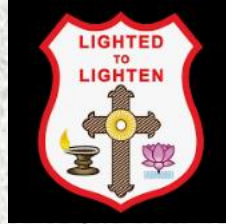


ST. ANDREWS MAR THOMA CHURCH LOS ANGELES



JULY 2026 - PARISH BULLETIN

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." – Psalm 118:24

Message from our Vicar



Dear Parish Members,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

July is a significant month in the United States as we celebrate Independence Day on July 4. It is a time to give thanks for the freedom we enjoy and to remember the sacrifices that made those freedoms possible. As Christians, we are called not only to celebrate freedom but also to pray and work for unity. True unity is not limited to a particular group or nation; it embraces all of God's creation. Honoring our history is not merely remembering the past, it is about creating a meaningful present and a hopeful future for generations to come.

The freedom that Christ offers goes beyond political or social freedom. It is freedom rooted in love, justice, integrity, and responsibility toward one another and toward all creation. As St. Paul reminds us: *It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.* (Galatians 5:1)

May this month inspire us to be faithful stewards of God's gifts, to build bridges of understanding, and to proclaim Christ's message of love and freedom without boundaries.

With Prayers – Rev Thomas Baby



July Specialty: The specialty of July includes the U.S Independence Day and the peak of summer outdoor activities. It is a month dedicated to warm weather, backyard barbecues, and major cultural observances like Disability Pride Month. July is significant for honoring St. Thomas on the Apostle's Day (Dukrono), the patron saint who brought Christianity to India in A.D. 52. It is also widely celebrated as Indian Christians' Day.

July 3 - St. Thomas the Apostle's Day: A solemn commemoration of the life, global mission, and martyrdom of St. Thomas

July 4 - Independence Day: Marked by community parades, family cookouts, and spectacular firework shows.

July 7 - World Chocolate Day: Global celebration dedicated to

indulging in chocolate treats.

July 12 - Seminary Case Judgment (1889): A historic milestone for the Mar Thoma Syrian Church, marking the royal court verdict that legally established its distinct identity and independence.

July 19 - National Ice Cream Day: The third Sunday of the month, often featuring deals at local shops.

July 25 - St. James the Apostle's Day: A day in the lectionary dedicated to remembering the life and martyrdom of St. James.

July 26 - Parents' Day: A day to recognize and celebrate the teamwork of raising children.