

MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WEST AMERICA



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Metropolitan

DSWA/C/03/2013 March 22, 2013

Blessings to the Cor-Episcopoi, Priests, Deacons, and Diocesan Assembly Members of our Diocese,

Dearly Beloved,

The Annual General Assembly of our Diocese will be held **May 17-18, 2013**, at St. Thomas Orthodox Church, Detroit. All Vicars and elected Diocesan Assembly members from each parish should be present for the assembly by **2:00 PM** on Friday, May 17, 2013. The Diocesan Assembly will conclude by noon on Saturday, May 18, 2013. Travel expenses must be met by their respective parishes.

The agenda is as follows:

Friday, May 17, 2013

02.00 PM Arrival and Registration

04.00 PM Introductory Session

Opening Prayer Welcome Speech Presidential Address Notice Kalpana

Minutes of the previous Assembly Matters arising from the minutes

06.00 PM Evening Prayer

07.00 PM Diocesan Day Procession

07.30 PM Diocesan Day Celebration and Public Meeting

09. 00 PM Dinner & Dismissal



Saturday, May 18, 2013

07.30 AM Prayer

08.00 AM Breakfast

08.45 AM Devotional Talk

09.00 AM Annual Report and Accounts of 2012

10.30 AM Coffee Break

10.45 AM Budget

11.30 AM Diocesan Bylaw Amendments

12.00 PM Any other items approved by the Chair

12.30 PM Vote of Thanks, Benediction, Lunch & Dismissal

Any resolution or other matters to be presented or discussed during the Assembly and questions related to the Annual Account, the proposed budget and Bylaw amendments must be received by the Diocesan Office no later than **Monday, May 6, 2013.** The audited accounts, budget and the proposed Bylaw amendments will be sent to you by the Diocesan Secretary at the earliest.

There will be a clergy conference prior to the start of the Diocesan Assembly which will begin with Evening Prayer at 6:00 PM on Thursday, May 16 and conclude on Friday, May 17th by 12:30 PM. The details of the clergy meeting will be communicated to you by Rev. Fr. Philip Abraham, the clergy association secretary. All priests, deacons and seminarians should be in attendance as this is the only official gathering of all the clergy of the Diocese.

The details regarding the registration form are also attached. Please make sure to fill out and submit the simple online registration form so that appropriate arrangements can be made in advance. A committee under the chairmanship of Rev. Fr. Philip Jacob at the local level is working for the success of this year's Clergy Conference and Diocesan Assembly, for which we seek your whole-hearted prayers and support.

Your Shepherd in Christ,

noneusburs

Alexios Mar Eusebius

Metropolitan

Respected Clergy and Diocesan Assembly Delegates,

Hope and pray that you are doing well in the mercy of God. We once again would like to remind you of our upcoming Diocesan Assembly, which will be held at St. Thomas Orthodox Church, Detroit (2850 Parent, Warren, MI 48092).

The Clergy Conference is to commence at 6.00 PM on Thursday, May 16, 2013, followed by the Diocesan Assembly from May 17th (Noon) till May 18th. The detailed schedule from our Diocesan Metropolitan is included as another attachment in this email.

Please click <u>here</u> to complete the registration form online. In order to arrange things in the most effective and efficient manner, we request you to please submit it back to us before April 20, 2013. For any questions and queries, please contact Mr. Rojan Panicker (Email: <u>rojan765@gmail.com</u>; Ph. 419-819-7562).

Transportation:

- Those traveling by plane, please select Detroit Wayne county Airport (DTW), which is 30-40 minutes drive from Church.
- Another airport is Flint (FNT) which is 45 minutes to 1 hour from Church.
- Free transportation both ways from both airports are available with earlier notification.
- If you have any specific questions regarding transportation arrangements, please contact Robby Mathew before Sunday, May 5, 2013, for transportation arrangements. (robby.mathew@gmail.com. 248-765-3937). We will confirm your travel information before May 11, 2013.
- Those interested in visiting the Ford Rouge Auto Assembly Plant, please visit the Greenfield Village Website.
- If you plan to go to Windsor: Canada is 20 minutes from Detroit (Carry your passport and immigration documents).

Accommodation:

- We have made your lodging arrangements with Holiday Inn-Warren, 11500 East Eleven Mile Rd, Warren, MI 48089
- Room Rates: \$69 for a double room (\$35 per person, double occupancy) if room reserved before April 30. After this date, room rates will go up.
- Delegates can call Holiday Inn @ 586 754 9700 to reserve their rooms.
- Please mention our group name / event: "SOUTH WEST DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY 2013", May 16th 17th 2013.
- If you have any specific questions regarding accommodation arrangements, please contact the following people before April 30, 2013:
 - Rev. Dn. John Sankarathil (Email: dnjohn90@gmail.com; Ph. 586-604-9085).
 - Mr. Sean Kuruvilla (Email: skuruvilla77@gmail.com, Ph. 248-345-7713)

It is our earnest desire to make your Detroit experience a pleasant one. For further questions and queries please contact Dr. Mathew Varughese (Rajan) (Email: mvrajan53@hotmail.com, Ph. <u>734-634-6616</u>).

With Love and Prayers,

Rev. Fr. Philip Jacob (General Convener)

Dr. Mathew Varughese (Secretary)

Detroit Diocesan Assembly Committee 2013.