

Vol 69

November - December 2022

Nos 11-12



His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch received by His Holiness Pope Francis at the Apostolic Palace in the Vatican on Saturday 19 November 2022

# VOICE OF THE EAST



After the ordination as Deacon Laiju Vattakuzhi with His Lordship Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa and other clergy. L to R: Fr. Lijo Raphael, Fr. Justin Neelankavil, Laiju Vattakuzhi, H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa, Fr. Antony A C, Fr. Mohan Konikara

and Deacon Rajan Vattakuzhy.

The delegation from Alqush, Detroit, and Chicago meet with His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East on Tuesday 29 November 2022

#### **VOICE OF THE EAST**

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# **Voice of the East**

Vol. 69 November - December 2022

Nos. 11-12

**Editorial** 

## Farewell to 2022 and Welcome 2023

As we bid farewell to 2022 and welcome 2023, let us praise our Lord God for the blessings of 2023 as members of the Holy Church of the East. In the past years our Holy Church has had great success in the growth of congregations in the West, the ordination of priests, and the dedication of places of worship. We deeply mourn what has proven to be another year of terror in the Middle East, where the Assyrian people continue to face the scourge of oppression and persecution. Let us enter the New Year with a determination to work more zealously to make our Holy Church a better Church and our world a more just one.

Voice of the East has endeavored to report on activities and news from different parts of the world. With the help of the internet it is my hope and prayer that further information is available to readers who ventured to the official website of the Assyrian Church of the East. Some friends ask us to report with more detail on the activities in the Indian Church. It is noteworthy that a monthly magazine is published by the church in India in Malayalam which reports at length on these matters. This publication has a very wide circulation.

Over the more than 69 years of its existence Voice of the East has attempted to keep friends, scholars and ecumenical contacts abreast of Assyrian Church of the East news. Wider dissemination of Church news and the history, theology and tradition of the Church of the East will make our Church a better and more open one.

In this sense, the mission of this humble publication is a worthy one. We beseech Almighty God for 2023 to be a year of peace, tranquility and prosperity for the world and one of great success for our blessed Assyrian Church of the East.

Mar Aprem Metropolitan

PATRIARCHATE OF THE HOLY APOSTOLIC
CATHOLIC ASSYRIAN CHURCH OF THE EAST
ERBIL IRAO



بطریرکیّهٔ کنیسهٔ المُشرق الأشوریّهٔ یاتریهرکخانهی کهنیسهی روزهه لاتی ناشووری

علىقى قىلىرى جىنىيى دىنىيى مدىمىيى مىرىسىيى مىۋەرسى دىدىتىن دىيىيىن دىيۇندىن ، بەبجىر ،جىنىم

### Patriarchal Epistle for the Holy Feast of the Nativity 2022

Our brothers in the apostolic ministry: the venerable Hierarchs members of the Holy Synod; the Reverend Presbyters and the Elect Deacons, and the Faithful of the Assyrian Church of the East Worldwide: Receive Prayers and Apostolic Benediction.

This great and joyous occasion of the Birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ once again moves us to address these words of greeting to all the faithful sons and daughters of our holy Assyrian Church of the East worldwide. It is our hope that this our Christmas greeting finds you in good health and preserved by the Lord from all harm.

The holy feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, according to the flesh from the Blessed and Pure Virgin Mary the Blessed is a source of the hope of life for all men. When we celebrate this dispensation of the Birth of Our Lord every year, it is not a simple celebration, or a social observance, as we often observe taking place in our world today. Rather, as the children of faith we are celebrating the marvelous work of God wrought about for the salvation of our human race. This is made possible by the Birth of the Only-Begotten Son who came into the world in order to deliver us from sin and death. It is a great spiritual danger to succumb to the belief that this holy feast of Our Lord's Nativity is reduced to the consumerism of exchanging of gifts or engaging in the buying and selling of material things which make one externally happy, and only for a short time at that. Rather, we ought to recall continually the very heart of this celebration, namely the drawing-near of the Lord God to His creation, and particularly towards humanity which bears the image and likeness of the living God. This drawing-near of the Lord to us came about through His Beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord—God the Word who took our humanity and became true Man, both in nature and in gnoma.

Therefore, the greatest gift has indeed been given by the Lord himself to us, mankind, as a sign of the love of the Lord for us, that whosoever shall believe in Him, shall have eternal life (cf. John 3:16). How indebted we are to love the Lord with all our heart and being, and to be ever grateful to Him for the greatness of His love with which He loved all humanity. We are obliged, therefore, to repay His love by our Christian way of life, which ought to be adorned with genuine faith and the virtues which please God and fulfill His holy will. Today, unfortunately, we see that secularism has greatly increased among the faithful of the holy Church, and among Christians in general. With an even greater sadness, we see that from place to place even among the ranks of the clergy, the ministers of the holy altar of the Lord, secularism has taken hold. This is most unworthy for us as Christians, and especially for the clergy, that our lives should not conform to our Christian vocation—the gift which we have received from the sacred waters of the sacrament of holy baptism.

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Thus, at every moment and opportunity in which we are receiving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, whether by economy in this holy feast of the Nativity or in the sacred mysteries of the Body and Blood of our Lord, we ought to be cautious as to with what spiritual disposition we are receiving Christ. On the occasion of the holy feast of the Birth of our Lord, we ought to receive Christ our Savior with spiritual preparation and earnest, that is, with fasting and with purity of body and soul. Instead of a manger, let us make our hearts to be a dwelling-place for the Divine Child who is born—Emmanuel, who is 'God with us.' In the place of gifts of gold myrrh and frankincense, let us offer to the Son of God who came among us as true Man our love, hope and adoration. With the lowly shepherds from below, and with the hosts of angels from on high, let us unite daily with them in love, our praise and worship of the Divine and Glorious Child who is born from the holy and virgin Mother in the meekness and poverty of Bethlehem.

Therefore, seeing that this feast is not an ordinary or temporal celebration, let us welcome it wholeheartedly into our soul and mind, and allow it to influence our way of life, and help us to every draw closer to Christ—He who came among us in the form of our humanity. The Birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the flesh is above every limit of time, season and generation, for, its meaning and power transcend the confines of time. The Son of God was born as Man, and He took upon Himself our humanity, complete in all things except sin. This humanity remains with Him for ever and ever, beyond all time. By the unspeakable humility of His taking our humanity upon Himself, the Son of God condescended in order to lift up our human race; He became poor in order to make us rich; He took mortality, in order to make us immortal. And in the end, He even took upon Himself ridicule and humiliation in order to make us partakers of the glory which humanity has not fathomed. Therefore, on behalf of all of this immeasurable love of the Lord Jesus Christ towards our human race, let us also dedicate and sanctify ourselves to him, both our minds and our hearts, unto His glory.

As we look forward to the coming New Year of 2023 with Christian hope, we reflect upon the Christian family, as the foundation of our Church. With great sadness we hear that in certain countries, where we have a large population of our faithful (particularly in the United States), that the government of these countries are enacting laws which contradict our Christian faith and against the divine teaching of the Holy Scriptures concerning the family and marriage, i.e., that marriage is no longer to be strictly defined as the union of one man and one woman. By such an action, the very essence of the family unit is being destroyed. We as believers in the Lord God, and in His Only-Begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ, hold firm that in the Holy Scriptures the totality of God's will for humanity and His divine commandments are to be found and are contained. As such, we must be vigilant and cautious concerning such attacks against the commandments of God. The will of God for all of humanity is self-evident and manifest, for the Lord commands: "Therefore, the man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and the two shall become one flesh" (Genesis 2:24).

-2-



And, Our Lord Jesus Christ confirms to the commandment of the Father: "Therefore, they are not two but one flesh. Thus, what God has united, let no man divide" (Matthew 19:6).

The Christian family is the foundation and basis of the Church, as well as that of human society as a whole. If the family and marriage are destroyed and their essence is altered, then all of humanity will reap destruction, for it is acting contrary to the will of God and the human order, which has been established once and for all time by our Creator. Therefore, beloved faithful of our holy Church: it is imperative that you show concern with respect to the instruction which your children are receiving in school, outside of the context of your family and Church, so that they are not led astray and tread the dark path that leads to sin and spiritual death. It is also imperative that hierarchs and priests, particularly in the diaspora, are cautious in preserving and promoting the divine instructions and the teaching of the Church concerning Christian morality, without alteration or influence from the governments of the countries in which you are residing. We understand and accept marriage and the family in the very same intent and desire by which they were established by the Lord God for our human race, and anything outside of this scope will lead to sin, and it contravenes the word and will of God. However, undoubtedly, to those persons who are led astray in the way and life of sin, the door of repentance is open to them, and the Lord always calls us to be ready to turn from the path and dark works of sin to Christ, our Lord and God, who gives us renewed and spiritual life when we remain steadfast in His commandment and in His word. Let us, therefore, be mindful of our calling and duty to respect and preserve the true meaning of marriage and the family, as true Christians in our world today, which day after day demonstrates signs of distancing itself from God.

In conclusion, we take this opportunity to extend our sincere Christmas greetings to all of you, beloved faithful of our holy Church in every country, as well as to all our brothers and sisters in Christ, without distinction. May this holy feast bring abundant blessings and hope to you, and to the whole world, for in truth we are all in need of this grace from God. May the New Year of 2023 be filled with the mercy of God for our entire Church, that it may be a year to draw us closer to one another as brothers and sisters, in the love of Christ. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ remain with us all, forever; Amen.

Given at our Patriarchal Cell in Erbil, Iraq, on the Feast of the Nativity, 2022 A.D.

\* AWA III

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

PATRIARCHATE OF THE HOLY APOSTOLIC CATHOLIC ASSYRIAN CHURCH OF THE EAST ERBIL, IRAQ



بطريركيّة كنيسة المُشرق الأشوريّة پاتريهركغاندى كەنيسەى رۆژھەلاتى ئاشوورى

#### مليقة فيدنوسقة ورويقة مويديقة معلسيقة ميةمليس وموريس ويريقه ويكرون فرافيل المؤيم

Their Eminences the Metropolitans, Their Graces the Bishops, the Reverend Clergy and the Faithful of the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahdo Church: Fraternal Greetings in Christ Jesus our Lord and God!

It is with a heavy heart that we have learned of the passing in the Lord of the late His Holiness Abune Kerlos I, Fifth Patriarch of the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahdo Church, this past December 2<sup>nd</sup>, after a sudden demise. At this time, I would like to offer fraternal condolences on behalf of the Holy Synod of the Assyrian Church of the East, as well as that of our faithful at large, to the Holy Synod of the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahdo Church, and her faithful worldwide.

No doubt, the late Abune Kerlos will be remembered as an ardent servant of Christ and a diligent and watchful shepherd of his flock. The late Patriarch served the patriarchal see for a brief time, but did so faithfully under difficult circumstances. Under the diligent efforts of the late Patriarch, six new bishops were consecrated last year to shepherd the Eritrean Orthodox faithful.

It is our prayer that the late Patriarch will hear the blessed and divine words of our Savior, which shall be addressed to all those who served Christ our Lord faithfully in this world, and ministered to the flock His holy Church: "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord" (Matthew 25:21).

May the soul of the late Abune Kerlos I rest in eternal peace, with all of the saints and holy ministers of God. During this time of deep mourning for your Church, please be assured of our fervent prayers for your bishops and clergy, and for all the Eritrean Orthodox faithful worldwide.

Given from our Patriarchal Cell in Erbil, Iraq, on this 5th day of December, 2022 AD.

\* AWA III Royel

By Grace: Catholicos-Patriarch

Offile Assyrian Church of the East Worldwide.

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After the Holy Qurbana H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa along with the clergy and Mumbai Parishners in connection with the anniversary of Mar Gabriel Parish, Mumbai on 9 October 2022



The release of the logo in connection with the first visit of His Holiness Mar Awa III Catholicos Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East to India from 4 to 14 January 2023 and the coronation service of the new Metropolitan of the Indian Archdiocese



Mar Hurmizd Parish, Goa releasing the souvenir in connection with its 10th anniversary. L to R: Mr. Boby Nallangara, Mr. P V Joseph, Vicar Fr. Jinu Jose and Deacon Rajan V L.



H L Mar Awgin Episcopa visits the St. Mother Theresa's "Nirmala Children's Home" during his visit to mark the 10th anniversary of Mar Gabriel Church, Mumbai



H L Mar Awgin Episcopa inaugurates the Office Room for the visit of His Holiness Mar Awa III to India and the consecration of H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa



H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa inaugurates the 'Media Center' of the Assyrian Church of the East in India at Valiyapally compound, Thrissur.



Flag off of anti-addiction rally organised by Cherur Mar Geevarghese Sahda Parish Men's Association against alcohol and drugs



A postage stamp for the Patriarchal visit in January 2023 is released by H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa along with Clergy & Trustees at a public meeting at Mar Sliva Church, Kochi

## Correction in Photo Captions

In the previous issue the captions on page 2 are wrong. The first photo is not at the Chaldean patriarchal Centre. The second photo is the visit of His Holiness Mar Awa III with Chaldean Patriarch Cardinal Mar Louis Raphael Sako and clergy not with the Armenian Archbishop. Sorry for the error.

## Nisibis Assyrian Theological College

Nisibis Assyrian Theological College inform that they have commenced enrolments for next year (2023). Their website www.nisibis.edu.au has all the required details. For further details please mail to Mar Benyamin Elya: marbenyamin@icloud.com

## **International News**

# His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch Meet with His Holiness Pope Francis

On Saturday morning, November 19, 2022, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, was received by His Holiness Pope Francis at the Apostolic Palace in the Vatican.

The delegation accompanying His Holiness were: His Eminence Mar Meelis Zaia, Archbishop of Australia, New Zealand, Lebanon, and Patriarchal General Vicar; His Grace Mar Awgin Kuriakos, Bishop and Patriarchal Administrator of All India & UAE; His Grace Mar Paulus Benjamin, Bishop of Eastern United States; His Grace Mar Abris Youkhanan, Bishop of Kirkuk, Diana, and Patriarchal Auxiliary; Archdeacon William Toma, and Corbishop George Toma, both from Chicago. The delegation of the Assyrian Church was in Rome from November 16-19 for the annual meeting of the Joint Commission for Theological Dialogue Between the Catholic Church and the Assyrian Church of the East.

The Patriarch offered a gift to the Pope which consisted of the stylistic Cross of the Assyrian Church of the East handmade in wood, and in turn, the Pope gifted a part of the relics of the Apostle St. Thomas to the Patriarch for the new Patriarchal Basilica of the Holy Apostles in Erbil, Iraq.

The Meeting was very fraternal, and many issues concerning the Christians of the Middle East were discussed, along with matters centered around the ecumenical relations between the two Churches, and other sister Christian Churches as well.

## Delegation from Alqush, Detroit, and Chicago met with His Holiness Mar Awa III

On Tuesday, November 29, 2022, A delegation from Alqush, Detroit, and Chicago met with His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East, who was accompanied by His Eminence Mar Aprim Athneil, Metropolitan of Syria, in Erbil at the patriarchal see, in order to pay homage and update His Holiness the Patriarch on the recent trip to the homeland.

The delegation was spearheaded by the Chaldean Community Foundation, the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce and was comprised of Mr. Martin Manna, the head of the organization, along with Mr. Dave Nona, a prominent member of the community in Detroit, Mr. Ismat Karmo, an activist and successful entrepreneur, Mr. Ghazwan Elias and Mr. Hanan Oia, both of who whom represent the organizations in Iraq. Accompanying the delegation was also Mr. Robert DeKelaita, an activist from the Chicago area and a consultant for the organizations. His Holiness blessed the humanitarian mission of the group and prayed for its success

# Radio Maria, Erbil Interviewed His Holiness Patriarch Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch

On Friday morning, December 23, 2022, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, visited Radio Maria in Erbil, and was formally received by Mr. Stivan Shani, director of the radio station, Fr. Savio Handoola, the Programs Director, and the staff of the station.

During the visit, His Holiness was toured at the station, prayed at the Chapel, and listened to the team about the Mission of the radio, the future plans, and programs aired in Erbil, Duhok, and Nineveh plain. Later, an interview was made with His Holiness addressing topics on the History, Liturgy, and Ecumenical relations of the Assyrian Church of the East.

At the end of the visit, His Holiness gifted the Radio a stylistic Cross of the Assyrian Church of the East handmade in wood, and exchanged Christmas greetings.

# Monthly Thoughts of H.G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan

(Translated from Malayalam Magazine - November & December)

#### **Festivals**

The festivals have started in our churches. Holidays are celebrations. But it is our duty to keep the celebrations from going too far. But it is our duty to keep the celebrations sparingly. We should plan programs to do good to others on every festivals. It should be possible to bring others to the spiritual level. It is wrong to think that festivals are only when there are fireworks and musical instruments. Through each feast, the bond of the parish and its loyalty to the Church should be demonstrated. Let's pray for that.

## At CMC Ranipet Campus

Due to overcrowding in Vellore CMC, two new branches of this hospital were started a few years ago. One is in Chittoor and the other is in Ranipet. My secretary Fr. Jacks Chandy and I were present at the Ranipet campus stone laying ceremony. This stone laying ceremony was done during the council meeting at CMC, Vellore. After the stone-laying ceremony, all the council members who had attended the meeting planted a tree. Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan was also present during the inauguration. It is functioning as a specialty hospital by spending Crores of It is from there that I am writing this monthly thoughts. Rupees.

I had to be admitted to West Fort Hi-Tech Hospital, Thrissur Poonkunnam on 14th October due to age-related ailments. In Thrissur I was under the treatment of Dr. TT Paul, who is the best nephrologist not only in our Church but in India also. According to the decision of our Church Medical Committee, I was admitted to CMC's new campus in Ranipet for specialist treatment on 9th November. I believe that after the treatment here in the coming days, I will reach Thrissur healthy. Please remember me in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Kunjamma Kunjipalu

I think Kunjamma Chechi is a well known person in our whole Church. Srimati Kunjamma is a person who led a fervent prayer life for the spiritual upliftment of the Church. It is recalled on this occasion that from the beginning of the Prayer Group until she fell ill, she did not stop sharing the word of God and trying to encourage others to speak the word of God. She has also worked as a member of the Church Council of the Mar Yohannan Mamdana Church, East Fort, I also share in the grief of her family members.

#### **CMC Vellore**

I am writing my "Monthly Thoughts" for this month from Christian Medical College, Vellore. I usually write this from Thrissur. I hope my readers know that I am undergoing treatment here. This institution of CMC has been built by spending Crores of rupees. The institution is expanding by building new campuses. Many people are also receiving treatment in this institution. It is impossible not to say that this institution is an asset to the Christian Church. Patients from many churches and different sections of the society keep coming here for treatment. We can be proud that our Church also has membership here. It is also a great thing for the children of our church to have the opportunity to study here. Members of our congregation should understand and benefit from our membership from this organization. I hear complaints from those who are not getting admission. You cannot get admission to the courses here without getting good marks. So students who study well should try to get admission here with special tuition assistance. This year only one student got admission from our Church in CMC for MBBS. But there are Churches that do not get even one seat. Therefore, we try to ensure that our children get one or two seats every year. We can hope to get at least one seat by participating special coaching. Attempting to gain admission by money or recommendation is not successful. I take this opportunity to congratulate Thomas Rishi who got MBBS admission in Vellore in this year.

## Visit of His Holiness Mar Awa III

The Indian Church is preparing for the visit of His Holiness Mar Awa III to India. May his visit bring a new awakening to the Church. This visit will be from 4th to 14th January 2023. I pray that the people of the Indian Church will take advantage of these rare opportunities for the Indian Church. The 8th of January is the consecration day of the Metropolitan in Indian Church.

Let me remind you that believers should be interested and involved in all the programs connecting to the visit of His Holiness.

## **Prayer Meetings**

We were able to conduct two prayer meetings in Vellore. One is for the doctors, nurses and students of our Church who are serving here and studying other subjects.

The second one was done for the doctors, nurses and relatives of the other congregations here who treated me. I also sang the song 'Looking at the Calvary Cross' written by me. I glorify God who strengthened me for this. May it help those here to know about our Church.

Have a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year. Mar Aprem Metropolitan

05.12.2022

News from the Archdiocese of India

# Parish Day in Mumbai

Mar Gabriel Parish, Mumbai celebrated its anniversary in a grand manner. HL Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa was present at the annual celebrations held on 9th of October 2022. The Holy Qurbana held on that day was officiated by the designated Metropolitan H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa. In the ensuing general assembly Metropolitan-designate H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose was felicitated.

As India celebrated its 75th Independence Day, senior citizens aged 75 years and above were honored in the parish. Prizes were awarded to those who completed SSLC, degree etc at school-college level, those who passed the Sunday school half-yearly examination, teachers and children those who had attended the Sunday School classes without break.

Then His Lordship inaugurated the activities of the Mumbai Parish as part of the World Food Day. He reminded us that we should understand the value of food and not waste it, and it is our responsibility to care for those who are in pain. Ending the cry of hunger is the collective responsibility of every individual, family, church, religion and government and wished that the goal of our church would be successful. After the cultural programmes and the lunch H L Mar Awgin Episcopa visited the "Nirmala Children's Home" and distributed the necessary food items. During the three-day visit in Mumbai Parish Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa visited various houses in the parish and offered prayers.

## Bishop Dr. Paulose Mar Paulose Memorial Arts Festival

As part of the 2022-23 Bishop Dr. Paulose Mar Paulose Memorial Arts Festival, the Youth Association Central Committee and the Mar Dinha Parish, Chiyyaram Youth Association jointly organised a shuttle tournament. Mrs. Sindu Anto Chakola, Thrissur Corporation Councilor inaugurated the tournament on Sunday, October 9, 2022 at 9 30 am. The matches were held at Kuriyachira Sports Centre.

# **Inauguration of Donation Coupon**

At the public meeting held at Marth Mariam Valiyapally on the occasion of the Purification of the Church, Chairman of the Finance Committee Mr. CP Jose gives a coupon of Rs.1 lakh to the member of the Standing Committee Chairman Mr. M I Pauli for the inauguration of the donation coupon to be released in connection with the Patriarchal visit to be held in January 2023.

In the inauguration ceremony, H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa, Board of the Central Trusty Chairman Sri A M Antony, Corporation Councilor Sindhu Anto Chakola, Vicar of Valiyapalli Rev. Fr. Cyril Antony, Kaikaran Mr. Sojan P John and Thirunal Convener Mr. Charles Chitilapilli were present.

# Logo Release

The release of the logo in connection with the first visit of His Holiness Mar Awa III Catholicos Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East to India from 4th to 14th January 2023 and the coronation service of the new Metropolitan of the Indian Archdiocese, was performed by Metropolitan-designate H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa at Thiroor Seminary. General Convener Mr. Jacob Baby, The Board of Central Trustees Mr. A M Antony, Publicity Media Chairman Mr. Abi J Ponmanissery, Sunday School General Secretary Rev. Fr. Vinod Thimothy were also participated in the function. Which was also witnessed by Sunday School 10th class students and their teachers.

Members of our congregation were asked to send their creations for the official logo of the visit of His Holiness and the Consecration of the Metropolitan service to be held in our Holy Congregation in the month of January 2013. It is hereby informed that the logo sent by Mr. Robish Kaipulli, Parish Member of St. Thomas Church, Ernakulam, has been selected as the official logo for the above events. As an Artist and the Parish Kaikaran, Mr. Robish was congratulated on behalf of the Steering Committee.

## Mar Hurmizd Parish, Goa

On 30 October 2022 Rev Fr Jinu Jose offered Holy Qurbana at Goa Mission Parish which was renamed as Mar Hurmizd Parish. Deacon Rajan Vattakuzhi was the assistant. A few members from Mumbai parish, Mar Gabriel Church also attended the Holy Qurbana. In the meeting held after the Holy Qurbana, the souvenir, prepared on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Goa Mission Parish was released by Trustee Mr. P V Joseph by giving it to the Parish Vicar Fr. Jinu Jose. The next Holy Qurbana is scheduled for 29th January 2023. For further details please contact Vicar Fr. Jinu Jose (Mob: 8157009452) and Trustee P V Joseph (Mob: 8411944545).

## **Ordination**

His Lordship, Metropolitan-designate, Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa ordained Laiju Vattakuzhi as deacon on Sunday 23rd October 2022 at the Mar Awgin Thuvan Church, West Fort. He is the member of Mar Timotheus Church, Bangalore and the son of late Vattakuzhi Rappai and Leela.

# **Postage Stamp Issued**

A postage stamp bearing the portrait of His Holiness was released. On Sunday, November 13, 2022, at the general meeting held on the occasion of Parish Day in Kochi Mar Sliva Church, Metropolitan-designate H L Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa released the postal stamp as part of the first visit of His Holiness Mar Awa III to India and the Metropolitan Consecration Service of the Indian Archdiocese.

In the meeting, Vicar Fr Anto Thomas, Fr MD Abi, Fr Michael Vallawanthra, Chairman of the Board of Central Trustees Mr A M Antony, General Convener Mr. Jacob Baby, Board members Shaju A V, Leons Kangappadan, Mar Sliva Church Parish Council members and parishioners attended the function.

January

01. Memorial of Mar Zaia

06.Epiphany

06.Memorial of Mart Mariam

13. Memorial of Mar Yohannan Mamdhana

20.Memorial of Pathros & Paulose

20. Memorial of 4 Evangelists

27. Memorial of Mar Esthapanose Sahda

30-31 Ba'utha of Ninevites

February

01.Ba'utha of Ninevites

02.Kubalthaibutha

03. Greek Malpans

03. Memorial of Syriac Malpans

05.Mar Yonan

10.Mar Awa Catholicos

17. Friday of Departed

19.Lent Begins

March

10. Forty Martyrs Crowned in Ghieda

16.Mar Benyamin Shimun, Martyr (1918)

25. Tidings to Mart Mariam from Angel Gabriel 13. Consecration of H H Mar Awa III

26.Mar Michael, Friend of Angels

31.Friday of Lazar

April

02.Oshana

06.Pis'ha of our Lord (Maundy Thursday) **October** 

07.Good Friday

08.Holy Saturday

09.Easter

14.Confessor's Day 14.Mar Shimun Bar Sabbae

16.New Sunday

24. Memorial of Mar Gewargis

24.Rabban Hurmizd

May

01.Memorial of St. Mar Abimalek

Timotheus (d.1945)

03. Shmonie and her Children

05.Mar Sargis, Mar Bachos

07.Mar Addai Shleeha

18.Sulaga (Ascension)

28.Pentecost

31.1st Holy Qurbana by Mar Yakob

June

02.Friday of Gold

July

02.Mar B'hisho

03.St. Thomas Day 12.Memorial of St. Mar Yosip

Khananisho (d.1977) 14.Memorial of 72 Apostles

15.Mar Kuriakose and Mother Yolethe

16.Nusardail & Memorial of 12 disciples 21.Mar Yakob of Nisibis

Calendar - 2023

28.Mar Mari Shleeha

August

01. Beginning of 15 Day Fast

04.Mar Eyyob Hdayyavaya
06.Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor
15.Death of Mart Mariam (Shunaya)

18. Shmone and her Children

25.Mar Shimun Barsabbae

September

01.Rabban Hurmizd

01.Mar Qardagh Sahda 08.Birth of Mart Mariam

13. Festival of Cross

14.Mar Bhisho

18. Remembrance of Yonakhir & his wife Hanna,

Mother of Marth Mariam

19.Mar Shallitha

01.Mar Khananiya, who baptised St. Paul

12. Three Hundred Saints of Shigar

15.Mar Pithyon

22.Mar Moshe Nwiya

29.Mar Elia Prophet

November

05.Hallowing of the Church 06.Mar Gewargis Sahda 12.Day of Tithes

15.Memorial of All Saints

19.Mar Yaqob M'pasqa

24.Mar Augin Thoovana

December

01. Subara (Advent) Begins 08. Mar Gabriel of Karsa,

08. Mar Abdisho Armaya

22 .Memorial of 12000 Martyrs

24.Mar Awa of Nineveh

25.Christmas



His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch speaking in a special interview on Radio Maria - Erbil, on 23 December 2022



On Sunday, December 25, 2022, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, together with the heads of the various Churches in Erbil, gathered to receive Christmas Greetings at the Chaldean Archbishopric of Erbil. Among the attendees were officials from the KRG, local Assyrian and Kurdish representatives of the various political parties. They offered their greetings and best wishes on the occasion of the feast of Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, as well as for the upcoming New Year.



Finance Committee Chairman Mr. CP Jose inaugurates the donation coupon issued on the occasion of Patriarchal visit by presenting the coupon to the Steering Committee Member Mr. M I Pauly worth Rupees One Lakh



Mrs. Sindu Anto Chakola, Thrissur Corporation Councilor inaugurates the 'Bishop Dr. Paulose Mar Paulose Memorial Arts Festival 2022-23' organised by the Youth Association Central Committee and the Mar Dinha Parish, Chiyyaram Youth Association