

# ܘܫܘܥܐ ܕܡܪܝܩܘܨܐ

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September - October 2021

Nos.9 & 10



Fr. Jinu Jose & Fr. Delmin Davis after ordination at Mar Beesho Church, Puthur on Sunday, November 21, 2021. L to R: Fr. Jinu Jose, Fr. A C Antony, H. L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa, Fr. T P Davis, Fr. Delmin Davis and Deacon Don Solomon

## VOICE OF THE EAST



**Annual Walkathon Fundraiser of Sydney parishioners  
28 November 2021**



**His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, and His Grace Mar Abris  
Youkhanan with His Grace Mar Elia Iskhaq, the Bishop of Baghdad,  
Ukraine and Georgia on 5 December 2021**

**VOICE OF THE EAST**

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September - October 2021

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***Contents***

1. Archbishop Tutu (Editorial)

2. Patriarchal Epistle

***International News***

3. Sydney parishioners trace steps of the Apostles of the East at Walkathon 2021

***News from India***

4. Christmas Message, H G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan

5. Sunday School Day - 2021

6. Ordination of Deacon Jinu Jose & Deacon Delmin Davis

7. Monthly thoughts of H G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan

8. Reprint of 'Messianic Teachings' (മ്ശിഹായ്ക്കടുത്ത പരിഷ്കൃത)

9. Mar Yacob M'pasqa

10. The Residential Complex

11. Choir Meet 2021

12. Crystal Jubilee Celebrations of Men's Association

# Voice of the East

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## Editorial

### ARCHBISHOP TUTU

Archbishop Desmond Tutu is the only bishop who received Nobel Prize for peace. He was born and brought up in South Africa. In 1961-62 as a young priest he came to King's College, London, England for higher theological training.

In 16 December 1984 he received Nobel Peace Prize. Tutu was born on 7 October 1931, son of an school teacher. His ambition was to become a doctor. When he was 30 years old he came to King's College, London for post B D studies. In the same year I too was a student in King's College, London. But now I do not recall this my classmate. After his studies in England he returned to his country, i.e., Johannesburg in South Africa. As a priest he began to work for liberation of his people. Nobody from his country had become a bishop. He is the first black bishop in his country in Johannesburg, South Africa. Gradually he became the first black bishop in the Anglican Church in South Africa. In 1976 he became the bishop of Lesotho. Then he moved to Johannesburg as bishop. He then became archbishop of Cape Town.

Archbishop Tutu came to be accepted in many Churches worldwide. He had hard work in his own country that is South Africa. At the same time he became well known all over the world which made him to get Nobel prize for peace. He was popular among South Africa's black majority and was internationally praised for his work involving anti-apartheid activism, for which he won the Nobel Peace Prize and other international awards. He also compiled several books of his speeches and sermons.

Like Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in America, Archbishop Tutu also came to be known outside his own country. Now the death of Archbishop Tutu there is a vacuum in voices that spoke for the poor and marginalized. Most people want to do their duties in their diocese or in their country. There are some priests or bishops who are compelled by their conscience to speak for people outside their parish or diocese.

As the message of Christ is universal we have to think and work for others living outside their parish or diocese also. All preachers do not feel the need to speak for others. But preachers like Martin Luther King Jr. in America and Archbishop Tutu in South Africa some voices are heard in different parts of the world. The numbers of these speakers are not many. Many preachers feel that their calling from God is limited to their own countries.

The death of Archbishop Tutu is a great loss to the Christian World. In every generation God has raised his voice through some preachers. We need more of such preachers to speak for the marginalized people in our times.

Mar Aprem Metropolitan





all of His dispensation towards us, and for His manifold graces. In the world in which we live today, there are countless upheavals and strife of every kind, and in these past two years even a horrifying pandemic had spread upon all of humanity, which became the cause of many fatalities and the source of sorrows that presently encompass us. But notwithstanding all of this, we shall never forget that God is the Lord of His creation and retains dominion over all elements and seasons of the earth. Therefore, our God is always victorious and mighty, who also provides for us and is the administrator of our lives. The blessed apostle St. John reminds us that we too are victorious in Christ over all the circumstances and powers of the world: *“But you are sons born of God, and you have overcome them. For greater is He that is in you, than he who is in the world”* (I John 4:4).

On this holy feast, in which we draw near with true faith and manifold love to Christ who was born as a Child from the Holy Virgin Mother, let us offer unto Him spiritual gifts instead of worldly ones—our love, worship and veneration. In the place of a cave, let us make our hearts for him a dwelling-place befitting the honor of His Godhead. And with the shepherds let us make haste to worship Him with pure love and an undivided devotion. Let us cleanse our hearts from all hatred, wrath and envy, that they may become temples worthy of His majesty. In this way, we shall be able to become true celebrants of the Birth of the Son of God, Who was manifest in the flesh for our salvation.

In conclusion: we extend our greetings for a blessed and holy Feast of the Nativity to all of you, our brothers and children in Christ, and to all of our brethren in Christ worldwide. We pray that God might grant all of you lives filled with every blessing and grace, distant from all kinds of sin and division, and strengthened in the true faith by God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in every good work of the Spirit and crowned with every Christian virtue. We also extend our prayers for an equally blessed New Year 2022, void of sorrows and filled with the many mercies and blessings of the Lord God to all of the children of our holy Church of the East across the globe, and equally to all men of good will without distinction.

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

*Given at our Patriarchal Cell in Erbil, Iraq, on the Feast of the Nativity, 2021 A.D.*

**AWA III Royel**

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



## **Sydney parishioners trace steps of the Apostles of the East at Walkathon 2021**

The Assyrian Church of the East Youth Association hosted its annual Walkathon Fundraiser on Sunday 28 November 2021 with more than 600 walkers trekking the eight-kilometer route around St Hurmizd's Cathedral in Greenfield Park.

The map traced the steps of the Apostles of the East; St Addai, St Mari, St Thomas and St Simon Peter himself, where walkers passed by major cities that signified milestones in their ministry across the homeland: Seleucia, Nisibis, Babylon, Nineveh and Edessa. Walkers picked up a handout explaining the significance of the city and the church fathers' commentary.

The walk was officially opened by His Eminence Mar Meelis Zaia AM and Reverend Fathers of Sydney parishes with a short program to welcome the walkers and cut the ribbon. The event concluded with a celebration at Edessa Reception Hall (Eden Venues) with entertainment, amusements and a barbecue.

All proceeds from the Walkathon will go towards helping the needy displaced individuals and families in the Middle East, local charities in Australia and the works of the Youth Association in Sydney.

### **Christmas Message**

H. G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan, India  
(Translated from Malayalam)

Every year before the end of December, both Christians and non-Christians celebrate Christmas. We are celebrating a historical event that took place almost 2000 years ago. There are festivals in India for both Hindus and Muslims, *Vishu & Ramadan*. Similarly, Christians need a celebration. If all religions in India are to celebrate Christmas, it will help to create the religious harmony. Merchants have the goal of making a financial profit out of celebrating Christmas. Some people have the goal of having a chance to spend time under the influence of alcohol. Some people get drunk and fight over Christmas. Christmas celebrations are no different in India and abroad. The dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol are on the rise.

The birth of Jesus in a manger causes many luxurious celebrations. Some people are very interested only in celebrations. Merchants make a profit from the festivities. Others find it a pleasure to celebrate Christmas under the influence of alcohol. Some people celebrate Christmas even though they are in debt. People have lost their spiritual meaning of Christmas and have interest to celebrate a secular Christmas. I see the scene of St. Mary giving birth to Jesus in the stable on Christmas Day. Jesus was born without wealth, without even a place to lie down. We should never forget it. I sincerely pray that may we

all be able to celebrate Christmas in a spiritual sense, without compromising on fun and celebration. So let us welcome this Christmas as an opportunity to receive Christ into our hearts and homes. May the Christmas period be a peaceful season. Because Christ was born for everyone. A group of heavenly hosts joined the angel in praising God. “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

Wars, riots, and violence are raging in and around Jerusalem, as well as in Iraq and Syria. It is at this point that we sincerely pray that the ‘Song of Peace’ sung by the angels will be able to reach mankind today. May everyone be able to end the strife between religions and let grow in religious harmony. Therefore, our Christmas celebrations are to see Christ in those who lost everything, in the helpless, and to revive them. We need to be able to turn this birthday into an opportunity for a new life and repentance. We must be careful to overcome the waves and fluctuations of Covid 19. May this year’s Christmas bring peace to mankind. Let us all pray and work together for that. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy & Peaceful New Year.

Yours in Christ,  
Mar Aprem Metropolitan

## **Sunday School Day - 2021**

The 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday School Day was celebrated on Sunday, 5 December 2021. His Grace Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan inaugurated the conference. Metropolitan Mar Aprem convinced the audience that the Sunday School is an important part of the Church and that all the children in the Church need to learn it. H L. Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa, who presided over the conference, commended the 14 students who have attended the Sunday School for ten years and presented them with gold crosses. His Holiness called on the children of the Church to stand firm in their relationship with Christ and to hold on to the unbreakable bond with our ancient Church.

After the unity of the Church, The Secretaries of the Mar Aprem Sunday School Rev. Fr. A P Varghese, Fr. NJ Abraham, Fr. Simon Immitty, Fr. Justin Neelankavil, Fr. Lijo Raphael, Fr. BO Timothy and Fr. Sijo Johnny were honored by the Sunday School Central Committee. Mr. Paul Mathews Parapookkara, who has been teaching at the Sunday School for 10 years, and Mr. T. Paul, who has been a teacher for 25 years, were honored at the meeting. Mr. C. L. Tenny, Chairman of the Board of Central Trustees, and Fr. K. R. Inasu, Secretary of the Clergy Council, offered their congratulations. H. G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan and H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa co-hosted the official launch of the YouTube Channel for Mar Aprem Sunday School. Sunday School’s online classes and exams will be streamed with the new YouTube channel.





**H G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan inaugurates the residential complex at St. Abimalek Timotheus Nagar, Venginisseri completed by the Marth Mariam Valiyapally, Thrissur.**



**H G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan inaugurates the Choir Meet 2021 hosted by the Marth Mariam Valiyapally Youth Association**



**Re-publishing of the 13th edition of 'Messianic Teachings', translated by St. Mar Abimalek Timotheus. H G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan inaugurates the book near the tomb of St. Mar Abimalek Timotheus Metropolitan and the other forefathers of the Church**



**H G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan inaugurates the 21st Sunday School Day at Marth Mariam Valiyapally compound, Thrissur Sunday, 5 December 2021**



H G Dr. Mar Apreem Metropolitan and H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa receive the *Deepashikha* (Torch) at the conclusion of the Human Rights Awareness Deepashikha Rally about the beginning of the Crystal Jubilee celebrations.



Educational Minister Dr. R. Bindu Teacher speaks after the inauguration of the Crystal Jubilee celebrations of Men's Association at Marth Mariam Big Church



**The 'Bishops Conference' convening the Bishops of Kerala held at Chenganassery**



**H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa, the Vicars of the Marth Mariam Church, members of the Board of Central Trustees and the faithful visiting the Mar Aprem Golden Jubilee Housing Complex in Venginisseri, Thrissur**

## **Ordination of Deacon Jinu Jose & Deacon Delmin Davis**

**On Sunday, November 21, 2021, at 7.30 am at Puthur Mar Beesho Church, during the Holy Qurbana, Deacon Jinu Jose Vadakkan and Deacon Delmin Davis Thaiparambil were ordained priests by H. L. Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa.**

### **Fr. Jinu Jose**

Fr. Jinu Jose was born on 25 December 1994, as the son of Jose Vadakkan and Linu Jose Pallipurath. At that time his permanent residence was in Thrissur. Later the family moved to Puthur. Fr. Jinu completed his primary education at Government Higher Secondary School, Puthur. After 10th he joined in the Church Seminary at Thiroor. He studied Syriac under the tutelage of Fr. P K Raphael, and Fr. Antony Kaitharan. During the same period he completed his plus two studies at Chinmaya Mission College, Thrissur. Thereafter, on June 15th 2013 at Thrissur Marth Mariam Church he received the titles of Karoya, Hivpadyakna and Shammasha. The Karoya title received from H. L. Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa and Hivpadyakna title from H L Dr. Mar Yohannan Yoseph Episcopa and Shammasha from H L Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan.

He continued his Seminary studies and graduated in B A Sociology from Sri Vidya Jyothi College in 2015. In 2017 he joined the Kerala United Theological Seminary, Thiruvananthapuram to pursue BD studies which was completed in 2021.

Since 2013 he served as associate vicar of various parishes of the Church such as Nellikunnu Mar Thimotheus Church, Mulayam Mar Shaleetha Church, Coimbatore St. Thomas Church, and Thiruvananthapuram Marth Maryam Church.

### **Fr. Delmin Davis**

Fr. Delmin Davis was born on September 23, 1995, as the son of Davis T T of Thaiparambil and Mini Davis, He completed his primary education at G L P S Puthur School and G V H S S Puthur Higher Secondary School. After 10th class he joined the Church seminary at Thiroor. He studied Syriac under the tutelage of Fr. PK Raphael, and Fr. Antony Kaitharan & Fr C D Pauly. During the same period, he completed his Plus Two studies at Co-Operative Arts And Science College. Thereafter, he Joined Degree Study at B A Sociology at Vidya Jyothi College Paravattani. That time, on June 15, 2013, at Marth Mariyam Big Church, he received the titles of Karoya & Hivpadyakna. The title of Karoya were received from H. L. Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa and Hivpadyakna from H. L. Dr. Mar Yohannaan Yosip Episcopa. And was received the title of Shamasha from H. G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan at Mar Beesho Church Puthur.

In 2017 he joined the Orthodox Theological Seminary, Kottayam to pursue BD studies which was completed in 2021. Since 2012 he served as Associate Vicar of various parishes of the Church such as Mar Thimotheus Church Kozhikode, Chiyaram Mar Dinkha Church, Kottayam Mar Audhiso Church and Chalakudy Marth Mariam Church. On 21 November 2021, at Puthur Mar Beesho Church, he received the title of Qasha from H. L. Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa.

# Monthly thoughts of H G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan

(Translated from Malayalam Magazine 'Paurasthyanaadam')

## Bishop's Conference

The Bishops' Conference in December-January is an initiative that brings together all the Bishops of Kerala. Of these, our Church and the Thozhiyur Independent Syrian Church are the smallest. The conference is held once a year, not only at one place but also at the Pastoral Orientation Center at Ernakulam (P.O.C.), Kottayam and many other places. This year's conference was held at the Changanassery Catholic Archbidhop's Palace. This helped the Bishops of other Churches to know more about our Church. Various issues affecting the Church of Kerala were discussed at this conference. Mar Awgin Kuriakose is the organizing Secretary of the Episcopal Conference. Cardinal George Alencherry presided over the conference. Although it was difficult to travel seven hours by car to attend the meeting (to and from), it was helpful to meet and talk with the leaders of the various Churches.

## United Evangelicals

50 cents of land, near our own church in Kunnamkulam, belongs to the United Evangelicals team. The 51st Annual General Meeting of this Evangelical group held on Sunday, November 28 in St. Mary's Sunday School & Evangelistic Association Hall. And, I was elected President of this group. In its inaugural year, Bishop Benjamin, CSI Church presided and I was the Vice President. Later, Isho Mar Timotheus Episcopa of the Marthoma Church presided and I continued as Vice President. Every year since then, I have been elected President and the Supreme Head of the Independent Syrian Church in Thozhiyur continues as Vice President.

The arrangements are such that the Kunnamkulam Convention should conclude on the opening day of the Maramon Convention. Speakers from the Catholic Church have also come to the Kunnamkulam Convention. It is not easy for everyone to go to the Maramon Convention every year. Therefore, the Kunnamkulam Convention is a convention that can be attended by the elderly and those who are not able to travel much. I want the people of Thrissur-Kunnamkulam area to participate in this. Although it is difficult for me to find time for this Kunnamkulam Convention at this age of 81, I am trying to co-operate as per the decision of the committee. Our Kunnamkulam Church is right next to this United Convention Tent. My readers should pray that God shall give me the strength to lead this meeting in February as well.

Mar Aprem Metropolitan

## Reprint of 'Messianic Teachings'

(മ്ശിഹായ്ക്കടുത്ത പഠിപ്പ്)

The Board of Central Trustees has been able to republish the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of 'Messianic Teachings', translated by St. Mar Abimalek Timotheus, on the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the late Metropolitan Mar Timotheus II. It reminds us that it is the duty of each and every one of us to reach out to all the children of our Church. We are ready to make arrangements for those in remote areas and out of Kerala to receive by courier. The book is available at the Mar Narsai Book Depot. The Church Calendar for 2022 is also in stock.

## **Mar Yacob M'pasqa**

(Riju Mannukadan, Thrissur)

Friday, November 19, 2021 was the day of remembrance of Mar Yacob M'pasqa in the time cycle of the Church. Parishes are identified in the Church by the name of the saints. But sanctifying a person does not mean naming temples. A person who is exalted in holiness is one who has fulfilled his own life exemplary for others in God. His war is against luxurious, and the power of opposition to the divine faith. Those who have killed themselves in front of others while living like that, and therefore have sacrificed their lives. When we look at the current situation, how far we have come from the above situation. Those who live and die in the name of Christ, keep silent in the face of trouble and declare that I am here. In fact, it is a way of ensuring one's own protection no matter what happens to the movement or belief without offending anyone in one's own faith.

This is where St. Yacob is included in the Church cycle. The day of remembrance of this saint is celebrated in the third week of the sacramental period of the cycle. Exactly, November 19th every year. And in the month of Tishreen 2 in Syriac.

Who was Mar Yacob M'pasqa? Jacob and his family believed in the Lord Jesus and were born into a noble family based on Christianity. Yacob was a General, the position of commander-in-chief in the royal family. The victories of many battles brought Yacob to the peak of his pride. Jacob's life was disrupted by a torrent of gifts from the royal palace. Moreover, he did deny the Lord Jesus, whom he believed to be divine. His mother and wife were devastated by Jacob's change of heart, which followed a perfectly godly way of life. They sent letters to Jacob for a change from this apostasy. These letters inspired Jacob to bring out the fear of God that lurked within him.

The Church later sanctified in principle a man who, at a time when the inner divine thoughts were being suppressed, was enslaved to satanic thoughts from Christian values and was ready to deny Christ at the temptation of the king in his official life.

The attitude of these fathers may seem strange to the new generation. But the observance of this saint's remembrance is a direct reflection of the fact that these Fathers always paid attention to remind mankind that the change of repentance and the consequent return to Christ were exemplary for mankind. Thoughts from a letter were redirected to the Lord Jesus, whom he believed in and worshiped. His eyes, which were demonically closed, were opened. With the same eyes, he prepared himself for a return to being enslaved to divine thoughts through the path of meditation. He shouted in military uniform that he was a Christian.

As a general before the king; When he defies the king's order to destroy the Christian faith and challenges before the king; The resulting monarchy is unpredictable. The king initially advised him to withdraw from the Christian faith. Then threatened. But Yacob stood firm in his unshakable faith in Christ. The king was compelled to issue an edict for his commander's

disobedience. The King's enmity towards Christ was also reflected in the way he took the life of Yacob. The king ordered that the fingers and toes of the hands and feet be cut off and then beheaded. We can only imagine the mental and physical stress that Jacob faced. If he changed the words, would Jacob have had this fate? What would our society, which is currently self-fulfilling, call Jacob? Who will doubt that he is stupid?

He stood firmly in his belief that he would believe in Christ and live in death. Before being slaughtered, he turned to the East and prayed to his living God. He dedicated his life to God. The king's anger increased. Yacob was surrounded by soldiers. His fellow soldiers also finally advised their boss. The commander, who saw death face to face, had no qualms.

He was dismembered into 28 parts from his body. And then beheaded. Took Jacob's life. The faithful Christian people paid the soldiers and collected 28 parts of his body in a basket. They prayed for the spirit of Jacob by singing Psalm 51 of Repentance in the Holy Scriptures. The fire flowed from the sky and received the blood that came down from the 28 cut parts. These pieces were ignited by intense light. Believers praised the Lord God. Our forefathers had no doubt as to how a Christian should accept the history of Yacob. The Church proclaimed Jacob a saint and called for the observance of his Memorial Day on November 19 every year, according to the chronology. The word "M'pasqa" means broken. Yacob, who was broken. Mar Yacob M'Pasqa. Our church in Peechi is also named after him.

## **The Residential Complex**

The Mar Aprem Metropolitan Golden Jubilee Housing Scheme, a completed project in Venginisseri, Thrissur is a dream project started by Marth Mariam Valiyapally, Chaldean Syrian Church of the East, Thrissur with a social commitment. 10 houses were constructed for those who lost their houses in the floods and the homeless. At the same time, a job training hall for the residents was completed and it's blessing was also held. Gratitude and gifts were given at the meeting to those who collaborated with this project.

The meeting was presided over by H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa and was inaugurated by H G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan. Marth Mariam Valiyapally Vicar Fr. Cyril Antony, former Valiyapally Vicar Fr. Binu Joseph, Assistant Vicar Fr. Sijo Johnny, Paralam Panchayat President Smt. Mini Vinayan, Ward Member Sri. KB Sunil and Valiyapally Vicar Sri. IG Joy spoke.

## **Choir Meet 2021**

The Chaldean Syrian Church of the East held its 32nd Choir Meet this year under the auspices of the Youth Association of Marth Mariam Valiyapally in connection with Christmas. His Grace Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan, His Lordship Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa, Vicar of Valiyapally Fr. Cyril Antony, Kaikaran Mr. IG Joy, Central Youth Association



President Fr. Sijo Johnny and Youth Association Secretary Mr. Albin Roy spoke. Famous music director Ouseppachan's award for his 200th film and the award presentation to the Sound Editor Mr. Francis Davis, for the film 'Jellykettu', which reached the final round of the Oscar nomination, were presented on the occasion.

All Saints CSI Church won the first prize, Mar Thoma Church Kunnankulam won the second prize and Mar Aprem Pally, Chaldean Syrian Church of the East, Chelakottukara won the third place in the choir competition.

## **Crystal Jubilee Celebrations of Men's Association**

Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan hoisted the flag at Marth Mariam Valiyapally to mark the beginning of the Crystal Jubilee celebrations of Men's Association of Chaldean Syrian Church of the East. Thrissur MLA Mr. P. Balachandran inaugurated the *Deepashikha* (Torch) Vehicle Rally held as part of the Crystal Jubilee celebrations at Mar Thoma Sleeha Church, Pattikad. Clergy Council Secretary Rev. Fr. K. R. Inasu presided over the function. Rev. Fr. Anthony Varghese flagged off the rally at Mar Markose Sleeha Church, Mundur. The vehicle rally traveled to various parishes and ended at Marth Mariam Valiyapally. The *Deepashikha* (torch) was received by H G Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan and H L Mar Awgin Episcopa from the rally captains, Adv. Mr. Baby. P. Antony the Vice President and Mr. Anto D. Ollukaran the General Secretary. The National President of Men's Association Rev. Jose Vengassery and the Parish Presidents Rev. Fr. Cyril Antony, Rev. Fr. Denny Thalokaran, are spoke.

### *In the speech of the distinguished guests at the inaugural public meeting of the Crystal Jubilee of the Men's Association .....*

**Dr. R. Bindu Teacher, Higher Educational Minister:** Dr. Bindu Teacher, Minister of Higher Education, stated that Men's Association of the Chaldean Syrian Church, which has an ancient and unique position, is a testament to the community's humanitarian, charitable and diverse ideas. The Minister was speaking after inaugurating of Crystal Jubilee celebrations of Men's Association at Marth Mariam Big Church by cutting a crystal cake.

**His Grace Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan:** We are happy with the work of Men's Association, which understands the needs of the community, the Church and can meet them. His Grace was speaking after inaugurating the distribution of Ayurvedic medicine kits for senior citizens.

**Thrissur M.L.A Mr. P. Balachandran:** The Chaldean Syrian Church has a tradition of embracing the needs of the times without turning a blind eye to them. The Chaldean Church should activate in Kerala the spirituality of Christ as well as the different influences of monasticism which are seen in various spheres of society, he said. MLA also said that the Chaldean Syrian Church of the East is one of the most influential Churches in Kerala, both intellectually and spiritually. It is worth mentioning that General Secretary Mr. Anto D

Ollukaran intervene in the community in a timely manner and helping those in need. The service rendered by the Men's Association to the intellectual world, which seeks to advance the benefits of unearthly technology and science by recognizing the devastation that occurs in a society that is solely engaged in spiritual activities, is not a small subject. Not only in quantity but also in its content of steps, in its fundamental diversity, the transparent services of the Men's Association have been remarkable in Kerala.

A common view of Malayalees is 'not to tell unpleasant truths'. M.L.A. Mr. P. Balachandran congratulated the health services of the Men's Association and handing over free dialysis money to kidney patients at Mar Timotheus Hospital, Kunnathumkkara, Near Thrissur.

**Presidential Address by H L Mar Awgin Episcopa:** We are delighted to be celebrating the 15th anniversary of Men's Association. Apparently a *Hope-Help-Desk* was set up in the epidemic. Callers to the *Hope-Help-Desk* were given medication, food and counseling. The *Hope-Help-Desk* for other needs has also brought relief to many families. *Hope-Help-Desk* was a system that could deliver any help. The human rights awareness rally was very useful. A vegetable market was opened in the compound of Mar Addai Sreeha Church, Paravattany. It is not a trivial subject to start a vegetable market, at the request of the Department of Agriculture, Government of Kerala, in the days of epidemic and flood when vegetables were not available for food. Men's Association is to be congratulated for their hard work. The strong intervention of General Secretary Mr. Anto D. Ollukaran in this severe crisis was very useful for the community. The Association was able to make the Church proud of doing such community service. H L Mar Awgin Episcopa concluded his Presidential Address with best wishes to the Men's Association.

**Mrs. Sheeba Babu, the Chairperson of the Thrissur Corporation Standing Committee:** Under the leadership of General Secretary Mr. Anto D. Ollukaran Men's Association is very active in our Church, carrying out various activities. I am very proud to hear the words of Minister Dr. R. Bindu Teacher, and M.L.A. Mr. P. Balachandran about the Chaldean Syrian Church, Mrs. Sheeba Babu said and she concluded her speech by wishing them all the best.

**Mrs. Sindu Anto, The Councilor of Thrissur Corporation:** Crystal Jubilee celebration of Men's Association began with the Holy Eucharist, which began with the spread of the light of faith. The Chaldean Syrian Church is a mainstream Church in the field of social work and health. No amount of praise will be enough. Councilor Mrs. Sindhu concluded her speech by wishing all the best and support to all the activities of the Association. National President of Men's Association Rev. Fr. Jose Vengassery welcomed the gathering and Mr. Anto D Ollukaran, General Secretary thanked them all.

### **Special Note**

**This issue of 'Voice of the East' has been delayed due to the suspension of postal dispatch to certain countries due to the Government regulation of Covid 19. Therefore, Christmas news and stories are included in this issue itself.**



**The newly ordained  
Fr. Jinu Jose**



**The newly ordained  
Fr. Delmin Davis**



**Those who received the honor of the parish after the public meeting at  
Mar Timotheous Church, Kozhikode at the parish festival**



**Dinner in Honour of His Holiness Mar Awa III's Visit to the  
Assyrian Church of the East, Diocese of  
Eastern USA, Chicago, Illinois**