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Nos.7 & 8



Valiyapalli, (Marth Mariam Big Church) illuminated in connection with the Qudash Eatha Festival - 2021

VOICE OF THE EAST



H L Mar Awgin Episcopa and Vicar Fr. Mohan Konikara with the trustees and parishioners after the consecration of Mar Gabriel Church in Mumbai on October 31, 2021



The ceremony of foundation stone laying for the new building of Chaldean Syrian Lower Primary School led by H. G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan. L to R: Mr. Paul Parapukara, Mr. Sajan Mambilly, Dr. Rishy Emmatty, Sister Dr. Jincy Othottil, H. G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Fr. Jacks Chandy & H. L. Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa

VOICE OF THE EAST

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Voice of the East

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Editorial

Peace & Harmony

In this Covid-19 season some active people who served our Church from our different parishes have departed from this world. We take this opportunity to express our condolences on behalf of the Church for them. We also express our gratitude and appreciation to those who still serve the Church in various capacities at this difficult time. May God Almighty reward them. Let others who now keep away from the activities of the Church come forward to fill up the vacancies. We cannot predict what will happen tomorrow. Therefore, if there is a vacancy or an opportunity let us fill the gap and serve our Church. It is our duty and responsibility to serve our Church in whatever capacity available. We also should help our seniors and youngsters, men and women and fill the vacancies and fulfill our mission in this world.

India is a land of many religions. Hindus are the largest community in India. Muslims are the second largest faith group in India. If we talk about the world, Christians are number one, Muslims are number two and there are Buddhists, Parsees, etc. What we need is harmony between different religions and that they work in unity for the betterment of mankind. All religions teach us to love others and work in unity for the betterment of humanity. Unfortunately, although all religions teach unity and religious harmony, occasionally small issues create tensions and conflict. We should avoid such tensions and conflicts between religions. We preach about peace and harmony and fail to practice what we preach. The whole world is looking with fear for the outbreak of further conflict.

The First World War was between 1914 - 1918 and the Second World War was between 1939 - 1945. The world is asking when is the Third World War? In Vietnam and Palestine we were worried that the 3rd World War is coming in our own generation. Still, some of us are optimistic. We say that we have seen the troubles and evils of the two World Wars and so, we will avoid a 3rd World War.

With world organizations ready to avoid a third World War. Let us all cooperate and avoid a third World War. We have learned about the evils of two World Wars. Whether it is a cold war or a real war it is not good for any of us. Even without such conflict, suffering continues. All nations should avoid conflict. It is not good for mankind. It is destruction of this planet Earth.

Mar Aprem Metropolitan



His Holiness Mar Awa III visits the ACERO Housing Complex in Iraq

The Dohuk Housing Complex has, for 12 years, provided housing for needy families.

Built in 2009 with the sponsorship of our long time partners, Barnabas Fund, the complex comprises five buildings and portable cabins, all of which house 50 families, rent free. It is also home to a mini-market for residents to purchase essentials and a hall for small gatherings.

The complex remains a constant hub of activity, from administering food and financial aid distributions and hosting children's festive parties to sheltering displaced persons during the Mosul crisis of 2014. It is an invaluable asset to our organisation. Under the stewardship of Mr Odeesho Dawood and his team, the complex is the head office for our Iraq Chapter.

On Sunday 3rd October 2021, under the glistening Nohadra sun, His Holiness Mar Awa III, the 122nd Catholicos-Patriarch of our Church, graced the residents with his presence. Accompanying His Holiness was ACERO's Chairman, His Grace Mar Afram Athneil, ACERO Trustee His Grace Mar Paulus Benjamin, His Grace Mar Isaac Yousip, Bishop of Nohadra and Russia and His Grace Mar Abris Youkhannan, Bishop of Kirkuk and Diana and Patriarchal Auxiliary. Welcomed by children adorned in traditional Assyrian clothing and the rippling sound of applause and cheers, His Holiness made his way into the buildings.

His Grace Mar Afram addressed the residents and thanked His Holiness for their visit. His Holiness, a founding Trustee of our Organisation, expressed their joy at visiting the complex for the first time and spoke of their hope for more projects to be developed for Assyrians living in the homeland. The delegation then proceeded to the offices inside the complex, where they offered prayers of thanksgiving and discussed future projects.

It was a day the volunteers, committees, trustees, and residents will never forget. We are grateful to His Holiness Mar Awa III and His Grace Mar Afram for their unwavering leadership of ACERO and all our prelates for their support.

News from India

Qudash Eatha Festival - 2021

The Feast of the Purification (Qudash Eatha) of the Church of the East was celebrated at Marth Mariam Cathedral on October 29, 30, 31 & Nov 1. This is the 206th year of the Qudash Eatha Festival at the Marth Mariam Valiyapalli of the Church of the East, which has played a major role in the commercial and cultural upliftment of Thrissur. The Church of the East concluded its three-day evangelistic convention at Valiyapally on Friday, 20, ahead of the Qudash Eatha Festival. On the same day, Fr. Zacharias Nainan (Mar Baselios Dyara, Vaagathaanam) preached. The tea stall was inaugurated by the Women's Youth

Association and at 8 p.m. the lights were switched on by His Grace Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan.

According to the ancient custom, the Church Entrance ceremony in connection with the Qudash Eatha Festival was led by Father Sunny S. Koola. *Thirunal Sandesham* (Message) was given by Fr. Runo Varghese and the Procession led by Fr. Shaji Raphael.

On the feast day, the Holy Eucharist was officiated by His Lordship Dr. Mar Yohannan Joseph Episcopa. In the evening there was a public meeting and an online art programme at the Marth Mariam Church compound. For this year Vicar Fr. Cyril Antony, Assistant Vicar Fr. Sijo Johnny, Deacon OS Jose, Madba'ha Deacon VV Joseph, Mr. IG Joy, Mr. Raju Immati, Festival Convener Mr. Charles Chittilappilly, Publicity Convener Mr. Sojan P John and Illumination Convener Mr. Roy E I were worked for the Festival Committee. Entrance to the church was in accordance with the Covid standard prescribed by the government. All the programs were broadcasted live on the Church media channels for the faithful to watch.

The Feast of Purification concluded on November 1 at 7.00 a.m. with the Holy Qurbana officiated by Vicar of Valiyapally Fr. Cyril Antony.

Monthly thoughts of H G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan

(Translated from Malayalam Magazine '*Paurasthyanaadam*')

Year of the Coronation

September 29th was my 53rd Archiepiscopal Anniversary. Only small groups were invited for the function. Only a brief conference was held at the Chaldean Center because of the current Covid protocol. When the new Patriarch comes to visit India, there will be an opportunity for a big public meeting.

There was no one in our Church of India who had served as Metropolitan for more than half a century. That is why this event was organised. As I get older, I do not know if I will have more opportunities to celebrate my Coronation Anniversaries. If I am healthy, it is my duty to work until the authorities in my congregation say 'no'.

It is not easy to write monthly thoughts like this every month. But I write without giving up every month because a lot of people are waiting to read it every month. I used to think what to write and how much to write? Sometimes I leave out many important issues without commenting. Some of my readers might not be interested in the topic what I am interested.

Feast of Tithe

The next Sunday, after the Feast of Sacrament on Sunday, October 31, is the Tithe Feast on the 7th of November. The Feast of Sacrament is on the Sunday following November 1st. Some festivals are celebrated by the date itself. Christmas, Epiphany, etc. It is observed on the Sunday following the exact date of the festival in a year. For example, Sacrament,

Pentecost, Easter, etc. We cannot call a Thursday as Good Friday. Similarly, we cannot call a Saturday as Easter. I have written a message entitled '*Dashamsha Thirunal*'. As usual it reaches out to all the income earners in our Church. So not much repeats here about Tithing.

Marcos Church, Mundur

A new church in Mundur, for more than forty families living under Mar Awgin Thuvana Parish West Fort, was built and consecrated on Sunday, October 3, in the name of Marcos Apostle. This wish was fulfilled as a result of the prayers and hard work of the people of our Church who have been living in the Mundur area for a few years. At this moment I remember with gratitude the late Mr. Devasi Kaliyankara. Undoubtedly, if there were similar activists in other parishes, our Church would be more prosperous than it is now. I pray that the 33rd Parish of our Indian Church will work diligently and bring further growth to this Parish.

Goa Mission Parish

On Sunday 31st October 2021 the Holy Qurbana was offered in Goa by Rev. Fr. Jacks Chandy assisted by Deacon Rajan V L. Due to Covid restrictions, the Holy Qurbana could be offered only now after January 2020. After the Qurbana there was message of the Tithing Feast followed by the Tithing Offering. It was a great achievement to be able to raise Rs.1,55,500/- from this small parish with a total of seven family members. At the ensuing public meeting, Rev. Fr. Jacks Chandy, Ex-Vicar of Goa Mission Parish was given a proper farewell by the Parishioners.

New Patriarch

Many say that Mar Awa III is a very young Patriarch who is only 46 years old. Mar Gewargis III Sliwa, Catholicos-Patriarch Emeritus who is now retired became Patriarch at the age of 75. However, his predecessor, Mar Dinkha IV, became Patriarch at the age of 41. His predecessor, Mar Eshai Shimun, was consecrated Patriarch in 1920 when he was 12 years old. The Church wanted the Patriarch to be ordained from the family of Shimun himself, so we had to ordain such a young child as Patriarch. Never in the history of the Indian Church has such a small child been ordained. In other Churches also such a small child has never had become a Patriarch.

So the fact that the current Patriarch is only 46 years old does not seem to be a shortcoming. In addition, Mar Awa III Rowell (Royel), who received his doctorate from Rome is the first Patriarch who have the Ph.D. in our Church. His experience as Secretary of the Holy Synod will enable him to carry out this great responsibility well. I pray that the new Patriarch will have a long life.

Mar Awa I & Mar Awa II

The current Head of the Church is called Mar Awa III because there were two Patriarchs in the Church named Mar Awa before him. Mar Awa I led the Church from 536 to 552 and Mar Awa II from 741 to 751. Of these two, Mar Awa I was the most famous. I pray that the present Mar Awa III Patriarch will be more famous than the other two.

Ordination

Deacon Jinu Jose Vadakkan & Deacon Delmin Davis Thyparambil of Puthur Parish will be ordained by His Lordship Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa during the Holy Qurbana which will begin at 7.30am on Sunday, November 21, 2021 at Puthur Mar Beesho Church. The ordination service will be conducted in accordance with the Covid-19 norms prescribed by the government. Pray for those who receive holy ordination.

Church in Gujarat

A book titled 'A Church History of Gujarat' written in 1981 by a British man named R.H.S. Boyd concerning our Church is a very important publication. The book was first published in 1981. It states that our Church was in Gujarat a long time ago. None of us wrote about this. It was written by an Irishman named Robin Boyd. However, he wrote after researching what he needed to know about our Church. Although we have not written about our Church in Gujarat, we must remember that the books written by a foreigner gives knowledge about our Church to the public.

There are historians and writers in our Church who are interested in writing. They should write about our Church and try to impart the knowledge of our Church to the public. Although we say that there are not enough writers in our Church, those who are capable of writing should write or persuade others to write about our Assyrian Church of the East. Our people should be proud of our Church. Do not say we do not know. But why did we not know history. Let's learn. Let others understand.

New St. Mar Abimalek Timotheus Block

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Chaldean Syrian School, His Holiness Mar Gewargis III Sliwa announced the name '**St. Mar Abimalek Timotheus Block**' for a new building of the Chaldean Syrian Lower Primary School, during the canonization. Unfortunately, the construction of the building could not begin due to the Covid epidemic. However, on July 16 this month, construction work started with the blessings of H. G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan. The new building is expected to cost around Rupees 2 Crore.

At 10am on 16 July 2021 the ceremony of foundation stone laying, groundbreaking and blessing of the new Saint Mar Abimalek Timotheus L P school building was officiated by HG Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan with the gracious presence of HL Mar Awgin Kuriakose, Sri. T V Madanamohanan, Deputy Director of Thrissur, Sri. Manojkumar P V, DEO of Thrissur and Sri. Balakrishnan P M, AEO. The Board of Central Trustee members, Corporate Manager Sister Dr. Jincy O U, Principal Dr. Aby Paul, Headmistress Smt. Princy Issac and Teachers were also present on the occasion.



ACERO's Dohuk housing buildings during renovations. From L-R H G Mar Abrs Youkhannan, H G Mar Isaac Yousip, H H Mar Awa III, H G Mar Afram Athneil, H G Mar Paulus Benjamin, Mr Odeesho Dawood



One of ACERO's Dohuk housing buildings during renovations



His Holiness Mar Awa III received Mr. Romeo Hakkari, the Chairman of Bet-Nahrain Democratic Party, and member of the Kurdish Parliament, along with Mr. Jarjis Younan, a member of the Bet-Nahrain Democratic Party



Mr. Emmanuel Khoshaba of the Assyrian Patriotic Party, along with a few colleagues, paid a courtesy visit to His Holiness on Monday, 20 September 2021



On 21 September 2021, famous Assyrian singer, Mr. Evin Agassi paid a visit of honor to His Holiness the Catholicos-Patriarch



The Catholicos-Patriarch received and met with Dr. Stavros Kyrimis, the Consul General of the Republic of Greece on Tuesday, 21 September 2021



The 'Church Entrance' ceremony in connection with the Qudash Eatha Festival led by Fr. Sunny S Koola in the Marth Mariam Cathedral, Thrissur.



The procession lead by Fr. Shaji Raphael in connection with the Qudash Eatha Festival



**EULOGY PRESENTED TO
H.B MAR APREM METROPOLITAN,
CHALDEAN SYRIAN CHURCH OF THE EAST, INDIA**

**Presented by Patriarchal Administrator, Episcopa,
Priest and Faithful Fellowman of the Church**



29th September, 2021

All hail and praise to Mar H G Aprem Mookan, Who has been serving as, The Metropolitan of the Chaldean Syrian Church of the East. We the generation of the church / are contented and convinced about the incessant and persistent service, rendered for the prosperity of the Church.

The magnanimous service, the oratory skill, And the eloquence of speech, sprinkled with tinge of humour conquered the souls in love and devotion.

The rhythmic recital of Psalms and the heavenly emancipation of the Holy Mass, has always been a divine experience for all of us. We, irrespective of age look up to you in awe and admiration, As you perform the holy rites and tradition.

The tireless spirit of governance which invoked the countless blessings for all was acknowledged and sanctioned by all heedless of age Born to Mookan Devassy and Parapilly Kochu Mariya Mar Aprem was the 4th among his siblings, always upheld duty bound spiritual insight .

The tireless spirit of governance which invoked the countless blessings for all was acknowledged and sanctioned by all heedless of age Born to Mookan Devassy and Parapilly Kochu Mariyam Mar Aprem was the 4th among his siblings, always upheld duty bound spiritual insight.

This spiritual journey ignited by genuineness, earnestness, humility and Patience was a great source of comfort and gratification for those parents. Submitting thyself to the will of God

H B Mar Aprem was consecrated as Metropolitan on 29th September 1968 Spiritual Enlightenment along with Experiential knowledge helped H.G to create a cordial relation with all.

This left an everlasting impression in the mindset of people. The oneness and unanimity among H B Mar Aprem, H G Mar Timotheous II and H L Poulouse Mar Poulouse Episcopa, was the hall mark of the church. Never and Never for any reason, they were ready to forsake the freedom and pride of the church.

We consider ourselves fortunate to witness the selfless service rendered by H.G for the unity of the church. The broad mindedness and generosity laid out by H.B for alliance, will be marked in the chronicles of the church for ever. We the faithful vow to maintain and keep up this divine tolerance in our church for ever.

It has been divine choice for H.B to head the Holy Synod that consecrated H H Maran Mar Gewargis III Sliwa Catholicos Patriarch as Catholicos Patriarch of The Assyrian Church of the East.

The divine designation of H B Dr Mar Aprem to serve as The Metropolitan of the church for past 53 years has been a testimony for secure and sustainable future. We the faithful are bound to reiterate the testimony/ The Imploring personality, benevolent nature, ardent faith in God embellished with acumen and erudition gained over years was the richness and affluence of The Church of the East.

We beseech and implore for the blissful guidance of H B Mar Aprem clarifying and clearing up all the dilemmas and disputes faced by our small community. We entreat that we may be blessed to have H.B with us eternally as a tower of strength and prayer whom we can approach all time for solace and comfort.

The discipline and the guidance and the lessons of intense faith taught to us in the course of our spiritual life will persist in us and thereby passing on to the next generation.

At this very auspicious and euphoric moment we solicit for the haleness and well being of H B Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Patriarchal Delegate, Chaldean Syrian Church of the East.

With absolute reverence and respect we submit this Eulogy unto thy gracious hands.

— With Devotion —

Patriarchal Administrator • Episcopa • Priests • Fellow Faithful of the Church



REV. FR. K R INASU
CLERGY SECRETARY

H G MAR AWGIN KURIAKOSE EPISCOPA
PATRIARCHAL ADMINISTRATOR

SRI. TENNY C L
CHAIRMAN
THE BOARD OF CENTRAL TRUSTEES 2019 - 2022

Gabriel Church, Mumbai

During the visit of H. G. Mar Thoma Dharmo to India in July 1952, a grand reception was organized by the faithful of different churches at YMCA, Fort in Mumbai. His Grace was very impressed with the dedication of the faithful and understood the dire necessity of starting a congregation in Mumbai and accordingly established a touring Mission in Mumbai.

The first Holy Qurbana was conducted in the Armenian Church, Fort Mumbai on 8th November 1953 led by Rev. Fr. Francis Perinjnai and assisted by Dn. Timothy Panancherry. However, in spite of the best efforts of all faithful further Holy Qurbana could not be conducted for few years.

On 8th July 1961 the next Holy Qurbana was conducted led by Rev Fr Francis Mangalam assisted by Dn. Timothy Cherukaran at Robinson memorial Methodist Church in Byculla. The next Holy Qurbana was conducted 1st October 1961 led by Rev. Fr. P.K. Varghese assisted by Dn. George Mookan and Dn. David Mannukadan at the same venue.

On 9th January 1962, the congregation had historic occasion to organize a grand farewell reception to 119th Catholicos Patriarch of the East H. H. Maran Mar Eshai Shimun at the Airport Hall of Mumbai.

In 1991, the faithful had a glorious occasion to receive the 120th Catholicos Patriarch of East H. H. Maran Mar Dinkha IV with Mar Meelis, Bishop of Australia under the guidance of Rev. Fr. P.K. Varghese.

From 1966 onwards Holy Qurbanas were conducted till 2005 mainly at Methodist Centre, Byculla. Holy Qurbanas were led by H.B. Dr. Mar Aprem, Rev. Fr. Francis Pullukaran, Rev. Fr. Francis Perinjai, Bishop Paulose Mar Paulose, Rev. Fr. Antony Kangapadan, Rev. Fr. Timothy Cherukaran, Rev. Fr. Raphael Poovathingal, Rev. Fr. Jose Konikkara and Rev. Fr. A. P. Varghese.

During the tenure of Vicar Rev. Fr. A.P. Varghese, members decided to work towards achieving a permanent location for Mumbai Parish and accordingly we could identify and purchase a ground floor premise in a residential complex in Anand Nagar, Ghod Bunder Road, Thane (West) in 2004.

The Thane Church was consecrated on 2th January 2005 by H.B. Dr. Mar Aprem assisted by Rev. Fr. Raphael Poovathingal and Rev. Fr. A.P Varghese and regular Holy Qurbanas were conducted thereafter.

Subsequently the parish was led by Vicars Rev. Fr. Jacks Chandy (2005-2011), Rev. Fr. Shaji Raphael (2011-2014), Rev. Fr. Santhosh Emmatty (2014-2017), Rev. Fr. Michael Pazhumalil (2017-2020) and Rev. Fr. Mohan Konikkara (from 2020) and we were blessed with the frequent visit of the Metropolitan and Episcopas to parish. Sunday school was started in year 2012, Charity programs, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Christmas service and Carol were started from 2014.

For moving out of residential complex, the faithful were searching for an opportunity of buying a new place from year 2011 and the place was finally found and registered in January 2021. The Consecration of the new church was solemnized by Patriarchal Administrator H. G. Mar Awgin Kuriakose assisted by Rev. Fr. Mohan Konikkara on 31st October 2021.

Public meeting was held after the Holy Qurbana. All central trustees were present to grace the occasion.

Kaika Mr. Thomas Emmatty welcomed the gathering. Patriarchal Administrator H. G. Mar Awgin Kuriakose was congratulated and facilitated by Kaika Mr. Shelly P. Paul. The inaugural address was delivered by H. G. Mar Awgin Kuriakose, who congratulated the parish members for their efforts in achieving such a landmark of having a new church in the commercial capital of India. Chairman Mr. C.L Tenny and Vice Chairman Dr. Rishi Emmatty (Board of Central Trustees) spoke on the momentous occasion. Vicar Rev. Fr. Mohan Konikkara and senior member Mr. Francis Emmatty spoke a few words on our achievement. All central trustees who specifically came down to share our joy and happiness were all felicitated with mementoes on this occasion. Mementos were also presented to the kaikars and parish council members for accomplishment of the project. Report was presented and vote of thanks was delivered by Sabha council member Mr. Biju Davies. The meeting was concluded with the blessings of H.G. Mar Awgin Kuriakose.

World Environment Day

On the occasion of World Environment Day, June 5, 2021, under the leadership of the Central Youth Committee of the Chaldean Syrian Church of the East, His Lordship Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa planted a fruit tree in the presence of His Grace Mar Aprem Metropolitan at the Metropolitan Palace, Mar Timotheus High Road, Thrissur. The Central Committee has also started a Facebook page.

A Brief History of the Chaldean Syrian Schools

The late Mar Abimalek Timotheus Metropolitan after his arrival in India attempted to establish schools. Within one year of his arrival in February 1908 he established a school in our parish, Mar Thoma Shleeha Church, Pattikad. That school was handed over to the government. That school entered into its centenary.

After unfortunate litigations in the community, which ended in April, 1925 Mar Abimalek Timotheus Metropolitan started five schools in 1927. The Chaldean Syrian school is one of the five. The school which was started in our church compound in Mar Kuriakose Sahda Church was handed over to the staff management of the school. Another school started in Mar Yohannan Mamdhana Church in the same year was closed after the students began to go to the English medium schools in the neighborhood. Anyhow, four of those five schools which were started by Mar Abimalek Timotheus Metropolitan celebrated their 75th anniversaries.

During the lifetime of the late Mar Abimalek Timotheus Metropolitan (died on 30 April 1945) our school established near Marth Mariam Big Church was raised to the status of a high school. Later our school in Mar Mari Parish also was raised to the status of a high school. It is named Mar Timotheus High School, Kuriachira in honor of the founder, Mar Abimalek Timotheus.

After the unity of the two groups in our Church in November 1995 Chaldean Syrian High School was raised as a Higher Secondary School. We are glad to know that our Higher Secondary School has earned a good name in Thrissur District. Its student body consists of the students from all over the Kerala state. It was a great privilege for our Church in India that the Catholicos Patriarch of the Church of the East, Maran Mar Khanania Dinkha IV, residing in Morton Grove near Chicago, USA came to bless the new three-storied building of the Higher Secondary School named after Bishop Poulouse Mar Poulouse during the historic visit of His Holiness to India in January 2000.

A Basket of Vegetables for Onam Festival

When people start growing their own vegetables, they get delicious food. As Malayalees started to grow their own vegetables, they are getting non-toxic and delicious food, Archbishop Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan said. He further said that Malayalees do not apply chemical fertilizers as they cultivate for their own use.

Metropolitan Mar Aprem inaugurated the project 'One Basket of Vegetables for Onam' in collaboration with the Chaldean Syrian Church of the East Men's Association and the Department of Agricultural Development. He was speaking after inaugurating the distribution of vegetable seedlings to General Secretary Mr. Anto D Ollukaran.

General Secretary Mr. Anto D Ollukaran said that 1000 banana saplings will be distributed this year, which started last year after witnessing the banana plantation project in Onam festival. Men's Association National President Fr. Jose Jacob Vengassery, Wilson Tharayil and Varghese Pellissery spoke at the inaugural function.

Mega Vaccination Camp

A Mega Vaccination Camp was held under the joint auspices of the Chaldean Syrian Church of the East and the West Fort Hi-Tech Hospital on August 15, 2021 at the Chaldean Center from 9 a.m. to combat the Covid epidemic and maintain the health and safety of Church members. Covishield Vaccine 1st/2nd doses were given to those who are above 18 years of age in the camp as per the rules of the Ministry of Health. The vaccine was given at a cost of Rs 500/- to those who attended with registration on the Government portal, Aadhaar card and registration number.

Kerala Revenue Minister K Rajan inaugurated the camp and the function presided over by His Grace Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan. Thrissur Corporation Mayor Sri K M Varghese, Thrissur Constituency MLA Sri K Balachandran, Pallikulam Division Councilor Smt Sindhu Anto, His Lordship Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa, Dr TT Paul and Police Surgeon Dr Manu were present. The Board of Central Trustees Chairman Sri Tenny C L welcomed the gathering and Vice Chairman Dr. Rishi Emmatty expressed his gratitude.

As part of the Church's charitable activities, Rs.2,00,000 was given to the Chief Minister's Vaccination Challenge Fund on the day of remembrance of the forefathers who passed away from the Church. On the same day, an insurance card was distributed to the volunteers of the "*Thanal*", an organisation formed by the Church Youth Movement to help the cremation of the deceased who died due to Covid. More than 650 members were vaccinated at the camp.

Reservations

There is a misconception that only Latin Christians have Government reservations among Christians. Syrian Christians also have reservations. Having a certificate of EWS (Economically Weaker Section in general category) gives reservation to college admission and employment to financially backward people among Christians. There are certain conditions for obtaining a certificate. Try to follow it. Church members should try to get both the Certificate from the Government of Kerala and the Certificate from the Central Government. Only those whose family annual income is less than Rs. 1 lakh will get it. The annual income limit is 8 Lakh to get the EWS certificate from the Central Government. But the income limit for an EWS certificate from the Government of Kerala is Rs 4 lakh.

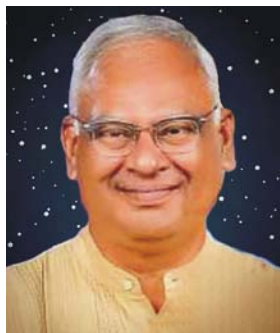
Both certificates will be useful for study and higher employment for qualified candidates. To get the EWS certificate, one has to apply to the Tehsildar through the Village Officer.

This certificate form can be obtained from Akshaya. If the certificate is not received from the Village Officer ask for a written explanation of the reason for not issuing the certificate. If not, file a complaint with the Tehsildar. If the Tehsildar does not reply, file a complaint to the Collector. Christians who are financially backward will have the opportunity in both the reserved seat and the open merit.

John Paul Mannukadan - Engineer

John Paul Mannukadan, whom we affectionately called John Pauletten, passed away in November 2021. At this time he is remembered for his many commendable services to the Church. Mr. John Paul Mannukadan was the son of Mr. ML Paul Master, who was a teacher in the Chaldean Syrian School. Paul Master's father's brother, Mannukkadan Francis Kashisha was the Headmaster and later Manager of the Chaldean Syrian School. His father was active in founding and developing the Chaldean Syrian School, Thrissur. In keeping with that tradition, Mr. John Paul has twice served as Corporate Manager for Schools between 2007-2010 and 2019-2020.

After completing his engineering education John worked abroad for several years and started his own business in Trichur. At the same time, he became interested in Church activities. He was always at the forefront of the spiritual leadership of the Church. He was a member of the Board of Central Trustees of the Church from 1997-2000 and Vice Chairman of the Board of Central Trustees from 2004-2007. He was distinguished in leadership by his gentle interventions and his commitment to the Church. His greetings to each of the persons with whom he was acquainted were entirely sincere.



Our LP School used to function on the site where the memorial building of Mar Aprem's 60th Birthday was built. There were many technical hurdles in moving the school from there to the present compound. The Church received the help of Mrs. Minnie Mathew I.A.S., daughter of John's father's brother, through the intervention of John Paul. Similarly, as a result of his efforts, Mini Mathew deposited Rupees five lakhs to pay the fees for the MBBS student from our Church. When his son Dr. Neel John graduated with an MD, he happily donated fifty thousand rupees to the Church. In all his blessed occasions he was careful to keep the Church together. During the visit of His Holiness Mar Dinkha IV in 2000 and during the Holy Synod held here in 2010, Mr. John Paul worked hard to make them all a success. He was instrumental in the construction of the new building of the Chaldean Syrian School. He was also a member of the Executive Committee of the Mar Timotheus Charitable Society for many years.

The demise of Mr. John Paul Mannukadan was a great loss to the Church. We, Voice of the East, wish his soul eternal peace. At the same time, we convey condolences to his wife Usha, his children, and other family members. What has left us is a great personality who could be set as an example in Church work. Deepest condolences.



On the 53rd Archiepiscopal Anniversary of H. G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan, the Women's Youth Association honor him by cutting a cake.



H. G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan led the consecration ceremony of the new Mar Marcos Church, Mundur along with two Episcopas and priests on 3 October 2021



'Mangalapathram' (Eulogy) presented to H. G. Dr. Mar aprem Metropolitan, Patriarchal Delegate to India by Patriarchal Administrator, Episcopa, Priests and Faithful Fellowman of the Church of the East at the 53rd Archiepiscopal Anniversary celebrations of Metropolitan Mar Aprem.