

MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WEST AMERICA



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Alexios Mar Eusebius Metropolitan

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

Dearly beloved,

By now, most of you have been informed about the devastating tornadoes that hit in and around the town of Moore, Oklahoma, on May 20th. As soon as we heard about this, we had initiated communication with various government agencies and charities in Oklahoma in order to offer our Diocese's support in any way possible.

As informed previously, the Diocesan MGOCSM Secretary, Rev. Fr. Joel Mathew, is working with the MGOCSM youth of the Oklahoma area and other areas to arrange for assistance in the relief efforts. After our initial communication and offer of help with the above mentioned agencies and charities, it is clear that it will take at least 5 to 7 more days for them to get a clearer picture as to the specific type of help that is required. What they are mostly doing now is providing temporary housing for the affected in high school gyms etc. and assisting in the removal of debris. The local MGOCSM students and other volunteers from our Oklahoma parish are ready to assist at any time and are in fact already helping out as much as they can.

In the meantime, we request that each parish organize financial support specifically for the Oklahoma relief efforts. In addition, parishes should also organize the collection of supplies and any suitable items that can be shipped to Oklahoma. The Diocesan Metropolitan of the Northeast American Diocese, His Grace Zachariah Mar Nicholovos has also sent a Kalpana to parishes regarding this and we are getting their cooperation as well in this regard.

Further details will be communicated as soon as we obtain them. We urge all our faithful to pray for the souls of those who perished and for the proper rehabilitation of the many who are affected.

Your Shepherd in Christ,

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