



DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

THE MAR THOMA BESORAH

Sinai Mar Thoma Center, 2320 Merrick Avenue, Merrick, NY 11566 www.marthomana.org Email: marthomadiocese@gmail.com Tel: (516) 377-3311

@marthomana



@marthomana



@marthomana



YouTube @MarThomaMedia

January 2026 Issue 1

MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN BISHOP

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

We have entered into another year in our lives. Let us thank God for our parishes and its ministries. Church is a family of families. Bishop Desmond Tutu said, "You don't choose your family. They are God's gift to you, as you are to them". I thank God for giving me the gift of being a part of our Diocesan Family.

Our family can flourish when we are willing to accept differences amongst individuals, tolerate and forgive each other's mistakes, cherish each other's success, sympathize with each other's failures, and communicate respectfully, truthfully and openly I request you all to pray for the growth and welfare of our families and urge you to plan to participate in the forthcoming Diocesan activities. May our witness to the Kingdom of God expand with faith and courage.

As you read through this Besorah and I request your feedback for making this newsletter an efficient tool for communicating to the Diocese and for glorifying God.

~With prayerful regards,
Mar Paulos - Diocesan Episcopa



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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 8-11, 2026:** Diocesan Leadership Conference – New Jersey - *Hosted by St. Stephens MTC.*
- January 11, 2026:** Inauguration of new Southwest Border Mission Center in Edinburgh, TX & Adoption of a new Colonia (Hidalgo County).
- January 12, 2026:** Mexico Mission Visit & Baptism Service of 12 children at Colonia Mar Thoma Chapel (Matamoros) and meeting with Catholic Bishop.
- January 15 - March 25, 2026:** LEAD Phase 1, 2, 3: Lay Education and Development Program.
- January 15 - March 26, 2026:** Altar Boys and Covenant Girls - Phase 1, 2, 3.
- January 23-24, 2026:** Diocesan Council Meeting - New York - *Hosted by St. John's MTC.*
- January 28, 2026:** Faith Ally for Mental Health Initiative (FAMHI) Program Launch on Zoom at 9:00 PM EST.
- February 2 - March 14, 2026:** Mar Thoma Institute of Mission and Culture Course-MIMC 140: Spanish for Missions.

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONS

Native American Mission**Mexico Mission****Neighborhood Mission****India Mission****Light to Life**For further details visit: marthomamission.orgEmail: marthomamissionboard@gmail.com**Southwest Border Colonias Neighborhood Mission:**

This mission focuses on providing holistic support for thousands of underprivileged/marginalized families along the southwest USA border. A Christmas Toy Drive & Distribution was held in December 2025.



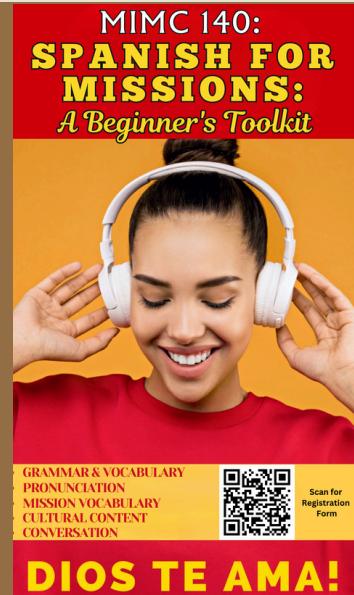
The Mar Thoma Institute of Mission Culture (MIMC)

MIMC 140: SPANISH FOR MISSIONS: A Beginner's Tool Kit

The Mar Thoma Institute of Mission and Culture (MIMC) is offering a new course: **MIMC 140: Spanish for Missions: A Beginner's Toolkit**, designed for both clergy and lay members. This course aims to equip participants with foundational Spanish language skills to engage more effectively in mission work and cross-cultural ministry contexts particularly within our Mexico Mission and Southwest Border Neighborhood Mission. MIMC 140 will be a **six-week online asynchronous course with weekly reinforcement sessions on Wednesday evenings (8:00 PM to 9:30 PM EST)** on the Zoom platform from **February 2nd to March 14th, 2026**.

The registration fee will be \$60.00. Kindly note that registration will be limited to the first 30 participants who register by **January 25, 2026**.

Registration Form Link: <https://forms.gle/3VfMpU6j8vmmDtY27>
Contact the Registrar at: marthomamimc@gmail.com



DIOCESAN HIGHLIGHTS & REPORTS

• Faith Ally for Mental Health Initiative

Regional Couples Conference, Boston Carmel MTC (Sept. 20, 2025). Theme: Building a Caring and Faith Community for Mental Health Support. Speaker: Mr. Babu George Mathew.

• Mexico Mission Visit

San Antonio Mar Thoma Congregation visited Colonia families in Mexico to celebrate Christmas (Dec. 22, 2025).

• Mid-West Regional Youth Conference

Held Dec. 26–29, 2025 with youth from Illinois and Michigan. Speaker: Mr. Tom Philip.

• Diocesan evika Sanghom Christmas Celebration

Held via Zoom on Dec. 11, 2025 with 400+ participants.

• Diocesan YuvaJana Sakyam Christmas Musical – Bethlehem Nadam

Virtual participation from multiple churches.

• Diocesan Christmas Program – Heavenly Trumpet

Held in Philadelphia on Nov. 29, 2025. Inaugurated by Rt. Rev. Dr. Abraham Mar Paulos Thirumeni.



Northeast Regional Couples Conference at Carmel MTC Boston

• LEAD - Lay Education and Development

Spring Learning Classes 2026 (Phase 1,2 & 3)

Schedule: Weekly classes on Thursdays from January 15 to March 19, 2026, for a period of 8 weeks.

Time: 7:30 PM - 8:40 PM (EST)

Eligibility: Classes are open to Mar Thoma members ages 18 and above from parishes and congregations' in the Diocese, with Vicar approval.

Registration Link:

<https://forms.gle/UMzJS3GzKU1p2Xv97>

• ABCG - Altar Boys and Covenant Girls

Ministry is to encourage children and youth to learn more about the church, its faith, heritage, and tradition, grow spiritually, become well-equipped leaders within the church.

Schedule: Thursdays from Jan 15 to March 25, 2026.

Time: 8:45 PM - 9:50 PM (EST).

Eligibility: Participants must be at least 12 years of age and full communicant members of the church.

Further Details Contact: Convener: Rev. Dennis Abraham - marthoma.lead@gmail.com

LEAD subcommittee members: Rev. Dennis Abraham, Rev. Joel S. Thomas, Rev. Jeswin John, Tom Philip, Libby Skariah, Easow Oommen, and Arun Thomas Alex.

ABCG Subcommittee members: Rev. Dennis Abraham, Rev. Joel S. Thomas, Rev. Jess M. George, Adam T. Mathew, Mini Cherian, and Jewel Zachariah.



Midwest Regional Youth Conference at Michigan

Mental Wellness Matters

FAMHI - Faith Ally For Mental Health Initiative

Program Launch



January 28 (Wed) 2026, 9 pm ET

Inaugural Address By
Rt. Rev. Dr. Abraham Mar Paulos
Diocesan Bishop

Overview By
Dr. George Abraham
*Professor at UMass Medical School,
former President of the American College of Physicians*

Topic Introduction By
Dr. Anil Chacko
*Department Chair - Counseling Psychology, NYU Steinhardt.
Professorial Lecturer at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount
Sinai Hospital*

Zoom - Meeting ID: 851 1439 0017
Passcode: 693992

For questions contact tamhi@marthomana.org



**Diocese of North America
Mar Thoma Church**