



THE MALANKARA SYRIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

# THE EPHREMITA



BULLETIN OF THE EXARCHATE OF ST. EPHREM KHADKI - PUNE

VOL II | NO. 3 | July 2016



*Commemoration of Servant of God  
Archbishop Mar Ivanios*

*Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle*

**Bishop Thomas Mar Antonios along with the priests and Major Superiors of the DM Congregation on the occasion of the First and Final Profession of the 6 sisters from the Amala Province.**



**From the Vestition and M'samrono (First Minor Order) service of the five seminarians of the Exarchate**



The Malankara Syrian Catholic Church

# THE EPHREMITES

Bulletin of the Exarchate of St Ephrem, Khadki - Pune



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Exarchate of St. Ephrem  
51 Bhau Patil Road  
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Pune, Maharashtra

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BULLETIN OF THE EXARCHATE OF ST. EPHREM KHADKI - PUNE

VOL II | NO. 3 | July 2016

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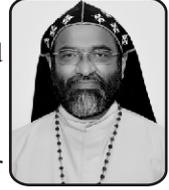
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## VOICE OF THE EXARCH

Dear brethren in Christ,

Prayerful greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Our God!



### **We are on a spiritual pilgrimage**

The month of July beckons us once more to experience our life as a pilgrimage and the Church as a pilgrim-people. Days from 1-15 July, invite literally to go in padayatra through the life of our Fathers in Faith Mar Thomas the Apostle of Jesus, and Mar Ivanios the apostle of modern Malankara ecclesial life. The pilgrimage begins on 1 July with the 15 Days' Lent (voluntary) to prepare for the Dukhrono of Mar Ivanios Pithavu on 15 July, proceeds through the Dukhrono of St Thomas on 3 July and Mar Ivanios Padayatra from 10 July to 14 July.

Let us adhere to the one, holy, catholic and apostolic faith brought to us through St Thomas and the ecclesial life of Unity and Evangelization envisioned by Mar Ivanios. His reunion with the Catholic Church was in view of preaching the Good News all over India. He was not guided by mere coincidences but by a greater plan of God. The Exarchate of St Ephrem is on its pilgrimage to follow up this legacy.

### **Mar Ivanios Padayatra**

I am happy to note that many are preparing themselves, with fasting and lent, for the padayatra that will begin on 10 July 2016 from Ranni-Perunad to the tomb of Servant of God, Archbishop Mar Ivanios at Pattom Cathedral. The padayatra is a blessed time to understand better the holiness of Mar Ivanios Thirumeni and an opportune time to revisualize our lives in the light of a Catholic life envisioned by our beloved Thirumeni.

Mar Ivanios Pilgrimage from New Delhi to the holy tomb will commence on 11 July 2016 from New Delhi and culminates at Pattom Cathedral on 14 July with the Holy Qurbano celebrated at the Tomb Chapel by His Excellency Jacob Mar Barnabas with the Priests, Sisters and faithful, of the Eparchy of Gurgaon and Exarchate of Khadki, who take part in the pilgrimage. The pilgrims will join the main Padayatra on 14 July from Vettinadu. The faithful from the Exarchate can join the pilgrimage from Mumbai on 12 July. Rev. Fr. Mathew Varikkatt is co-ordinating the pilgrimage on behalf of the Exarchate. I wish all Divine Blessings, through the intercession of Servant of God, Archbishop Mar Ivanios, to those who are painstakingly participating in Mar Ivanios Padayatra and Mar Ivanios Pilgrimage. As you know I will be joining the Padayatra from Ranni-Perunadu and hope to be with the pilgrims from our Exarchate on 14 July at Vettinadu.

It is another source of grace for the faithful of the Exarchate that in different

ecclesiastical Districts, Padayatra is organized to commemorate the Dukhrono of our beloved holy father Mar Ivanios. This year I hope to join the Bengaluru Padayatra.

I exhort all the faithful of the Exarchate, especially the Suvishesha Sangham members, to observe Mar Ivanios Lent and participate in the Padayatra with the particular intention for initiating mission centres in and around Vishakhapatanam or Vijayawada in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

### **Blessing and Inauguration of the Minor Seminary**

The blessing of the Chapel and the formal inauguration of Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary was conducted on 18 June 2016 at 3 pm. It was indeed a spirit-filled experience of Divine Providence. The place and building were provided by the Diocese of Poona and the maintenance and furnishing were done with the generous support of the Laity & Religious from different parts of the Exarchate. I thank everyone who has wholeheartedly contributed to this noble cause. Continue to pray for the seminary and our seminarians.

### **Joint Exarchial Assembly of MCA and Mathrusangham**

A joint Exarchial Assembly of MCA and Mathrusangham was held on 18 June at St Mary's Malankara Catholic Cathedral, Khadki-Pune under the leadership of Mr TM Johnson, the Exarchial President of MCA and Mrs. Lizy Koshy, the Exarchial President of Mathrusangham. The active participation of the representatives from all Districts of the Exarchate made the Assembly fruitful and enriching. Let me express my genuine appreciation and deep faith in the future plans proposed in the Assembly for 2016 '17. A detailed Report of the Assembly is included in the Exarchial Commissions News Section. I compliment Rev. Fr Varghese Valikkodath, the Coordinator of the Exarchial Commissions who painstakingly works behind the scene.

### **Reports of Other Meetings**

Reports of the Pastoral Council, the Priests' Meet and the Religious' Meet convoked at the end of May are given in this issue of the Ephremite.

### **The Priests who joined the Presbyterium of the Exarchate**

Rev. Fr. Sunil Maria Benedict : Reunited from Russian Orthodox Church

Rev. Fr. Stephen Chempakathoppu : Mathandom Diocese and

Rev. Fr. Varghese Manoj OIC : Bethany Ashram

Rev. Fr. Samuel Thoppil, Rev. Fr. Joseph Venmanath & Rev. Fr. Jose Konathuvila : Trivandrum Archdiocese joined the Presbyterium of the Exarchate in the recent months to work with us for three years in nurturing the Exarchate. I extend a warm welcome and wish a fruitful ministry to all of

them in the Exarchate. A list of recent Appointments is included in this Ephremite.

In anticipation I invite you to prepare for the Fifteen Days Lent (Sunoyo Nombu) in preparation for the Assumption of Mother Mary which begins on 1 August. Mary was taken into heaven, body and soul, because of the way she lived in this world to participate in the mission of Jesus. During this Lent let us recollect about our lives and order it according to the life of Mary looking into her life to be sanctified by the Grace of Jesus.

4 August is the Feast of St John Maria Vianney. St Vianney is the Patron of Parish Priests. He was a Priest who dedicated his whole life for the conversion of souls through the Holy Sacrament of Reconciliation. Let us celebrate the Day by praying specially for our Priests. I wish my brothers in Priesthood in the Exarchate a Happy Feast Day of St Vianney.

### **Mission Abroad**

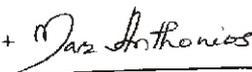
I will be leaving for Europe on 22 July 2016 for mission preaching in Switzerland and some fruitful visits to our well-wishers and benefactors. I request your prayers for this ministry. In my absence Rt Rev. Msgr Varghese Mattamana, the Proto-Syncellus of the Exarchate will oversee the regular activities of the Exarchate and will be in communication with me as and when required.

### **Conclusion**

Let me wholeheartedly thank all of you for earnestly praying for me through these days of sickness. As you are aware, the discomfort began on 7 June in Bengaluru continued after reaching Pune. So I got admitted in hospital for detailed check up and investigations. Besides treatment for gastric problems, I had to undergo a minor surgery on 13 June to remove a polyp seen in the urinary bladder. Everything went well, by the grace of God, and I am recovering from the after-effects of the surgery. Your prayers will always be a stronghold for me. I do keep you all in my prayers too.

May God bless us, our families and the Exarchate through the commemoration of His Apostles!

Lovingly Your Aboon,

+ 

✠ Thomas Mar Anthonios OIC

# THE SYRO- MALANKARA CATHOLIC CHURCH

MORAN MOR BASELIOS CARDINAL CLEEMIS  
MAJOR ARCHBISHOP-CATHOLICOS

Major Archiepiscopal Curia  
Catholicate Centre  
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Prot No CCL 2/2016

21.06.2016



## സർക്കുലർ

### ദൈവദാസൻ മാർ ഈവാനിയോസ് മെത്രാപ്പോലീത്തായുടെ 63-ാം ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുനാൾ

അഭിവന്ദ്യ പിതാക്കന്മാരേ, വന്ദ്യ കോറെപ്പിസ്കോപ്പാമാരേ, റമ്പാച്ചന്മാരേ, ബഹു. വൈദികരേ, ശെമ്മാശന്മാരേ, സന്യസ്തരേ, കർത്താവിൽ പ്രിയ വിശ്വാസികളേ!

മലങ്കര സഭയ്ക്ക് അസാധ്യമെന്ന് കരുതിയ സഭൈക്യപരിശ്രമങ്ങൾക്ക് ദിശാബോധം പകർന്ന്, 19-ാം നൂറ്റാണ്ടിലെ മഹത്തായ സഭൈക്യസംരംഭത്തിന് നേതൃത്വം നൽകിയ പുണ്യചരിതൻ, ദൈവദാസൻ മാർ ഈവാനിയോസ് പിതാവിന്റെ 63-ാം ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുനാൾ ജൂലൈ 1 മുതൽ 15 വരെ പട്ടം, സെന്റ് മേരീസ് കത്തീഡ്രൽ ദൈവാലയത്തിൽ ആഘോഷിക്കുകയാണ്. ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുനാൾ ദിവസമായ ജൂലൈ 15-ന് ആഘോഷമായ പൊന്തിഫിക്കൽ കുർബാനയും കബറിക്കൾ പ്രത്യേക പ്രാർത്ഥനാ ശുശ്രൂഷകളും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നതാണ്. ഈ വർഷത്തെ ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുനാളിൽ നമ്മുടെ മുഖ്യാതിഥിയായി അമ്മേരിക്കയിലെ കത്തോലിക്കാസഭയുടെ സമാദരണീയനായ വൈദിക മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷനും, ന്യൂയോർക്ക് അതിരൂപതയുടെ ആർച്ചുബിഷപ്പുമായ അത്യുന്നത കർദ്ദിനാൾ തിമോത്തി മൈക്കിൾ ഡോളൻ സംബന്ധിക്കുന്നു എന്ന വിവരം സസന്തോഷം ഞാൻ നിങ്ങളെ അറിയിക്കട്ടെ.

ദൈവത്തിന്റെ കരുണയുടെ മുഖം സഭയൊന്നാകെ ധ്യാനിക്കുന്ന ഈ കാലയളവിൽ വന്ദ്യതാതന്റെ ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുനാളിന് വളരെയധികം പ്രസക്തിയുണ്ട്. മതാന്തരസംവാദങ്ങൾക്കും, അനുരഞ്ജനകുദാശയ്ക്കും, ദൈവവചനപഠനങ്ങൾക്കും, കാരുണ്യപ്രവൃത്തികൾക്കും

ഏറെ പ്രാധാന്യം നൽകിയാണ് പരിശുദ്ധ ഫ്രാൻസിസ് മാർപാപ്പാ ഈ കാര്യവുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്. നമ്മുടെ പിതാവായ ദൈവദാസൻ മാർ ഈവാന്യോസ് വലിയ മെത്രാപ്പോലീത്ത തന്റെ ജീവിതത്തിലൂടെ നമുക്ക് പകർന്നുതന്നതും ദൈവകരുണയുടെ ജീവിതശൈലികളാണ്. ദൈവവചനത്തിന്റെ ഉപാസകൻ, വി. കുർബാനയുടെ ഭക്തൻ, അനുരഞ്ജനകുദാസ്യയുടെ ഉദാത്തമായ മാതൃക, സന്യാസ സംശുദ്ധിയുടെ മാർഗ്ഗദർശി, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ വിചക്ഷണൻ, സഭയുടെ പരിശ്രമങ്ങളുടെ ജീവിതസാക്ഷി, മതസൗഹാർദ്ദത്തിന്റെ പ്രചാരകൻ ഇവയുടെയൊക്കെ ആകെത്തുകയാണ് ആ പുണ്യജീവിതം. ക്രാന്തദർശിയായ ഈ ശ്രേഷ്ഠാചാര്യന്റെ നിതാന്ത ജാഗ്രതയിൽ പടർന്നു പന്തലിക്കുവാനുള്ള ഭാഗ്യം മലങ്കര സുറിയാനി കത്തോലിക്കാ സഭയ്ക്ക് ദൈവം നൽകിയ വലിയ അനുഗ്രഹമാണ്.

ദൈവദാസൻ മാർ ഈവാന്യോസ് പിതാവിന്റെ കബറിൽ ദിനംപ്രതി പ്രാർത്ഥനയ്ക്കായി എത്തിച്ചേരുന്ന നിരവധിയായ തീർത്ഥാടകരുടെ സാക്ഷ്യം നമ്മുടെ പ്രിയ പിതാവിന്റെ ജീവിത വിശുദ്ധിയും, ഐക്യത്തിന്റെ സാക്ഷ്യവും ദൈവം അംഗീകരിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നതിന്റെ പ്രത്യക്ഷ ഉദാഹരണങ്ങളാണ്. മലങ്കര സുറിയാനി കത്തോലിക്കാ സഭയുടെ എല്ലാ നേട്ടങ്ങളുടേയും പിന്നിൽ വന്യതാതന്റെ നിസ്തന്ത്രമായ പ്രാർത്ഥനയും ത്യാഗോജ്ജ്വലമായ പരിശ്രമങ്ങളുമുണ്ട്. ദൈവദാസന്റെ നാമകരണത്തിന്റെ സഭാതല നടപടികൾ പുതിയ ഒരു ഘട്ടത്തിലേക്ക് പ്രവേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ വേളയിൽ സഭാമക്കൾ ഒന്നാകെ ഏറെ തീഷ്ണതയോടെ പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുവാനും പുനഃസമർപ്പിക്കുവാനും കടപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ നിയോഗത്തിൽ ദൈവത്തിന്റെ അത്ഭുതകരമായ ഇടപെടലിനായി സഭാമക്കളൊരുമിച്ച് ഉപവസിക്കുകയും പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യണം.

മുൻ വർഷങ്ങളിലെപ്പോലെ ഈ വർഷവും ജൂലൈ 1 മുതൽ 15 വരെ ആത്മീയ ഒരുക്കങ്ങളോടെയാണ് ദൈവദാസൻ മാർ ഈവാന്യോസ് പിതാവിന്റെ ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുന്നാൾ പട്ടം സെന്റ് മേരീസ് കത്തീഡ്രലിൽ നാം ആഘോഷിക്കുന്നത്. ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുന്നാളിന് ഒരുക്കമായ ഈ 15 ദിവസങ്ങൾ നമ്മുടെ സഭയെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് നോമ്പിന്റെയും ഉപവാസത്തിന്റെയും അവസരമാണല്ലോ. ഈ ദിവസങ്ങളിൽ പ്രത്യേകമായ പ്രാർത്ഥനകളും, പുണ്യപ്രവർത്തികളും നമ്മുടെ എല്ലാ ഇടവകകളും സന്യാസ-സന്യാസിനീഭവനങ്ങളും കുടുംബങ്ങളും

കേന്ദ്രീകരിച്ച് നടത്തപ്പെടണമെന്ന കാര്യവും പ്രത്യേകം ഓർമ്മിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. ഓരോ ദിവസവും കബർ ചാപ്പലിൽ വി. കുർബാനയും, ധ്യാനയോഗങ്ങളും, ദിവ്യകാരുണ്യ ആരാധനയും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നതാണ്. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട വികാരിയച്ചന്മാരുടെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ തീർത്ഥാടക സംഘങ്ങളായി എത്തി കബറിൽ പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നത് ഇത്തരൂണത്തിൽ ഏറെ അനുഗ്രഹപ്രദമായിരിക്കുമെന്ന് ഞാൻ പ്രത്യേകം ഓർമ്മിപ്പിക്കുന്നു.

ജൂലൈ 10-ാം തീയതി പത്തനംതിട്ട ഭദ്രാസനത്തിലെ പെരുന്നാട്ടിൽ നിന്നും പ്രധാനതീർത്ഥാടനപദയാത്ര ആരംഭിക്കുന്നതാണ്. സഭയുടെ വിവിധ ഭദ്രാസനങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും അനേകം തീർത്ഥാടകർ പ്രാർത്ഥനാപൂർവ്വം പങ്കെടുക്കുന്ന ഈ പ്രധാനപദയാത്രയ്ക്ക് മലങ്കര സുറിയാനി കത്തോലിക്കാസഭയുടെ യുവജനപ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ (എം.സി.വൈ.എം.) സഭാതല സമിതി നേതൃത്വം നൽകുന്നതാണ്. തിരുവല്ല, മാവേലിക്കര, മാർത്താണ്ഡം, ഗുഡ്ഗാവ് എന്നീ ഭദ്രാസനങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും, പുന-കട്കി എക്സാർക്കേറ്റിൽനിന്നും, ഭാരതത്തിനു പുറത്തുള്ള കേന്ദ്രങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും പദയാത്രകൾ നടത്തി പ്രധാനപദയാത്രയോടു ചേരും. ആത്മീയമായ ഒരുക്കത്തോടെയും, പ്രാർത്ഥനയോടെയും ഈ പദയാത്രകളിൽ അണിചേരുവാൻ ഏവരേയും പ്രത്യേകം ക്ഷണിക്കുന്നു. തീർത്ഥാടനപദയാത്രയിൽ സംബന്ധിക്കുന്നവർ നോമ്പ് നിർബന്ധമായി അനുഷ്ഠിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് വേണം ഈ ആത്മീയ ശുശ്രൂഷയിൽ സംബന്ധിക്കേണ്ടത് എന്ന് ഞാൻ പ്രത്യേകം ഓർമ്മപ്പെടുത്തുന്നു.

ജൂലൈ 14-ാം തീയതി വൈകിട്ട് സന്ധ്യാപ്രാർത്ഥനയും തുടർന്ന് മെഴുകുതിരി പ്രദക്ഷിണവും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നതാണ്. അന്നുതന്നെ സന്ധ്യാപ്രാർത്ഥനക്കുശേഷം സുവിശേഷസംഘത്തിന്റെ 3-ാം ബാച്ച് അംഗങ്ങളുടെ കൈവയ്പ്പു ശുശ്രൂഷ നടത്തപ്പെടും. ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുന്നാൾ ദിവസമായ 15-ാം തീയതി ആഘോഷമായ വി. കുർബാനയും കബറികൾ യുപപ്രാർത്ഥനയും, നേർച്ചയും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കും. നമ്മുടെ സഭയിലെ എല്ലാ ബഹു. വൈദികരെയും ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുന്നാൾ കുർബാനയിൽ സഹകാർമ്മികരായി പങ്കുചേരുന്നതിന് ഞാൻ പ്രത്യേകം ക്ഷണിക്കുന്നു. ഈ ദിവസങ്ങളിൽ വി.കുന്യാസാരത്തിന് പ്രത്യേക അവസരവും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നതാണ്. ജൂലൈ 1-ാം തീയതി മുതൽ കബർ ചാപ്പലിൽ വർഷം മുഴുവൻ എല്ലാ ദിവസവും

പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്ന ഒരു മധ്യസ്ഥപ്രാർത്ഥനമാർ ഈവാനിയോസ് പ്രയർ മിനിസ്റ്റ്രി എന്നപേരിൽ നാം ആരംഭിക്കുന്നു. സഭാതല സുവിശേഷ സംഘം ഈ ശുശ്രൂഷയ്ക്ക് നേതൃത്വം നൽകുന്നതാണ്. ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുന്നാളി നോടനുബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള വി. കുർബാനയിലും മറ്റു ശുശ്രൂഷകളിലും സംബന്ധിച്ച് അനുഗ്രഹം പ്രാപിക്കുവാൻ ഏവരെയും ഞാൻ ഹൃദയപൂർവ്വം സ്വാഗതം ചെയ്യുന്നു.

ദൈവത്തിന്റെ കരുണയുടെ മുഖമാണ് മലങ്കരയ്ക്ക് ദൈവദാസൻ മാർ ഈവാനിയോസ്. ആ കാര്യം മുഖത്തെയാണ് പുത്തൻകുർ സമൂഹത്തിന് ദിശാബോധവും, സുവിശേഷ ദാഹവും, പ്രേഷിതാഭിമുഖ്യവും, ചലനാത്മകതയും നൽകാൻ ദൈവം വിളിച്ച് വേർതിരിച്ചത്. വ്യവഹാരങ്ങളല്ല, വ്യവസ്ഥകളില്ലാത്ത സ്നേഹവും വിട്ടുവീഴ്ചകളുമാണ് യഥാർത്ഥ സഭാസ്നേഹമെന്നും അതിലൂടെ മാത്രമെ ദൈവദാധനയും, ദൈവസമ്പാദനവും സാധ്യമാവുകയുള്ളുവെന്നും ആ ക്രാന്തദർശി തിരിച്ചറിഞ്ഞു. ദൈവസ്നേഹിയും സഭയെ സ്വജീവനേക്കാൾ സ്നേഹിക്കുകയും അധഃസ്ഥിതരെ സഹോദരരായി കരുതുകയും മാനവ നന്മ ലക്ഷ്യം വച്ച് ദൈവമഹത്വം ഉയർത്തിപ്പിടിക്കുകയും ചെയ്ത ദൈവദാസൻ മാർ ഈവാനിയോസ് പിതാവിന്റെ കാൽപാടുകൾ പിൻതുടരുവാനും ദർശനങ്ങൾ പങ്കുവയ്ക്കുവാനും നമുക്ക് ഓരോരുത്തർക്കും സാധിക്കട്ടെ. അതിന് നേർവെളിച്ചം നൽകാൻ 63-ാം ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുന്നാൾ നമുക്കിടയാക്കട്ടെ എന്നു ഞാൻ പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

ദൈവം നിങ്ങളെ ഏവരെയും സമൃദ്ധമായി അനുഗ്രഹിക്കട്ടെ.

എന്ന്, കർത്താവിൽ നിങ്ങളുടെ വിനീതശുശ്രൂഷി

+Baselioscleemis.

✠ ബസേലിയോസ് കർദ്ദിനാൾ ക്ലീമീസ്  
മലങ്കര സുറിയാനി കത്തോലിക്കാസഭയുടെ  
മേജർ ആർച്ച്ബിഷപ്പ്-കാതോലിക്കാബാവ.

N.B: ഈ കല്പന അടുത്തു വരുന്ന ഞായറാഴ്ച വി. കുർബാനമദ്ധ്യേ നമ്മുടെ എല്ലാ പള്ളികളിലും, മിഷൻ കേന്ദ്രങ്ങളിലും, സന്യാസഭവനങ്ങളിലും ആരാധനാകേന്ദ്രങ്ങളിലും വായിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

**ഓർമ്മപ്പെരുന്നാൾ 2016**

**ജൂലൈ 1 മുതൽ 14 വരെ**

- 9.00 a.m : മാർ ഇവാന്യായോസ് പ്രെയർ മിനിസ്ട്രിയുടെ ഉദ്ഘാടനം (ജൂലൈ 1-ന് കബർ ചാപ്പലിൽ)
- 9 a.m.-5 p.m. : കബറികൽ പ്രാർത്ഥനാ ശുശ്രൂഷകൾ : സന്ധ്യാനമസ്കാരം
- 5.30 p.m. : വി. കുർബാന

**ജൂലൈ 10 (ഞായർ) - പെരുന്നാട്**

- 6.15 a.m. : പ്രഭാത നമസ്കാരം, വി. കുർബാന
- 8 a.m. : പെരുന്നാട്ടിൽനിന്നുള്ള പ്രധാനതീർത്ഥാടനപദയാത്ര ബസേലിയോസ് കർദ്ദിനാൾ ക്ലീമീസ് കാതോലിക്കാബവാ ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്യുന്നു. **മറ്റു പദയാത്രകൾ** : മാവേലിക്കരയിൽ നിന്ന് 7.30 മ.ാ., ജൂലൈ 10 ഞായർ : തിരുവല്ലായിൽ നിന്ന് 2.30 ു.ാ., ജൂലൈ 10 ഞായർ : മാർത്താണ്ഡത്തു നിന്ന് 8.30 മ.ാ., ജൂലൈ 13 ബുധൻ

**ജൂലൈ 14 (വ്യാഴം)**

- 5 p.m. : പെരുന്നാട്ടിൽനിന്നുള്ള പ്രധാനപദയാത്രീകരെ കബറികൽ സ്വീകരിക്കുന്നു.
- 5.30 p.m. : സന്ധ്യാനമസ്കാരം (കത്തീഡ്രൽ) : സുവിശേഷസംഘാംഗങ്ങൾക്ക് കൈവെയ്പ് ശുശ്രൂഷ : മെഴുകുതിരി പ്രദക്ഷിണ നേർച്ച : കബറികൽ യുപപ്രാർത്ഥന
- 8.00 p.m. മുതൽ : കബറികൽ അഖണ്ഡപ്രാർത്ഥന

**ജൂലൈ 15 (വെള്ളി)**

- 8 a.m. : അത്യുന്നത കർദ്ദിനാൾ തിമോത്തി ഡോളൻ കത്തീഡ്രൽ കവാടത്തിൽ സ്വീകരണം.
- 8.30 a.m. : പ്രഭാത നമസ്കാരം : ആഘോഷമായ പൊന്തിഫിക്കൽ കുർബാന(വിശുദ്ധ സമൂഹബലി) : സുവിശേഷപ്രഘോഷണം: **അത്യുന്നത കർദ്ദിനാൾ തിമോത്തി ഡോളൻ** : സുവിശേഷസംഘാംഗങ്ങൾക്ക് മെഴുകുതിരിയും ബൈബിളും നൽകുന്നു : കബറികൽ യുപപ്രാർത്ഥന : ശ്രാദ്ധ സദ്യ

## REPORT OF THE THIRD PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EXARCHATE OF ST. EPHREM, KHADKI-PUNE

The third Pastoral Council Meeting of the Exarchate of St Ephrem, Khadki-Pune was held on 27th May 2016 at St. Mary's MSC Cathedral Khadki Pune. The gathering began with morning prayers at 8.45 AM followed by the Holy Qurbano with the Exarch Most Rev. Thomas Mar Anthonios OIC as the main celebrant. In the homily based on the Gospel Luke 1:1-4, he highlighted the important ministry given to the pastoral council members who have to faithfully believe in the salvific ministry of Jesus Christ, be witnesses to the same and spread the joy of salvation to the world.

The pastoral council meeting, chaired by the Exarch started at 10.30 AM. The following members attended the meeting.

### Priests

Msgr.V Rev. Fr Varghese Mattamana	Fr Joseph Menakaliekka OIC
Fr George Mathew OIC	Fr Joseph Venmanath
Fr Varghese Kaithon	Fr Joseph Noble OIC
Fr Varghese Valikkodath	Fr Samuel Thoppil
Fr Mathew Varikkattu	Fr Philip Pulipra
Fr Varghese Kadakketh	Fr Jose Konathuvila
Fr John Thundiyyath OIC	Fr Stephen Chembakathoppu

### Rev. Sisters

Sr Pradeepthi SIC	Sr Jephin SIC
Sr Lincy Maria SIC	Sr Keerthi SIC
Sr Lucia SIC	Sr Mahima SIC
Sr Carmel DM	Sr Sajeeva DM
Sr Krupa SIC	Sr Mary Priya SIC
Sr Ann Mary DM	Sr Vimal SIC
Sr Arpana DM	

### Laity

Mr Biju S.R	Mr D David	Mr NC Jose
Mr PK Cherian	Mr Babu George	Mr Xavier Pawath
Mr Saji Daniel	Mr TM Johnson	Mr John Mathew
Mr VA George	Mr Zachariah Pawath	Mr Nepolean Varkey

Mr Abraham Mathew	Mr Daniel Babu	Mr Sam Thomas
Mr Sabu Joseph Poonkottal	Mr Thomas P George	Mr TD Mathew
Mr Roy Abraham	Mr PG Koshy	Mr Sijo Joy
Mr Thomas Daniel	Mr Biju John	Mr VP Thomas
Mr G Raju	MsMini Shibu	Mr George Abraham
Mr Kunjumon Thomas	Mr PV Thomas	Ms Sara Mani Kuriakose
Ms Rosamma Rajan	Ms Lizy Koshy	Mr Saju Thomas John
Mr P Varghese	Mr Ninan Jacob	Mr KV John
Mr TC Joykutty	Mr Jose Alexander	Ms Julie Philip
Mr M D Jose	Mr Jose Mathew	

The following members, most of whom had requested leave of absence from the Exarch due to unavoidable circumstances, were absent:

Fr Mathai Iranathara OIC	Fr. Varghese Maruthoor	Fr. Philip Kaleeckal
Fr. Stephen Mathar	Fr Paul Naveen OIC	Fr Zacharias Nanthiatt OIC
Fr John Britto OIC	Fr Cyril Anand OIC	Sr Rani SIC
Sr Chinnamma HSS	Dr Abraham VM	Mr Saji P Jacob
Mr SL Samuel	Mr Joshua KG	Mr Mani Kuriakose
Mr Alex Valavil	Mr PA Joykutty	Mr Baby Samuel
Mr Salu TThomas	Mr V Jose	Mr Biju Varghese
Mr Jose George	Mr Joy Varghese	Mr Roy Augustine
Mr KO Abraham	Mr KC Punnoose	Mr John Raj Y
Mr Joy CE	Mr K.N.Sebastian	Mr MV George
Mr Eapachan V Abraham	Mr S Lawrance	Mr CM Varghese
Mr PG.John		

### INAUGURAL SESSION

For the inaugural session BarItho Kasiro Mr PV Thomas, BarsItho Kasiritho Ms Sara Mani Kuriakose, Mr TM Johnson, President MCA, Ms Lizy Koshy President Mathrusangham and Mr Saju Thomas John, President MCYM were on the stage along with the Exarch, Protosyncellus Rev. Fr Varghese Mattamana and the Secretary of the Pastoral Council. The meeting started with a reading from the Psalms. Rev. Fr George Mathew, the Chancellor welcomed the gathering. The report of the second Pastoral Council meeting held on 5th December 2015 was read by the Secretary. The report was approved by the council. The Protosyncellus, Very Rev. Monsignor Varghese Mattamana, then presented the annual report of the Exarchate.

In the inaugural address Most Rev. Thomas Mar Anthonios stated that as the exarchate turns one year, we have been able to achieve many things very much in line with our expectations and capabilities. The Exarch expressed his sincere thanks to all those who made it possible. He then reiterated the three-point programme of the Exarchate which has been taken up, namely,

1. To enhance and deepen our ecclesial life through the Word of God and Sacraments.
2. Evangelization and reunion.
3. Building up the Exarchate infrastructure.

The evangelization recession in the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church needs to be overcome with the grace and faith received with the various activities taken up in the exarchate through various commissions especially the Suvisehsa Sangham. He reminded that the ministry in the Pastoral Council is a duty before God and the Church. We have done the very best in the given circumstances. However, at this juncture a critical evaluation of our progress is relevant. Each one of us has voluntarily taken up various services/offices in the Exarchate. We are duty bound to ensure that all the jobs taken up are completed in reasonable time and we apply all our resources to ensure the same. This is very important to materialize the decisions taken up in the Pastoral Council.

One major lament we have is that we have not brought the message of the year of mercy to all our people. The papal exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love) given by His Holiness Pope Francis after the two synods on family this year, needs to be studied in detail. A Malayalam/English copy of the text will be provided to all for reflection and study. We lack a data bank where important spiritual and ecclesial resources can be accessed for all. A website for the exarchate is to be launched today. Vocations to the priesthood and religious life need to be promoted as an important way of life for our youngsters.

We also should take up ecumenical activities with our sister churches to come together in common programmes, but at the same time the message of reunion should not be diluted. We have to realize the dream of the Servant of God Mar Ivanios and spread the message of “one flock and one shepherd.” This year we need to participate in all major activities during the Mar Ivanios Day and pilgrimage, as well as during the reunion

programme in the Eparchy of Puttur in September.

The Exarch referred to his recent visit to His Holiness Pope Francis to pay our Reverence and obedience to the Roman Pontiff and thank His Holiness for the gift of the Exarchate of St Ephrem Khadki-Pune and the Eparchy of Gurgaon, because of which we were able to break the shackles of Koonan Cross Oath and establish the right of all-India jurisdiction for our Church. His Holiness extended his apostolic blessing to our exarchate on the occasion. It was an opportunity to submit a report on the life of the Exarchate till date to His Eminence Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, the Prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches.

### SESSION ON VARIOUS EXARCHIAL COMMISSIONS

**Catechism:** Rev. Fr Varghese Valikkodath coordinator for the various Exarchial commissions started the session with discussion on catechism. The first issue discussed was the timing of the second semester exam. Achan informed that upto 40% students did not write the exam in spite of the fact that arrangements were made in all Eparchial Centers also for the exams. Suggestions were made to have the annual exam in December with internal tests in first semester. The other option was to postpone the current second semester exam to June. Members expressed the problems of multiple board exams and finding a suitable date in April and matching with school academic year. After discussion, the Exarch summed up:

1. The academic year of the Sunday School should end with the end of the academic year of schools, that is at the end of March or beginning of April. The timing of the different boards of schools may or may not fall exactly within this stipulated time. We cannot adjust our systems to everyone's convenience which is usually affected by his/her personal convenience as well.
2. Children and families have a right to relaxation and recuperation during the holidays. This is being enforced by civil law and local governments now. We too follow the same spirit and allow the children to enjoy their holidays.
3. Postponing the Sunday School Exam to the beginning of an academic year is a misnomer and defeats the purpose.
4. Attending the annual exam is mandatory for promotion to the next class of the Sunday School. For those, for serious reason or otherwise, who fail to attend the exam, will be given a second chance

before the opening of the academic year. If the student fails to attend the exam, promotion cannot be granted.

These suggestions were accepted by all present with an applause. However, the Aboon suggested that a final decision in this regard shall be arrived at the meeting of the Exarchial Commission in his presence.

The next discussion was on introducing Class XI and XII as part of the catechism. At present the Resource Team is being trained to take class for MCYM members. Members said that Class XI and XII have been started as early as 2008 in Kerala and since English text books have been made available the same should be included in regular catechism or Sunday School. The general consensus can be summed as follows:

1. Discipline is the key to the success of Sunday School. There shall be a regular time-table in the parish, and it should not be altered without the most serious reason. Personal difficulties, Episcopal Visits, celebration of other sacraments like baptism and marriage, etc are not serious reasons to cancel out Sunday School Classes.
2. Students of Class XI and XII shall be members of the MCYM. However, they are not to attend MCYM meetings at the time of the Sunday School Classes. Such meetings can be arranged without the participation of Class XI and XII Sunday School students.
3. The students who are now attending Class XI and XII under the leadership of the Resource Team shall continue the same. However, they are to be awarded certificates after a formal examination.
4. Class XI will be introduced in the forthcoming academic year 2016-17.

**MCCL:** Valikkodath Achan introduced the two camps, MBOC and Jeevan Darshan, conducted under the auspices of the MCCL and Exarchial Commission. MBOC is conducted during regional holidays; while Jeevan Darshan / Vocation camp will be in summer.

Some members brought out the problem of raising funds for the camp. They suggested that arrangements should be made by regional pastoral councils to find funds for such programmes. After discussion, it was suggested:

1. Ecclesiastical Districts under the leadership of the District Pastoral Council can find sponsors and collect fund for organizing programmes through newspaper ads during important functions.

2. It is the responsibility of District Proto presbyters primarily and district catechism director to ensure that these camps are successfully conducted.

Suviseha Sangham(SS) needs to be established in all units and by the year 2019 there should be a SS in each parish with at least 10 members who have received the Kaiveppu. They will turn out to be the salt and leaven for the parish and will lead prayer meetings and assist the priestly ministry giving leadership in missionary work. Rev. Fathers will be free to administer sacraments and lead liturgical celebrations, and Rev. Sisters can be relieved of the burden to travel late night for prayer meetings etc.

The Exarch brought to the attention of all concerned that the directive that the Rev. Sisters should return to their respective convents before 10 PM shall be complied with. It has been noted that there are lapses in it. The timings of prayer meetings, liturgical services, etc. are to be fixed accordingly and strictly followed up.

The Exarch pointed out that around 22 faithful of our Exarchate are preparing themselves in the third batch to receive the kaiveppu on 15 July 2016 at the ecclesial level SS. He complimented them for their readiness.

**MCYM/SEVA:** It is proposed to take up blood and organ donation drive under the aegis of MCYM and SEVA.

**Family Apostolate:** Marriage preparation course will be organized at the district level and at the exarchate level. The course certificate will have three year validity. The Aboon highlighted that the course is designed for preparing the youth for marriage. It is not issued as a license or NOC for marriage. Hence enables a youth to prepare well for his/her vocation to family life. He urged the Proto presbyters and District Youth Directors to take the lead in organizing the course.

The Aboon brought to the attention of all concerned that the celebration of the engagement is not mandatory for announcing banns of marriage in the parish. Once the decision has been taken by the girl and boy and their parents, the concerned party can inform the parish priest to announce the same in parish to check for any canonical impediments. He also said that the practice of conducting both engagement and marriage within a short span of a week or even less is not to be encouraged. If the bride and the

groom are from the same parish or from the same region, the celebrations can be easily combined and extravaganza can be avoided.

**Mar Ivanios Prayer Ladder** will be re-launched in the exarchate.

**Holy year of Mercy:** Pilgrimage to Khadki Cathedral and other cathedrals in various districts with suitable preparation will be organized. Liturgy conventions will also be taken up with seminar and classes on sacraments at the unit level.

**General Convention:** Exarchate will hold biennial conventions and the first one will be held in Chennai this year. Timing will be intimated later.

**Website:** The official website of the Exarchate was inaugurated by the Exarch. [www.exarchateofsaintephrem.net](http://www.exarchateofsaintephrem.net). The site was developed by the team effort of Br. Justin(Pune), Cyril(Bangalore), Br Dains (Gurgaon) and Rinu (Mathikare) with help from Fr Varghese Valikkodath and Fr Varghese Kadakketh. The Exarch expressed his happiness and thanked all those who worked behind the project. The morning session ended with noon prayers.

### FINANCE

The financial officer of the Exarchate Rev. Fr Varghese Kaithon presented the annual accounts and accounts till date for the information of the pastoral council. He mentioned that the units have cooperated well in the Revenue generation. Along with Mr NC Jose and Mr VA George audit was conducted at three district centers. The Audit report will be send to units soon. The main highlight for the year was the purchase of a 10-acre plot near Khopoli. It was with the timely help from 19 members that an amount of Rs. 2.15 crores was raised as loan which formed a major portion. He said that a plot of 3.6 acres in between the purchased land also needs to be purchased at the same site. Nearly Rs. 1.6 crores more will be required for the same. Members suggested to make a loan drive similar to ETRI. It was also suggested that some more members may be approached to raise the remaining amount. The Aboon stated that people should have an open approach in this regard and should be able to think with the Church and meet the needs of the Exarchate. He mentioned that “loan drive” or public appeal to all is not the suitable means for fund raising. He urged the parish priests to identify and approach potential laity for such project based interventions.

The Finance Officer mentioned that the present collection under the 15%

of the income of the parishes to the Exarchate and priest support fund are not sufficient to meet the needs of the Exarchate. Members suggested that the Finance Council make suitable proposals regarding the same and find means to improve upon the situation.

### SOUVENIR RELEASE

Souvenir planned during the inauguration of the Exarchate was released officially for distribution to units on the occasion. The Exarch presented the first copy to Barseetho Kasirto Ms Sara Mani Kuriakose. Rt Rev. Msgr Mattamana, the Protosyncellus thanked Rev. Fr Mathai Iranathara OIC and team for the commendable effort of arranging all the finance for the same. He also complimented the editorial team initially led by Rev. Fr Johnson Pallipadinjattethil.

### SEMINARY FUND

Rev. Fr Varghese Kaithon mentioned that about eight new seminarians are joining the Exarchate in the next financial year for studies. Achan distributed a list of items needed for setting up of the seminary and many volunteers came forward to contribute for the immediate needs. Bar Eetho Kasiro Mr P V Thomas appealed to all to come forward for individual sponsorship of seminarians which will cost about Rs. 5000 per month for each seminarian. He said it will be a spiritually blessing in the long term for one to come forward to sponsor a known student.

### OPEN DISCUSSION

The next session was the Zero Hour moderated by the Exarch and the Protosyncellus. H.E invited feedback of the members with respect to any general issue.

**Zachariah Pawath:** There are some difficulties in opening new account in the units in the new Exarchate head because of non-availability of ITCC.

*Response:* The Protosyncellus mentioned that if accounts can be opened in the South Indian Bank, it can be linked with the mother account opened for the same by the Exarchate. However, he mentioned that these issues are being addressed individually.

**Rev. Fr Samuel Thoppil:** The theme of the discussion is more on issues related to finances and generation of funds and the main issue of evangelization is not being discussed.

*Response:* The Exarch agreed that the same is true and requested members to discuss matters in this regard. He also pointed out structural and administrative matters also help the process of evangelisation

**Babu George:** Seminar or workshops should be organized for all church committee members at regional level to make them understand the administration and accounts systems in the Exarchate. Also marriage preparation course should be taken up at regional level and it should be arranged in such a way that the Exarch also can attend and address our youth. There is a complaint that Pastoral Council members were not intimated some important events of the Exarchate. Also some, including self, were nominated to MCA at the Church level in Kerala; however, there has been no communication later.

*Response:* The Aboon said that the Exarchate is soon making arrangement for both the seminar for committee members and also for the marriage preparation course. He also mentioned that he is willing to go and address the youth in marriage preparation courses provided they are arranged ensuring his presence. About invitations to events, he stated that henceforth individual invitations by e-mail will be sent to all the PC members for such programs; and similarly appointments to official bodies will be communicated in writing to the concerned people.

Rev. Fr Varghese Valikkodath clarified that the MCA nominations of Mr Babu George, Mr PK Cherian and Mr Alex Valavil of the Exarchate were informed to the Church level MCA and it is up to the MCA body in Kerala to communicate further with the nominated. The nominated are also automatically members of the Exarchial Syndicate of the MCA

**K V John:** There should be a centre in the Exarchate for taking care of senior citizens of the Church. There should be a program to bring back the faithful who are leaving the Church to other sects and groups.

*Response:* To this Mr MD Jose responded that the Suvishesha Sangham/MCA if informed of such defections can reach out to those people and this is already happening in many places. The Exarch responded to this saying that we should have a strategy and a genuine approach in this matter. He cautioned that given the present status of the Exarchate, it cannot bite more than it can chew in the realms of pastoral care and financial investments. He stated that the role of the PC members is also to take up initiatives to launch programmes in such areas. The



**The Seminarians with the Bishop & other priests of the Exarchate**



**Exarchial MCYM Senate Meet at Khadki**



**Pune District Pastoral Council Meet**



**Mahanaim - Mumbai Distict MCYM Retreat**



**Suvisesha Sangham Formation in Chennai**



**MCYM Resource Team Formation in Mumbai & Pune Districts**

Suvisesha Sangham is a possible solution and the Laity can take up all such ministries except the administering of the sacraments.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Rev. Fr Joseph Venmanath will be appointed as the new vicar of the Cathedral.
- Rev. Mathew Varikkatt will be incardinated in the Exarchate of St. Ephrem and will be transferred to Dharmaram in Karnataka to learn German language.
- General convention will be held at Chennai this year end and the date will be informed soon.
- Mr Benson Ninan, son of PC member Mr Ninan Jacob, has passed the civil service exam. Congratulations!
- Initiatives to study the apostolic encyclical of “Amoris Laetitia” will be taken up.
- More people should join the Suvisesha Sangham and come forward for missionary work with dedication.
- Parishes like Borivli, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Nasik and Aurangabad should develop infrastructure projects at the earliest.

### COMMITTEE FOR CODIFYING THE LAWS OF THE EXARCHATE

The Exarch constituted a committee which will frame the more particular canons for the Exarchate as per norms of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches (CCEO) and the Code of Particular Canons of the Malankara Syrian Catholic Church (CPCSMCC).

1. H.E. the Exarch - President
2. Rev. Fr Joseph Venmanath - Secretary
3. Rev. Fr Jose Konathuvila
4. Rev. Fr Joseph Thomas OIC
5. Rev. Sr Krupa SIC
6. Rev. Sr Carmel DM
7. Mr P.V Thomas
8. Mr Roy Abraham
9. Mr PG Koshy

10. Ms. Julie Jim Philip

11. Mr Daniel Babu

This committee will prepare the draft and present it to the Pastoral Council and to the parishes to collect their suggestions and opinions. The Committee will then incorporate the necessary changes and prepare the final draft for experimentation and study before the final promulgation.

### CONCLUSION

The Exarch gave the concluding message with a call to all the faithful to join in large numbers the Feast of Commemoration of the Servant of God Mar Ivanios and the Padayara to his tomb at Pattom Trivandrum. He also called upon all the parishes to organize well the local padayatra. He requested all faithful to sincerely pray and join the process of canonization of the Servant of God Mar Ivanios.

He made the Pastoral Council aware that we have a special obligation to join the Sabha Sanghamam and the Reunion Day Celebrations at Noojibalthila hosted by the Eparchy of Puttur. He also spoke of the financial help to be organized from our Exarchate to support the Eparchy of Puttur in view of the celebration.

In his address the Exarch again reiterated the importance of evangelization and explained to the Pastoral Council the explorations and endeavors already undertaken in this regard and requested the active support of all concerned. He urged our communities to make the Word of God and the Holy Sacraments, especially the Holy Qurbono, the centre of our faith-living. He said that these divine themes should become the subjects of study in all parishes. Great care needs to be taken to celebrate the Holy Qurbono and all sacraments with awe and reverence and with in-depth spiritual experience in the tradition of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks by the Protosyncellus. His Excellency Most Rev. Thomas Mar Anthonios OIC made the concluding prayers and gave the apostolic blessing imparted to the Exarchate by His Holiness Pope Francis to all present and for the entire Exarchate.

**- Daniel Babu P**

Secretary, Pastoral Council

## REPORT OF THE FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EXARCHATE OF ST. EPHREM, KHADKI-PUNE HELD ON 27 MAY 2016

A meeting of the Finance Council of the Exarchate of St. Ephrem, Khadki Pune was held at 16.30 hrs on 27 May 2016 at St. Mary's MSC Cathedral Khadki Pune. The meeting was presided by His Excellency Most Rev Thomas Mar Anthonios OIC, the Exarch of Khadki-Pune. The following members attended the meeting.

### Priests:

Msgr Rev Fr Varghese Mattamana

Fr. Varghese Kaithon

### Laity:

Mr Daniel Babu

Mr MD Jose

Mr NC Jose

Mr PK Cherian

Mr Babu George

Mr Xavier Pawath

Mr John Mathew

Mr VA George

Mr Zachariah Pawath

Mr Baiju SR

The meeting started with a prayer.

Msgr Rev Fr Varghese Mattamana apprised the meeting of the status of land acquisition at Khopoli. Out of the total 14 acres, a plot of 3.6 acres lying in between, is still to be acquired. All formalities for the same are complete. Rev Fr Varghese Kaithon informed about 1.6 crore of money is required immediately for the same. Shri Baju SR and Shri PK Cherian of Bangalore volunteered to give Rs 15 and 10 lakhs respectively as loan. Shri MD Jose said that Rev Fr Mathai Iranathara OIC had intimated that Mumbai PC is planning to hand over 10 lakhs as loan from the money which was taken back from ETRI loan drive. It was recommended to approach interested members and pastoral council members from the Exarchate for getting some more money as loan. Shri John Mathew informed that the remaining money can be arranged from financial institutions and he said he will facilitate the same. **It was recommended that this plot also be acquired as early as possible and necessary fencing work be started. It was also recommended to prepare a master plan for the entire plot from expert consultants.**

Rev Fr Varghese Kaithon informed that, with the present Exarchate Support Fund collection being received and the 15% income from units,

it was difficult to meet day to day expenses of the Exarchate. **It was recommended that the implementation and collection of the Exarchate Support Fund be reviewed for better mobilization of offers, which have been already given by unit members. Also it was mentioned that 15% income should be send at least quarter wise by the units and not to wait till the end of the financial year.**

Members indicated that priests' allowance also is to be increased and possibility reviewing the present parish contribution in this regard should be explored. It was recommended that exarchate will prepare the new contribution amounts and inform parishes so that priests' allowance can be made increased at least to Rs. 10,000 per month.

Rev Fr Varghese Kaithon informed that the audit report for the last financial year will be send to all units. He said that a budget needs to be prepared by all units from next financial year. He also informed that regional training is planned for unit committee members to get familiarized with the exarchatefinancialsystem.

The Exarch concurred to the decisions made and urged everyone that we need to be more dutiful andconsistent in any ministry taken up for the Church. There needs to be follow up to implement plans as conceived. Regarding financial issues he also said that a system should be established which will continue for years without changes being effected from time to time and creating unending displeasure in the community.

The meeting ended with prayer.

**- Daniel Babu P**

Secretary, Finance Council

## Festal Greetings

The Exarchate specially prays and wishes greeting  
of the feast of Bethany Saints - Martha,  
Mary & Lazarus (29th July), especially to all the  
Bethany Fathers and Sisters



THE MALANKARA SYRIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
EXARCHATE OF ST. EPHREM  
KHADKI - PUNE

27 June 2016

### **The Committee for Drafting the More Particular Laws of the Exarchate**

Dear

Prayerful greetings from Exarchate of St. Ephrem, Khadki-Pune

In reference to the consultations made in the third pastoral council of the Exarchate of St. Ephrem, Khadki-Pune, on 27th May 2016, I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the committee which will draft the more particular canons of the Exarchate as per the norms of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches (CCEO) and the Code of Particular Canons of the Malankara Syrian Catholic Church (CPCSMCC).

The following are the members of the drafting committee:-

1. H.E. Thomas Mar Anthonios, the Exarch - President
2. Rev. Fr Joseph Venmanath - Secretary
3. Rev. Fr Jose Konathuvila
4. Rev. Fr Joseph Thomas OIC
5. Rev. Sr. Krupa SIC
6. Rev. Sr. Carmel DM
7. Mr.P.V. Thomas
8. Mr.Roy Abraham
9. Mr.P. G. Koshy
10. Ms. Julie Jim Philip
11. Mr.Daniel Babu P

This committee will prepare the draft and present it to the Pastoral Council and to the parishes to collect their suggestions and opinions. The Committee will then incorporate the necessary changes and prepare the final draft for experimentation and study before the final promulgation.

Further activities will be informed to you by Rev. Fr. Joseph Venmanath, the Secretary of the Committee.

✠ **Bishop Thomas Mar Anthonios**  
Apostolic Exarch

**Daniel Babu P.**  
Secretary Pastoral Council

## EXARCHATE NEWS

### **Exarchate Priests Meet**

Deepening in the faith of our Lord and fellowship among the priests, the exarchate had a blessed day of gathering of the priests in the Exarchate including the religious and the diocesan clergy. Due to unavoidable reasons except three, all the other 20 priests attended this gathering held on 25 June at the Bishop's House Khadki. The meeting began with a prayer, The Exarch welcomed all and introduced the new Clergy to the *unum Presbyterium* of the exarchate. He addressed the gathering emphasizing on the priestly discipline and the diligent pastoral leadership of the priests. Discussions on matters of evangelization, ecclesial organizations, ordering of the liturgical life in the exarchate, order of the holy qurbono in parishes, presence of priests in the missions and their availability for more mission exploration etc were primary points for discussion in the gathering. The priests also shared the need of learning of different languages by the seminarians for fruitful mission in the exarchate. Fr. Varghese Valikkodath, the Coordinator of the Exarchial Commissions shared the updates of the different commissions and apostolates in the Exarchate. Other matters like promotion of vacation, vocation camps, service of the religious priests, requirement for more priests, opening of the seminary in Pune, matters concerning the different parishes and widening our pastoral care to all the people we meet etc were discussed at large. The meeting concluded with the prayer and blessing by the bishop.

### **Priests & Religious Meet**

On 26 June 2016, all the religious serving in the exarchate along with their Major Superiors gathered for the Religious Meet 2016 at the Bishop's House at Khadki. The gathering began with a concelebrated Holy Qurbono where all the religious together with Bishop Thomas Mar Anthonios offered praise and thanksgiving for the blessings of God Almighty. In the meeting that followed Msgr. Varghese Mattamana welcomed all and initiated the discussions. The Exarch addressed the gathering and expressed to strengthen the church especially the exarchate by working hand in hand knowing the mind of the Church. Based on this sharing all the major superiors expressed their thoughts

and willingness to strengthen the pastoral and missionary activity of the exarchate. They also shared how the different congregations are closely associated with the exarchate inspite of the lack of personnel and resources. The superiors promised to closely associate and cooperate with all the upcoming missions of the exarchate to the maximum extent possible.

The Exarch in his concluding words highlighted the areas of fruitful mission through the exarchate and promised him unconditional dedication to the well-being of the religious of the Exarchate. Bishop also very specially expressed gratitude and prayers for all the religious who have served the exarchate and have been transferred to another places. Fr. Joseph thanked all present for the gathering. The meeting ended with the final blessing by the bishop.

### **Vesitation of Seminarians**

28 May 2016 was a glorious day in the history for the Exarchate. On this day, five seminarians, viz., Justin John, Paul Peter, Joseph Dinakaran, Thomas Attumalil and Paul Vettikatil, received the priestly robe and the first Minor Order, M'samrono through the laying on of hands by Bishop Thomas Mar Anthonios. The program was held at the Cathedral Church in the presence of parents and relatives of the candidates, other seminarians, priests, nuns, and lay faithful from different parishes of the Exarchate. Brother Paul Peter delivered the vote of thanks on behalf of the Brothers.

### **Inauguration of Minor Seminary**

'Nirmal Hriday' the Minor Seminary of the Exarchate was inaugurated on 18 June 2016, the feast day of St Ephrem, the Patron Saint of the Exarchate. The blessing of the Seminary Chapel was blessed by bishop Thomas Mar Anthonios in the presence of priests, religious and the lay faithful. The presence of Very Rev. Fr. Malcolm Sequeira, the Vicar-General of the Diocese of Poona charmed the occasion. Fr. George Mathew OIC, the Rector of the seminary welcomed all. Msgr. Varghese Mattamana thanked all for their presence, prayers and support. A special word of gratitude was expressed to Bishop Thomas Dabre for the great generosity of the diocese to avail the building for the purpose of a seminary and Mr Saji for the speedy renovation of the seminary building.

## **The Exarch Meets the Parents of the Seminarians**

The parent's meet of the seminarians with the bishop, rector and other priests of the exarchate was held on 28 June 2016 at the Bishop's House at Khadki. The meeting was graced by the presence of Bishop Thomas Mar Anthonios, Msgr. Varghese Mattamana, Fr. Varghese Kaithon and Fr. George Mathew OIC along with all the seminarians of the exarchate and their parents. The Bishop welcomed and thanked all the parents for dedicating their children for priestly life in the exarchate. The gathering was an occasion to know each other and to work together towards the formation of the seminarians. All the seminarians introduced their family. The open forum clarified and discussed common matters of concerns. The gathering concluded with the blessing of the bishop.

## **Pune District Pastoral Council Meeting**

The Pune District Pastoral Council Meet was held on 05 June 2016 at the Cathedral Church in Khadki. Bishop Thomas Mar Anthonios OIC chaired the gathering in the presence of Msgr. Varghese Mattamana, Fr. Mathew Varikattu, Fr. Joseph Venmanath, BarItho Kashiro P V Thomas, Mr. Roy Abraham and V A George. All the priests and religious along with the pastoral council members from Pune District participated in the meeting. Bishop Thomas Mar Anthonios blessed the gathering through his words of wisdom and visions of the Exarchate. Fr. Mathew Varikattu was specially thanked for his service as the proto-presbyter of Pune vicar of Cathedral Church. The meeting concluded with prayer and final blessing by the bishop.

### **UP COMING EVENTS**

17 July : Mar Ivanios Padayatra - Bengaluru District

24 July : Mar Ivanios Padayatra - Pune and Mumbai District

*Then Jesus said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have believed." ...*

*John 20 : 27-29*

## EXARCHIAL COMMISSION NEWS



### MALANKARA CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT (MCYM)

#### One-Day Retreat in Mumbai District

MAHANAIM (HOST OF ANGELS) - A wonderful spiritual endeavour, a one day retreat was conducted by MCYM-Mumbai under the dynamic leadership of MCYM-Mumbai Director Rev. Fr. John Britto OIC and Rev. Fr. Francis Karthanam VC (Tabor Ministries) on 12 June 2016 at St. Thomas Malankara Catholic Church, Borivali. The objectives of this retreat was to make the youth realize the importance of Pentecost in their lives, the difference in life when they pray and receive the Holy spirit, how to overcome their fears and the role of youth in the society. Rev. Fr. Francis Karthanam VC along with his team beautifully delivered the idea to the youth of Mumbai. The retreat received the highest response of all times, covering a crowd of more than 200 people.

The day began with registration at 8.30 am and Rosary at 9.00 am. Fr. John Britto OIC led the rosary session. He also explained the importance of prayer in one's life. Fr. Francis started his session at 10.00 am. The session began with Achan explaining the importance of experiencing the power of Holy Spirit in their lives. He continued with how the negative emotions like anger, inferiority complex, loneliness, suicidal tendency and deep sorrows which conquers hearts and how these can affect the conscious and unconscious mind. The mantra to overcome this, is, the word of God. Achan provided the crowd with biblical quotes which will help to cure them. The second session included the fears that is within, fear of past mistakes, fear of death, fear of superstitions and belief and explained the approaches to face them. The third session was on dreams. He explained how much dreams are connected to the real world and bad dreams are seen because of lack of love, witnessing accidents or death and unsatisfied desires and how this can be only healed through the holy blood of Jesus, through the word of God and through the Holy Spirit.

The sessions were so beautifully arranged that people went for lunch without making much noise and maintaining the sanctity of the moment. Breaks were given in parts and alongside confessions were conducted.

The latter half session was Praise and Worship and Anointing. During the

praise and worship session, Holy Rosaries were blessed and given to each youth present for the retreat. The sisters prayed in an exceptional way for individual members while giving away the rosaries. It was indeed a sacred moment for all the members present. The giving of rosaries marked the beginning of a decision by the Secretariat team to continue praying the rosary with different intentions throughout the year. However, the objective was fulfilled and it rejuvenated the young minds with the Almighty's presence. The session saw its conclusion at 4 pm after which there was Holy Qurbano. People stayed back till 6.30 pm and left for the day after having snacks. MCYM-Borivali members and Borivali Parish members provided excellent support and cooperation to conduct this spiritual endeavour successfully.

### **Resource Team Formation in Pune District**

The third resource team gathering was held on 11 June 2016 at St Mary's Cathedral, Khadki, led by Mr Saji Daniel, the Exarchial Animator of MCYM. Inspired by the world environment day celebrated on 5 June, the session was held on the topic, 'Green Meadows'. The session commenced by 10.30 am with an icebreaker, where each one was given a balloon and a toothpick with a task of keeping their balloon intact for a given period of 5 minutes. The essence of the game was to accept a win-win approach in terms of conservation of environment and its natural resources, and to eradicate the destructive mode. This was indeed a good introduction to the topic.

The session continued with power point presentation on verses and reflections from the Bible, Church and its leaders regarding nature and its importance. The church teaches us that each one of us is a guest on earth, having a great responsibility of protecting and conserving nature for the benefit of future generations. This was followed by a small group activity. This technique of gamification (including puzzles, riddles, crosswords matching, filling up the blanks, coding and decoding) helped to drill the concept into their minds. This activity aimed at solving a case which involved thinking out of the box. It was effective in terms of understanding the concepts well.

Any issue needs to be tackled with effective solution. This led to another group activity. Divided into groups, the members were asked to brainstorm practical solutions to the problems faced, both at an

individual as well as at church level. Heading towards the end, each group had to present the events which they possibly thought could be initiated, continued and also activities that has to be stopped for the well-being of the environment. The Session ended with a quick recap followed by a short feedback.

### **Resource Team Formation in Hyderabad District**

The second session of Resource Team Formation in Hyderabad was conducted from 3.30 pm to 6 pm on 12 June 2016 at Mother Mary Church, Picket. The Session concentrated on the topic, 'Seven Capital Sins' led by Fr. Varghese Valikkodath, the Exarchial Director of MCYM. It gave the participants a deeper understanding on the seven capital sins which forms the base for other common sins. A detailed discussion on the seven capital virtues which the youth have to undertake in their daily life led them to a decision to make their confessions more seriously and based on the capital sins and virtues. The presence of Fr. John Thundiayath OIC, the District Director of MCYM-Hyderabad all through the Session was a great encouragement for the youth.

### **Resource Team Formation in Mumbai District**

The third successful Resource Team Formation session 'Green Meadows' was led by Mr. Saji Daniel, the dynamic Animator of MCYM at St. Mary's Malankara Catholic Church, Sakinaka, on 11 June 2016 at 4.30 pm under the co-ordination of Ms Sojisha Samuel, MCYM-Mumbai President. The session witnessed an active participation of 19 youth members from almost all parishes in the District. Participants' active involvement throughout the session made it lively.

The session brought to light how much man owes to the divine gift called Nature. Every participant was given a fair opportunity to share their views on how can man conserve natural resources and contribute towards its enhancement. The session was wonderfully co-related with presence of God in Nature, Biblical view on Nature, Jesus and Ecology and Church's view on Ecology, which aided the participants to acknowledge the importance of nature. The participants were also made to reflect on man's approach to nature and realize how man is God's representative and steward to conserve Nature.

The session concluded, enlightening each member to look at creation the way God looks at creation and as representatives of God, Man has been deputed to take care and protect nature.



## MALANKARA CATHOLIC SUVISESHA SANGHAM

### *Suvisesha Sangham Formation in Chennai District*

A formation programme for the Chennai District Suvisesha Sangham was held at St Thomas Church, Padi on 16 June 2016 from 9.30am to 4 pm. Rev. Fr. Antony Kakkanatt, the Executive Director of Suvisesha Sangham led the sessions which included:

1. Christianity is a relation with Jesus
2. 5 Steps of spirituality and
3. How to read the Bible and meditate it.

Later on, he guided the participants to share their experiences after becoming a member of Suvisesha Sangham and the blessings they received because of the 25 principles of Suvisesha Sangham they follow in their lives. The afternoon session was led by Rev. Fr. Sabu Maruthoor who stressed on the need of evangelization.

About 30 persons attended the programme. Mr. Joshi Raphael thanked the gathering.

### **Suvisesha Sangham Formation in Hyderabad District**

The Suvisesha Sangham members of Hyderabad District joined the Catechism Teachers of the District for a Seminar on Church History conducted from 10 am to 3.30 pm on 12 June 2016 at Mother Mary Church, Picket. The Seminar dealt mainly with the history of the Malankara Church from 52 AD to 1930 AD. It gave the members a better understanding of the beginning of the various Churches in Kerala and the particular reasons for each formation. It helped the members to deeply adhere to the Catholic faith, the Antiochean liturgical patrimony and the Kerala cultural heritage.

### **Suvisesha Sangham Formation in Mumbai District**

A one day formation course was conducted for Mumbai District Suvisesha Sangham on 12 June 2016 at St. Mary's Church, Sakinaka. The programme began with Morning Prayer at 7 am followed by Holy Qurbano led by Rev. Dr. Antony Kakkanatt, Executive Director of Suvisesha Sangham. Classes taken by Rev. Fr. Kakkanatt started at 10 am. The topic for the morning session was the life of St. Paul. He explained in detail who St. Paul was, his encounter with the Risen Lord,

his transformation from Saul to Paul, his initial failures, his special attributes, his missionary zeal and his mission explorations in several countries. This class gave a deep insight on the life of St. Paul, the Apostle. The afternoon session was devoted for discussions, doubt clearance and sharing by the Suvisesha Sangham members about improvements in their spiritual life after joining Suvisesha Sangham. Everyone testified that after joining Suvisesha Sangham there is tremendous improvement in their spiritual life and life style. The programme ended at 4.30 pm with a vote of thanks by Mr. Thomas Mathew and prayer and blessing by Fr. Antony Kakkanatt. Local arrangements were done by Mr. Baby K.I.

### **Suvisesha Sangham Formation in Pune District**

The monthly formation class of Suvisesha Sangham in the district of Pune was conducted at the Cathedral Church, Khadki on 14 June. 35 members from various parishes of Pune District participated in this session. The class commenced with reading of Holy Bible, the passage being conversion of Saul, from Acts Chapter 9 and reflection on the same. Fr Varghese Valikkodath, who conducted the class, focused on the history of the Church, starting with selection of disciples, various stages of growth of the Church, till the division on the aftermath of Coonan Cross Affirmation. The session concluded with prayer.

### **DEPARTMENT OF CATECHESIS**

#### **Catechism Teachers' Seminar in Hyderabad District**



A one-day Seminar was conducted for the Catechism Teachers of Hyderabad District on 12 June 2016 at Mother Mary Church, Picket. The day began with the Holy Qurbano in the morning with the parishioners of Picket Church. The Sessions on Church History guided by Fr. Varghese Valikkodath, the Exarchial Director of Catechesis, began at 10 am after the Holy Qurbano. The topic of the Seminar was 'From Pentecost to Punaraikyam'. Most of the Catechism Teachers from both Picket and Jeedimetla Parishes attended the Seminar. The sessions helped the Teachers to understand better the lessons on Church History in the Catechism Text Books. Rev. Fr. John Thundiyyath OIC made all the necessary arrangements for conducting the Seminar in a fruitful way.



## Report of the Joint Exarchial Assembly of MCA and Mathrusangham

A Joint Exarchial Assembly of MCA and Mathrusangham was held on 18 June 2016 at St. Mary's Cathedral Church, Khadki. The programme began at 10.00 am with a prayer song and Bible reading. The Exarchial MCA President Mr TM Johnson welcomed the gathering. His Excellency Thomas Mar Anthonios, the Apostolic Exarch, in his inaugural Address, highlighted that we should adopt the spiritual life of St. Ephrem as the model for our ecclesial life. He emphasised that our spiritual life should be based on the Word of God and our duty is to preach the Good News to others. Rt Rev Msgr Mattamana, the Proto-Syncellus of the Exarchate, in his Presidential Address, enlightened the gathering about the importance of ecclesial organisations and leadership formation. After the Address, the MCA and Mathrusangham District level representatives from Mumbai, Pune, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Chennai shared their activities and achievements in their respective areas. Rev. Fr. Varghese Valikkodath, Rev. Fr. Mathai Iranathara OIC, Rev. Fr. Joseph Venmanath, Rev. Sisters and Exarchial Assembly members of MCA and Mathrusangham participated. About 60 people attended the gathering. Exarchial Mathrusangham President Mrs Lizy Koshy rendered the vote of thanks.

After the meeting Rev. Fr. Varghese Valikkodath led a session on the Consolidated Proposals for MCA and Mathrusangham for 2016-17, which were given earlier. He also projected a layout of the monthly schedule for the execution of the proposals. Then the members of the Assembly were divided into three groups District-wise, and were asked to discuss in detail the monthly plan. All groups practically agreed to the monthly programmes with slight changes. This was a very interesting and informative session.

After Noon prayer and blessing, the programme ended with lunch. All the members present in the Assembly actively took part in the blessing of the Seminary Chapel and inauguration of Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary of the Exarchate which took place at 3 pm at the Minory Seminary, Poolgate, Pune..

Prepared by  
Mrs Selin Thomas  
Secretary, Mathrusangham

## List of the Seminarians of Exarchate & their places of study

### MAJOR SEMINARIANS

#### First Year Theologians

1. Justin John : St Mary's Major Seminary - Trivandrum
2. Paul Peter : "
3. Joseph Dinakaran : "
4. Thomas Attumalil : "
5. Paul Vettikattil : "
6. Mathew Puthenpurackal : Mary Matha Seminary - Thrissur

#### Third Year Philosophy

1. Jobin Varghese : St Charles Seminary - Nagpur
2. Rony Mathew : "

#### First Year Philosophy

1. Jerry Joseph : Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram - Bengaluru

### MINOR SEMINARIANS

#### Fourth Year : Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary - Pune

1. Joby John
2. Tonny Thomas
3. Blesson Daniel
4. Brinu James John

#### Third Year

1. Nikhil Ninan : Girideepam Minor Seminary, Gurgoan

#### Second Year : Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary - Pune

1. Sanu Mathew
2. Ashna Varkey
3. Abin Sunny

#### First Year : Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary - Pune

1. Justin A T
2. Jipin V S
3. Stebin Joy
4. Robin Francis
5. Joseph John
6. Albin Joseph
7. Amal Prince
8. Shabin

## APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

- Rt. Rev. Msgr. Varghese Mattamana : *Relieved - Nashik and Aurangabad  
Appointed - Priest-in-Charge of Goa  
Mission*
- Rev. Fr. Varghese Valikkodath : *Relieved - Goa Mission  
Appointed - Priest-in-Charge of  
Visakhapatanam Mission*
- Rev. Fr. George Mathew OIC : *Appointed - Rector of Minor Seminary*
- Rev. Fr. Sunil Maria Benedict : *Appointed - Parochial Vicar of  
Hennur Parish  
Appointed - Priest-in-Charge of  
Bangalore Mission*
- Rev. Fr. Joseph Venmanath : *Appointed - Proto-Presbyter of Pune  
District  
Appointed - Vicar of Khadki  
Cathedral Church*
- Rev. Fr. Jose Konathuvila : *Appointed - Vicar of Nashik and  
Aurangabad*
- Rev. Fr. John Britto OIC : *Appointed - Vicar of Dombivili Parish*
- Rev. Fr. Stephen Chempakathoppu : *Received into the Service of the  
Exarchate*
- Rev. Fr. Samuel Thoppil : *Appointed - Procurator of Bishop's  
House*
- Rev. Fr. Mathew Varikkatt : *Relieved - Proto-Presbyter of Pune  
District  
Relieved - Khadki Cathedral Church  
Doing Studies in Pastoral Theology at  
Dharmaram College, Bengaluru*
- Rev. Fr. George Oolakkavil : *Relieved from the Service of the  
Exarchate*

**BISHOP'S DIARY JULY 2016**

Date	: Program
1 July	: Holy Qurbano at the tomb of Mar Ivanios, Pattom, Trivandrum
2 July	: Trivandrum/Mumbai
3 July	: Holy Qurbano in Vikhroli & Holy Qurbano in Chennai
4 July	: Chennai
5 July	: WRBC
6 July	: WRBC & Inauguration of the Khopoli project
7 July	: Pune
8 July	: Pune / Trivandrum
9 July	: Trivandrum
10 July	: Padayatra
11 July	: Padayatra
12 July	: Padayatra
13 July	: Padayatra
14 July	: Padayatra
15 July	: Mar Ivanios Day, Pattom, Trivandrum
16 July	: Goa Parish
17 July	: Mar Ivanios Padayatra, Bangalore
18 July	: Pune
19 July	: Pune
20 July	: Trivandrum
21 July	: Trivandrum
22 July	: Inauguration of the Bethany School, Titwala, Mumbai, Travel to Switzerland
23 - 31 July	: Switzerland

## SPONSORING A SEMINARIAN OF THE EXARCHATE

Beloved in the Lord, Jesus said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into the harvest.” (Mt 9:37-38) The situation Jesus foresaw is the situation of the Exarchate of St Ephrem Khadki-Pune. We need labourers, priests and religious, to go out into the vast fields of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telengana, Goa, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to share the Good News of the Gospel to those who have not heard it so far. We need priests to look after the Faithful in our parishes. Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary of the Exarchate is established to form the future priests of the Exarchate. Let us join hands in motivating talented, committed young men to join the Seminary! Let us help our seminarians with our prayers and financial support!

### **Sponsorship of our Seminarians**

It takes 12 years for a boy who enters the seminary after Class X to complete his priestly formation. It includes: Preparation (2 years), + 2 and/or Degree (2/3/5 years), Philosophy (3 years), Regency (1 year) and Theology (4 years). The saying goes, “It is more than building a Cathedral to help one called by Jesus to ascend the threshold of the Altar.” It is a great spiritual blessing to sponsor a seminarian to become a priest. Your prayerful accompaniment with financial support is welcome. The average cost of education (maintenance of the seminary, allowance for its teaching and non-teaching staff, tuition fee etc) per seminarian, per month comes to Rs 5000/-.

### **How to Sponsor?**

You can make a general sponsorship, that is, to meet the expenses of a student for one month, one year or for any number of years. The second option is to sponsor an individual seminarian, say, for

example, 4 years' Minor Seminary or 3 years' Philosophy Studies or 4 years' Theology Studies or all the 12 years of priestly formation. If you sponsor an individual student you can accompany the one in prayer, and it will be a great blessing for the sponsor and the sponsored; but you will have to submit to God's providence, in case the student opts to withdraw from his commitment. Any sort of sponsorship, either full or partial, either for 12 years or for a particular stage of formation, is welcome. The Exarchate of St Ephrem is thankful to you!

**For further details kindly contact**

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Exarchate Procurator  
Ph: 7030654433  
Email: vmkaithon@yahoo.co.in

Or

Fr George Mathew OIC  
Rector  
Ph: 9545941458  
Email: sijumathew4@gmail.com

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**DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE**

- 03 July : Dukhrono Feast of St Thomas the Apostle  
Feast of Bishop Joseph Mar Thomas
- 07 July : Commemoration of Pulikkotil Joseph Ramban
- 15 July : Feast of Commemoration of Servant of God Archbishop  
Mar Ivanios OIC
- 28 July : Feast of St Alphonsa
- 29 July : Feast of Bethany Saints Martha, Mary & Lazarus



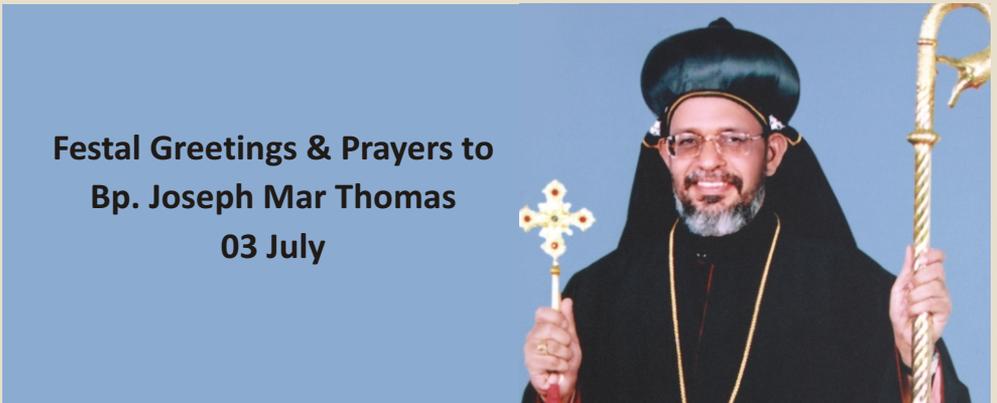
**Meet of the religious serving in the Exarchate with their major superiors**



**Gathering of the Seminarians and their parents with the Bishop**



**The Exarchate felicitates V. Rev Mother Gladys at Dehu Road Parish**



**Festal Greetings & Prayers to  
Bp. Joseph Mar Thomas  
03 July**



## Blessing and Inauguration of Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary

