



The Mar Thoma Church

Diocese of North America and Europe

Besorah

The Besorah is an official publication of the Diocese of North America and Europe

Message from the Diocesan Bishop

Dearly Beloved in Christ,
Greetings in the glorious name of the Triune God.

By the grace and mercy of God, we have entered the second month of the New Year 2022. Although the overall situation of the global pandemic has improved, we continue to live in the shadow of COVID-19 that continues to impose changes in many aspects of life. As always, there are new challenges to deal with and new opportunities to pursue.

Amid numerous challenges, we should remember that God is with us and because of His presence, there is always hope. In God's loving and merciful presence, there are opportunities and possibilities for growth, even if they are not readily visible to our weary eyes. Opportunities, for relationship-building, for spiritual growth, for continuing the work of social justice, and for sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in our neighborhoods and beyond are all available for us to pursue as a faith community.

As we continue our journey in this new year, let us look forward in faith to continue the work of Jesus Christ. Let us pray that our experiences in the past year will provide us insight and awareness about ourselves, our community, and our commitments. Let us seek God's guidance and prepare to respond with creativity, diligence, and obedience as we move with faith and boldness into the future to bear fruits for God's glory. May the blessings of God Almighty remain with us all.

With prayerful regards,

Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos
Diocesan Bishop

Mar Thoma Institute on Mission and Culture

Our Diocesan Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Episcopa, inaugurated the first course offered by the Mar Thoma Institute on Mission and Culture (MIMC) on Thursday, January 27, 2022, at 7:00 PM (EST) via the Zoom platform. The course, titled as **MIMC 110: Effective Ministry in North America**, is an online continuing education course that will last for eight weeks with sessions on every Tuesday and Thursday from February 1st to March 24th. The Clergy who joined the Diocese in 2021 and the newly appointed Lay Chaplains are participating in this course.

Inauguration of Course MIMC 110: Effective Ministry in North America



FULL TIME MINISTRY / FOLLOW UP MEETING

The Diocese will host a meeting on Saturday, April 9, 2022, for candidates with interest in the full-time ministry of the Mar Thoma Church. Candidates who attended the previous meetings and new candidates are invited to attend. Please contact the Diocesan Office if you are a member of the Mar Thoma Church with interest to serve in full time ministry and pursue theological studies.

Email: marthomadiocese@gmail.com | **Phone:** 516-377-3311

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 7th: MTVEA Prayer
March 4th: World Day of Prayer
March 6th: Diocesan Sunday

NATIVE AMERICAN MISSION: WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE IN NAVAJOLAND

A winter clothing drive was arranged to support the people of Navajoland in Utah. A team from the Phoenix Mar Thoma Church collected blankets, coats, jackets, and other useable winter clothing items.

The partnership with Trinity Cathedral Episcopal Church in Phoenix, AZ, and St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Tucson, AZ, was a blessing, and raised a huge amount of clothes that were donated for this cause.

Special thanks to Rev. Geevarghese Kochummen (Vicar, Phoenix MTC), Mr. Kiran Koshy, and Mr. Abel Geevarghese for driving many hours to deliver the collected items to Navajoland on January 26, 2022.



DIOCESAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE - 2022

The Redeemer Mar Thoma Church, New Jersey, hosted the 25th session of the Diocesan Leadership Conference virtually on January 7 and 8, 2022. There was a total of 54 participants representing 26 parishes/congregations of the Diocese. The theme of the conference was "In His Service" based on Colossians 3:23-24. Our Diocesan Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Episcopa, along with our Youth Chaplains, Clergy, and lay leaders led various sessions throughout the conference. A digital Souvenir was released to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of the Diocesan Leadership Conference.



2022 MARAMON CONVENTION

The 127th Maramon Convention will take place from February 13th to 20th. Along with the bishops of the Mar Thoma Church, the main speakers for the convention include, Bishop Dhiloraj R. Canagasabay (Sri Lanka), Rev. Asir Ebenezer (General Secretary, NCCI), and Rev. Dr. John Samuel Ponnusamy (Chennai).



DIOCESAN SUNDAY - MARCH 6TH, 2022

Diocesan Sunday is an occasion to give thanks to God Almighty for the divine guidance and blessings we have received in our journey together as members of the Diocese of North America & Europe of the Mar Thoma Church. Let us remember, with gratitude, the pioneers who have toiled to establish worshipping communities in this part of world.

We observe Diocesan Sunday on March 6, 2022. A special order of worship prepared by the Diocese is used on this day. The Vicars and the Executive Committee will have the responsibility to arrange the Diocesan Sunday collection in their parishes. We request everyone to contribute generously to support the mission and ministry of the Diocese. Let us work together for the expansion of God's kingdom.

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