>10:15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana <b>(MALAYALAM)</b></p>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Prov. 8: 1-14 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Jam 3: 13-18 <b>Epistle:</b> Col. 2: 1-7 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Mark 1: 21-28</p>



# AUG PRAYER MEETING SCHEDULE

Area	Date	Residence of	Time
<b>Carrollton East</b>	08-06	Sports Tournament	0:00
	08-13	Parish Convention	7:00
	08-20	TBD	6:30
	08-27	Sunday School Anniversary	6.30
<b>Carrollton North</b>	08-07(Sun)	Varghese P Mathew	7:00
	08-13	Parish Convention	7:00
	08-20	TBD	6:30
	08-27	Sunday School Anniversary	6.30
<b>Carrollton West</b>	08-06	Sports Tournament	0:00
	08-14(Sun)	P V Thomas	7:00
	08-20	George George (Sam)	6:30
	08-27	Sunday School Anniversary	6.30
<b>Coppell</b>	08-07(Sun)	George Varghese (Jayan)	6:30
	08-13	Parish Convention	7:00
	08-20	Chacko Jacob	7:00
	08-27	Sunday School Anniversary	6.30
<b>Dallas/ Mesquite</b>	08-06	Sports Tournament	0:00
	08-13	Parish Convention	7:00
	08-20	TBD	6:30
	08-27	Sunday School Anniversary	6.30
<b>Fort Worth &amp; Mid Cities</b>	08-07(Sun)	Abraham Andrews	6:30
	08-13	Picnic ( 9-1pm)	0:00
	08-21(Sun)	Jacob C Varghese	6:30
	08-27	Sunday School Anniversary	6.30
<b>Garland</b>	08-06	Sports Tournament	0:00
	08-13	Parish Convention	7:00
	08-20	V T Abraham	7:00
	08-27	S School Anniversary	6.30
<b>Irving North</b>	08-06	Sports Tournament	0:00
	08-13	Parish Convention	7:00
	08-20	TBD	6:30
	08-27	Sunday School Anniversary	6.30
<b>Irving South</b>	08-06	Sports Tournament	0:00
	08-13	Parish Convention	7:00
	08-20	M A Philip	7:00
	08-27	Sunday School Anniversary	6.30
<b>Plano</b>	08-06	Sports Tournament	0:00
	08-13	Parish Convention	7:00
	08-20	Dr. George John	6:30
	08-27	Thomas M Mathew	7.00

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

Come to mention it, I guess I was blinded, beaten, ship-wrecked, and imprisoned... I guess I was TOO BUSY SERVING to notice.



The Apostle Paul, too wrapped up in his love for God to notice his own problems. THAT'S A NICE PROBLEM FOR LIFE.

### What makes life so important? What is the purpose of it all?

Our lives are special and meaningful both to God and the world we live in. In fact, we must always remember that God considered our lives so precious and valuable that he sent His Son (Jn. 3:16) to die for all humanity. As such, our life is made purposeful through our Creator who has a divine plan for each one of us. So, our life is not just some meaningless journey on random roads towards an indiscreet end. It's a walk with our Creator God as he works through us to fulfill our potential



and his purpose for our lives.

In the Book of Psalms 139:13-16, we read "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made...". The Psalmist sings praise to God for he realizes his very life, his very breath was the product of God's divine task. It was and is more than any human act or conception. In other words, our life [body] is a gift from God. He provides us this gift in the belief that we are responsible to use it wisely and for His glory.

In the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 12:1-2, states "offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God..." The gift of life God has given us, therefore, is not to be kept to ourselves nor is meant just for our own use or pleasure. Rather, it becomes holy and pleasing to God when our bodies, our lives become living sacrifices. That is, in our service and mission to others our lives become an offering to God just as the life of Jesus Christ.

So, life is not made important or meaningful by the material or the exterior things that often attract. It is special and sacred when we realize that this is a gift from God which He expects us to offer unto Him through our love for all people. Also, our life has a purpose and is part of God's divine plan. Thus, submit your life to God and he will work in you and through you.

May God Almighty strengthen us all to understand the importance of life and our purpose in creation!

Your brother in Christ,

Jaisen Achen  
C- 214-604-6678  
revjathomas@yahoo.com

### Baptism

Leah Mary Varghese, daughter of Tiju and Reeja Varghese of Irving South Prayer group, got baptized on July 31, 2011



## VICAR'S MESSAGE - AUGUST

### LET GOD OCCUPY OUR THOUGHTS

Dallas Farmers Branch Church as a family is happy to celebrate the ordination of Rev. Alex G. Kolath and wish him our prayerful support in the coming years. We all are ordained priest as we come under the family of Royal Priesthood, but few are set a part to do certain sacramental task and work for Him as an instrument in His mighty hands.

A song in the church says: "Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace." These are good words to live by, for one of the strongest deterrents against returning to your old way of life is to focus upon your savior and future. As a believer, we have been promised eternal life, the hope of heaven and the assurance of spending eternity in the presence of God. When we think about that, the trappings of this world begin to lose their appeal. The next time when you feel inclined to dabble with your old life, or feel weighed down by the worries of this world, or fear that you won't make it as a Christian, remember to do these things:

1. Keep your eyes on your final destination
2. Realise that worry should not be a part of your life.
3. Picture yourself as dead to this world and alive in Christ
4. Remember that your Redeemer is returning and you have to present the balance sheet.

If we allow these truths to occupy our thoughts, we will find it much easier to obey God and say NO to the alluring, but damaging, enticements of this sinful world. Let us not shift our focus and lose the crown mend for us. Let us win the trophy set a part for us in this Christian race. May God bless.

With prayers,  
Minoyatchen



# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS.....

Date	Time	Prayer Group
1	Sujan Easow	Other Area
	Stephanie Jacob	Carrollton North
	Rose Marie Parampottil	Coppell
	Cini Abraham	Garland
2	John Varghese	Coppell
	George N George	Carrollton West
3	Anju George	Dallas / Mesquite
	Aiju George	Garland
	Christian Koshy Raju	Carrollton North
4	Minda Sue Mathew	Coppell
	Eapan Abraham	Coppell
	Brigith Thomas	Garland
	Nicole Rachel Varghese	Coppell
5	Subin Varghese	Plano
	Neil P Daniel	Irving North
	Benjamin John	Fort Worth Mid Cities
6	Jinu Ninan	Carrollton North
	Jesse J Verghese	Plano
7	Jasmine S Abraham	Carrollton North
	Reny Jacob	Garland
8	Joby John	Carrollton North
	Tiju M Varghese	Irving South
	Linnea Sara James	Fort Worth Mid Cities
9	Amith Varughese	Carrollton East
	Sushil Samuel	Carrollton North
10	Elizabeth Chacko	Plano
	Mason Jacob	Plano
	Jadon Mathew Abraham	Dallas / Mesquite
12	Jeswin Mathew	Irving South
	Mathew George	Plano
13	Sheryl Abraham	Garland
	Mary Cheriyan	Coppell
	Maris Kuruvilla Minoy	Carrollton West
14	Thomas Varghese	Dallas / Mesquite
	Stacen Joseph	Carrollton North
15	Annamma Somar	Carrollton East
	Ruby Cherian	Carrollton West
	Lalitha Susan John	Garland
16	Annamma John	Carrollton West
	Janice Mathews	Plano
17	Lisy Yuhanon Panachakunnel	Carrollton North
	Juby Panachakunnel	Carrollton East
	Lancy Kuruvilla	Irving South
	Nephy G Samuel	Carrollton West
18	Alvin Tom Mathew	Plano
	Dennis Kurian	Plano
	Binu Samuel	Carrollton North
19	Avinash A Alexander	Coppell
	Judy Panachakunnel	Carrollton East
20	Nancy C Mathew	Irving South
	Shillu Kurien	Coppell
	Trina Tim Thomas Issac	Garland
21	Anitha Thomas	Garland

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER IN 2011



<b>August 5-7</b> <b>Aug 12-14</b> <b>August 14</b> <b>August 20</b> <b>August 26</b> <b>August 27</b> <b>August 28</b>	<b>Fri-Sun</b> <b>Thu-Sat</b> <b>Sun</b> <b>Sat</b> <b>Fri</b> <b>Sat</b> <b>Sun</b>	<b>Regional Sports Tournament (Hosted by DFBMTC)</b> <b>Annual Parish Convention</b> <b>Parish Day</b> <b>Center Yuvajana Sakhyam Kala Mela (Sehion M.T.C)</b> <b>Center Edvaka Mission at MTCFB 6.30 P.M.</b> <b>Sunday School Anniversary</b> <b>KG Student/Sunday School Teachers dedication</b>
<b>September 4</b> <b>September 17</b> <b>September 18</b> <b>September 23</b>	<b>Sun</b> <b>Sat</b> <b>Sun</b> <b>Fri</b>	<b>Sevika Sangham Sunday/Grand Parents Day</b> <b>Senior Citizen Seminar</b> <b>Senior Citizen's Day</b> <b>South west Savika Sangham at Carrollton MTC</b>
<b>October 1</b> <b>October 4</b> <b>October 7-9</b> <b>October 9</b> <b>October 16</b> <b>October 23</b>	<b>Sat</b> <b>Sun</b> <b>Fri-Sun</b> <b>Sun</b> <b>Sun</b> <b>Sun</b>	<b>Mar Thoma Fest</b> <b>Parish Mission Sunday/Outreach</b> <b>National Yuvajana Sakhyam Conference at St. Paul</b> <b>Youth Fellowship Sunday</b> <b>Family Sunday</b> <b>Yuvajana Sakyam Sunday Guest: Rev.Dr.Joe Joseph</b>
<b>November</b> <b>November 13</b> <b>November 24</b>	<b>Thu-Sat</b> <b>Sun</b> <b>Thu</b>	<b>Diocesan Counseling program Rev.Dr.Joe Joseph</b> <b>World Sunday School Day</b> <b>Thanksgiving Day Service</b>
<b>December 3</b> <b>December 4</b> <b>December 18</b> <b>December 23</b> <b>December 24</b> <b>December 25</b> <b>December 31</b>	<b>Sat</b> <b>Sun</b> <b>Sun</b> <b>Fri</b> <b>Sat</b> <b>Fri</b> <b>Sat</b>	<b>KECF Christmas Carol</b> <b>Bible Sunday</b> <b>Sunday School Carol Program</b> <b>Youth Christmas Party</b> <b>Christmas Eve Carol Service &amp; Celebration Pgm.</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> <b>New Year's Eve Watch Night Service</b>



### PARISH DAY CELEBRATION 2011 On August 14th 2011 highlights

**Worship service starts at 9.30 am**  
**\* Our church senior citizens aged 70 and above will be**

**Recognized during the event.**

**Lunch will be served after the program.**

**We request the presence of your entire family during this celebration**

## Aug. 2011 Wedding Anniversaries



Date	Names	Prayer Group
4	Biju T & Anu Zachariah	Plano
5	Santhosh & Mini Thomas	Carrollton West
7	Mathukutty V & Mariamma Eapen	Irving North
8	Saju & Alice Abraham	Carrollton North
	Philip P Kochiyil & Nirmala Philip	Plano
9	Mathew K & Mariamma Mathew	Dallas / Mesquite
10	Dr. Tony Tharian & Bindhu Issac	Garland
12	Sunil M & Suja S Varghese	Garland
14	Regi L & Suja Thomas	Garland
15	John K & Mini Varghese	Carrollton North
	Shaji & Lizy David	Plano
	Aby & Betty Thomas	Carrollton West
16	Prasanth John & Jennifer Princely	Carrollton North
	Varghese & Soma Abraham	Coppell
	Rajan K & Sudha Mathew	Irving North
17	Raju & Daisy Mathew	Irving South
18	Sabu V & Jessy S Mathew	Carrollton West
	Chacko & Chinnamma Jacob	Coppell
19	George & Molamma Thomas	Dallas / Mesquite
23	Ronnie & Nithya Kurian	Irving North
24	Ponnachen K & Rosamma Thomas	Carrollton East
26	Thomas Kunnathu & Jeena John	Irving North
29	Som & Mary Cheriyan Thomas	Coppell
30	Samuel M Skariah & Soosamma Samuel	Carrollton East
	Mathew & Binu Samuel	Carrollton North
	Somar Thomas & Annamma Somar	Carrollton East
	Joe & Brandie Skariah	Dallas / Mesquite

### MTVEA CAMP & RESEARCH CENTER

Construction work of the Mar Thoma Voluntary Evangelists' Association's camp and research center in Thiruvalla (total cost for the project is 2.5 crore) is progressing. Members are encouraged to contribute to this project and pay a pass through contribution ASAP (Check payable to MTC of Dallas FB- Memo: MTVEA Complex)

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS.....

Date	Name	Prayer Group
20	Paul Bijili	Carrollton East
	Thresa Samuel	Irving South
	Leny Susan Philipose	Garland
	Nadia Esmail	Coppell
	Robin George Rajan	Irving South
21	Kenslo Idicula	Garland
	Joffe Abraham	Garland
	Vince Alex	Carrollton East
	Hannah Andrews	Fort Worth Mid Cities
22	George Thomas	Dallas / Mesquite
	Rincy George Rajan	Irving South
23	Annamma Jacob	Dallas / Mesquite
	Cherin Skariah Jose	Carrollton North
24	Jancey Jose	Other Area
	Jessica Abraham	Dallas / Mesquite
	Sumith Mathew	Garland
	Sabu Oommen	Irving North
25	Shirley Chandy	Irving North
	K C Samuel	Irving South
26	Ashely Thomas	Carrollton West
	Jayden Luke Mathew	Garland
	Shaina Alexander	Carrollton North
27	Leslie Jacob	Coppell
	Smitha Philip	Irving South
	Ammini Varughese	Garland
	Shebin Babu	Irving South
28	Sheba Varghese	Plano
	Mariamamma Jesson	Garland
29	Crystal James	Carrollton North
	Aleyamma John	Dallas / Mesquite
	Abigail T. Santosh	Dallas / Mesquite
	Sibin Varghese	Carrollton West
	Rebecca Andrews	Fort Worth Mid Cities
30	Sunil Baby	Coppell
	K V Abraham	Dallas / Mesquite
	Susan Cherian	Carrollton West
	Vettolil Varghese John	Carrollton North
31	Halle Thomas	Garland

### Birth



Dr. Tony Tharian Issac and Mrs. Bindhu Susan Issac of Garland prayer group are blessed with a baby girl Aliyna Leela Issac on 28th July.

Biju and Bini Thomas of Carrollton North Prayer Group was blessed with a baby boy on Jul 30.



2011 PARISH FAMILY RETREAT  
**SKY RANCH**  
 Van, Texas  
TEXAS COLORADO OKLAHOMA



PLEASE REGISTER YOUR NAME FOR THE UPCOMING FAMILY RETREAT

**CONVENER: MR. PHILIP THOMAS**  
**DATE: SEPTEMBER 9TH -11TH, 2011**  
**SAVE THE DATE**

## Annual Parish Convention

August 12, 13 and 14

At 7.00 PM at Church

**Speaker: MR.SAMUEL T.CHACKO, BANGALORE**

*Please Mark These Days In Your Calendar*

## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP SEMINAR

### Seminar -Off The Hook

**Theme:** "Off The Hook: Overcoming Depression, Fear and Trauma"

**Main Speaker:** Mr. Jerry Meade, LPCSW - Professional Biblical Counselor

**Venue:** Mar Thoma Church of Dallas, Farmers Branch

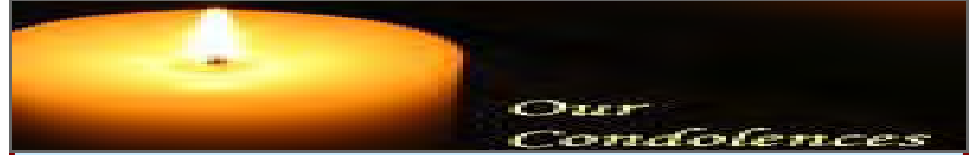
**Date:** Saturday, September 3, 2011

**Time:** 9am- 4pm

**Registration Fee:** Only \$5

**Registration Deadline:** August 27, 2011

**Mar Thoma**  
**Fest**  
*Charity for Humanity*  
 OCTOBER 1 ST, SATURDAY 2011



# Maliakal Easaw George (M E George), father of Easaw Maliakal passed away on July 14th, 2011 in Kurrianoor. He was 98 years old.

# Mr .V.G.Abraham, 100 years of age, father of Sosamma Abraham ( Garland prayer group) and V. A Alexander (Carro.North prayer group) passed away in Alwaye,Kerala on July15th 2011.

# Mrs. Aleyamma Pappy, mother of Mathew Pappy (Garland Prayer Group) passed away on July 19th in Thalavady. She was 87 yrs old.

# Gracykutty Jacob, wife of Joy Jacob, Dallas/Mesquite prayer group lost her father M. K. Thomas, 87 years old, in Vakathanam, Kottayam.

# Mrs. Leelamma Mathew, 68 years, Kurudamannil, Ayroor, sister of Dr. Roy Mathew of Coppell prayer group, passed away in Kerala on July 30th, 2011.

# Mrs Molly Varghese aged 83 years old, Mother of Alexander of Coppell prayer group, passed away on July 30th at Kumbanad.

# Mr. John J. John, brother of Mrs. Annamma John of Carrollton North Prayer Group & Mrs. Elizabeth John of Coppell Prayer Group, passed away on August 3rd, 2011 in Chilavannoor, Ernakulam, India. He was 64 years old.

# Mrs. Ponnamma David, 66 years old, sister of Mr. V.M. Thomas of Carrollton East prayer group, passed away on Aug 3rd, 2011 in Cochin, Kerala.