



THE MALANKARA SYRIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE EPHREMITTE



BULLETIN OF THE EXARCHATE OF ST. EPHREM KHADKI - PUNE

VOL III | NO. 9 | January 2018



Denha - The Baptism of Our Lord

Festal Greetings



His Beatitude
Moran Mor Baselios
Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos
02 January



His Excellency
Thomas Mar Anthonios
17 January

The Malankara Syrian Catholic Church

THE EPHREMITÉ

Bulletin of the Exarchate of St Ephrem, Khadki - Pune



VOL III | NO.9 | January 2018

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

THE MALANKARA SYRIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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VOL III | NO. 9 | January 2018

PATRON

H.E. Thomas Mar Anthonios OIC
Apostolic Exarch

EDITOR

Fr. George Mathew OIC
The Chancellor

CIRCULATION

Local Parish Priests

DESIGN LAYOUT

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Mr Binu Daniel & Ms Bincy Daniel,
Vikroli

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CORRESPONDENTS

Tom, Angel, Sojisha, Binu, Sijo, Cibi,
Nithin, Sara Mani, Jerome, Lijo, Libin,
Rex, Shibu, Beena, Jacob, Vitty, Anish,
John, Jeffi, Abraham, Preethy, Teeja, Joicy,
Thomas, Shiju Thomas, Benson & Sabu

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VOICE OF THE EXARCH

I greet you once again, my dear brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord!



Through Christmas God assured us that “He is with us” through Jesus Christ. Being filled with the good news of salvation and the peace of the divine Child of Bethlehem, we have crossed the threshold of the New Year 2018. Let us enter a new year of our life with renewed resolve. God bless us! The new year brings us new events in our ecclesial and spiritual life in our Exarchate. The love of Christ urges us to carry out mission to the world.

Blessing of the First Chapel in BAPATLA Mission

By the generous grace of the Almighty Lord and the sacrificial involvement of our active missionaries, the first ever Malankara Syrian Catholic Chapel will be blessed on 17 January 2017 at Mekhalavaripalam village, nearly 12 kms from Bapatla in Andhra Pradesh. It is a historical moment in the life of the Exarchate of St Ephrem, Khadki-Pune. The faithful in the villages around Bapatla are extremely happy about the spiritual growth rendered by the Exarchate in their lives. They are eagerly waiting for the blessed occasion of the consecration of the Chapel built for their Holy Qurbano and prayer gatherings.

In this great time of the fulfillment of our long cherished dream, let me gratefully acknowledge the support you all extended for the establishment of the mission and the construction of the Chapel. May the Good Lord bless all those who have earnestly strived hard for the realization of this noble cause.

Inauguration of 'Literacy for the Illiterate' by SEVA at Warje Malwadi

SEVA Social Service Society is initiating a new programme, 'Literacy for the Illiterate' migrant workers and their families living in and around Warje Malwadi. The official inauguration of

the Programme at St Mary's Church, Warje Malwadi was held on 25 December 2017. SEVA is attaining momentum slowly but steadily under the thoughtful leadership of Msgr Varghese Mattamana, the Executive Director of SEVA Social Service Society. Let us be united together in accomplishing the projects undertaken by SEVA in different parts of Pune. The service of SEVA has already been extended to the mission areas of Bapatla and Kamagiri.

Sixth Batch of *Suvisesha Sangham* Formation in the *Sabhathalam*

Formation of new batch of *Suvisesha Sangham* at the *Sabhathalam* is beginning on 18 January 2018 at the Catholicate Centre, Trivandrum. Even though we already have more than 100 members in the *Sabhathalam* and the Exarchial level combined together, I propose more faithful from the Exarchate to participate in the Formation Programme, since it helps to re-evangelize oneself and the community we are in and to spread the joy of the Gospel to the people we are interacting with. Those who are willing to be part of this Formation Programme, kindly forward your names through your Parish Priests to Fr Varghese Valikkodath, the Exarchial Director of *Suvisesha Sangham*.

In the meantime, the Exarchate has decided to begin new batches of *Suvisesha Sangham* in Chennai, Bengaluru, Pune and Mumbai in the month of January 2018 itself. The Parish Priests are expected to send new members from the respective Parishes according to the criteria sent from the Centre to choose members for *Sabhathalam*. The details will be communicated to you by the Exarchial Director.

Unity Octave

The yearly eight-day-prayer for the unity of all Christians is from 18 to 25 January 2017. At the parish and district levels our parish priests shall organize ecumenical prayer meetings and encourage the faithful to participate in the prayer meetings organized by our

Sister Churches.

New Admission to the Minor Seminary

Admission to the Minor Seminary of the Exarchate will commence in the month of March 2018. I request the Parish Priests to suggest the names of those whom you think are eligible to join the Seminary this year to Msgr Varghese Mattamana the Proto-Syncellus, Fr Varghese Valikkodath the Vocation Promoter, Fr George Mathew OIC the Rector of Minor Seminary or personally to me. We will do the needful to motivate and guide the candidates to pursue his vocation.

Vocations to Religious Life

What is said above is also applicable to boys and girls aspiring to join religious life. The names of such boys and girls shall be informed to the Vocation Promoter of the Exarchate or to the respective members of the Religious Congregations serving in our Exarchate. Promotion of vocation to Religious Congregations are to be informed to the Exarch in due time, that is, before the candidates leave for admission. It is within my Episcopal solicitude that I whole heartedly encourage these vocations. Congregations of the Bethany Fathers, Bethany Sisters and the DM Sisters are to be promoted in every way possible.

I urge the faithful to encourage in all possible manner vocations to women Religious Congregations. We all know that there is a fall in their vocations. The success of our future ministry in the Exarchate depends on the vocations we promote.

Welcome to Fr Abraham Manalil to Goa Mission

Rev. Fr Abraham Manalil from the Eparchy of Bathery has joined us to serve the Exarchate for some years. He was working in Germany for the last 12 years as a Parish Priest. He is appointed as the Parish Priest of St Ephrem Malankara Catholic Church, Cortalim, Goa and was installed in office during the Holy Qurbano on 26 November 2017. Let us wish him all the best and pray for a

successful mission in Goa.

Adieu to Fr Thomas Chaprath

Fr Thomas Chaprath, the Vicar of Hennur and Singasandra Parishes in Bengaluru is going to Jamaica for mission work. He was relieved from his service in the Exarchate on 25 December 2017 to join the Jamaican Mission undertaken by the Eparchy of Bathery. Within the brief period of his service in the Bengaluru community, he has really won the hearts of the faithful and succeeded in bringing about spiritual growth in the Parishes. I wholeheartedly thank him for his selfless service and wish him all the blessings in his new ministry. Rev. Fr. Mathew Punakulam is appointed as the Priest-in-Charge of Hennur and Singasandra till further permanent arrangements.

Welcome to Rev Fr Bitty Varghese Chathottu to the Malankara Catholic Church

It was a very happy occasion for the See of our Exarchate when Rev. Fr Bitty Varghese Chathottu, an Orthodox priest residing at Vishrantawadi, entered into communion with the Catholic making his profession of faith before His Beatitude Moran Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos at the chapel of Thirusannidhi, Pattom Trivandrum on His priestly ministry will be in the Major Archieparchy of Trivandrum as he is settling down in Trivandrum. He was accorded a warm welcome by the Exarchate on 3 December 2017 on the occasion of the Malankara Day celebrated at the St Mary's Cathedral Khadi by the Pune Ecclesiastical District. Let us keep him in our prayers.

Western Region Bishops' Council and Western Region Catholic Council

The Western Region Bishops' Council (WRBC), which is composed of Bishops from the States of Maharashtra, Goa and Gujarat, was convoked on 15 December 2017 in Goa. The western Region Catholic Council (WRCC) which includes the representatives of the Priests, Religious and Laity along with the

Bishops of the region was also convoked on 16 and 17 December 2017 at Goa. The main agenda focused on the vocation of the Youth, the theme to be studied by the forthcoming Roman Synod in October 2018. From our Exarchate, apart from the Exarch, Rev. Fr Abraham Manalel, Re. Sr. Kripa SIC, Ms Julie (Borivli) and Ms Jency (Goa) participated. The programme was very enriching.

Malankara Catholic Children's League, Pune District, Arts Fest

The Malankara Catholic Childrens League, Pune District, celebrated its arts F'fest titled 'JESUS FEST' on 10 December 2017 at the Holy Redeemers Church, Kalewadi. I especially congratulate Rev Fr Joseph Venmanth the Director of Catechesis, and all the Sunday school teachers.

First Semester Catechism Examination

The First Semester Catechism Examination in the Exarchate was conducted on 6 December 2017 across all the centres of the Exarchate. I wholeheartedly congratulate Rev. Fr. Varghese Valikkodath for the completing the exams in time and in announcing the results. I thank the Sunday school teachers who worked before and behind the scenes conducting the examination, evaluating the answer sheets and tabulating the mark sheets.

Christmas Celebrations

We have shared the joy of Christmas in a very special in our missions in Kamagiri, Bapatla and Warje Malwadi. The SEVA was instrumental in sharing the joy with the less privileged in the society organizing Christmas programmes and giving away Christmas gifts.

Pastoral Council Meeting

The next Pastoral council meeting will be held on 16 January 2018 at Padi, Chennai. Kindly pray for the success of the Pastoral council meet. All members are expected to participate without fail.

Construction of the Minor Seminary

One of the main topics and decision of the last PC meeting was the construction of the Minor Seminary. I hope all concerned have followed up the fund-raising programmes for it. The activities of obtaining the necessary civil permission for the construction is painstakingly followed up by Mr Babu George, the Chief Coordinator of the project. He has left no stone unturned in the process. We expect to get the permission before 16 January 2018. Kindly pray for the same. We will begin the construction immediately on getting the government permission.

Patron's Day of our Bavathirumeni

The New Year begins with the Feast of St Basil, the Patron Saint of our beloved Major Archbishop-Catholics, His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis, the Father and Head of our Church. We, his spiritual sons and daughters, wish him a HAPPY FEAST and pray that God shower his choicest blessings on him through the intercession of St. Basil. We thank our beloved Bavathirumeni for his great encouragement and love for spreading the joy of the Gospel. This year in solidarity with the victims of the Okhi Cyclone Bavathirumeni has cancelled all celebrations. I, on behalf of the Exarchate, will join Bavathirumeni in the thanksgiving Holy Qurbano scheduled at 7 am on 2 January 2018.

St Anthonios' Day

In God's providence, this year, 17 January, the feast day of St Anthonios of Egypt, my heavenly patron, coincides with the date fixed for the blessing of the Mission Chapel at Bapatla. It is a coincidence, because while we fixed date of the blessing, we were not aware of the date of the feast. I request everyone to pray for me through the intercession of St Anthonios. I also request everyone not to make any celebration of the feast at Bapatla as it would shift the focus of the joy of the mission in Bapatla.

In our missions, we have to initiate some housing programmes for

the poor as well as for our active missionaries who are now staying in rented houses. We shall slowly work out the plan with the help of our faithful, well-wishers, benefactors and friends. Any offering that you would give me on the feast of St Anthonios will be utilized for this.

God bless!

Dear brothers and Sisters! As we welcome a new year into our life and as our life blossoms, I wish you each of you and all families God's choicest blessings.

Lovingly your Aboon

+ *Mar Anthonios*

Thomas Mar Anthonios OIC

Apostolic Exarch

The Exarchate welcomes
Rev Fr Abraham Manalil from the
Eparchy of Bathery for rendering his
service to the Exarchate. He is
presently appointed as the Vicar of
St Ephrem MSCC in Goa



The Exarchate prays for
Dn Praful Mathew OIC from
St Thomas MSCC, Thane and Dn
Isaac Samuel OIC (associated
with Hennur Parish) as they
prepare for their ordination to be
conferred on them on 08 January
2018 at Kottayam in Kerala.





Exarchate of St Ephrem, Khadki-Pune
Malankara Catholic SUVISESHASANGHAM

☎ 70 1930 1997; ✉ suviseshasangham.exarchate@gmail.com; www.exarchate.online

MCSS / 2017 / 06

25 November 2017

Dear Rev. Fathers, Rev. Sisters and Members of Malankara Catholic *Suvisesha Sangham*,

Prayerful Greetings from the Suvisesha Sangham – Exarchate of St Ephrem!

Suvisesha Sangham in the Exarchate is fully functional now. The once-in-two months regular gatherings in the five Ecclesiastical Districts of the Exarchate – Pune, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai and Hyderabad are in full swing now. Formation of Parish level *Suvisesha Sangham* is in its final stage. It is the result of the ardent commitment and generous heart of the *Sabthathala Suvisesha Sangham* members and District Level *Suvisesha Sangham* members along with Reverend Fathers and Sisters from each District.

When we are blessed with all India jurisdiction with the formation of the Eparchy of Gurgaon and Exarchate of Khadki, it becomes our responsibility to preach the Good News in the six Southern States of India and to take care of the poor and downtrodden in these areas. *Suvisesha Sangham* plays a vital role in keeping alive the spirit of evangelization and moving around for taking care of the needy. So we need more and more *Sabthathala Suvisesha Sangham* members who can wholeheartedly spend their time and energy for this gracious mission in the Exarchate.

In order to prepare a group of people, who are genuinely interested and divinely called, to take up this challenge, the Malankara Syrian Catholic Church has begun *Sabthathala Suvisesha Sangham* in the Church. Those who aspire to become a member of this *Sangham* should go through a serious training process in the Church level at the Catholicate Centre, Pattom. The training programme comprises of 6 modules of 3 to 4 days each. Attendance in all the 6 modules is compulsory in order to receive *kaiveppu* as the *Suvisesha Sangham* member in the Church level.

The formation of the Sixth Batch of the *Sabthathala Suvisesha Sangham* commences in the second week of January. The Executive Director of *Suvisesha Sangham* (Church level) expects more participation from the Exarchate in this Batch. So, I do hereby request all Respected

Go into all the world and proclaim the Good News to the whole creation (Mark 16:15)

Vicars to forward the names of those who wish to be a part of Malankara Catholic *Suvisesha Sangham* (Church level) in the Sixth batch. The names should be sent through email on or before 11 December 2017 with the address, the phone number and the email id of recommended persons.

The Vicars have to take note of the following things when choosing a candidate for Church level *Suvisesha Sangham*.

They should have

- *an orientation to gospel life style*
- *strong commitment to gospel mission*
- *good acceptance in the Parish / Community*
- *leadership qualities*
- *enough time to participate in the formation programmes*
- *time to go for gospel proclamation as and when required*
- *to attend Formation Programme of 4 days each at 6 regular intervals from January 2018 to July 2019 at Catholicate Centre, Trivandrum.*

A screening of the candidates will be done by the Apostolic Exarch, His Excellency Thomas Mar Anthonios. The selected candidates will be informed directly by Fr. Antony Kakkanatt, the Executive Secretary of *Suvisesha Sangham*.

Eventhough repeated announcements were made to form *Suvisesha Sangham* in the Parish level, many parishes have not yet initiated Parish *Suvisesha Sangham*. I earnestly request all the Reverend Vicars and the existing *Suvisesha Sangham* members to inaugurate Parish *Suvisesha Sangham* in this month itself. Regular Monthly formation programmes will be arranged in the Parishes from January 2018 onwards. All the Vicars are requested to forward the names of two persons from each Parish who can represent and lead the Parish in the immediate activities of *Suvisesha Sangham*. Kindly forward the names together with their phone numbers and emails to the email id suviseshasangham.exarchate@gmail.com on or before 31 December 2017.

Wish you all the blessings and fruits of the Advent Season!

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Fr. Varghese Valickhadath

Exarchial Director of *Suvisesha Sangham*

Go into all the world and proclaim the Good News to the whole creation (Mark 16:15)

EXARCHIAL NEWS

EVA- Global Symposium on Life

“EVA- Global Symposium on Life” organized by the Pro-Life movement of the Eparchy of Kalyan, to promote the culture of life was from Nov 30- Dec 2, 2017. The Global Symposium had 200 delegates including priests & bishops, religious, seminarians and lay men and women from more than 24 Catholic Dioceses in India and abroad. Six members from the exarchate viz. Msgr. Varghese Mattamana, Mrs Elizabeth Nainan, Mr Nainan, Mr Raja Francis, Mrs Sally Thomas and Mrs Julie Philip participated in this symposium. The speakers presented their research papers with intense confidence and knowledge. Each paper and sessions gave a proper and tactic information about the dignity of human life and inspired the audience to promote the culture of life and to fight against the culture of death.

Inauguration of Free Literacy Program - SEVA

Education has no age limits. To uplift and educate the people who still have a sincere urge to learn; the SEVA's free literacy program was inaugurated on the auspicious and delighted day of Christmas by our Aboon at St Mary's MSCC at Warje in Pune. Aboon inaugurated the program by lighting the lamp along with Mrs Mary D'cruz a social and political worker in Warje, Mr Lijoy the chief coordinator of the program and Fr George Mathew OIC, the Vicar of the parish. The literacy program is to begin from 07 January at the Church premises from 03:00 PM 05:00 PM.

MALANKARA CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S LEAGUE

MCCLArts Festival, Pune

The Malankara Catholic Children's League, Pune District celebrated its Arts fest titled 'JESUS FEST' on 10 December 2017 at Holy Redeemers MSCC, Kalewadi. The Jesus fest began with the Holy Eucharist by Rev. Fr Bitty Varghese. The function was inaugurated by Msgr Varghese Mattamana followed by the welcome address by Fr Joseph Venmanath; the Director for the Dept of Catechesis, Pune District. Children participated enthusiastically in the various





Graduation Ceremony at Mar Gregorios College, Chennai



Polima Gulf Meet 2017 - Dubai



Aboon with the Missionaries at Kamagiri, Tamil Nadu



The Exarchial Team along with the Aboon at WRBC in Goa



Prayers to the New Provincial Council of the Amala Province of DM Sisters, Wardha

MCCL Arts Festival - Pune District



Inauguration



Liturgical Song



Quiz



Concluding Ceremony

Gloria-Ecumenical Carol Competition, MCA Mumbai District

Inaugural Ceremony



Singers and Winners



Malankara Day Celebrations-Pune District



Holy Qurbano



Hindi - Marathi Community



Catechism Students & Parents



MCYM



MCA & Mathrusangham



Cultural Programs

MCCL Arts Festival, Bengaluru



MCYM Arts Festival-Hyderabad



Yeshu Mahotsav-St Mary's MSCC, Warje



**Aboon Felicitating the
Tabor Retreat Team**



Inauguration of the Literacy Unit of SEVA



Praise and Worship



Aboon Felicitates Fr Bitty Mathew on Reuniting with the Catholic Church



Aboon with the Minor Seminarians for the Christmas Celebration



Telangana Deputy Speaker along with Medak District Collector Felicitating Fr. Joseph Vattaparampil for his Contributions to Social Work.



Ordination Day Celebration of Aboon



Pune District Honors Mr Alex Valavil & Mr V A George for their Contributions to the Church



The Exarchial Team along with Msgr Varghese Mattamana for Eva-A Symposium on Life at Panvel





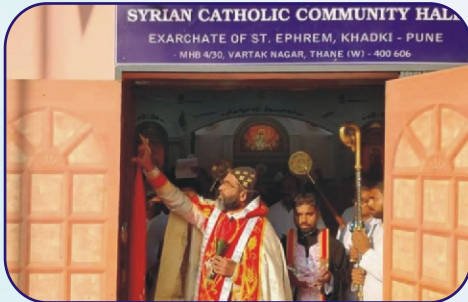
AIDS Awareness Class and Rally by SEVA, Pune



Fr Mathew Manalil takes charge as Vicar of Community in Goa



Mathrusangham Arts Fest, Hyderabad



Rededication of St Thomas MSCC, Thane



Sunday School Teachers' Orientation Program, Pune



The MCYM Members at ECF Sports Meet & Felicitation of Senior Members of the Parish, Vishrantwadi

Christmas Celebrations



Carmelaram



Chinchwad



Kamagiri



Khadki



MG College, Chennai



Singasandra



Thane



Warje Malwadi

events conducted throughout the day. Fr Varghese Kaithon, Fr. George Mathew, Fr. Zacharias, Fr Joseph Noble, Sr Jeffin, Sr Arpana, Sr Sneha Paul, Sr Gracelit, Sr Noel, Sr Krupa and Sr Stancy graced the occasion with their eminent presence. Fr. Varghese Valikkodath, Director of the Exarchial commissions, the chief guest at the prize distribution and valedictory function, addressed the gathering. Mrs. Bini Mathew, the Gen. Secretary of the Dept of catechesis, Pune district proposed the vote of thanks. The events concluded with the MCCL anthem by the children of all the units.

Catechism Kalotsavam 2017

The first Regional Level Inter church Catechism Kalotsavam for Bangalore was held in the month of November and December 2017. All the four churches of Bangalore district took part in this event which was conducted in two phases. Offstage events were held in the respective churches on November 12 and on stage events on 04 December at St Mary's MSCC, Hennur. Competitions like coloring, pencil drawing, poem writing, solo singing, essay writing, elocution, Bible reading, Liturgical song, memory verses etc were held for the sub juniors, juniors and seniors category.

The overall championship was bagged by St Mary's MSCC, Hennur and the second place by St John's MSCC, Singasandra. The other two parishes also bagged several individual and group prizes. The program was a splendid opportunity for all the children to showcase their talents and also explore new areas like poem writing and pencil drawing.

MALANKARA CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION

Gloria Ecumenical Christmas Gathering and Carol Competition

The Malankara Catholic Association Mumbai, in association with St Thomas MSCC, Thane organized Gloria 2017, the 3rd edition of Ecumenical Christmas Gathering and Carol Competition on 09 Dec 2017 at Dr. Kashinath Ghanekar Auditorium, Thane. Churches from different Christian denominations participated in the competition. St Thomas MSCC,



Thane bagged the first prize. St Thomas MSCC, Borivili and Mar Thoma Church, Thane bagged second and third prizes respectively.

The event was inaugurated by Aboon Thomas Mar Anthonios. The Christmas message was delivered by Bishop Thomas Mar Alexandrios, Metropolitan of the Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Mumbai diocese. Famous play back singer Shri. K.G. Markose was the Chief Guest. Rt. Rev. Msgr. Varghese Mattamana, Priests from Mumbai, Pune and from other Christian denominations, political leaders and a large number of spectators attended the event. This event was organized as part of the annual agenda of MCA, Mumbai for a twin purpose of strengthening Ecumenical association with other sister churches as well as for charity initiatives in specified areas.

Mathru Mahotsavam 2017 - Hyderabad District

The Mathru Samajam of Malankara Catholic Church in the Hyderabad District celebrated “Mathru Mahotsavam” for the first time on 10 Dec 2017 at Picket Church from 11:30 AM to 04:00 PM. There were events like Liturgical Group Song, Solo song, Individual speeches on the topic - *Daampathya Jeevitavum Velluviliyum* (The big call for a married life), Bible reading, Bible verses writing and Bible quiz. Fr. Blessen George OIC, the Parish Priest, presided over the event and was also the Bible quiz master. The judges were felicitated with gifts. Prizes were distributed at the end of the event by Sr Vimal, Sr Angel & Fr Godwin OIC. Mrs. Seersha Reji, President of Mathru Samajam gave away the vote of thanks.

MALANKARA CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT

MCYMY'Zest - Hyderabad District

A competition to display the cultural strength of the youth was conducted by the Hyderabad district. The competitions were held on 19 November and 03 December after the Holy Qurbano. The competition boosted the youths of both the units from Hyderabad.



Events such as Pencil Sketch, Essay Writing, Bible Verse, Duet Singing, Mono Acting, Quiz, Psalms Recitation, and Liturgical Singing were the star attractions on the event. These events were also conducted based on the instructions and samples placed by the Exarchate MCYM. Participants displayed their best of talents with full throttle and creativity. The ever rolling champion's trophy was won by St Joseph unit and the runners up were Mother Mary unit.

EXARCHIAL DISTRICT NEWS

PUNE DISTRICT

St Mary's MSCC, Khadki

Christmas was celebrated with gaiety at St Mary's Malankara Cathedral Church. The carols were conducted on 16, 17, 18 and 22 Dec setting up the festive mood. The Cathedral was lit up with lights and stars and a beautiful crib in the campus attracting a lot of visitors throughout the day. The Christmas Qurbono was celebrated on the 24 Dec at 07:00 pm by Vicar Fr Joseph Venmanath.

St Antony's MSCC, Vishrantwadi

The 1st Semester Catechism Exam was held on 26 November 2017. The youth participated in a half day Ecumenical Youth convention conducted at St Gregorios Orthodox Syrian Church on 26 Nov 2017. They also participated in Throw ball and Football competition conducted by the Ecumenical forum and won 1st prize for Throw ball. The catechism children actively participated in the Arts Festival of MCCL and won prizes in all the events conducted on 10 Dec 2017. The parish also felicitated Rev Fr. Bitty on 17 Dec 2017.

St Mary's MSCC, Warje Malwadi (Malayalam Community)

Christmas Service and carols

The Christmas carols were held from 21-23 December. The joy and vigor of carols led to its spiritual depth with the Yalda perunnal services followed by Holy Qurbono celebrated on the Christmas

Eve by Rev. Fr. George Mathew OIC. All parishioners attended the service with spiritual joy and enthusiasm. Presence of faithful other than the parish members was a special blessing. A creative crib under the leadership of the parish MCYM members was something that enthralled everyone.

Yesu Darshan Utsav 2017 & Visit of Aboon

The church has been a great blessing for many people from different communities. And so, as every year, the doors of this holy place were open to all the faithful on the day of Christmas, this year too. A huge crowd visited the church to quench their thirst for the love of God and to know more about him. The presence of our beloved Aboon Thomas Mar Anthonios was a blessing. He addressed the faithful and shared his message of love with them. A solemn Holy Qurbano offered by Pithave in Hindi language for the faithful was a divine grace. The entire day was held in prayer through the music and worship ministry led by the Pune Ministry group and the Tabor Ministry group.

St Mary's MSCC, Warje Malwadi (Hindi-Marathi Community)

The joy of the birth of Jesus was reached to the members of the Hindi-Marathi speaking community of the Warje parish. Carols and prayers in Hindi at 15 families were held on 17 December 2017. All the members from this community joined in the carols and it was a great spiritual experience and enlightenment.

MUMBAI DISTRICT

St Thomas MSCC, Thane

The parish was painted and renovated as preparation for the ordination of Dn Praful Mathew from the parish. The re-dedication prayers for the church was held on 17 Dec 2017 by Aboon Thomas Mar Anthonios.

St Mary's MSCC, Dombivali

Gloria 2017

On 09 Dec 2017, Dombivali parishioners took active participation

in Gloria 2017 which was an Ecumenical event conducted by MCA in association with the Thane parishioners. Around 40 parishioners from the church which included Sunday school kids, MCYM youths, MCA and Mathrusamjam took active participation for the same.

St Mary's MSCC, Sakinaka

Fun Fair and Food Mela

As part of the silver jubilee celebration of the parish, a two day fun fair and food mela was held on 16 and 17 November at the church premises. The fun and food mela coincided with the two day Science exhibition of St Mary's Malankara School Sakinaka which was titled "WINGS OF WISDOM" and was inaugurated by Rev Fr Zachracis OIC. Aboon Thomas Mar Anthonios graced the occasion and applauded the members of the parish for the innovative method adopted in reaching out to the members of various communities in the neighborhood.

Catechism Examination Results

Members of the Parish congratulate all the catechism students for the efforts taken by them in successfully passing the exam and specially appreciates Abison Saji (A++), Sharon Baby, Angel Biju and Irine Mohandas who have secured A grade in the 1st semester catechism examination.

BENGALURU DISTRICT

St Alphonsa MSCC, Carmelaram

Christmas Carols

The members of the parish visited homes of all parish members to convey Christmas message and sing carols on 09 and 10 December 2017. Around 50 members took part in the Carols on both days. It was a great experience with everyone actively participating in singing and spreading the joy of Christmas to all members. The parish priest Rev Fr Geevarghese Kaithavana and Rev Sr Preethi DM accompanied us for the carols.

INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

Mar Gregorios College of Arts And Science

Graduation Day

The 17th Graduation Ceremony of Mar Gregorios College of Arts and Science at Mogappair was held on 14 December 2017 at 9.30 AM. In the ceremony, 395 graduates of both the UG and PG courses received their degree certificates. The Guest of Honour for the ceremony was His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos, the Head and Father of the Malankara Syrian Catholic Church. Rt. Rev. Msgr. Varghese Mattamana, the Vicar General and Correspondent of the college graced the occasion with his presence. The Ceremony was declared open by the Secretary of the college Rev. Fr. Sabu M. George. The Principal of the college, Dr. K. Mohandoss, welcomed the gathering and introduced the Guest of Honour. The Guest of Honour delivered the Graduation address. He emphasized the role of education in the preservation of the customs and traditions of our country. He congratulated the recipients of the degrees and he insisted that it is the responsibility of the graduates to remain committed to our society and uphold its deep rooted culture.

A total number of 395 graduates, who qualified themselves for the degree during the academic year 2015-16, received their degree certificates from the Guest of Honour. There were 59 University rank holders among the graduates, including the Gold Medallists M. Sai Ramanujam and S. Jaya Gnana Rose, graduates from the departments of Visual Communication and Social Work respectively.

The Principal administered the pledge to the graduates after the distribution of the degree certificates. The ceremony was then dissolved and the programme ended with the National Anthem.

Interaction Session with the Cardinal

MGC was privileged to have His Grace Cardinal Cleemis as the

guest of honour for the 17th GRADUATION DAY, 2017. His Grace was welcomed by the Secretary, Principal, Vice Principals Shift-I&II, Deans, Heads of all the Departments with the traditional Aarthi and Guard of Honour by our College National Cadet Cops. As a sign of growth and prosperity His Beatitude planted a sapling in the campus. Thereafter He was greeted by the Principal Rd. Mohandoss for a short Interaction Session with Heads of the Department at the Principal's chamber. Principal welcomed His Beatitude by draping a *mundu* and expressed his gratitude to His Beatitude for His presence, Secretary greeted him with a bouquet in the presence of Rev. Msgr Varghese Mattamana, Correspondent, Rev. Fr. Moncy, Principal, Sacred Heart Matriculation School and Rev Fr Stephen, Parish Priest, Ayyapakkam. Ms. S. V. Geethapriya, Vice Principal Shift-I briefed the journey of MGC from past, present and future, followed by Ms. Hency Juliet, Vice Principal Shift-I through light on the academic excellence, infra structure and introduction of new courses at present and future of MGC. Ms. Ann Hepzibah Niraja, Dean of Academic Innovations shared the Charity based activities introduced and implemented by Rev. Fr. Sabu M George, Secretary. The Coordinators of IQAC, N.C.C., N.S.S., PLACEMENT CELL and all the Heads shared the laurels of their departments respectively and this was highly appreciated by His Grace.

Gloria Christmas Celebration

Christmas was celebrated on 15 December 2017. Rev Sr Seraphin Maria, the Principal for Mar Gregorios Public School graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour and delivered a thought provoking message on the light of Jesus Christ. Welcome Dance and Christmas Santa Dance was performed by the tiny tots of MGPS, the glories of the heavenly hosts were echoed by the Carol singing of College Choir and Staff Choir, the gladness of the shepherds and the worship of the wise men were well portrayed through classical and western moves by college students.

St Ephrem MSCC, Cortalim-Goa

On 26 November 2017, Fr Sunil was accorded farewell and Fr Abraham Manalel took over the charge as the new parish priest of the parish community in Goa. Fr Abraham was welcomed and his appointment letter was read out during the Sunday Holy Qurbano by Fr Varghese Valikodath, the Coordinator of our Exarchial Commissions.

SEVA

AIDS awareness program was held on the World AIDS day by the SEVA personnel for the women group at Sarvathra Vihar Slum Area. The session of the day was conducted by Mrs. Susan John, and Mrs. Celinamma Varghese. The SEVA Kids and Staff also participated in the World AIDS Day Awareness rally programme at Sangvi conducted by District AIDS Prevention and Control Unit(DAPCU).

Upcoming Events

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------------------------------|
| 16 | : | Exarchate Pastoral Council, Chennai |
| 17 | : | Blessing of Church, Bapatla |
| 17 | : | Feast of Aboon Thomas Mar Anthonios |
| 26 | : | MCA Arts Festival, Mumbai |

Obituary

The Exarchate expresses her deepest condolences and prayers to the family members of the deceased souls.



Mrs Mallika

St George MSCC, Ayapakam



Mrs Chinamma Daniel

St Joseph's MSCC, Dehu Road



The Ephremite Matrimonial Column

1. Malankara Catholic Parents based in Pune seeking suitable alliance for their daughter, 30/166, BE IT, working as a technical lead in a leading IT company. Parents of Qualified and well employed boys may contact: 9921304802/9921304589.

2. "Malankara Catholic Parents from well to do family, based in Pune, seek suitable alliance for their daughter, 25/152, MCA working in a leading IT company in Pune. Parents of qualified and well employed boys may contact: 9422340745, 7798223867."

3. Alliance invited from Pune settled Malankara Catholic keralite parents from St. Anthony's Malankara Catholic Church, Visharthwadi, Pune for their God fearing, good looking son and daughter, Masters in Computer Management 30 years old, 68Kg, 5.8 feet, working as Senior Software Quality Engineer. Name: Alexander Chandy. And God fearing, good looking daughter, Electrical Engineering, 25 years old, 52Kg, 5.2 feet, working as Software Quality Engineer. Name: Shilby Chandy (Preferred proposals from Maharashtra)

Please Respond to Mr. P. V. Chandy / Mrs Mariamma Chandy on 9860680629.

4. Alliance invited from Pune settled Malankara Catholic keralite parents from St. Anthony's Malankara Catholic Church, Visharthwadi, Pune for their God fearing, good looking daughter, Electrical Engineering, 25 years old, 52Kg, 5.2 feet, working as Software Quality Engineer. Name: Shilby Chandy (Preferred proposals from Maharashtra and out of India) Please Respond to Mr. P. V. Chandy / Mrs Mariamma Chandy on 9860680629

5.. Alliance invited for God-fearing Malankara Catholic girl, qualified in B Tech in Computer Science and working in Mphasis Limited in Pune as software engineer in a reputed MNC, 26 years, 50kg, 157cm, family settled in Kochi. Please respond to parents, Mr. James Zachariah/ Bency James at 9400274160.

Days of Remembrance

- 1 Naming of our Lord
Feast of Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos
Erection of the Eparchy of Mavelikara(2007)
- 4 Erection of the Eparchy of St Mary, Queen of Peace USA-Canada(2016)
- 6 Denho
- 7 I Sunday after Denho
Exaltation of St. John the Baptist
- 8 Feast of Bishop Philipos Mar Stephanos
- 11 Feast of Bishop Yoohanon Mar Theodosius
- 14 II Sunday after Denho
- 15 Commemoration of Mary, Mother of God of Seeds
Erection of the Eparchy of Muvattupuzha(2003)
- 17 Feast of Bishop Thomas Mar Anthonios
- 18 Commemoration of Moran Mor Cyril Baselios Catholicos (2007)
Commemoration of Bishop Joseph Mar Severios (1955)
- 19 Feast of Bishop Geevarghese Mar Makarios
- 21 III Sunday after Denho
- 22 Nineveh Fast begins
Feast of Bishop Geevarghese Mar Timotheos
- 25 Ends of the three days Nombu
Erection of the Eparchies of Pathanamthitta and Puttur(2010)
- 28 Kohne Sunday
- 29 Feast of Bishop Joshua Mar Ignathios

Ockhi Relief Fund Contributions

St.Mary's MSCC Church, Khadki	10,000.00
Holy Redeemer's MSCC, Kalewadi	3,117.00
St.Antony's MSCC, Vishrantawadi	10,000.00
St.Joseph's MSCC, Dehuroad	5,000.00
St.Thomas MSCC, Chinchwad	2,500.00
St.Mary's MSCC, Warje Malwadi	2,430.00
St.Mary's MSCC, Aurangabad.	1,250.00
St.Thomas MSCC, Nashik.	2,000.00
St.Mary's MSCC, BARC	1,400.00
St.Mary's MSCC, Kharghar	5,240.00
St.Mary's MSCC, Dombivali	5,000.00
St.Thomas SMCC, Borivilli	13,070.00
St.Mary's MCC, Malad	3,000.00
St.John The Baptist MSCC, Vasai	8,000.00
St.Mary's MCC, Sakinaka	6,080.00
Holy Family MCC, Vikhroli	8,000.00
St.Thomas MCC, Thane	12,000.00
St.Joseph's MSCC, Ulhasnagar	4,000.00
St.Thomas MSCC, Padi	10,000.00
St.Mary's MSCC, Hennur	5,295.00
St.Joseph's MSCC, Mathikare	10,000.00
Mother Mary MSCC, Picket	7,000.00
St.Joseph's MSCC, Jeedimetla	10,310.00
St.Alphonso MSCC, Carmelaram	5,000.00
St.Joseph's Convent, Dehuroad	2,500.00

Bishop's Diary - January 2018

- 01 : Adoor, Athirumpuzha
02 : Feast of Bavathirumeni at Pattom, Trivandrum
04 : Cherthala/Alapuzha
05 : Pune
06 : To Hyderabad
07 : Shamshabad - Inauguration of the Eparchy
09 : Bengaluru - Mission Evaluation
10 : Pune
13 : Pattom, Trivandrum
14 : First Holy Qrbono - Fr Melvin OIC,
Chenganachery
15 : First Holy Qurbono, Fr Justin OIC, Ranni
16 : Exarchial Pastoral Council Meeting at Padi,
Chennai
17-19 : Bapatla Mission Visit, blessing of the Chapel
20 : First Holy Qurbono, Fr Praful OIC, Thane/Mumbai
21 : Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee of Fr Sabu Marathoor,
Padi, Chennai
22 : Pune - 3 Days Lent
26 : MCA Arts Festival, Mumbai
27 : Kunnamthanam, Tiruvalla
31 : Noornadu - Adoor, To Bengaluru for CBCI
Feb 1-9 : CBCI, Bengaluru

*Rejoice always, pray continually,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)*

Festal Greetings



**MOST REV.
PHILOPOSE MAR STEPHANOS**
08 January



**MOST REV.
YOOHANON MAR THEODOSIUS**
11 January



**MOST REV.
GEEVARGHESE MAR MAKARIOS**
19 January



**MOST REV.
GEEVARGHESE MAR TIMOTHEOS**
22 January



**MOST REV.
JOSHUA MAR IGNATHIOS**
29 January

Feast of Commemoration



**MORAN MOR
CYRIL BASELIOS CATHOLICOS**
18 January



**MOST REV
JOSEPH MAR SEVERIOS**
18 January

Thanks to the Sponsors of the January Issue

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**"Jose Mathew Alexander
and Family.**

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51 Bhaupatil Road, Bhopadi, Pune - 411 020. Tel.: +91 9545941458. Email : ephremite@gmail.com