

Metropolitan

MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WEST AMERICA



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DSWA/C/04/2017

March 1, 2017

Blessings to our Cor-Episcopoi, Priests, Deacons, and all the faithful of our diocese.

Dearly Beloved,

We are pleased to inform you that the 2017 *Urshlem* Men's Summer Camp will be held from July 9th - 16th and the 2017 *Urshlem* Women's Summer Camp will be held from July 16th - 19th at *URSHLEM*, the Diocesan Center in Beasley, TX. The detailed information regarding these camps are included in the attached fliers and are available online on the diocesan website. Rev. Fr. James Cheriyan and Rev. Dn. Pradeep Hatcher will be the main speakers for the Men's Conference and Ms. Ceena Varghese will be leading the Women's Conference along with them we will also have our clergy and seminarians and also qualified people from the local Orthodox churches.

This year's theme is "Pursuing God's Heart" with the theme verse being taken from Psalm 142:10 which says, "Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness." The purpose of this theme and verse is to help us comprehend God's will in our lives and how we can honor Him through our thoughts, words and deeds.

We encourage high school students from all areas of the Diocese who are entering 11th and 12th grade as well as college students pursuing their undergraduate degree to attend this camp. Our mission in offering these camp experiences is to provide our youth with a living experience of Orthodoxy that empowers them to stand firm in their identity in Christ across all areas of their life. Held at the Diocesan Center, this camp offers a unique experience that many youths have never experienced before and has the potential to make a significant and lifelong impact on the spiritual lives of all those who attend. A comprehensive curriculum and schedule is prepared for both these camps, and we hope it will greatly impact the formation of our youth.



Registration for these camps will be done through an online registration form that will be posted on the DS-WA MGOCSM Facebook Page and the Diocesan website (www.ds-wa.org). The registration is \$100. The registration deadline for both summer camps will be Sunday, June 4th, 2017. For more information regarding these camps, please contact the Diocesan MGOCSM General Secretary, Ms. Lijin Raju, or the area MGOCSM Council Representatives.

We extend our prayers and blessings to the individuals who are planning and preparing these camps, and hope it will be a life-changing and empowering experience for all who attend.

Your Shepherd in Christ,

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Alexios Mar Eusebius Metropolitan