

صوت المشرق

Vol 65 November - December 2018 Nos11 & 12



His Holiness Mar Gewargis III Sliwa meets the Pope Francis at Vatican on 09 November 2018

VOICE OF THE EAST



**H. G. Mar Aprem Metropolitan meets the Pope Francis at
Vatican on 09 November 2018**



**H. H. Mar Gewargis III Sliwa and other prelates of Assyrian
Church of the East with the Pope Francis of Catholic Church**

VOICE OF THE EAST

(A socio-Religious bi-monthly)

(Private Circulation only)

November - December 2018

Patron : **His Grace Dr. Mar Aprem**

Metropolitan's Palace,

Trichur - 680 001, Kerala, India

Phone : 91487 - 2420978

Personal : 91487 - 2442166

Email : hgmaraprem@gmail.com

Website Links

Official: www.news.assyrianchurch.org

Archdiocese of India & UAE: www.churchoftheeastindia.org

Archdiocese of Australia & New Zealand: www.assyrianchurch.org.au

Diocese of California: www.acoecalifornia.org

Diocese of Europe: www.assyrianchurch-europe.org

Assyrian Church of the East Relief Organisation: www.theacero.org

Unofficial: www.nestorian.org

Contents

1. (Editorial) Consecrations and Lines of Succession
2. Christmas Message of H. H. Mar Gewargis III Sliwa

International Church News

3. Pope Prays for Peace in Middle East with Head of Assyrian Church of the East
4. Commission for Dialogue between the Assyrian Church of the East and the Russian Orthodox Church
5. Joint Communiqué
6. Condolences

Indian Archdiocese News

7. Sunday School
8. Choir Meet
9. Buon Natale
10. Release of a Novel
11. Servants of God
12. Mementos
13. Syriac Poem & English Translation
14. Calendar 2019

Voice of the East

Vol. 65

November - December

Nos. 11 & 12

Editorial

Consecrations and Lines of Succession: Shedding Light on the Curious Case of Mar Basilius Metropolitan

Over the last 119 years, an important historical event occurring in 1899 has been given frequent consideration but varying explanations.

The historical event to which we refer is the consecration of one Luis Soares as “Mar Basilius Metropolitan” which took place in the Marth Mariyam Cathedral, Thrissur. Soares was a Roman Catholic priest who wanted to be a missionary bishop to Ceylon (Sri Lanka). His consecrator was Mar Abdisho Thondanat Metropolitan whose own history must be first explained in order to establish the provenance of “Mar Basilius Metropolitan’s” origins.

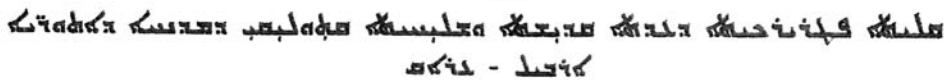
Mar Abdisho (Fr. Antony) went to Mosul in 1861 and brought Mar Thoma Rokos Metropolitan to South India (mainly to the Thrissur area which had no bishop since the building of the first church in the area). Mar Thoma Rokos was sent back after ten months in Trichur, Cochin area. Mar Abdisho (Fr. Antony) followed him in the same ship and requested Mar Joseph Audo IV to consecrate him as Metropolitan for Malabar and India. God intervened at the right moment and instead, he went to Qudchanis, Turkey and had himself consecrated by Assyrian Catholicos-Patriarch Mar Rowil Shimun in December 1862 as Mar Abdisho, Metropolitan of Malabar and India. Unfortunately when he reached Travancore in 1863 he was not received by the people who sent him to Mosul.

He was forced to shave his beard and live like an obedient priest. This he did and continued to work as an ordinary priest without recognition of his episcopal consecration by the Catholicos-Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East.

In 1874 Yohannan Elia Mellus Metropolitan was sent to India by Patriarch Yoseph Audo. When Mar Mellus Metropolitan arrived in Thrissur and began to reside at Marth Mariyam Cathedral, Thrissur, he enquired about the Indian Metropolitan Mar Abdisho Thondanat, about whom the faithful had no information. Finally they found him working as an ordinary priest near Palai in Travancore State. Thrissur people brought him to Thrissur and Mar Mellus Metropolitan made him one of the two Vicar Generals, the other being Fr. Mathai Mariyam.

In 1882 Mar Mellus returned to Mosul, as his Patriarch Mar Joseph Audo had died and his successor forced Mar Mellus to return. He returned and remained an obedient Catholic.

Mar Abdisho Thondanat is therefore considered to be the Metropolitan of the Indian Church from 1882 until his death in November 1900.



Our venerable brothers in the Holy Synod, the metropolitans and bishops; the reverend presbyters and the elect deacons, and the faithful sons and daughters of the our Church of the East:

A blessed Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ to you all!

The birth of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh took place "...in the fullness of time," being the day in which God send His Only-Begotten Son and abolished the works of Satan and delivered mankind to freedom from the bondage of sin and the former victory of Sheol. With the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Peace, God diffused His peace upon the earth, and multiplied hope to men, and extended His peace by calling 'blessed' the doers of peace, saying: "...for they shall be called the children of God" (Matthew 5:9).

On the holy day of the Lord's birth, the Father guided the Magi by means of a star, and guided them from a distant country to come near and offer royal gifts to the King of Peace. Today, God calls all men of every walk of life to obey the Son: "Behold! This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; listen to him!" (Matthew 17:5). It is a source of sorrow, however, that on account man's disobedience to Him who gave His peace upon the earth, wars and acts of destruction which dismantle peace—being brought about at the hands of humanity—realize in our own day the wailing and cries of mothers, infants and children. The words of God from heaven to Zāchariah: "Do not be afraid!" and to the Blessed St. Mary, "Be not afraid!" and similarly to Joseph, "Do not be afraid!" and even to those who believe in Him: "O little flock, do not be afraid!" (Luke 12:32), it is imperative upon us to be faithful and long-suffering, and to take heart that Christ Jesus is with us: "Behold, I am with you all the days, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20).

We pray to God the Father and supplicate Him that in the same fashion that His glory shone upon the shepherds at the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, so might His glory shine upon the minds of humanity today. In this way, mankind will be able to pray to God, with a pure heart, clean conscience and compunction of soul, supplicating Him in His goodness to deliver mankind from this great abyss of depravity in which the countries of the Middle East have fallen. The destructive depravity of this depravity has fallen heavily on the Christians of the region—the great majority of which have left the countries of their forbearers and have become refugees in unfamiliar lands. At this juncture, we would like to remind them to be certain to safeguard their Christian faith and the national identity, in whatever country of the diaspora they may be residing. Furthermore, it is important to recall the good work of the benevolence of the faithful of our Church, who relieve their brothers and sisters of their burdens.

In conclusion, we pray to Almighty God to bless the New Year 2019 with manifold blessings, adorned with peace and tranquility in all the regions of the world, and in particularly in the countries of the Middle East. We further pray for the continued understanding of all Christians, and that they might draw near one to another in Christ. May the Lord grant good health and success to all of the children of our holy Church.

May to God the Father for the increase of peace and tranquility in all of creation, and in those countries which are ravaged and stricken by war and strife, especially in the countries of the East.

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

Given at Patriarchal Cell, Erbil, Iraq, on the Feast of the Nativity, 2018 A.D.

G. Sliwa

✠ **Gewargis III Sliwa**

*By Grace: Catholicos-Patriarch
of the Assyrian Church of the East*



International News

Pope Prays for Peace in Middle East with Head of Assyrian Church of the East

November 9, 2018

Pope Francis spoke about the “great suffering” that many Christians are enduring in the Middle East, and prayed for peace in the region, especially in Iraq and Syria.

The Pope was meeting Friday with Mar Gewargis III, the Catholicos Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East.

He said many Middle Eastern Christians are following in the footsteps of Christ, as they are forced to leave their homelands to escape violence.

Pope Francis noted that the Christians fleeing persecution belong to different communities. “They are forging fraternal relationships among one another,” he said, “and thus becoming, for us, witnesses of unity.”

He joyfully recalled Mar Gewargis’ presence at the Day of Reflection and Prayer for Peace in the Middle East, held on 7 July in the Italian city of Bari.

Thanksgiving for Theological Dialogue

Pope Francis then turned to relations between the Catholic Church and the Assyrian Church of the East. He said the two Churches share a “particular reason for thanksgiving to God”, which is the Joint Committee for Theological Dialogue.

The two Churches signed a Common Statement on “Sacramental Life” on 24 November 2017, which set out a shared vision of sacramental theology.

Pope Francis said the Committee “shows that practical and disciplinary differences are not always an obstacle to unity, and that certain differences in theological expression can be considered complementary rather than conflicting.”

The Committee is beginning its work on the third phase of dialogue concerning ecclesiology.

The Pope prayed the next stage of study “will help us to take one more step on our journey towards the much-desired goal of being able to celebrate the Sacrifice of the Lord at the same altar.”

Abdisho bar Brikha: Pillar of the Syro-Oriental Tradition

The Holy Father recalled the 700th anniversary of the death of Abdisho bar Berika, Metropolitan of Nisibis, whom both the Assyrian Church of the East and the Chaldean Catholic Church celebrate as a pillar of the Syro-Oriental tradition.

“May the study of this great theologian help to make better known the richness of the Syriac tradition and to receive it as a gift for the entire Church,” the Pope concluded.

Prayer for peace

Following the audience, Pope Francis and Mar Gewargis III, along with his entourage, prayed together in the Redemptoris Mater Chapel for peace in the Middle East and for an end to the suffering of Christians, especially in Iraq and Syria.

Courtesy: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2018-11/pope-francis-mar-gewargis-assyrian-church-east.html>

Commission for Dialogue between the Assyrian Church of the East and the Russian Orthodox Church Holds Its Third Meeting

On 23-27 October 2018, the third meeting of the Commission for Dialogue between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Assyrian Church of the East took place at the Novodevichy Convent of the Holy Resurrection in St. Petersburg.

The Moscow Patriarchate's delegation included Bishop Kliment of Krasnoslobodsk and Temnikov, co-chairman of the Commission; Archimandrite Stefan (Sado), chief librarian of the St. Petersburg Theological Academy; Hieromonk Stefan (Igumnov), secretary for inter-Christian relations of the Department for External Church relations; and Mr. Sergei Alferov, DECR staff member. Representing the Assyrian Church of the East were Bishop Mar Awa Royel of California, secretary of the Holy Synod of the Assyrian Church of the East, co-chairman of the Commission; Cor-Bishop George Kanon Toma, cleric of St. Andrew's Church in Glenview, Illinois, USA; Priest Ephraim Alkhas, personal assistant to the secretary of the Holy Synod of the Assyrian Church of the East; and Deacon Roland Bidzhamov, cleric of the Assyrian diocese of Northern Iraq and CIS.

As the Commission members noted, the academic contacts between the two Churches have been successfully developing. As part of the student exchange project, in autumn 2018 an Assyrian student was admitted to the Moscow Theological Academy. On 5-11 October 2018, the S S Cyril and Methodius Theological Institute of Postgraduate Studies organized in Russia the first Summer Institute for a delegation of young representatives of the Assyrian Church of the East.

The coordination of inter-Christian cooperation aimed at rendering aid to the suffering Christians in the Middle East remains a major aspect of the bilateral relations. Having emphasized an important role of the Working Group for Rendering Aid to the Population of Syria of the Council for Cooperation with Religious Associations under the President of the Russian Federation, the Commission members acknowledged as a task of great significance the promotion of cooperation between the Russian Orthodox Church and the traditional religious communities of Iraq, including the oldest one – Assyrian Church of the East. A practical step towards this goal was a working visit of Hieromonk Stefan (Igumnov) and Cor-Bishop Samano Odisho, rector of the Assyrian church of St. Mary in Moscow, to Baghdad and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq on 25-30 March 2018.

The participants in the meeting expressed their deep concern over the alarming developments pertaining to the ecclesial situation in Ukraine and emphasized that it could only be settled in strict compliance with the canons of the Orthodox Church. The Commission members



Fr. Dr. Paul Poovanthingal (Singing Priest) speaking after the inauguration of the Choir Meet 2018 held by the Marth Mariam Parish, Thrissur. Sitting L to R: H. L. Dr. Mar Yohannan Yoseph Episcopa, H. G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa, Rev. Fr. Binu Joseph, Vicar of Marth Mariam Parish and Fr. Sijo Johny, Asst. Vicar of Marth Mariam Parish.



The prelates and priests with Mar Aprem Church Choir, who won the 1st prize in Choir Meet-2018 conducted by the Mart Mariam Parish, Thrissur on 25th December 2018



The stone laying ceremony of Mar Mari Arcade, Kuriachira, Thrissur on October 28, 2018. Bishop Mar Awgin Kuriakose laid the stone for Mar Mari Arcade building which will be constructed by the Mar Mari Shleeha Church.



Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Dr. Mar Yohannan Yoseph Episcopa, and Deacon Reji Johnson are celebrating the Holy Qurbana in St. Luke Mission Parish in Muscat, Oman on 23 November 2018



H. L. Mar Awgin Kuriakose inaugurates the Sunday School Public Meeting held at Mart Mariam Parish Hall, Thrissur on 2 December 2018



Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan handing over the cheque of Rs. 10,000/- to Mr. M A Thomas, Chairman of the Board of Central Trustees for the flood relief at the meeting held by the Paurasthya Nadam committee on 28 October 2018. L to R: Mr. Tomy Jose Mannuthy (Secretary of Paurasthya Nadam), Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Thomas M A (Chairman), Babu Konikara (President of Paurasthya Nadam Committee)



The Hon'ble Minister Mr. V S Sunil Kumar, (Agriculture) inaugurates the closing ceremony of the International Youth Conference 2018 on 28 Dec. held at Thrissur. From L to R: Chairman, The Board of Central Trustees, Minister V S Sunil Kumar, Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa, Fr. Binu Joseph, Sister Dr. Jincy Othottil, Liji Thomas, Secretary of the Womens Youth Association and Mr. Rinto Jose Secretary of the Youths Association



H. G. Mar Aprem Metropolitan participated in the Buon Natale 2018. A public Meeting was held in Thop Stadium, Thrissur in connection with the Christmas on 27 December 2018. Mar Adrews Thazhtha presenting the souvenir to Mar Aprem Metropolitan. Kerala State Minister Kadanappilly Ramachandran is seen in the picture.

expressed their hope that the problems would be peacefully resolved in the spirit of fraternal Christian love, as was stated in a joint communiqué adopted at the results of the meeting.

On October 24, a colloquium on theology, history and modern life of the Assyrian Church of the East was held at the St. Petersburg Theological Academy. Taking part in it were the Commission members, as well the faculty and students of the Theological Academy.

Addressing all those present, Bishop Kliment of Krasnoslobodsk and Temnikov told about the current state of bilateral relations between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Assyrian Church of the East. Among the reports presented at the colloquium were: “Historical Contacts between the Assyrian Church of the East and the Russian Orthodox Church” by Bishop Mar Awa Royel; “The Sacrament of the Holy Leaven in Assyrian Church of the East” by Cor-Bishop George Kanon Toma; “Mar Babai the Great and St. Maxim the Confessor: Christology in the Byzantine and East Syrian Traditions” by Priest Ephraim Alkhas; and “Assyrian Church of the East in Russia in the Modern Times” by Deacon Roland Bidzhamov.

A joint communiqué was adopted at the conclusion of the colloquium. The Holy Synods of the Russian Orthodox Church and the Assyrian Church of the East will be informed of the results of the meeting.

The Commission will hold its next meeting in the territory of the Assyrian Church of the East in 2019.

Joint Communiqué

Third Session of the Commission for Bilateral Dialogue between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Assyrian Church of the East

St. Petersburg, 23 – 27 October of 2018

From October, 23 to October, 27 of 2018 with the blessings of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and all Russia and His Holiness Catholicos-Patriarch Mar Gewargis III, the third session of the Commission for Bilateral Dialogue between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Assyrian Church of the East took place in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation. The meeting concluded in the agreement and adoption of the present communiqué.

The Commission intends to continue the implementation of initiatives in the academic field. Noting with satisfaction the enrollment in the fall of 2018 of the first student from the Assyrian Church of the East to the Moscow Theological Academy, it was confirmed to admit more Assyrian students to the Moscow Patriarchate’s higher educational institutions in subsequent years. Regular Summer Institutes in Russia for groups of Assyrian clerics and students, the first of which took place October, 5 – 11 of 2018 and was very successful,

shall be organized as well. The academic and theological aspect of our cooperation will also include joint participation in scientific and theological consultations with the involvement of relevant experts – both representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church and the Assyrian Church of the East. The colloquium on the theology, history and modern life of the Assyrian Church of the East, which took place in the St. Petersburg Theological Academy on October, 24 of 2018, was the first concrete step in this direction. The commission encourages further efforts of theological schools to engage the liturgical, theological, and spiritual traditions of both Churches towards developing an academic discourse with deeper understanding of the interplay between Syriac and Russian traditions.

The Commission stressed the need for further development of practical cooperation in providing humanitarian assistance to suffered Christian communities of Iraq and Syria in order to preserve their presence and spiritual and cultural heritage in the Middle East region which is a cradle of the Christian Church and civilization. Noting the important role of the Inter-Religious Working Group for the aid to the population of Syria of Russia's Presidential Council for Cooperation with Religious Organizations in this good endeavor. The Commission also expressed its satisfaction with the beginning of interaction of the Russian Orthodox Church with the Iraqi Christian communities, the oldest of which is the Assyrian Church of the East. In this connection, the Commission recognized the importance of such projects as the working trip of the Moscow Patriarchate's representative to Baghdad and the Kurdish Autonomous Region which took place on March, 25 – 30 of 2018 and the visit in Russia of the delegation of the Council of Christian Churches of Iraq, which is scheduled for November, 14 – 21 of 2018.

The Commission expressed deep concern about the alarming development of the church situation in Ukraine. Noting the fundamental importance of resolving this hard problem exclusively within the framework of the canon law of the Eastern Orthodox Church, the parties consider the necessity to find its peaceful solution based on brotherly love, commanded by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The Commission would like to thank His Eminence Metropolitan Varsonofy of St. Petersburg and Ladoga, Chancellor of Moscow Patriarchate, His Grace Bishop Seraphim of Peterhoff, Rector of St. Petersburg Theological Academy, and the sisters of the Resurrection New Maidens Convent of St. Petersburg for the cordial hospitality extended. The results of the Commission's labors shall be presented to the Holy Synods of the Russian Orthodox Church and the Assyrian Church of the East for their final approval.

The next meeting of the Commission will take place in 2019 on the canonical territory of the Assyrian Church of the East.

Condolences

Our heartfelt condolences to H.H. Mar Gewargis III Sliwa, Catholicos-Patriarch and family following the demise of His Holiness' sister. We are deeply saddened by the news. Our thoughts and prayers are with His Holiness and all family members.

News from the Archdiocese of India

Sunday School

This year's Sunday School Annual Day procession was cancelled. Instead the committee decided to distribute study materials to 500 poor students who have been affected by the recent flooding in Kerala. A public meeting was held in the Mart Mariam parish hall on December 2nd. The meeting was presided over by Bishop Mar Awgin Kuriakose. Bishop Mar Awgin inaugurated the distribution of the study material by handing over the kit to the Head Mistress of Mar Thimotheus High School, Mrs. Bency Mathew. After the prize distribution done by H.L. Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa, a variety performance from students was given.

Choir Meet

On December 25, Mart Mariam Parish arranged the annual Choir Meet at Mart Mariam Big Church. H.G. Mar Aprem Metropolitan inaugurated the function. H.L. Dr. Mar Yohannan Yoseph Episcopa and H.L. Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa spoke on the occasion. Four choir teams sang beautiful carol songs at the function. Mar Aprem Church won the 1st prize. The function was concluded by the blessing of Metropolitan Mar Aprem.

Buon Natale

The Christmas celebration of the people of Thrissur is known as Buon Natale. Merry Christmas is the translation of these Latin words. The Mayor of Thrissur Mrs. Ajitha Vijayan and the Catholic Archbishop of Thrissur Mar Andrews Thazhtha are the Patrons. Three Kerala State Ministers and many dignitaries from the area were present on the stage to cut the cake. This celebration appeared in Guinness Book of World Records two years ago. This year expensive decorations and procession were avoided to save money for poor people affected by the Kerala floods. Mar Aprem Metropolitan was on stage in cutting the cake.

A major music bonanza was staged under the leadership of Mr. Vijay Yesudhas, son of the celebrated singer Dr. K J Yesudhas. This mega event was on 27 December 2018.

Release of a Novel

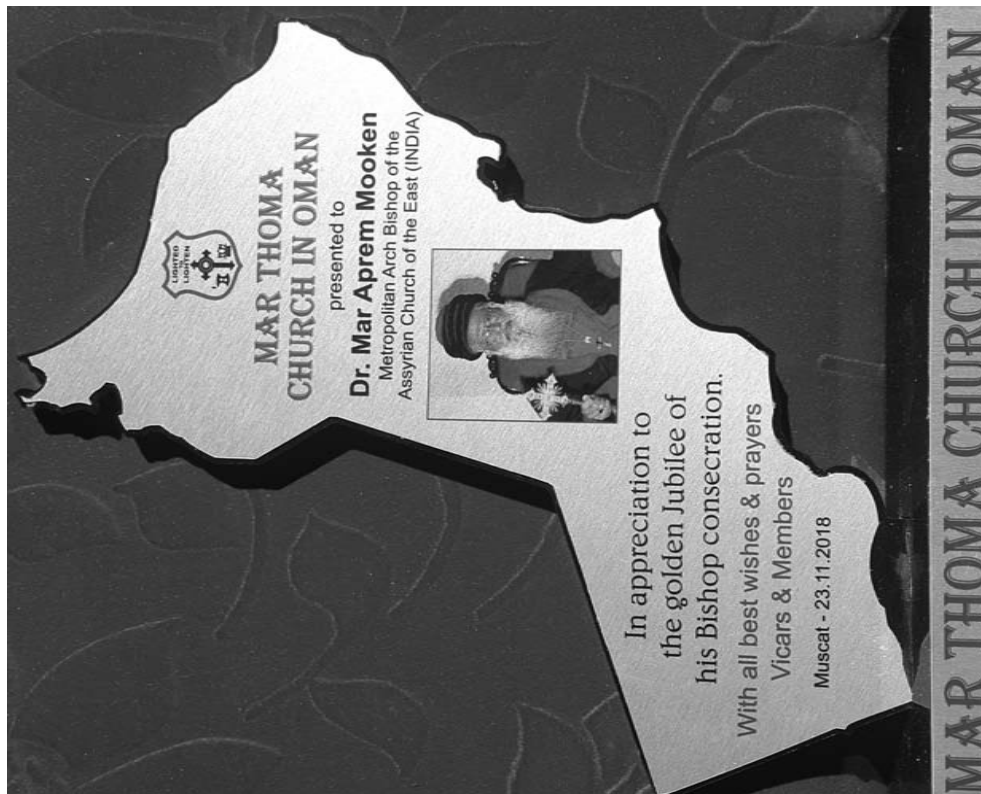
Mar Aprem Metropolitan presided over the book release function of the 456 page novel **Sorrow of Ilha**. Mr. P S Chandran, author, is the son of P R Sankaran, driver at the Metropolitan Palace, Thrissur for the half a century. Mr. Sankaran was to Metropolitan Mar Abimalek, Thrissur, Mar Thoma Darmo and myself. This is the second time Mr. P S Chandran authored a Malayalam novel. I wish and pray that he will be known as a good novelist soon. Mr. Chandran is not a Christian but a Hindu. Mar Abimalek Timotheus Metropolitan (d.1945) blessed him. Mr. Sankaran drove the car for Patriarch Mar Eshai Shimun in Nov 1961. As Bishop Poulouse Mar Poulouse had no car, he was using my car. Thus Mr. Sankaran had the rare privilege of driving many prelates.

Servants of God

“The Servants of God” a charitable society, which gives food daily to the poor patients and the helpers in the governments District Hospital, had its new Year celebration on 1 January 2019. The Mayor of Thrissur as well as Mar Aprem Metropolitan jointly cut the cake. Mar Aprem Metropolitan was honoured with *Ponnada* (a shawl) by the Director of Jubilee Mission Hospital. Mar Aprem Metropolitan praised this society in distributing free food every day.



*Memento presented by Mar Thoma Parish in Dubai to
H.G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan on the occasion of the
Golden Jubilee celebration of the parish.*



*Memento presented by the Muscat Mar Thoma Parish to
H.G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan in appreciation to the
Golden Jubilee of his Episcopal Consecration*

عید سعید
 (عید) سید خدیجہ العیسیٰ و سیدہ فاطمہ
 خاتون

۱۸۵۷ ۲۵ خرداد ۱۸۵۷
 ۱۸۵۷ ۲۵ خرداد ۱۸۵۷
 ۱۸۵۷ ۲۵ خرداد ۱۸۵۷
 ۱۸۵۷ ۲۵ خرداد ۱۸۵۷

[illegible]

English Translation of the Syriac Poem

“Shim Esho” written by Rev’d. P K Varghese

Refrain: O! the Treasury of benevolence
The real Treasures of loving-kindness
Do You does fashion the global habitat
Filled with grief, a symbol of heavens

Strophe i: O! Jesus of Nazareth the Messiah,
The Guardian of the whole world himself
Your Name that grants life to all free
How beautiful famous and laudable is it!

Strophe ii: Your righteousness scales to clouds
Your honesty above heavens of heaven
Name of Yours that grants strength
How blessed ever honoured is it!

Strophe iii: When people and gentiles be enemies
while kingdoms gulp themselves
Your holy Name that brings unification
How brave and valiant is it!

Strophe iv: When man goes astray day by day
Performing cruelty and sinks in pomp
Your name that ever grants redemption
How absolute pleasant and ever is it!

H. B. Mar Aprem Metropolitan

After completing the programmes in Rome, Dubai and Muscat H.B. Mar Aprem Metropolitan met with a difficulty of breathing at the aircraft itself. One of the pilots advised to offload His Beatitude and to admit in a hospital as they noticed high Blood Pressure. After 5 days of treatment in the hospital at their expense His Beatitude was permitted to fly back to India. Now His Beatitude is gradually recovering and busy with many programmes.

Calendar - 2019

January

2. Mar Zaia
4. Memorial of Mart Mariam
6. Epiphany
11. Memorial of Mar Yohannan Mamdhana
18. Memorial of Pathros & Paulose
25. Memorial of 4 Evangelists

February

1. Mar Esthapanose Sahda
- 11-13 Ba'utha of Ninevites
14. Kubalthaibutha
15. Syriac, Greek Malpans
17. Mar Yonan
22. Mar Awa Catholicos

March

1. Friday of Departed
3. Lent Begins
8. Forty Martyrs Crowned in Ghieda
16. Mar Bennyamin Shimun, Martyr (1918)
25. Tidings to Mart Mariam from Angel Gabriel
27. Mid Lent

April

7. Mar Michael, Friend of Angels
12. Friday of Lazar
14. Oshana
18. Pis'ha of our Lord (Maundy Thursday)
19. Good Friday
20. Holy Saturday
21. Easter
26. Confessor's Day
26. Memorial of Mar Gewargis
26. Mar Shimun Bar Sabbae
28. New Sunday

May

6. Rabban Hurmizd
17. Mar Sargis, Mar Bachos
19. Mar Addai Shleeha
28. Shmoni & Children
30. Sulaqa (Ascension)

June

9. Pentecost
12. 1st Holy Qurbana by Mar Yakob
14. Friday of gold

July

2. Mar B'hisho
3. St. Thomas Day
11. Mar Yosip Khananisho (d.1977)
15. Mar Kuriakose and Mother Yolethe
26. Memorial of 72 Apostles
28. Nusardail & Memorial of 12 disciples

August

1. Beginning of 15 Day Fast
2. Mar Yakob of Nisibis
6. Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor
9. Mar Mari Shleeha
15. Death of Mart Mariam (Shunaya)
16. Mar Eyyob Hdayyavaya
30. Shmone and her Children

September

1. Rabban Hurmizd
6. Mar Shimun Barsabbae
8. Birth of Mart Mariam
13. Festival of Cross
13. Mar Qardagh Sahda
14. Mar Bhisho
18. Remembrance of Yonakhir & Hanna
18. Mother of Marth Mariam
19. Mar Shallitha
27. Consecration of H. H. Mar Gewargis III Sliwa

October

1. Mar Khananiya, who baptised St. Paul
11. Mar Elisha Prophet
12. Three Hundred Saints of Shigar
15. Mar Pithyon
27. Mar Moshe Nwiya

November

3. Hallowing of the Church
4. Mar Gewargis Sahda
10. Day of Tithes
15. Memorial of All Saints
19. Mar Yaqob M'pasqa
22. Mar Augin Thoovana

December

1. Subara (Advent) Begins
6. Mar Gabriel of Karsa
6. Mar Abdisho Armaya
22. Memorial of 12000 Martyrs
22. Mar Awa of Nineveh
25. Christmas



Golden Jubilee of the Mar Thoma Church in Dubai. L to R:
 Bishop Barnabas, Joseph Marthoma Metropolitan, His
 Excellency Sheikh Nahayan Bin Mubarak Al Nahayan (Minister
 of Tolerance), Mar Aprem Metropolitan and Mr. Premachandran
 (Member of Parliament from Kerala).



Golden Jubilee celebration of Mar Thoma Parish in Dubai. Mar
 Aprem Metropolitan is standing between Marthoma Metropolitan
 and Bishop Barnabas. Second from the extreme right is
 Padmasree Sunny Varkey (Member of this parish)



Marth Mariam Parish UAE . Metropolitan Mar Aprem and Bishop Mar Yohanan are seated between our priests Fr. Victor Kollanoor and Fr. Sachin Timothy on 16 November 2018 after Holy Qurbana in Sharjah.



Golden Jubilee of the Mar Thom Church in Dubai on 16 November 2018. Seated L to R: Joseph Marthoma Metropolitan, Bishop Joseph Mar Barnabas, Sheik Nahyan, Cultural Minister of UAE, Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Padmasree Sunny Varkey who is the main donor of this church and N K Premachandran, MP from Kerala.