



THE MAR THOMA BESORAH

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN BISHOP

What is The Mar Thoma Besorah?

The Hebrew word, *besorah*, is translated as message or report. This newsletter includes a brief report of the Diocesan activities.

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

By now, the new academic year has begun, and most of the students in our Diocese have returned to school after their summer vacation. As they embark on this new journey of learning and growth, may the Lord bless and guide them each day.

Along with the intellectual knowledge we gain through education, we are called to acquire wisdom. True wisdom comes from learning to apply the knowledge we receive, and from deepening our love, respect, and devotion to God and all His creation. As the Bible clearly reminds us, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

Our Diocese is observing this month as Light to Life Promotion Month. I encourage all our members to participate wholeheartedly in this life-transforming mission of our Church. We will also be observing Sevika Sangam Sunday and Senior Citizens Fellowship Sunday during this month. May these occasions strengthen our bonds of fellowship, service, and faith within our community.

May God guide each one of us with His wisdom and grace, and help us to walk faithfully in God's light throughout our lives.

~With prayers and regards,
Rt. Rev. Dr. Abraham Mar Paulos Episcopa - Diocesan Bishop



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 28, 2026:

- ABCG Learning Program begins — online

Sept. 29, 2026:

- L.E.A.D. Program begins — online

Sept. 30–Oct. 1, 2026:

- Diocesan Clergy Family Conference, Philadelphia

Oct. 1–4, 2026:

- Diocesan Sevika Sanghom Conference, Philadelphia

Nov. 28, 2026:

- Heavenly Trumpet — Diocesan Christmas Carol Program, Dallas, TX (Southwest RAC)

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONS

Native American Mission

Mexico Mission

Southwest Border Mission

Neighborhood & Urban Mission

India Mission

Light to Life

For further details visit: marthomamission.org
Email: missionboard@marthomamission.org

OBSERVED THIS MONTH

Light to Life Promotion Month • Sevika Sangam Sunday •
Senior Citizens Fellowship Sunday



Mar Thoma Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam 2026

The Mar Thoma Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam 2026 was held from August 27–29, 2026, at the Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Valiya Metropolitan Smaraka Auditorium, Thiruvalla, Kerala, India. It was a historic gathering of 1,503 Mandalam representatives from across the Church, with 33% women representatives. The Mandalam met under the theme "Peacebuilding in a Conflicted World," and resolved to elect three new Bishops for the Sabha.

DIOCESAN

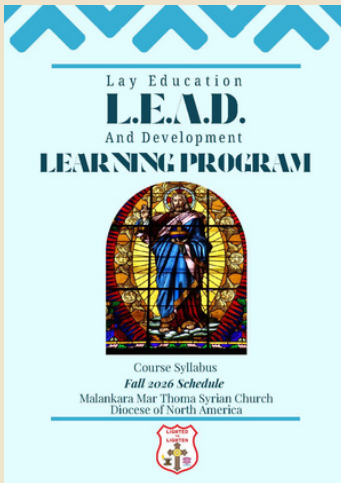
HIGHLIGHTS & REPORTS

September 2026, Issue 9



A gathering and fellowship dinner of the Mandalam members who travelled from the United States and Canada to represent the Diocese of North America was held on August 28, 2026, in Thiruvalla, Kerala, India, during the Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam.

Fall 2026 Diocesan Learning Programs L.E.A.D. & A.B.C.G.



Registration is open for Phases 1, 2 and 3 of the Diocesan Lay Education and Development (L.E.A.D.) Program and the Altar Boys & Covenant Girls (ABCG) Learning Program.

ABCG begins September 28, 2026 — Mondays, 8:45–9:50 p.m. EST, through November 16, 2026. Open to Full Communicant members ages 12–18.

L.E.A.D. begins September 29, 2026 — Tuesdays, 7:30–8:40 p.m. EST, through November 17, 2026. Open to members ages 18 and above.

Both are held via Zoom and Google Classroom. Fees: USD \$30 / CAD \$30. Registration deadline: September 21, 2026.

23rd Diocesan Yuvajana Sakhyam Conference



The 23rd Mar Thoma Diocesan Yuvajana Sakhyam Conference was hosted by Salem Mar Thoma Church, New York, from August 14–16, 2026, at the Honor's Haven Retreat & Conference Center in Ellenville, NY. The theme was: Stronger than Struggles, Resilience with the Savior (2 Corinthians 12:9).

MTVEA South East Regional Meeting



The MTVEA South East Regional Meeting was held at St. Peter's Mar Thoma Church, New Jersey, on September 5, 2026, and was a blessed and meaningful gathering. Rev. Santhosh John delivered the main message.

NERYF Fifth Sunday Holy Qurbana Service



The Fifth Sunday Holy Qurbana Service of the North East Regional Youth Fellowship (NERYF) was held at the Jerusalem Mar Thoma Church, Connecticut, on August 30, 2026. Rev. Christopher Phil Daniel celebrated the Holy Qurbana, and Mr. Chrisen Bijoy (St. John's MTC, NY) was the main speaker.

New Parsonage Dedication Mar Thoma Church of Greater Washington



The dedication of the new parsonage of the Mar Thoma Church of Greater Washington, Maryland, was held on August 16, 2026. Rev. Liju T. Varughese serves as the Vicar.

Carmel Mar Thoma Center Residential Facility Dedication Atlanta, Georgia



The dedication of the new residential facility at the Carmel Mar Thoma Center, Atlanta, was held on August 19, 2026. Rev. Dr. Jameson K. serves as the Administrator.

18th Diocesan MTVEA Conference — “Come and See: The Divine Invite”



The 18th Diocesan MTVEA Conference was hosted by Southwest Center A at the Mar Thoma Church of Dallas, Farmers Branch, Texas, from August 20–23, 2026.

The conference was led by the Diocesan Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Abraham Mar Paulos Episcopa, with main speaker Rev. Dr. Mothy Varkey along with other speakers. The theme was “Come and See – The Divine Invite,” based on John 1:39, 46.

More than 600 delegates, including clergy and families from across the USA and Canada, participated.

Neighborhood Mission Outreach — Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco, California



The Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco distributed 128 school bags and school supplies to neighborhood children. Not only were hundreds of children served, families were also welcomed and countless moments of joy, fellowship, and God's love were shared with the community. Rev. Jijo P. Sunny serves as the Vicar.

Sevika Sanghom Couples Conference — Northeast Region



The Sevika Sanghom Couples Conference, hosted by the Northeast Region, was held at St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, Yonkers, New York, on September 5, 2026. Mr. Cherry G. Cherian was the main speaker.

2027 UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan. 7–10: Diocesan Leadership Conference (Youth Fellowship) — St. John's MTC, NY
- July 1–4: Diocesan Family Conference — Chicago, IL (Midwest RAC)
- July 17–22: Diocesan Urban Mission — Los Angeles, CA
- July 22–25: Diocesan Youth Conference — MTC of Los Angeles, CA