



# MALKTO D' SHAINO

## QUEEN OF PEACE

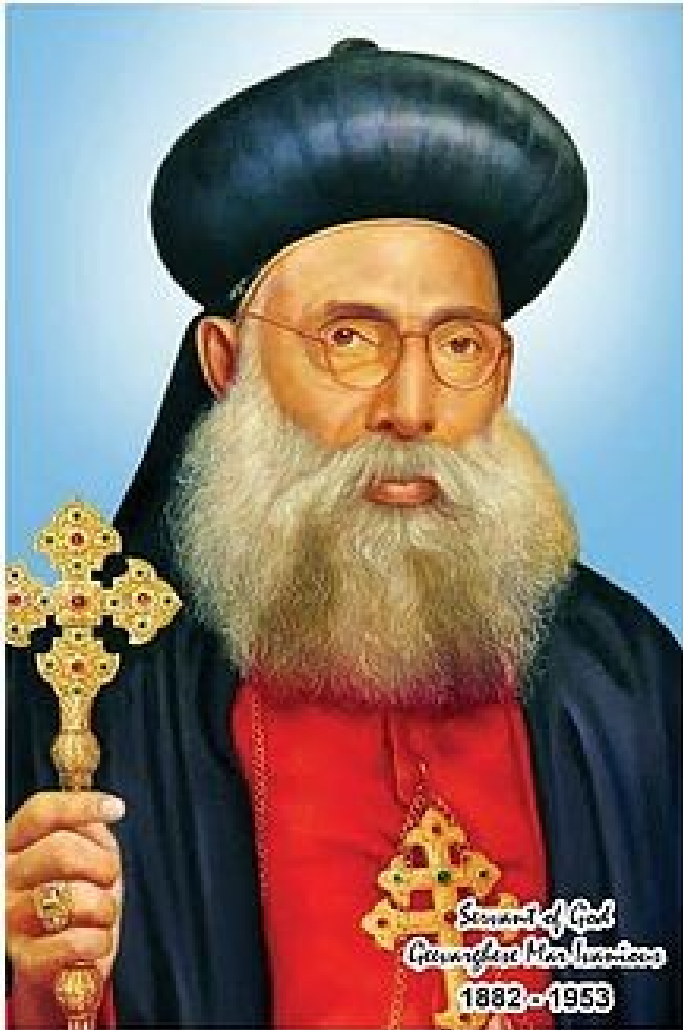
THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE EPARCHY



VOLUME 5: ISSUE 2  
JUNE 2017

THE SYRO-MALANKARA CATHOLIC EPARCHY IN THE USA AND CANADA

**July 15**  
**Mar Ivanios Day**



**His Vision - Our Mission**



# QUEEN OF PEACE

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Vol. 5

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No.2



St. Mary, Queen of Peace  
Syro-Malankara Catholic  
Eparchy in USA and Canada  
[www.syromalankarausa.org](http://www.syromalankarausa.org)

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## **Festal Greetings Dear Eusebius Thirumeni**



**May 30, 2017**

## OFFICE OF THE BISHOP




### Message from the Bishop

**My dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,**

The month of July has a very special significance for all of us in the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church. Lovingly and with a deep sense of gratitude, we commemorate the heavenly journey of our beloved Father in faith, Servant of God Mar Ivanios on July 15. All of us in the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church remain profoundly grateful to this great man of God, primarily for having broadened the horizons of our world, for having brought us to an elevated level of ecclesial existence in the universal Catholic communion. By the bold and visionary initiative of this spiritual leader, we have been enabled to experience and enjoy the true beauty and goodness of being part of a universal family of God's children, remaining at the same time deeply rooted in our treasured traditions. This is the biggest blessing that Archbishop Mar Ivanios gained for us. We can never cease thanking God for this marvelous gift of God.

It has become customary in the Church to celebrate July 15 with increasing enthusiasm, devotion and activities. Various events take place around this Day of Commemoration, especially at the St. Mary's Cathedral, Pattom where the mortal remains of the Servant of God rest. Let us, who cannot be physically part of those celebrations, be spiritually united with all our brothers and sisters who are privileged to participate in these celebrations.



However, as in the past years, we shall come together on this gracious occasion in order to commemorate the blessed memory of our beloved Father, Mar Ivanios in a worthy manner. We shall have the Holy Qurbono of Commemoration at 10.00 am on Sunday, July 16 at our Cathedral in Elmont. The celebration of the Holy Qurbono shall be followed by Mar Ivanios memorial talk and the special service of commemoration. All our faithful, especially in the New York Tri-State region are earnestly requested to participate in this celebration. We shall have the Sunday Holy Mass on July 16 only in our Cathedral and the Holy Mass in our other parishes in the Tri-State region remains cancelled. Those who are in far away parishes may organize parish level celebrations of Mar Ivanios Day in their respective parishes.

### **Regional Family Conferences**

Since our triennial convention cannot be attended by all our families due to the travel distance involved, it was decided to conduct regional family conferences once in three years. Consequently, 2017 is the year of Regional Family Conferences in the Eparchy. The first family conference to be held is in the Mid-West region. Our parish in Chicago is hosting the Conference from 23 to 25 June, 2017. The second one is in the North-East Region, to be held on 5&6 August at the Syro-Malankara Catholic Cathedral in Elmont and the third conference in the South-West region is to be held in Houston in the month of November. The regional family conferences are expected provide an intense and enriching experience of togetherness as one family and one Church. I earnestly entreat all our families to participate in the conference of their respective region.

May St. Mary, Queen of Peace continue to be our guide and protection.



+ Thomas Mar Eusebius

## EPARCHY NEWS

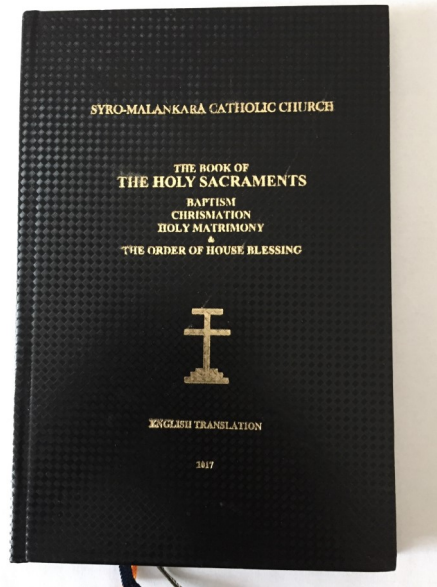
### Consecration of the Cathedral Sanctuary

The renovated sanctuary of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Cathedral of the St. Mary, Queen of Peace Eparchy was consecrated on March 25, on the great Feast of Annunciation. The liturgy of the consecration was presided over by His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis with His Excellency Thomas Mar Eusebius and His Excellency Joseph Mar Thomas as the concelebrants. His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan preached the homily during the liturgy. Around fourteen bishops representing different Catholic Dioceses from and around New York participated in the event. The ceremony started at 3.00 pm. with the liturgical reception accorded to the attending bishops at the entrance of the Cathedral. This was followed by brief words of welcome by His Excellency Thomas Mar Eusebius, the bishop of the Eparchy. The ceremony was concluded at 4.15 pm. with words of appreciation by His Beatitude the Major Archbishop. Around 800 people including a good number of priests and sisters participated in the program. The program was organized under the leadership of His Excellency Mar Eusebius, Reverend Father Thomas Ayyaneth, the Rector of the Cathedral and the parishioners of the Cathedral parish.



## The Book of Sacraments published

The Department of Sacred Liturgy in the Eparchy prepared the English translation of the Book of Sacraments in the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church. The book was released on the occasion of the rededication of the renovated sanctuary of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Cathedral in Elmont. His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis released the new book and handed over the first copy to His Excellency the Most Rev. Joseph Mar Thomas, Bishop of Bathery.




## Toronto Mission Elevated as a Parish



The St. Mary's Malankara Catholic Mission of Toronto is elevated as a Parish in the St. Mary, Queen of Peace Syro-Malankara Catholic Eparchy in the USA and Canada. On February 26, during the celebration of the Holy Mass, Rev. Father Gigi Philip read out the decree of His Excellency the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Eusebius, elevating the mission to the status of a parish. Reverend Gi-





gi Philip, the first pastor of the parish, then handed over the decree to Mr. Mathew Kuthiravattom and Mr. Babu Mamoottil, the secretary and the treasurer of the parish respectively. The parishioners received the new canonical status of the community with laud applause. During the Holy Mass, Reverend Msgr. Thomas Kalarathil, the Director of Priests' Personnel in the Archdiocese of Toronto gave the homily. Msgr. Kalarathil remarked that the elevation of the Toronto Mission to a parish reflects the pace and dimension of the growth that the Syro-Malankara Catholic community of Toronto achieved in the past couple of decades. This is the first Syro-Malankara Catholic community in Canada to be elevated as a parish. The founding vicar of the mission was Reverend Msgr. Peter Kochery, the present Vicar General of the Eparchy. After him, Reverend Fathers Antony Chethipuzha, Cheriyan Mambrakuzhy and John Kuriakose served this community. Our parish in Toronto remains deeply indebted to the Archdiocese of Toronto for the valuable support and patronage that has been extended to us all these years. Besides Rev. Father Abraham Lukose, the Associate Pastor of the parish, there were twelve other priests present in the church in order to witness this joyous moment of the community, including Rev. Fr. Thomas Ayyaneth, the Rector of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Cathedral in New York and the secretary to His Excellency Mar Eusebius. The program was concluded with agape. Hearty congratulation to Rev. Fr. Gigi Philip, Rev. Father Abraham Lukose and the community.

## **Meeting of the Eparchial Pastoral Council**

An ordinary meeting of the Eparchial Pastoral Council was held at 9.00 am on March 25, 2017 at the Eparchial Chancery. Around 30 members participated in the meeting. The meeting started with the opening prayer by Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter Kochery, the Vicar General of the Eparchy. His Excellency Bishop Mar Eusebius presided over the meeting. Rev. Fr. Augustine Mangalath, the Eparchial Finance Officer presented in the meeting the audited account statements of the year 2016. Mr. John Varghese, Secretary of the Pastoral Council proposed the vote of thanks. The meeting was concluded with the noon prayers and lunch.

## Festal Holy Mass of His Excellency Mar Eusebius



At 10.30 am on Monday, May 29, His Excellency Thomas Mar Eusebius celebrated the Holy Mass in our Cathedral on the occasion of the feast of his heavenly patron St. Eusebius, which falls on May 30. After the celebration of the Holy Mass, Rev. Fr. Jerry Mathew and Mr. John Varghese (Secretary of the Eparchial Pastoral Council) felicitated His Excellency. Many of our priests, sisters and the parishioners were present on the occasion. The celebration was organized by Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter Kochery, the Vicar General of the Eparchy.

## Mid-West Regional Family Conference Registration Kick Off.

In the current year, the Eparchy has scheduled three Regional Family Conferences in three regions of the Eparchy, namely, the North-East, Mid-West and the South-West. The Mid-West Regional Conference is to be held on June 23, 24 and 25 in Chicago under the auspices of the St. Mary's Syro-Malankara Catholic Parish in Chicago. Rev. Fr. Babu Madathilparambil is appointed the Convener of the Conference. From the parish, a team of volunteers under the leadership of Mr. Benjamin Thomas and the parish council will help Fr. Madathilparambil in the organization of the Conference. Rev. Fr. Joseph Puthenpurackal OFM Cap. will be the main speaker of the Conference. The



Registration Kick Off of the Conference was held on February 19, 2017 at the church after the Holy Mass. His Excellency the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Eusebius presided over the function. His Excellency inaugurated the Kick Off by handing over the Conference Kit to Mrs. Achamma John Mathai of the parish.

## Bethany Convent Blessing in Philadelphia

The Bethany sisters, in God's providence, purchased a house for their community in Philadelphia (8381 Glen Rd, Elkins Park, PA 19027). The new convent was blessed by His Excellency Thomas Mar Eusebius on Sunday March 19th at 2 pm. Many Reverend Fathers, Reverend Sisters and a good number



Syro-Malankara Catholic Eparchy

of our people from our Philadelphia parish were present on the occasion. Rev. Sisters Benedicta and Jocelyn took the initiative for purchasing the new convent. Our parishioners in Philadelphia, especially the Mothers' Forum unit extended valuable help in furnishing the house and making it ready for use.

## **The Silver Jubilee of Rev. Sr. Anjaly DM**

The silver jubilee of the Religious Profession of Rev. Sr. Anjaly was celebrated on May 11, 2017 at the DM Convent, Yonkers. His Excellency the Most Rev. Thomas Mar Eusebius presided over the thanksgiving Jubilee Holy Mass. Rev. Father Augustine Mangalath, the Chaplain to the convent, Fr. Thomas Ayyaneth, Fr. Michael Edathil, Fr. Jerry Mathew, etc. were the concelebrants. After the jubilee Holy Mass, a banquet was prepared by the Rev. Sisters of the Convent. Felicitations were accorded to the Jubilarian by His Excellency and the representatives of the priests and sisters. The celebration was concluded with Sr. Anjali's reply. May God continue to bless Sr. Anjali in her mission to the Church and to the larger human society.



## Silver Jubilee Inauguration of Sr. Ivan SIC and Sr. Mariam SIC

The inauguration of the silver jubilee of the religious profession of Sr. Mariam SIC and Sr. Ivan SIC was conducted on May 13, 2017 at the Bethany Convent, Chicago. His Excellency the Most. Rev. Thomas Mar Eusebius celebrated the Holy Mass and the Jubilarians lighted the Jubilee Candle. Rev. Fr. Babu Madathiparambil, the Chaplain to the Convent, Rev. Fr. Thomas Ayyaneth, Very Rev. Fr. Thomas Mula-anal, the Vicar General to the Knanaya Catholic Community in the Syro-



Malabar Eparchy of Chicago and Sr. Arpitha SIC from the Bethany Convent in New York were present on the occasion.

## YOUTH APOSTOLATE

### MCYM Weekend Getaway

The MCYM-East Regional Board held the first ever "MCYM Weekend Getaway" at Camp Poyntelle Lewis Village, Pennsylvania on June 16-18. It was a three day event from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon conducted to give the youth above the age of 18 from the Eparchy an opportunity to spend





time with each other in a relaxing and fun picnic-like atmosphere. The event featured events such as Hiking, Ultimate Frisbee, and bonfire along with short talks by Fr. Michael Edathil, Sr. Jocelyn Edathil, and Fr. Jerry Mathew and daily Mass. The event was attended by 47 youth from eight parishes from US and Canada. A special thanks to the MCYM-East Regional Board officers who organized and conducted this successful event under the animation of Rev. Jerry Mathew.

## Leadership Retreat

MCYM of the Eparchy is holding its Leadership Retreat on August 17th to 20th 2017 at Summit Lake Christian Camp in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The participants in the retreat are the members of the local boards of each parish and mission in the Eparchy. The theme of the retreat is taken from St Paul's first letter to Timothy, "Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe." (1 Tim 4:12). It is hoped that the retreat will help create and strengthen leaders within our parishes and Church as a whole.

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## **FAMILY APOSTOLATE**

### **Pre-Cana (Marriage Preparation) Course**

The Eparchial Department of Family Apostolate organized the Pre-Cana (marriage preparation) course on February 18 & 19, 2017 at St. Mary's Abbey retreat Center 230 Mendham Road Morristown, New Jersey. The Course began on Saturday at 8 am. with breakfast and ended on Sunday at 3 pm. Our Eparchial Bishop H.E. Thomas Mar Eusebius inaugurated the course and gave a class to the participants on the theology of the sacrament of matrimony, which was followed by classes on various other topics, counselling, confession and workshops. Rev. Father Mathai Mannoovadakkethil, the director of Family Apostolate in the Eparchy organized the course.

## **PARISH NEWS**

### **The Cathedral Parish**

#### **Rededication of the Sanctuary of the Cathedral.**

The cathedral parish has been able to renovate the sanctuary of the cathedral after the tradition and ethos of the Malankara Catholic Church. The new sanctuary was designed by the famous architect Mr. K. J. Peter and the construction was undertaken by the Netos Constructors in New York. The renovation works lasted around five months. The consecration of the renovated Altar of the Cathedral was held on March 25, 2017 at 3:00 PM. The very blessed consecration function was presided over by His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis with His Excellency Thomas Mar Eusebius and His Excellency Joseph Mar Thomas as the concelebrants. His Eminence Timo-

thy Cardinal Dolan and fourteen bishops representing different Catholic Dioceses from and around New York participated in the event. The parish council members and all the parishioners extended their wholehearted cooperation and support in the renovation works and in the organization of the consecration event.

The first Holy Mass on the newly consecrated altar was celebrated on March 26, 2017 by His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis and a Thanksgiving Mass was offered by the Eparchial Bishop His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Eusebius on April 2, 2017 to acknowledge the immense blessings that we received from God Almighty.

### **Lent / Holy Week Services**

The 40th Friday service and Holy Mass was celebrated by His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Eusebius. The Holy Week services were started with Palm Sunday celebrations on April 9, 2017, followed by Lenten retreat which was preached by Rev. Dr. Thomas Kulangara from the Major Archdiocese of Trivandrum. The *Pesaha* service was concluded with *Pesaha Qurbano* and '*pesaha appam*' on April 13 and the Good Friday services were led by His Excellency Thomas Mar Eusebius and were concluded with *nercha kanji*. The Holy Mass for the departed souls was celebrated on Holy Saturday. The Holy Week ended with Easter service and Holy Qurbano in the evening on April 15, 2017.

### **Feast Day Wishes**

On Sunday, May 28, 2017, the Cathedral parishioners extended feast day wishes to our beloved Bishop Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Eusebius, the feast of whose heavenly patron - St. Eusebius of Caesarea - is on May 30.

### **Mothers' Day.**

Mothers' day was celebrated with great joy. Special prayers and Holy Mass were offered for our mothers. That was fol-



lowed by felicitations by MCYM and Sunday school members, honoring mothers symbolically with flowers and serving an honorary lunch on behalf of our mothers.

## New Parish Directory

The Parish prepared a new directory with updated information about the parish and its families. The new directory was released on May 28, 2017 by His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Eusebius. The parish council members, under the leadership of the secretary Mr. Geevarghese Mathew were responsible for the preparation of the directory. Mr. Binu Jacob, John Eettikalayil (Jr.), Sunil Chacko, etc. extended valuable service in the preparation of the directory.



## MCYM

The following members were elected as the office bearers for the year 2017.

President: Regina Thomas; Secretary: Sayuj Zachariah

Treasurer: Jenny Thomas

The MCYM of the Cathedral parish took active participation in "Support our Troops", a care Package for Soldiers who work outside of US.

A retreat for the Youth school was held on April 1, 2017 which was led by Rev. Fr. Michael Edathil and Deacon Jobin Thomas. 17 youth from the Cathedral participated in the Eastern Region Getaway event held at the Poconos from June 16-18.



## Calgary

### **Mission at Present.**

Mission in Calgary is progressing. We are getting new families. At present there are 15 families. The community passionately celebrate our Liturgy every weekend and gather for family prayer meeting once in a month. It is encouraging that new families are coming to the mission occasionally, as we are getting established as a Parish Community.

### **Lenten Retreat and Holy Week Liturgy**

The season of Lent was observed diligently in the mission and Lenten retreat was organized before Holy Week. Despite the difficulty in getting a facility for the long Holy Week services, the entire Holy Week Liturgy was celebrated in the mission, which provided a graceful spiritual and ecclesial togetherness to the entire community.

## Chicago

### **Mothers' forum**

Our mothers' forum conducted a pilgrimage to Indiana in April. They made a visit to a catholic retreat center for a day with their families and friends.

### **Hosting the Family Conference**

The St. Mary's Malankara Catholic Parish of Chicago will host the Eparchial Mid-West Regional Family Conference from June 23rd to 25th in Chicago. Rev. Babu Madathiparambil is the General Convenor. Rev. Fr. Joseph Puthenpurackal OFM Cap. is the main resource person for the Conference. His Excellency Mar Eusebius will be present in the Conference. The Mid-West region includes the Malankara Catholic parishes of Chicago, Detroit and Toronto. Preparations are seriously underway for the Conference. Around 70 families have already registered for the Conference. We expect a few more families to register.

## Mothers' Day

We conducted Mothers' day celebration with many crowning festivities. The faithful presented gifts and conveyed felicitations to their beloved mothers.



## Jubilee celebrations

We celebrate with great joy the 25th wedding anniversaries each year. This year we are also fortunate to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the Religious Profession of our Rev. Sisters Ivan SIC and Mariam SIC. So also, we will be celebrating this year the 25th wedding anniversaries of Mr. and Mrs. Raju Vincent and Mr. and Mrs. George Plamoottil.



## **Detroit**

### **The Parish Council**

The Parish Council of 2017 took oath of office on Feb 12th 2017. The following are the new parish council members: Mr. Saji George (secretary); Mr. Jose T. Abraham (treasurer); Mr. Thomas Mathew; Mr. Jithesh P. George; Mr. Priyan Simon; Mr. Chacko Edicheria; Mrs. Gracy Mathew; Mrs. Jolly Jose and Miss. Celia George.

### **Holy Week Services**

Holy week was observed in accordance with our liturgy and traditions. Evening prayers and the stations of the cross were held during the weekdays. Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday services were held with utmost devotion. Easter liturgy was celebrated on Saturday evening.

### **Mothers' Day**

All of our mothers were honored on Mother's day. A felicitation meeting was conducted in honor of our mothers. Flowers and refreshments were arranged by MCYM.



## **Feast of our Patron Saint.**

The Feast of our Patron Saint, St. Joseph, was celebrated on March 18th and 19th with evening prayer, Gospel preaching and Holy Qurbano. Rev. Fr. Philip Ramachanattu of St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Church did the Gospel preaching on the eve of the feast. The main celebrant of the Festal Holy Qurbano was Rev. Fr. Pathrose Panuel and it was concelebrated by Rev. Fr. George Palliparambu, and Rev. Fr. Joy Chakian. *Nercha* was served.

## **Participation in the Cathedral sanctuary Blessing**

Few of our families along with our Parish Priest travelled to New York to attend the consecration of the Cathedral Sanctuary.

## **Participating in the Regional Family Conference**

Most families of our Parish will be participating in the Eparchial Mid-West Region Family Conference to be held under the auspices of the St. Mary's Malankara Catholic Church, Chicago on June 23-25, 2017.

## **Edmonton**

The Malankara Catholic mission in Edmonton entered a new phase by receiving a new vicar and new place of worship. H.E. Thomas Mar Eusebius, the Bishop of St. Mary, Queen of Peace Syro Malankara Catholic Eparchy in USA and Canada appointed Fr. Jossy Chirayath as the new vicar for the mission in Edmonton, Canada.

Fr. Thomas Puthupparampil served the mission since June 2011 and provided pastoral leadership. As a sign of gratitude for his pastoral leadership, the community provided a heartfelt farewell to him on April 25th 2017.

As a great milestone achievement for Malankara Catholic Mission in Edmonton, the Archdiocese of Edmonton has kindly

agreed to provide the St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church (9830 148 St. NW Edmonton) for our liturgical celebrations every Sunday on a rather permanent basis.

### **Pastoral Visit of H.E. Mar Eusebius**

His Excellency Thomas Mar Eusebius, the bishop of the Eparchy will be visiting the Edmonton mission on Aug 25-28 and will celebrate the Malankara Holy Mass in the new place of worship. His Excellency Most Rev. Richard Smith, the Archbishop of Edmonton, will also be present on the occasion.

### **Houston**

#### **Lent and Holy week**

The Lenten season was a special occasion for the parish to grow in holiness and devotion. Way of the Cross was held on the evenings of every Friday during the Lent. On the 40th day of the Lent, our youth conducted a wonderful adoration session.

#### **Mothers' Day**

Mother's Day was celebrated on May 14, 2017. In honor of all the mothers in our church, roses were given to them and a short video was played by the MCYM.





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## The New Directory

On February 26, 2017, the parish was fortunate to publish a new directory of the parish after many years. The new directory will enhance greater fellowship and cooperation among the parishioners.

### General news

The St. Peter's Malankara Catholic parish, Houston is privileged to host the Eparchial South-West Regional Family Conference, scheduled to be held this year. Rev. Father John Puthenvila is appointed the General Convenor of the Conference. The exact dates of the Conference are yet to be fixed. Our parishes in Houston, Dallas, Los Angeles, San Jose, Edmonton and Calgary are included in the South-West region.

## Los Angeles

### Send off to Sr. Tresa Mary DM

On May 13, 2017 we, the Malankara Catholic Community organized a farewell get together in honor of Sr. Tresa Mary, the hitherto Superior of the Daughters of Mary convent, Los Angeles. Sr. Tresa Mary came to Los Angeles, California in 2001. She was one of the pioneer missionaries who came to America from the congregation of the Daughters of Mary. She served the sick and the suffering in and around Los Angeles for 16 years through her selfless service at Santa Teresita hospital. She actively and wholeheartedly supported the formation of the Malankara Catholic Community in Los Angeles. Her new appointment is as the Superior of the Mission House in Aluva.

The farewell meeting was conducted on May 13th Saturday. Ms. Anna Zacharia, one of the Parish Council members, delivered the farewell speech. Sr. Tresa was also presented with a gift as a token of our love. The Los Angeles community expresses our heartfelt gratitude to Sr. Tresa for all that she has done for our community. In her reply Sr. Tresa expressed her gratitude towards all the community members. We continue to pray for God's blessings upon her in her new mission.

## Memorial Mass - Mrs. Gracy Mathew Thekkanal:

Mrs. Gracy Mathew Thekkanal (58) Irumalakkappu, the beloved mother of Sr. Sidhi Maria DM was called for her eternal reward on Tuesday 23rd May 2017. The Memorial Mass was celebrated at St. Mary's Malankara Catholic Church, Los Angeles on Sunday 28th May at 9:00 am and prayers were offered in her memory. We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, especially to our dear Sr. Sidhi Maria DM.

## Miami

### First Holy Communion



John Kurian, son of Mr. Gigi Kurian and Mrs. Cini Daniel received the first Holy Communion on April 29, 2017. The community extends hearty congratulations to our beloved John.

### Mothers' Day

On Mother's Day we honored the mothers with the words of gratitude and other gestures of honor .





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## New Altar servers.

The Malankara Catholic Mission in Miami was privileged to have three more altar servers this year. They were given training for a whole year and on February 26, 2017, at the beginning of the Great Lent, they were received to the sanctuary to serve at the altar.

## New Jersey

### Parish Welcomes Rev. Fr. Michael Edathil

In February, the community welcomed Rev. Fr. Michael Edathil to the parish after his return from Kerala. Fr. Michael has been celebrating Holy Qurbano in English on alternate Sundays, providing leadership to MCYM members, and conducting training for the altar servers.

### Visit of His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Joshua Mar Ignathios

The parish was blessed abundantly during the Holy Week by the visit of H. E. Most Rev. Joshua Mar Ignathios of the Eparchy of Mavelikkara. His Excellency conducted the Good Friday services on April 14, 2014. The parishioners were moved by Thirumeni's message about the suffering endured by our Lord for the love His flock and how we should live our lives to serve him. After the services *kanji* and *payar* was served.



## **New Altar Donation**

Mr. Vincenzo Scotto and his family donated a custom built altar for the parish. Mr. Vincenzo, who is an immigrant from Italy in his eighties, built the altar according to the Malankara tradition. The tabernacle that existed in the church is incorporated into the new altar. May God bless Mr. Scotto and his family for generations!

## **Holy Baptism & Confirmation**

Ann Maria, daughter of Mr. Thomas K. and Mrs. Dhanya Thomas was baptized and confirmed in Kerala. Grayson Ansel, son of Mr. Tony Vijayan and Ms. Lima Iype was baptized and confirmed on May 20 at St. Thomas Syro-Malankara Catholic Church, Elizabeth, New Jersey

## **The Lenten Retreat and the visit of Bishop Kurt Burnette**

This year's annual parish Lenten Retreat was held at St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church in Rahway, New Jersey. The retreat was led by Rev. Fr. Sebastian Anchumuriyil VC. Rev. Fr. Michael Edathil conducted seminar for the youth and Rev. Sis. Jocelyn Edathil taught the children.



The truly inspirational venue was made even more memorable by the visit of His Excellency Most Rev. Kurt Burnette, Bishop of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic. During his brief visit, His Excellency spoke to all the retreatants and distributed medals blessed by the Holy Father to each child. Pastor, Rev. Msgr. Peter Kochery thanked His Excellency and the host parish Pastor, Rev. Msgr. James Hayer for their wonderful care and generosity shown toward the Malankara community.

## Philadelphia

### Oath of Parish Council 2017

The newly elected parish council members took charge on January 22nd by taking the Oath of the Office by reciting the pledge before our Pastor Fr. Saji Mukkoot. The elected parish council members of 2017 include Biju Kuruvilla (Secretary), Mathew Thomas (Treasurer) Anie Jacob, Cyril Jose, Sajeev Sankarathil, Sam Philip, Philip (Biju) John, Joseph Geevarghese, and Raju P George. Pastoral Council members serving the 3rd year are Shine D Thomas, Alex John & Shaji Simon. MCA President Shine Thomas, Mothers Forum President Sara Paul, MCYM President Feba Chacko and Sunday School Principal Mr. Alex John are the other committee members.



## **Memorial Celebrations**

The 10th anniversary of the heavenly journey of our Late Major Archbishop Cyril Mar Baselios was celebrated on Jan 29th under the leadership of our MCA.

## **Ecumenical fellowship updates**

The Ecumenical fellowship of the Indian Churches in Philadelphia hosted the World Day of Prayer on March 4th, 2017 and our Sr. Jocelyn Edathil SIC was the main speaker at this event. Fr. Saji Mukkoot has been elected as the chairman of the Ecumenical fellowship in Philadelphia for the year 2017. Also, our member Aksa Joseph has been elected as the new women's coordinator and Mr. Sajeew Sankarathil has been elected as the public relations' coordinator and as the secretary of ICCCP.

## **Lenten Retreat**

This year, we jointly hosted the Lenten retreat along with the Knanaya and Latin communities in Philadelphia on March 24-26 at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Bensalem, PA. Rev. Fr. Joseph Puthenpurackal OFM Cap was the main speaker on the occasion. Close to 1500 people participated in this retreat during the 3 days and received the spirit filled proclamation of the Word of God. On Friday, we had the Latin Mass in Malayalam, on Saturday, the Syro-Malankara Qurbono and on the final day, the Syro-Malabar Holy Mass. This was a great opportunity for our members to experience and participate in the various liturgies. Special sessions were held for youth (Kairos Youth Retreat team), for the kids (Jesus Youth team) and also for children under 6. Our members generously contributed to the success of this event.

## **The Great Lent**

The Lenten season began with special services on Feb. 26th Sunday by our vicar Fr. Saji Mukkoot. Evening prayer, Holy Mass, and Way of the Cross were conducted every Friday dur



ing the Lenten season. Palm Sunday service was held on April 9th. This year, we were blessed by the presence of His Excellency Joshua Mar Ignathios, Bishop of Mavelikkara, during the Holy Week. *Pesaha* service was held on April 12th and the washing of the feet ceremony was conducted at our church on Thursday April 13th. 11 members of our parish along with the Pastor had the opportunity to participate in this event and receive the blessings from the Bishop. Good Friday service was held on April 14th, Holy Saturday service on April 15th and Easter Service on April 16th. Evening prayer was conducted throughout the Holy Week and the Liturgy of the Hours from Good Friday to Easter Sunday.

### **Sacerdotal Jubilee of Fr. Saji Mukkoot**

2017 marks the 25th ordination anniversary of our pastor Fr. Saji Mukkoot. The sacerdotal jubilee started on December 22, 2016 and was officially inaugurated at our parish on January 1, 2017 with New Year Holy Mass. Fr. Jacob John reminded that it is the parishioners' privilege to celebrate the pastor's jubilee. After cake cutting Fr. Saji thanked the parishioners for their support and prayers. A parish level celebration is scheduled for August 19, 2017 and our Diocesan Bishop, His Excellency Thomas Mar Eusebius will be the chief guest on this occasion.



## Mother's Day Celebration

Mother's Day was celebrated with a brief public meeting on Sunday May 14th after the Holy Qurbano. Our MCYM provided leadership to arrange the public meeting and one member representing MCYM, Sunday school and the Mothers forum each spoke on this occasion. Special Kerala style food was provided to honor our mothers by the St. Jude fathers. Instead of accepting any individual gifts, our mothers had asked to make a donation to a charity in Kerala and our Sunday school children and MCYM raised 545 dollars to support this charity event.

## Rockland

The St. Peter's Syro-Malankara Catholic parish in Rockland continues to grow in faith and mutual love through the celebration of the Holy Qurbano, Catechism, Novenas, and Prayer.

## The Holy Week Celebration

The Palm Sunday service was officiated by His Excellency Thomas Mar Eusebius. We celebrated Our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, by procession carrying palm leaves.



Syro-Malankara Catholic Eparchy

Maundy Thursday was celebrated with the Holy Eucharist and we shared *Pesaha Appam*. On Good Friday, the entire Church fixed our gaze on the Cross at Calvary. Each member of the Church tried to understand at what cost Christ won our redemption. The events of Good Friday were commemorated by the Stations of the Cross. Our parishioners participated with full devotion in the Easter Celebration. After the Easter service we had a family dinner and Easter Egg Hunt. All the children participated in the Easter Egg with great enthusiasm. We look with great hope to the future and remain in love and faith.



## **The Silver Jubilee of Sr. Anjaly and Mothers' Day celebration**

The silver jubilee of the Religious Profession of Sr. Anjaly was celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm in our parish on May 14th 2017. We were graced with the presence of our Bishop Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Eusebius who celebrated the Holy Mass with our Pastor Very Rev. Augustine Mangalath and Rev. Fr. Thomas Ayyaneth. Mothers' day was on the same day and special prayers for mothers were offered during the Holy Mass. After the Holy Mass, Sr. Anjaly and Mothers were honored with songs and thank you notes from parish members.

## San Jose

### Holy Week Celebrations

The St. Jude Malankara Catholic Mission of San Jose celebrated Holy Week with great devotion. Palm Sunday services were conducted with procession around the church. After the service, *nercha kozhukattas* were shared by everyone. After the Maundy Thursday service, Fr. Biju blessed the *Pesaha* appam and the eldest member of the community cut the *appam* and gave it to everyone starting with the youngest child. Fr. Justin Konathuvila from Reno joined us for the Good Friday services. After the service, *nercha kanji & payar* was served. Easter service started with a candle light procession. After the service, we enjoyed the potluck lunch and Easter egg hunt for children.

### Mothers' Day

On May 14th, on Mothers' Day, all mothers of the mission were honored with a beautiful song sung by the children and presented with flowers and chocolates by the children.



### Picnic

On May 20th, St. Jude Malankara mission's new outdoor ministry program started. After the Holy Qurbana in the morning, all of us went to a nearby park for a picnic lunch and walk.



## Visit of Fr. Kulangara Thomas

On April 30th Fr. Thomas Kulangara visited us and celebrated Holy Mass for our community. We had a lunch get together after the Holy Mass to welcome Fr. Kulangara.



## Toronto

### Toronto Parish Establishment

By the infinite providence of God, the St. Mary's Malankara Catholic Mission of Toronto was elevated as a Parish in the Syro-Malankara Catholic Eparchy in the USA and Canada on February 26, 2017 by a decree of the Eparchial Bishop Thomas Mar Eusebius. Rev. Fr. Gigi Philip was appointed the first Pastor of the Parish. During the celebration of the Holy Mass on that day, Rev. Fr. Gigi Philip read out the Parish Establishment Decree of the Bishop and handed it over to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Parish Council. This is a major milestone in the growth of this community which had a very humble beginning with a handful of families. Presently the parish has over hundred families. Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas Kalarathil, the Priests' Personnel of the Archdiocese of Toronto, Rev. Fr. Abraham Lukose, the Associate Pastor of the Parish and many other priests from and around Toronto were present to witness to this joyful occasion. We raise our hearts in deepfelt gratitude to God for the wonderful ways through which we are guided as a community.

## Holy Week



The parish observed the Holy Week with great care and love. The parish was blessed to have the *KALKAZHUKAL SHUSH-ROOSHA*. The Eparchial bishop Aboon Thomas Mar Eusebius officiated the *PESAHA* services.

## Washington

### Holy Week

Our parish had the Holy week Retreat on April 7th and 8th. The retreat and Holy Mass on Palm Sunday was conducted by His Excellency Bishop Most Rev. Joshua Mar Ignatius.

## First Holy Communion

Hannah Philip of our parish received First Holy Communion on the Easter Sunday from the Pastor. There was also Easter Egg Hunt for the kids which was organized by the youth of our parish.



## Mother's Day

Mother's day was celebrated on May 14th. All fathers joined together to give lunch to the mothers. It was a great time to honor the mothers of the parish and to express the gratitude in a special way as a parish community.

## ECKC Bible Quiz

As part of ECKC Easter celebrations, Bible quiz was conducted on April 2, 2017. Our parish was represented by Alena Noonawal, Johan Varughese Joshua Kalampanayil, Jennet Daniel and Jyostna Kalampanayil who won the second prize.





## **Yonkers**

### **MCYM News**

On January 15, 2017, the parish MCYM conducted an initiative called "Support our Troops" in which the members collected and sent gift packages to the American troops stationed overseas. On May 28, 2017, with the guidance of the adults, the parish youth conducted a Spring Church Yard cleaning, an initiative from the MCYMNA Board. More than 30 youth and adults participated in this venture which lasted over two hours.

### **Welcome to Fr. Michael Edathil**

On February 17, 2017, Fr. Michael Edathil moved into the Yonkers rectory as the priest in residence.

### **Purchase of New Property**

On February 2, the parish bid for and, by the grace of God, bought the adjacent property to the church for future needs. The property closing was held on March 29, 2017.

### **Lent and Holy Week**

Beginning with the Lenten season, the parish offered daily evening Qurbano, celebrated by Rev. Fr. Michael Edathil. During the Lent, a Retreat was held for the adults, led by Rev. Fr. Saji Mukkoott, and for the youth, led by Sehiyon youth retreat team, which was attended by around 100 participants. It was held on April 8, 2017 and was sponsored by the parish members. The Easter Service and Mass were celebrated by Most Rev. Dr. Joshua Mar Ignathios. The Mass was followed by luncheon and Easter Egg Hunt for the Sunday School children.

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## **MCA news**

The parish MCA unit organized the Defensive Driving Course for adults and youth on May 7, 2017.

## **Mothers' Day**

On May 14, Mother's Day was celebrated in the parish, with Joshua John giving a speech honoring and thanking the mothers for their prayers, sacrifice, and love, followed by cake cutting by the mothers. In thanksgiving for the daily sacrifices taken up by our mothers, the youth also brought baked goods of various kinds for the mothers and the church in general.

On March 26, 2017, Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thomas visited and celebrated Holy Qurbano at the Yonkers parish.

The members of the parish further contribute to the parish by doing rectory and church cleaning on a monthly basis.

### **Births**

- Ethan Matthew Thomas (Thomas and Aida Thomas) - 4/22/2017
- Jeremiah Samuel (Danny and Litty Samuel) - 5/11/2017
  - Evan Joji (Joji and Ambili Joji) - May 24, 2017

### **Baptism**

- Rachel Susanna Jolly (Arun and Thamanna Jolly) - 4/29/2017

### **Wedding**

- Cyril Raju - 3/18/2017

### **Death**

- Babu George - 3/15/2017
- Ammini Azhakath - 3/18/2017
- Annamma Thomas - 3/26/2017

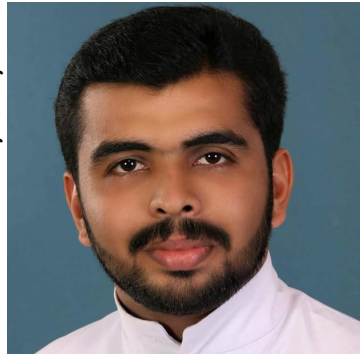
## OTHER EPARCHIAL NEWS

### Hearty Welcome to Fr. Jossy George and Adieu to Fr. Thomas Puthuparambil



The Eparchy bids farewell to Fr. Thomas Puthuparambil who has been in charge of our community in Edmonton since May 2011. He has been relieved of his responsibility since April 2017. While thanking him for his pastoral service to our community, we wish God's continued blessings on him.

The Eparchy extends hearty welcome to Fr. Jossy George who has been appointed the new vicar of our mission in Edmonton. Father Jossy hails from the Diocese of Pathanamthitta. We wish him a fruitful ministry in the Eparchy. His address in Edmonton is:  
St. John the Evangelist Parish  
9830 148 Street  
Edmonton AB T5N 3E8



### Forthcoming Eparchial Events

- June 23 – 25 - Regional Family Conference, Chicago
- July 10 - 14 - Eparchial Priests' Retreat, New York
- July 16 - Mar Ivanios Day Celebration at the Cathedral
- August 5,6 - Regional Family Conference, Elmont, NY







## Renovated Sanctuary of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Cathedral, Elmont