



Alexios Mar Eusebius  
Metropolitan

# MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH

## DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WEST AMERICA



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Blessings to the Cor- Episcopoi, Priests, Deacons, Malankara Sabha Association Members, Diocesan Assembly members, office bearers, and members of all the parishes of our Diocese.

Dearly Beloved,

At first, we wish and pray that you have a very blessed Christmas and a Christ-filled New Year of 2017. The 2017 Clergy Conference, Diocesan Assembly, and the meeting of all the elected Malankara Association Members of our Diocese will be held from February 2-4, 2017 (Thursday – Saturday) at URSHLEM Diocesan Center, Houston, under our presidentship. The following is the schedule of events for the weekend:

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Thursday, February 2, 2017 (10 AM to 8:00)	Diocesan Clergy Conference
Friday, February 3, 2017 (9.30 AM to 5 PM)	Diocesan Assembly
Saturday, February 4, 2017 (9:00 AM to 12:30 PM)	1. Joint Meeting of Diocesan Assembly Members & Malankara Association Members 2. Elections

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We urge all clergy, assembly members and association members to make your travel arrangements in advance and to make sure that you participate in these crucial and important meetings of our Diocese, their travel expenses have to be met by the respective parishes. The agenda and the details of the meetings will be send to you in due course. The elections to be held on Saturday, will comprise of the Diocesan Assembly members electing a new Diocesan Secretary (Priest), Diocesan Council (2 Priests and 4 Laymen), and a Diocesan Auditor. The term of the council will be till the year 2022. Since our Diocese is widely spread, it would be good for all regions to be represented in the Diocesan Council.



The Malankara Association members need to be only present for Saturday morning, February 4th and will elect one priest and two laymen from our Diocese to nominate for the Sabha Managing committee. The term of office will be till 2022.

Nominations for any of the above mentioned positions should be received by the Diocesan Office before January 25th, 2017. List of the Valid Nominations will be published on the 26th and the withdrawal can be done on the 27th January 2017. Final list of the eligible candidates will be published on the 30th January 2017.

It is our request that you take steps to ensure that people who are selfless, humble, committed to the vision of our Diocese, and maintain a spiritual life in accordance with the life of the Holy Church are the ones selected to the above mentioned positions of the Church. People who wish to come forward and serve the Church in these positions should be progressive and be willing to share innovative ideas for the growth of our Diocese and the mission of our Church in this country. Diocesan Council Members should be able to spare enough time for exercising their responsibilities by being in constant touch with the Diocesan Center and willing to attend the necessary meetings.

Nomination forms and the official list of all Diocesan Assembly members and Malankara Association Members are available with the Diocesan office and in our Diocesan website ([www.ds-wa.org](http://www.ds-wa.org)).

We seek your continuous prayers for the success of these Diocesan level meetings of 2017.

May the blessings of God Almighty be showered upon us all.

Your Shepherd in Christ,

Metropolitan Alexios Mar Eusebius