

THE DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA & EUROPE

The Mar Thoma Church

Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos
Diocesan Bishop

Rev. Aju Abraham
Diocesan/Bishop's Secretary

Mr. George P. Babu
Diocesan Treasurer



Sinai Mar Thoma Center
2320 S. Merrick Avenue
Merrick, NY 11566
Tel: (516) 377-3311
Fax: (516) 377-3322

Email: marthomadiocese@gmail.com

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Blessings to the members of the Epiphany Mar Thoma Church, New York.

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Let us thank God for the manifold blessings we received during the past year and for sustaining all of us during this pandemic. Marvelous are the ways through which God led our Diocese in the last year. We remember with gratitude the dedicated service of the health care givers and pray for the people who went through pain and suffering due to COVID-19. Let this Lenten season be an opportune time to recollect the life of Jesus Christ, the suffering and the agony on the cross for the redemption of humanity.

Diocesan Sunday is an occasion to thank God for the divine guidance and blessings received in the growth and development of the diocese, remember with gratitude the pioneer leaders and pray for its present leadership, clergy, laity, all the organizations and the mission activities. We observe the first Sunday of March as the Diocesan Sunday and this year it is on **March 7th, 2021**. A special order of worship prepared by the diocese is to be used on the day.

Unlike last years, there will be no pulpit exchange arranged this year due to pandemic. The vicar is assigned to explain the various activities, mission projects and programs of the Diocese. The vicars will have the responsibility to arrange the Diocesan Sunday collection in their own parish. All are urged to contribute generously to support the ministry of the Diocese. **The expected amount from your parish as Diocesan Sunday collection is \$ 5260.00.** The amount needs to be raised through Sunday offertory and individual donations. The receipts of the parish can be used for the collection. The cooperation of the trustees and the Diocesan Assembly members are expected. The offertory and the collection should be sent to the Diocesan office before the 15th of April 2021.

Let us join our hands together for the expansion of God's kingdom. Pray that God may strengthen everyone to participate in the life and ministry of the Diocese through your valuable support.

May the blessings of God be with us all.

Yours in His Service,

Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos
Diocesan Episcopa

