

Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

(Catholicate of the East)

Diocese of South-West America

3703 Chesterdale Dr. · Missouri City, TX · 77459 · Ph: 281.403.0670 · Fax: 281.459.0814

Alexios Mar Eusebius

Metropolitan



DSWA/C/002/2010

January 29, 2010

Blessings to the Vicar, Parish Managing Committee members, and all the faithful of (name of the church).

Dearly Beloved,

A tele-conference of the Ad-Hoc Committee and Priests of our Diocese was successfully held on January 18, 2010. It has been decided that the first Diocesan Assembly will be held from May 20-22, 2010 at St. Thomas Orthodox Church, Houston, Texas. On the evening of Thursday, May 20th, we will conduct the clergy conference beginning with evening prayer at 6:00 PM. On Friday, May 21st, the Diocesan General Assembly will convene in the morning and the election of the new Diocesan council will take place in the afternoon. The Assembly will elect a Diocesan Secretary along with two priests and four laymen to form the Diocesan council. A Diocesan Auditor will also be elected by the Assembly. The accounts of 2009 along with the budget for 2010 and other relevant matters will be presented for discussion and approval. The detailed agenda and election procedures will be communicated upon our return from India. The Vicar and Diocesan Assembly members from each parish are required to attend, and their travel expenses must be covered by the parish.

The Diocesan Council is the administrative body of the Diocese and advisory board to the Metropolitan. We urge all our faithful to encourage only the persons who have a true prayer life and a deep faith and commitment to the Church to come forward to this council. You must understand that their commitment and vision will be a major factor for the growth of this Diocese.

On the same weekend of the Diocesan Assembly, His Holiness the Catholicos has advised and approved to conduct the Sunthroneeso Sushroosha (Enthronement Service). His Holiness will send a Kalpana to all parishes of the Diocese regarding the decision and details. His Holiness has informed us that if his health permits, His Holiness along with His Beatitude, the Catholicos Designate, will be present for the service. If it is not possible for His Holiness to attend, His Beatitude, the Catholicos Designate, and other bishops will be attending and leading the service. The details of the service will be communicated in the near future.

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A large committee has been formed to organize the details of this function. Rev. Fr. P.M. Cheriyan is appointed as the General Convener and along with him the following individuals are designated as Chairmen and conveners to take lead of the various sub-committees:

1) Finance

Chairman: Very Rev. Geevarghis Aroopala Chor-Episcopos

Convener: Mr. Mathew George

2) Reception (Transportation & Accommodation)

Chairman: Rev. Fr. Mammen Mathew

Convener: Mr. Varghese Kuriakose

3) Program

Chairman: Rev. Fr. V.C. Varghese

Convener: Mr. Anish Abraham

4) Election Procedures and Registration

Chairman: Rev. Fr. John Kunnathusserril

Convener: Mr. Manoj Thomas

5) Food and Refreshment

Chairman: Rev. Fr. Thampan Varghese

Convener: Mr. M P Varghese

6) Publicity

Chairman: Rev. Fr. C.O. Vargis

Convener: Mr. Reni Philip

7) Liturgy & Worship

Chairman: Rev. Fr. Rajesh John

Convener: Mr. Jake Kurian

8) Invitation and Travel Arrangements for Bishops

Chairman: Rev. Dn. George Poovathur

These committees along with the Managing Committee members of the Houston area parishes and the parish Vicars, Secretaries, Treasurers, and Leaders of the Spiritual Organizations in the South Region (Colorado, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas) are to meet on Saturday, February 20th at 10:00 AM to finalize the details of the program. The venue of the said meeting will be at St. Gregorios Orthodox Church, Houston. We encourage all the people concerned from this area to attend this meeting and to work on elaborating the various sub-committees that have been formed.

In order to meet the various expenses of the Sunthroneso Service, a minimum contribution of (amount) from the parish is required to be sent to the Diocesan Office at the earliest.

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My Dear Children, we are requesting your daily prayers for the well conduct of this historic event in our Diocese. We expect maximum participation from all our parishes for this event.

May the Triune God bless you and grant you a peaceful and prosperous life.

Your Shepherd in Christ,



Alexios Mar Eusebius
Metropolitan