

The Mar Thoma
Besorah

The *Besorah* is an Official Publication of the Diocese of North America and Europe

MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN EPISCPA

Dearly Beloved,

Greetings to all in the name of Jesus Christ! With the blossoming of greenery we experience freshness. How beautiful it is to see the environment created by God, which He has entrusted to human beings to shape and sustain. This summer we had many conferences focusing on human responsibility in a world created by God.

The Regional Family Conference in Edmonton during the first week of July was on the theme 'Be a Good Steward'. The world created by God was 'good' in every sense but sadly it is either being polluted or destroyed through human selfishness and greed. Bringing back the lost glory to the environment and the world is the mission of restoration inaugurated by Jesus Christ and entrusted to the faithful followers in the Church.

The Junior-Senior Conferences held in the 1st and 2nd weeks of July at Ramapo College, New Jersey, motivated hundreds of children to refresh their understanding of scripture and renew their commitment to Christ. The theme 'Blueprint – Your Story God's Design' helped them to see how they reflect the design of God and how to live according to God's plan. The Sunday school teachers took a lot of effort to organize the conferences in the best manner possible.

The Yuvajana Sakhyam Conference held in Chicago dealt with 'Re-Presenting Christ in a Chaotic World', which was another eye opener to the realities of the world and to respond to the call of caring for fellow human beings and preserving lives in this universe.

The Conference of the Voluntary Evangelists Association during the fourth week of July in Philadelphia studied the theme, 'Arise and Go: the Call and Commission'. The participants felt the need to renew their vision and participate in the mission of Christ, which is a mandate given to all who accept the Lordship of Christ. Therefore, it is desirous of the faithful members of the church to express Christ-likeness in life and work.

This vision was visible in the members of the Diocesan Youth Fellowship who gathered in Calvin College, Grand Rapids, for their conference and studied the theme 'I Am With You'. It was a reminder to the young minds that they are not alone, but God walks with them in their journey and we need everyone to accompany one another in the spiritual pilgrimage.

I thank God for the active participation of all our organizations in the life of the church. It is our wish and prayer that God may continue to give new insights to all members of the church to be a part of changing the lives of people. I trust God will guide us in facing the struggles of life and working for the glory of God. Let us uphold everyone in prayer and do the best we can for enhancing God's kingdom in this world.

With Prayers and regards,

Isaac Mar Philoxenos
Diocesan Episcopa

Canada Regional Family Conference

The Canada Regional Family Conference was hosted by Trinity Mar Thoma Church, Edmonton, from July 1 to 3 at King's University, Edmonton. The conference theme was: "Be a Good Steward"(Mt 21:43). Diocesan Episcopa Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos was the conference leader. 85 Families (250 members)



attended the conference. The main Speaker of the Conference was Rev. Denny Philip, the Diocesan Secretary. Rev. Mathew Baby and Rev. Shibu Samuel led different sessions. Rev. Biju P. Simon and Mr. Junior Figueiredo led the sessions for youths. Mrs. Annett Wilcox (CEF), Mrs. Merline Mathew and Rev. Joe Goslin offered different sessions for the children.

17th Mar Thoma Youth Conference of Western

Neighborhood Urban Mission Trip



The 17th Mar Thoma Youth Conference of Western Region was held at Pine Valley Bible Camp in San Diego, California from July 15-17, 2016. The theme for this year's conference was 'God's Story and Yours'. Rev John Oommen, Rev. Biju P Simon, Rev. Larry Varghese and Ms. Maureen Mathew led the conference talks. Western Regional Youth Fellowship committee rendered the leadership for coordinating this conference. Youths from 7 parishes of the Western Region (San Francisco, Silicon Valley, Los Angeles area (3 churches), Phoenix, and Seattle) attended, and the conference was a blessing for all those who attended.

The Diocesan Neighborhood Urban Mission Trip was held from July 11-15, 2016 in inner city Chicago. Participants from 15 parishes involved in many activities that brought awareness to the root causes of violence, poverty, income inequality, inaccessibility to quality education, homelessness, and injustice in the urban cities of the United States. Diocesan Episcopa Rt. Rev. Dr. Issac Mar Philoxenos visited the mission participants and encouraged them to search for the local needs in their respective parish neighborhoods and respond to them in Christ's love.

18th Yuvajana Sakhyam Diocesan Conference



The 18th Yuvajana Sakhyam Diocesan Conference was hosted by The Chicago M. T. Yuvajana Sakhyam and was held at the Crystal Lake Holiday Inn Conference Center near Chicago from July 15 to 17, 2016. There were 330 registered delegates. The theme "Re-Representing Christ in a Chaotic World" was based on scripture from Galatians 2:20. Philoxenos Thirumeni, Rev. Abraham Scaria, Dr. Thomas Idiculla

and Mrs. Preena Mathew exposed the theme "Re-presenting Christ in a chaotic world" based on word Galatians 2:20

18th Yuvajana Sakhyam Diocesan Conference



The 37th Session of the Mar Thoma Diocesan Youth Conference took place from July 28-31, 2016 at the Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI. The conference was inaugurated by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Episcopa. The conference was hosted and organized by the Detroit MTC Youth Fellowship

and the Diocesan Youth Fellowship Council (DYFC). Rev. Larry Varghese (Vicar, Horeb MTC, Los Angeles) was the Main Speaker. The Youth Chaplains, Clergy of the Midwest Region, and the youth leaders led in the various bible studies, discussions, general activities, Q&A, and tracks. Around 130 youths from various parishes throughout the Diocese attended the conference. Special thanks to clergy, DYFC, hosting parish and YF for their help and support in organizing this year's conference.

Upcoming Events

August 13	Patrick Mission Ground Breaking Ceremony
August 14	Suvisesha Nidhi Sunday
August 26 - 28	UK Family Conference
September 28 - Oct 1	Senior Fellowship Conference at St. Johns MTC, NY
October 6-9	Sevika Sanghom Diocesan Conference, St. Mathews MTC, Toronto



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The Besorah is a brief overview of some of the Diocesan news and activities. For more information, please refer to the Diocesan website and/or The Messenger.