

**ST. GREGORIOS ORTHODOX CHURCH, Elmhurst**  
**Announcements:**

**December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012**

**Visitors:** Bijoy, Roshin and son Jason

**Baptism/New Member:** We welcome baby Grace Marie Thomas as the newest member of our church, Daughter of Sherene and Stanley Thomas.

**Commemoration:** Feast of St. Thomas on Dec 21<sup>st</sup>, H.H. Geevarghese 1<sup>st</sup> Catholicose, St, Ignatius

Father of Binta (w/o. Jerry Philip) passed away this past week.

**Christmas/New Year Services:** This Year's Christmas Service will be held tomorrow, Monday, December 24th starting at 6 PM followed by Dinner. New Year's Service will be held on Tuesday January 1st at 9 AM

**Marriages:**

1. Mr. Liju Varghese, son of Mr. Peter and Mrs. Lilly Varghese will wed Miss. Rini Mathew daughter of the late Mr. Mathew John and Mrs. Lata Mathew on Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> at St. Mary's Orthodox Church, Kadapra-Mannar.

2. Mr. Tony Mathew, son of Mr. Varghese Mathulla and Mrs. Mary Varghese will wed Miss Nisha George, daughter of Mr. George John and Mrs. Gracy George on Jan 27<sup>th</sup> at St. Peters' and St. Paul's Orthodox church, Parumala.

**Church Caroling:** Today is the Final day of Christmas caroling for this year, which will begin at 1 PM. The caroling group will meet at the residence of Mr. Alias Mathew and Mrs. Sherly Iype and cover the areas of Chicago, Skokie, and Morton Grove East. Today the youth also will be joining the caroling group. We request all the families that we have not visited for caroling, to pick up their gifts from the office of the Trustee and the Secretary.

**Subscriptions:** We want to thank everyone who has given their 2012 contributions and other obligations to the parish. The list of paid Subscriptions is put up on the bulletin board. We kindly request all the parishioners who have not yet paid to give the 2012 subscription tomorrow when we come for Christmas service or latest by Sunday December 30th. We plan to close the accounts on December 31<sup>st</sup>, so please make sure that all donations that you want accounted for 2012 are paid by next Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Family Night-Christmas Program:** We want to thank everyone that came in yesterday for our annual family night and participated and helped out by cleaning, decorating,

bringing and serving food. We appreciate the selfless and dedicated service by Mr. Thommen and Mrs. Beena Poozhikunnel, in coordinating this year's family night, and praise and glorify God for the cooperation of our church.

**Sunday school:** We want to remind our parents that Sunday school starts at 8.45 am. We request the parents to bring their children to Sunday school before 8.45 am.

**Midwest Regional Family and Youth Conference:** The conference is scheduled to be held from July 10<sup>th</sup> to 13th of 2013. Please pick up a "save the date" post card outside.

**Directory Update:** A church directory with the new ward prayer grouping is being prepared and is in the process of being released within the week. If there are any updates, please reach out to your committee members or Mr. Ciby Kuruvilla as soon as possible.

**2013 Calendar:** We are in the process of preparing our Parish Calendar for 2013. The plan is to publish the calendar at the earliest. Please review your plans for 2013 and inform us of programs and events such as prayer meetings and scheduling of Holy Matrimony and Holy Baptism. Also, we remind the leaders and coordinators of all the parish ministries to forward their schedule of events and activities to Mrs. Shinu Punnoose as soon as possible. Please send your e-mails to [shinu.punnoose@gmail.com](mailto:shinu.punnoose@gmail.com)

**Facility Use and up keep of facility:** We kindly request all the parishioners to take care of our new Church facility as our own, maintain its cleanness, pick up and dispose of stuff that is lying around properly, and also ensure the safety of the furniture and fixtures in the premises. We want to bring to your notice that we had 2 small incidents – the drop box in the library was damaged and one of the new banquet tables was also damaged. We do understand that accidents do happen, but please do step up and take responsibility if something happens. Parents are requested to talk to their children that the upkeep of the facility is their responsibility also.