



THE MAR THOMA BESORAH

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN BISHOP

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

A week of prayer for Christian Unity was observed (Jan 18-25, 2026) in our Diocese. Jesus said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation." (St. Mark 16:15). Ecumenism is a movement toward visible unity among Christian churches and a commitment to shared witness, peace, and justice across the globe.

Our ecumenism has to be relevant, intelligible, understandable and credible, to enable us to grow and think about how to deepen our unity and witness. As the Psalmist says, "Let us exalt his name together" (Ps. 34:3). Sunday, February 15th, 2026 will mark the beginning of Great Lent (Valiya Nombu), the season of Great Lent is the time of preparation for the feast of the Resurrection of Christ. Great Lent will invite us into the divine commission of going out into the world as and with the good news of Christ Jesus.

Our 131st Maramon Convention will begin on February 8th. Kindly keep the convention in your prayers.

~With prayerful regards,
Dr. Abraham 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

- **February 08-15, 2026:**

Maramon Convention, Kerala, India.

- **February 15, 2026:**

Beginning of Great Lent

- **February 16-17, 2026:**

Orientation Program for Achens joining the Diocese of North America at the TMAM Orientation Center, Kottayam, India

- **March 01, 2026:**

Diocesan Sunday (Pulpit Exchange Sunday)

- **March 06, 2026:**

World Day of Prayer

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONS

Native American Mission

Mexico Mission

Southwest Border - Neighborhood Mission

India Mission

Light to Life

For further details visit: marthomamission.org

Email: marthomamissionboard@gmail.com



Holistic Child Development India (HCDI)
Light to Life Project Center in Bijjawara, Karnataka, India

DIOCESAN HIGHLIGHTS & REPORTS



Diocesan Council Meeting

The Diocesan Council (2023-2026) held a meeting on Friday and Saturday, January 23-24, 2026, at the St. John's Mar Thoma Church, New York. The meeting considered the Annual Report, Accounts of 2025, and Budget 2026, reviewed the activities of the Diocesan sub-committees, and evaluated the progress of the various activities of the Regional and Centers in the Diocese.



Mexico Mission Update

Our Diocesan Mexico Mission is located in the northern part of the state of Tamaulipas, Mexico. Diocesan Bishop Mar Paulos, along with the clergy, met with the Catholic Church delegation during the visit. A blessed and joyful milestone for the Mexico Mission was marked on January 12, 2026, when the Diocesan Bishop administered the Holy Sacrament of Baptism to four children. This grace-filled celebration was a truly blessed occasion and a moment of great joy for the entire community.



Neighborhood Mission Outreach- Western Canada

On January 06, 2026, Trinity MTC Edmonton at Canada Western Center conducted an outreach in partnership with Edmonton Food Bank to address and empower individuals struggling with food security and poverty. Sunday School children along with the Vicar, Rev. John C. Abraham participated in it.



Southwest Border Mission, Rio Grande Valley, Texas

On January 11, 2026, a new Food Pantry and Fellowship Hall was inaugurated at Southwest Border Mission, Rio Grande Valley, Texas. The ceremony was led by Rt. Rev. Dr. Abraham Mar Paulos Episcopa, with participation from Houston Trinity MTC Vicar and members, Diocesan Treasurer and friends from sister parishes. Also, Puentes de Cristo – Bridges of Christ and Refugio en la Roca jointly organized a special Christian Unity Worship night and Dinner Fellowship. This meaningful gathering brought together church members, neighbors, and friends from the surrounding neighborhood, including representatives from the local Korean Church, fostering a spirit of friendship, respect, and community harmony.



Diocesan Leadership Conference 2026 - St. Stephen's Mar Thoma Church, New Jersey

The Diocesan Youth Leadership Conference was hosted by St. Stephen's MTC, New Jersey, between January 8-11, 2026. Around 85 delegates from all seven regions of the Diocese attended. Diocesan Episcopa Mar Paulos, ordained and lay Youth Chaplains, and other imminent lay leaders provided leadership for the conference.



Northeast Region Sevika Sangam Center A

Northeast Region Sevika Sangam Center A held its annual Christmas Program on January 3rd, 2026, at St. John's Mar Thoma Church, New York.



LEAD and Altar Boys and Covenant Girls Program

The Spring 2026 semester of LEAD (3 Phases) and Altar Boys/Covenant Girls Learning Program (3 Phases) started in January 2026. Classes will take place on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, respectively. 200 students have registered in total.

Southeast Region DSMC Christmas Program

Southeast Region churches from Philadelphia, New Jersey and other parts of the region participated in the regional Department of Sacred Music and Communication Christmas program held online on January 11th, 2026.

Canadian Mar Thoma Regional Committee

On December 27, 2025, Canadian Marthoma Regional Committee celebrated Christmas by holding an online concert. All the churches in the Canada region participated and it was a blessing.



Inauguration of Faith Ally for Mental Health Initiative

FAMHI is a proposed initiative of the Diocese of North America of the Mar Thoma Church, designed to address the widespread impact of mental illness in our communities with compassion and faith-based support. It is a Comprehensive Strategy for the Diocese of North America in building a Compassionate and Mental Health-Aware Church Community. On Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 9 pm (EST) inauguration took place online. Rt. Rev. Dr. Abraham Mar Paulos, Diocesan Episcopa, chaired the meeting. More than 200 participants attended.

Diocesan Yuvajana Sakyam

The official Yuvajana Sakhyam Publication for the Diocese of North America, *Yuvadhara*, was released on December 25th, 2025. This publication provides an opportunity for Yuvajana Sakhyam members to showcase their literary and artistic talents. The theme for this edition is "Insights from the Holy Birth" (തിരുപ്പിറവി നൽകുന്ന തിരിച്ചറിവുകൾ!). Diocesan Episcopa wrote the presidential address.

"Vinnin Ponntharam"- Diocesan Sevika Sangam Christmas Program

Diocesan Suvishessha Sevika Sangam celebrated the joy of Christmas by hosting an online special Christmas Celebration on December 11th, 2025. The program featured carols and skits presented by Sevika Sanghom of each region of the North America Diocese.