



MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH

DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WEST AMERICA

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No. 01/2017

Blessings to the beloved Vicars of the Parishes, Priests of the locality, Cor-episcopoi, Deacons, *Kaisthanees*, and faithful of all parishes in our Diocese of South-West America!

Dearly beloved,

Greetings to you all in the name of the Holy Triune God! As you all know, through the Kalpana No. CMM/SWA/248/2017 of His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Paulose II, the Catholicos of the East and Malankara Metropolitan, we have been appointed as the Assistant Metropolitan of the Diocese of South-West America with effect from 20th September, 2017.

At the outset, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude, love and respect to His Grace Alexios Mar Eusebios, the first Metropolitan of the Diocese, for His grace's tiring efforts and charismatic leadership in making South-West America as one of the leading dioceses of the Malankara *Sabha*. We exhort you all to hold His Grace Eusebios Thirumeni in your daily prayers.

Dearly beloved,

We are aware of the fact that the diocese is passing through a turbulent atmosphere. Let us not blame or accuse anybody for this situation; as it is rightly pronounced by our Holy Fathers, that "there is always crisis in sacred lands". If we are ready to take the responsibility collectively, our Heavenly Father will guide us in Holy Spirit to overcome all our difficulties and through which our wounds will be healed; let us rely on our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who 'rebuked the wind and the sea' and made it 'still and calm'. Let our turbulent hearts be made 'still and calm' in the presence of our Lord.

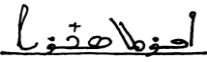
Our beloved ones, remember what St. Paul says to Philipppines: "therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves." (Phil.2: 1-3). Let this be our attitude 'to reset our mind and heart to see the face of our Lord' in order to rebuild the temple of our God, the Church.

PTO.

Owing to my present situations to commence with the responsibilities we would only be able to take a brief visit which would be from 18 to 25 October 2017. We expect no miracle over the time but we have enormous belief in God Almighty whose ways are miraculous. We certainly would like to see and talk and pray together with our flocks. We earnestly look forward to be with you all. Leaving you all to the utmost love, care and mercy of our loving God.

May the love of God the Father, grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit be with us forever and ever.

From Sreyas Aramana
Adoor, Pathanamthitta Dt., Kerala, India
On September 28, 2017


Metr. Dr. Zacharias Mar Aprem