

Brief description on Registered teams including Team Feedback .

IPA (Genesis) -> (2004 & 2003 PYFA champs).

St Thomas Orthodox Long Island (STYL) ([’04, ’05 STOC Champions, ’04 STYL Champions, ’02 STYL Runner-up, ’04 Catholic Champions, 06 STOC Runner-Up, ’07 Ascension Tournament Champions, ’07 STYL Semi Finalist, ’08 MGOCSM Champions, ’09 Ascension Tournament Champions]

St Thomas Philadelphia Orthodox Church Mascher -> [’07 STYL Semi Finalist, ’08 Ascension Semi Finalist, ’08 MGOCSM Tourney Runner-Up, 09’ Philly league DVSC Champions]

Philadelphia Marthoma Church (PMTc)

[’Staten Island Martho Tournament Champions 1996
St. Peters Martho Tournament Champions 2000
Silver Jubilee Tournament Champions 2001
STYL Champions 2002, 2008
STYL 2nd Place 2004, 2006
Ascension Tournament Champions 2002
SMCCYL Champions 2003
St Thomas Martho Tournament Co-champions 2003
St Thomas Martho Tournament 2nd Place 2004, 2007]

- Note -> Toby, Roby, Abe and few other players from PMTC are playing for Delaware Marthoma Church this year. See the writeup about Delaware Marthoma.

St Mary’s Orthodox Church Bronx (St Mary’s Bronx) -> (’07 STYL Semi Finalist, ’08 STYL Semi Finalist, Bethany ’09 Runner-up)

St. Thomas Catholic Church, Philadelphia (SOULMEN)

[’05 Catholic Tournament Runner-up, ’07 Ascension Tournament Runner-up, ’07 STYL Tournament Runner-up, ’08 Ascension Tournament Runner-up, ’09 Ascension Tournament Runner-up]

St. Thomas Catholic Church, Bronx (REBELZ)

Writeup from 2008.

[’05 Catholic Tournament Champions, ’04, ’06 Catholic Tournament Runner-up, ’05, STYL Champions, ’07 STYL Champions, ’08 Ascension Tournament Champions]

The rebelz have been participating in church tournaments since 2004. They have compiled a record over the years of 52-7 participating in 10 basketball tournaments. They have made it to the finals for 7 tournaments and the semi finals for the other three tournaments. The rebelz have won the 2005 and 2007 STYL tournaments and recently won the Ascension Tournament in April. They have won 5 championships going 50% in all tournaments they have participated. They seek their 3 consecutive tournament and 6th

overall. They currently have a 13 game winning streak heading into the 2008 STYL Tournament. The team is centered around its guards. Its most valuable player is Tommy Job, hands down the best pure shooter in the tournament. He is complimented by his brother Joe Job who was the STYL 2005 MVP. Tommy can not only shoot lights out but he is an excellent rebounder and can drive to the basket at will. Joe Job's speciality is his ability to penetrate opponents defenses for easy layups and his rebounding. The rebelz big men are Matthew Alexander and Kuriakose Varghese. Get the ball down low by the basket and Matt will make 90% of his shots that close. He is 6'4 with long arms that it nearly impossible to block when he is that close to the rim. Kuriakose proved himself as a great asset to the team with his sensational performance at the Ascension Tournament. He had numerous tips in at the basket and was a beast down low since Mat Alexander was unable to participate in the tournament. Over the years, James Ozhuthual, 6'4, Small forward, and John Ozhuthual, 6'4, has been an integral part of the team. James is a great shooter and can drive to the basket like a point guard at will. John is a great rebounder and defender. He has always been the one to light a match under the fire for us in more ways than one. However, they will not participate in this year's tournament. However, the rebelz team has added new youth to the team. It is the two guard tandem of Matt Joshy and Kevin Sunny. You get both of them on the court, you better have your vitamin water because these young guards run all day. Matt Joshy performed exceptionally well at the Ascension Tournament hitting three pointers, driving to the basket at will for easy layups, was the biggest thief in the Ascension tournament. Kevin Sunny is the point guard for the rebelz and is unselfish with ball and distributes the ball to all players of the team. Also, there is Tomy Joseph, 6'2, point guard who will be sharing the role with Kevin in this year's tournament. He is one of our best defenders and can shoot the ball well, rebound, and drive to the basket at will. Lastly, the rebelz have a strong bench who all can be starters on any of the church teams playing in the tournament. This is a solid team with explosive ability to score and good fundamentals in defense. If they defend well, they are a force to be reckoned with. They are defending champs so they are the team to beat.

St Thomas Evangelical -> ['05 STYL Runner-up] , '03 semi-finalists in STYL

The Evangelical team has experienced both success and disappointment at the STYL tournament. This team has made it to the finals once and the semis on two separate occasions. Last year was the first time this team did not make the playoffs and is hoping to change that this year. They will be led by Justin Jacob, a very versatile guard. The team also has a strong veteran who can rebound with the best of them, Binu Thomas. The team is hoping its young players, like Sam Mathews, will step up and help the team make the playoffs. This team tends to play hard every game and make each game close, but does not know how to close a game.

St Thomas LA [Lost in Wild Card STYL '07]
Writeup from 2008.

This is going to be the third year coming for the tournament.

Rankings 1 through 8 for our team players:

Shibu-matt : best player, best all around game.
Shaji-jacob : second best player does a bit of everything
anish-stephan : rebounder, midrange game
jason : quick guard, good handles
raj : quick guard, good handles
johnson : lanky, shooter
roy : quick, shooter
binil : rebounder

St George Staten Island. Played in STYL 02, , STYL 04, STYL 08,
Played in Ascension 2009 Tourney
Semi-Finalist in 2007 SMB Tournament
Semi Finalist in the 2004 STOC Tournament
Semi-Finalist in the 2001 MGOCSM Hoops Tournament
Semi-Finalist in 2008 MGOCSM Hoop Tourney

The Staten Island Orthodox Team walks into the 2009 with a chip on its shoulder. After a brutal trip to the 2009 Ascension tournament in March with only 6 showing up, they still managed to pull off a 2-1 season record with their loss coming from Philly Syro-Malabar Catholic in an OT thriller. What looked like to be an easy blowout at half-time by last year champs, Bronx catholic, they played a tough game and made it close by the end.

They seem to have their full squad pending the availability of their monster center Jacob Mathew, and a possible return by their star PF, Joby Joseph, could add to their defense after reconstructive bone surgery in both feet. With the three headed monster in James Abraham, Shon Samuel & Jimmy Joseph, we know their offense can get going easily. The enticing defense of Joby V always puts pressures on the opponent. With Yohan Skaria handling the ball the first time this year, we can see more control in the game. With the rest of the team working hard and a deeper bench than ascension, with the addition of Alan Moses, we could see a huge emergence out by them in this years tourney. They are definitely very underrated as you can see by the performance in previous tournaments, i think they have found their swagger in a year where they will surprise alot. Coach Saji Samuel has his work cut out for him but this could be the squad he is looking for.

St Gregorios Queens

Jinu Mathew- A good low post player with a good mid-range game as well. Very good defense and has great anticipation to block shots.

Jiju Mathew- A tough forward who works hard on both ends of the floor. He is capable of driving strong to the basket and always looks for a kickout to an open man.

Sunil Thomas- A very quick point guard who can blow by defenders and get good shots off. Sunil always looks for the cutting low post players.

Jophiel Philips- Arguably the best defender in the tournament. His hellacious defense will shut down even the best players in this tournament.

Renny Raju- Renny is playing for the first time in a tournament. However, his massive height and size makes him a powerful presence in the middle that will make the opposing team think twice before trying to take it on him.

Gibu Thomas- A point guard with good court vision who has a good pull up jump shot.

Roby Antony- A young point guard who is learning the ropes of the STYL tournament. A hard worker on the court with a lot of potential.

Bobby Chacko- An athletic player who has a good jump shot. He is new to the tournament and is expected to make an impact.

Benson George- A very tall and long defender who does a great job of altering shots. His size allows him to be an effective rebounder as well.

Royce Mathew- The best jump shooter on the team. He is capable of keeping our team in games due to his accurate three point shooting.

New Teams

St. Jude Syro Malankara Catholic Church Philadelphia

St. Jude has been participating in tournaments since 2003. They have participated in Philly MCYM tournaments in 03, 04, 05, 06, and 07. They lost in the semi finals of the 05 tournament to eventual champions Bronx Catholic. In 06 they lost to eventual champions Ascension Marthoma. They also participated in the Ascension tournament in 09. Although they were undermanned with only 5 players for most of the tournament, they went 2-1 in the reg season but lost in the first round. They also participated in the DVSC league in Philly, which features all of the churches in Philly, and lost in the semi finals to the eventual league champs, St Thomas Mascher, but this was only after they defeated #1 seeded Pentecostals in the first round. This is a team led by guards Siju Alex and Justin Abraham. If this team plays smart, they are without a doubt one of the best!

Immanuel Mar Thoma Church- Houston, Texas

Achievements:

- 2008 Southwest Regional Mar Thoma Tournament Champs
- 2007 UH Tournament Champs
- 2006 NY Mar Thoma Invitational Champs
- 2006 Jerrin Alexander Memorial Tournament Champs
- 2004 Southwest Regional Mar Thoma Tournament Champs

Team Analysis

We are missing two of our top players: Robin Thomas is out due to ACL surgery and Ricky Kuruvilla is out of the country; everyone else is solid. We have been playing together for six years in church and indopak tournaments.

Strengths: None that come to mind...we just play hard

Delaware Marthoma ->

St Thomas Delaware Valley MTC is a relatively new team to the church tournament circuit; however don't allow yourself to think this team is inexperienced. They have a veteran line-up with plenty of basketball, tournament, and championship experience that make up this roster after the official split from Philadelphia MTC. Toby, Roby, and Abe are the marquee names on this team from the original PMTC team who over the past 7 years have always been in contention for a championship. The starting 5 gel together very nicely to make this team extremely competitive. The bench is young and plays an integral role when the team is in sync. The original "Run T-R-A" guide this ship and the rest of the crew follow their lead into whatever battles they face. Sleeping on this team is a mistake. They have been competitive in all tournaments they have played in even without a full line up and missing key players. When they come into a tournament at full strength they are capable of shocking the world, including winning the 2008 St Thomas Mar Thoma Tournament.

As Del Val Mango Nutz:

St Thomas Mar Thoma Tournament Champions 2008

As PMTC Sunny's Kids:

Staten Island Martho Tournament Champions 1996

St. Peters Martho Tournament Champions 2000

Silver Jubilee Tournament Champions 2001

STYL Champions 2002, 2008

STYL 2nd Place 2004, 2006

Ascension Tournament Champions 2002

SMCCYL Champions 2003

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St Thomas Martho Tournament 2nd Place 2004, 2007

STMC

We have been 2002 STYL semifinalist, we won the the North East Regional Basketball tournament in 2002, we won the St. Thomas Invitational in 2004. Recent results in STYL have been either 1-2 or 0-3, we haven't made playoffs since 2002 at STYL. It is a team in transition with younger talent taking a more active role, however the team for STYL is a more veteran team. We are a good team that has failed to live up to potential due to a lack of consistency on both ends of the court. We are led by Sunil Varughese who is one of the better rebounders in the game and Jason Thomas who is a great scorer.

They are supported by a wealth of talent that is still seeking consistency game in and game out, half in , half out, minute in, minute out

St Joseph's Syro Malabar Rockland (Won Bethany 2009)