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Vol 70

Novembewre - December 2023

Nos 11 - 12



H B Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan delivers the Christmas Message at the 34th Christmas Choir Meet held on 25 December 2023 at Mart Mariam Big Church compound under the auspices of the Youth Association of Mart Mariam parish.

L to R: Rev. Fr. K R Inasu, H B Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Mr. Sojan P John and H B Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan

VOICE OF THE EAST



**His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch meet His Excellency
Mr. Mark Stroh, the new US Consul General to Erbil on
November 2, 2023**



**His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, meet Mr. Isam Afram
Hanna, Director General of the Department of Christian Affairs at the
Christian, Yazidi and Sabeen-Mandaean Religion Endowment
Bureau on November 4, 2023**

Voice of the East

VOICE OF THE EAST

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Diocese of Europe: www.assyrianchurch-europe.org

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

Unofficial: www.nestorian.org

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Editorial

The Festive Season is here; Christmas being the most wonderful season of the year bringing people together towards the miraculous joy and celebrations of the virgin birth. We usually celebrate Christmas on December 25, but it is astonishing that people from different parts of the world commemorate Christmas on different dates of the year. It shows the disunity of Christianity.

The things people do to celebrate this wonderful day include decorating Christmas trees, familial get-to-gathers for Christmas feast, Mid-night Holy Qurbana, Carols and choir singing with Christmas Papa, baking cakes, exchanging gifts and so on are almost same. But that these are occurring in different countries on different dates in different climates is indeed conspicuous.

Some people around the world celebrate Christmas in January, claiming that Christmas is the 7th day designated by the Julian calendar. Meanwhile, some communities still continue to celebrate Christmas on January 6. In the Holy Land, the birth of Christ is said to be celebrated by Orthodox churches on January 19, which is also according to the old, Julian calendar. However some articles evidently say that Christians across the world started celebrating Christmas on December 25 only after the fourth century.

The celebrations for Christmas starts even by mid-November as streets and shops get super-busy and engaged and most of them decorated with lights and garlands. The eventual importance of lighting stars in households, buildings and churches have brought luminous beauty to that time of the year and I am sure we also have an interesting history behind it too. Now it became a trick of boosting all kind of business.

Nevertheless, now-a-days people however do find time for celebrating the day but I could say that people with well-defined financial structure and margins have more privileges for celebrating Christmas in a well-mannered and exclusive way. People with money and power should do less celebration and pomp and work more towards the true purpose of the day Christ was born for the sins of people all over the world.

The message for kindness and sharing should be strewn more and we should be more considerate to people who pass through life alone and who do not have life circumstances that let them celebrate any kind of festivities.

Let the light and power of the birth shower its blessing upon us all.

Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan

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confirm you in the genuineness of your faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the framework of the Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East. The Apostle Jude exhorts us that we must contend for the sake of our faith, which is holy and orthodox. This requires the zealous labor and diligence of our brother hierarchs in their respective dioceses and of our spiritual sons, the priests in their parishes, in unisons with the deacons and Church committees; so that we may all together, as one unified body can preserve our holy faith without any alteration whatsoever. Let us all be servants of our holy faith in every aspect of our life and society.

On this occasion, we are remembering all the children of our Holy Church who are migrants far from their homeland in various countries, for they are awaiting to arrive at a haven of peace for themselves and their families. Today, we have thousands of migrants in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and other countries. It is our continuous duty to be stewards of aid for these children of our Church to meet their various needs in these distressing circumstances. I thank all of you for supporting the Assyrian Church of the East Relief Organization (ACERO), which is working beyond measure to meet the needs of the children of our Church, without distinction, in these countries, and in many other parts of the world.

In conclusion, I pray that the holy peace that was announced by the heavenly hosts to the shepherds and to humanity at the birth of the Son of God in the flesh, may rest upon you all and remain with you continually. Together, let us all pray to the Lord God to bring an end to the catastrophic armed conflicts that, today, trouble countries in the East and the West, for there are many innocent victims who are losing their lives and facing great losses in the battles between nations. It is my sincere hope that the new year of our Lord, 2024, be blessed for you all and for all of humanity, without distinction, so that it may be a year abundant with tranquility, peace, and blessings of the Lord God for the entire human race; amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all; amen!

Given from our Patriarchal Cell at the Great Church of the Holy Apostles of the East, in Erbil, Iraq, on the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord, 2023 A.D.



† Mar AWA III

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

His Excellency Mr. Mark Stroh: New US Consul General in Erbil

On Thursday, November 2, 2023, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, was received by His Excellency Mr. Mark Stroh, the new US Consul General to Erbil, at the consulate in a courtesy visit. The meeting was also attended by Ms. Pamela J. Hack, Deputy Principal Officer at the consulate.

During the meeting a broad range of topics were discussed, including the recent events happening in the Middle East, the need for peace, and the impact of these events on Christians in the affected areas and throughout the region.

Mr. Isam Afram Hanna Director General of the Department of Christian Affairs

Saturday, November 4, 2023, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, received in audience Mr. Isam Afram Hanna, Director General of the Department of Christian Affairs at the Christian, Yazidi and Sabeen-Mandaean Religion Endowment Bureau, accompanied by Engineer Raad Putrus, Responsible for the Mosul Department of the Bureau.

During the audience a wide range of issues was discussed, including the bureau's efforts to document all the religious sites of Christians, Yazidis, and Sabeen-Mandaean and make them accessible on their website. Additionally, the importance of strengthening communication between the Department of Christian Affairs and the churches was emphasized, with the department affirming its readiness to serve and support all the churches recognized in the bureau's bylaws, as well as their congregations throughout Iraq.

Support for the Victims of the Baghdeda Wedding Tragedy

His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, sent a fraternal letter to His Beatitude Mar Ignatius Joseph III Younan, Patriarch of the Syriac Catholic Church, confirming the solidarity of the Assyrian Church of the East with the families of the martyrs and injured of the tragedy of the wedding in Baghdeda by sending financial donations to the affected families.

The Assyrian Church of the East Relief Organization (ACERO) donated a sum of \$40,000 USD as a demonstration of brotherhood and solidarity. This donation was delivered by His Grace Mar Abris Youkhanan, Bishop of Nohadra and Nineveh, to His Excellency Mar Benedictus Younan, Archbishop of Mosul for the Syriac Catholics, on Thursday, November 9, 2023.

In addition, the amount of \$50,000 AUD was donated from the Australia branch of ACERO to His Excellency Archbishop Mar Basilius Qass Moussa, Apostolic Visitor of the Syriac Catholic Church in Australia and New Zealand.

His Excellency Dr. Saywan Barzani, Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq to the Italian Republic

On Friday, November 10, 2023, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, received at the patriarchate in Erbil His Excellency Dr. Saywan Barzani, Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq to the Italian Republic.

The patriarch received the ambassador in a courtesy visit, and issues pertaining to the Assyrian and Christian presence in the KRI were discussed, among others. Of particular interest in the conversations was the presence of many Assyrian historical churches and monasteries in Iraq, and most notably in the region of Barzan. The two allocators also discussed the importance of the preservation of the ancient Aramaic language of Christ in the Region, and the possibility of promoting joint cultural initiatives, particularly in the area of musical conservatories in the KRI.

CAPNI Celebrates 30th Anniversary

On Saturday, November 11, 2023, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, patronized the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the CAPNI organization, which was held at Muhammad Arif Jaziri Hall in Nohadra (Duhok).

The celebration was attended by His Eminence Mar Aprim Athniel, Metropolitan of Syria, His Grace Mar Abris Youkhannan, Bishop of Nohadra and Nineveh, as well as Their Excellencies, the Prelates of sister churches. Additionally, officials from the Kurdistan Regional Government, and heads & representatives of international and local organizations and foundations were present.

In His keynote address, His Holiness highlighted the significant achievements in the history of CAPNI over the past three decades, including the construction and renovation of churches, with a special mention of the Martyrs church in Semele; building halls, schools, and Educational Centers; printing and publishing of numerous books in the fields of religion and culture. In addition, CAPNI has been actively involved in service projects in Sapna, the Nahla valley, and the Nineveh Plain, providing support to farmers, and accomplishing various other milestones.

Expressing warm congratulations, His Holiness acknowledged the role of Reverend Archdeacon Emmanuel Youkhanna, the Executive Director of the CAPNI organization and one of its founders. His Holiness thanked him for his dedicated efforts in building strong relationships with numerous humanitarian institutions across the globe. As a token of appreciation for his 30 years of diligent service, His Holiness presented Archdeacon Emmanuel with a Patriarchal Cross.

Shwila Organization

On Saturday, November 18, 2023, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, presided over the inaugural meeting of the Shwila Organization for Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Aid Organization at the Patriarchate in Erbil. The meeting was attended by the governing board and the main staff of the organization.

The meeting aimed to review the profile of the organization, gain a comprehensive understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each member, and discuss the main priorities to be finalized before starting the planning process and the implementation of community projects.

SHWILA is a faith-based NGO, officially registered in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, and was founded on July 31, 2022 by His Holiness the Patriarch, and will work to meet the current and future needs of the faithful and larger community by implementing a range of developmental initiatives, empower individuals and communities, and a multitude of endeavors that aims to uplift and empower Assyrian communities and the youth within their ancestral homeland.

Russian Federation Awards ‘Order of Friendship’ to Catholicos-Patriarch

On November 22, 2023, The President of the Russian Federation signed a decree at the Kremlin in Moscow on awarding the ‘Order of Friendship’ to the Primate of the Assyrian Church of the East, His Holiness Catholicos-Patriarch Mar Awa III. The document is published on the official state legal information portal.



As a demonstration of brotherhood and solidarity His Grace Mar Abris Youkhanan, Bishop of Nohadra and Nineveh, handing over a sum of \$40,000 (USD) on behalf of the Australia branch of ACERO to His Excellency Mar Benedictus Younan, Archbishop of Mosul for the Syriac Catholics on November 9, 2023



His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch meet His Excellency Dr. Saywan Barzani, Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq to the Italian Republic at the patriarchate in Erbil on 10 November, 2023,



Attendees at the celebration of 30th anniversary of the founding of the CAPNI organization, which was held at Muhammad Arif Jaziri Hall in Nohadra (Duhok) on Saturday, November 11, 2023



Attendees at the inaugural meeting of the Shwila Organization for Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Aid Organization at the Patriarchate in Erbil



The members of the Joint Commission of the Theological Dialogue held at the Vatican in Rome from the Assyrian Church of the East and the Roman Catholic Church from 22 to 24 November 2023. From L to R: 1. Cor-episcopa George Toma. 2. Archdeacon William Toma. 3. HG Mar Abris Yokhannan. 4. HG Mar Paulus Benjamin. 5. HB Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan. 6. Cardinal Koch. 7. Archbishop Antonie Audo. 8. Prof. Therasia. 9. Rev. Zeljko Pasa SJ. 10. Bishop Francis Kalabat. 11. Rev. Jijimon SJ. 12. Rev. Hyacinthe Destivelle OP



Pastoral visitation of His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch to the parishes of Diana on Saturday, December 16, 2023



The newly ordained clergy and the choir group with HH Mar Awa III after the ordination at the Mar Youkhanan Patriarchal Cathedral in Ankawa on Friday, November 24, 2023



The newly ordained clergy and the choir group with HH Mar Awa III after the ordination at the Mar Gewargis Church in Diana on Friday, December 15, 2023

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The document reads, in part: “For his great contribution to the preservation and development of spiritual and cultural traditions, the strengthening of peace and harmony between peoples, to award the ‘Order of Friendship’ of His Holiness Catholicos-Patriarch Mar Awa III, the Primate of the Assyrian Church of the East.”

In October, His Holiness accompanied by a delegation of bishops and clergy visited Moscow at the invitation of Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, taking a primatial part in the celebrations honoring the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Moscow Assyrian Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which has the status of a representative office of the Assyrian Church in Russia.

It is pertinent to recall that there are over 20,000 Assyrians living in the Russian Federation, with three parishes: Moscow, Krasnodar and Rostov-on-Don. The Assyrian faithful in the Russian Federation are under the direct jurisdiction of the Patriarchal See of the Assyrian Church of the East.

The Joint International Commission for Theological Dialogue between the Catholic Church and the Assyrian Church of the East

The annual meeting of the Joint International Commission for Theological Dialogue between the Catholic Church and the Assyrian Church of the East, met in Rome from November 21-23, at the seat of the Pontifical Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity. The meeting was co-chaired this year by His Eminence Mar Awgin Kuriakose, Metropolitan of the Archdiocese of India & the Gulf Countries, in the absence of the standing co-chair His Eminence Mar Meelis Zaia AM, Metropolitan of Australia, New Zealand, Lebanon, and Patriarchal Vicar General.

ⲫThe other Assyrian members of the Commission include: His Grace Mar Paulus Benjamin, Bishop of the Eastern USA; His Grace Mar Abris Youkhanan, Bishop of Nohadra & Nineveh; Very Rev. Archdeacon William Toma, and Very Rev. Cor-bishop George Toma. The topic of discussion of this year’s meeting of the Commission was ‘Liturgy in the Life of the Churches. Papers were presented from the liturgical traditions of both the Assyrian and the Latin Churches.

Ordinations in Ankawa

On Friday, November 24, 2023, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos - Patriarch, presided over the celebration of the ordination of Andi Adwar, Yousip Abrael, Ogar Iskhaq, and Dania Zaia to the rank of lector, and elevated the subdeacons Yokhanan Youala, Rabel Abrael, Ones Nawzad, Roodi Raad, and Adrian Fawzi to the rank of Deaconate at the Mar Youkhanan Patriarchal Cathedral in Ankawa. Following the ordination, His Holiness celebrated the Holy Qurbana.

On Friday, December 15, 2023, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, presided over the celebration of the ordination of lectors Atra Fareed and Frank Sliwa to the rank of Subdeacon, and elevated the subdeacon Rabel Romio to the rank of Deaconate at the Mar Gewargis Church in Diana. Following the ordination, His Holiness celebrated the Holy Qurbana.

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Pastoral Visit of His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch to Diana Parishes

On Saturday, December 16, 2023, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, during his pastoral visitation the parishes of Diana and Hawdiyan in the Soran Independent Administration, visited the Region of Barzan. During His Holiness' visit, he offered his condolences in person to Sheikh Khalat Barzani, the representative of President Masoud Barzani for the Barzani Family Mausoleum on the occasion of the demise of his mother. In His Holiness' welcome to the village, Sheikh Rabea Ahmed Barzani was also present to receive His Holiness and the accompanying entourage from the villages of Diana and Hawdiyan.

During His Holiness' visit, he also visited the graves of the late Mulla Mustafa Barzani and Idris Barzani, the father and brother of President Masoud Barzani. His Holiness was then given a brief tour of the Barzani National Memorial Center.

His Holiness was accompanied by Fr. Yatron Yonan, parish priest of the villages of Diana, Hawdiyan, and Bidyal; deacons; and, the elders of the Assyrian community in Soran.

Christmas and New Year's Reception

On Sunday, December 17, 2023, at the invitation of His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, a Christmas and New Year's reception was held for the foreign diplomatic corps and governmental representations to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) at the Patriarchate.

The gathering was attended by His Excellency Mr. Fawzi Hariri, President of the Divan of the Presidency of the KRI and His Excellency Mr. Safeen Dezayee, Head of the Department of Foreign Relations of KRG. Also in attendance were various consul generals of the many governmental representations in Kurdistan.

His Holiness the Patriarch addressed the gathering with his opening statement and emphasized the need for the promotion of peace amongst peoples and nations throughout the world by both clergy and civil servants. After His Holiness' address, His Excellency Mr. Safeen Dezayee also shared a few remarks highlighting His Holiness' speech for the need for peace in the world, and he also affirmed the KRG's commitment to supporting the work of the Patriarchate in Erbil, as a beacon for the Assyrian Church of the East worldwide in promoting peaceful coexistence in the Region among the followers of all religions.

His Excellency Mr. Ano Jawhar Abdoka

On Thursday, December 21, 2023, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, received in audience His Excellency Mr. Ano Jawhar Abdoka, Minister of Transportation and Communications of the Kurdistan Regional Government, accompanied by Mr. Muhsin Ali, Administration Manager of the Prime Minister's Office His Excellency Mr. Masrouf Barzani.

During the audience, a formal letter and gift from His Excellency the Prime Minister was presented to His Holiness the Patriarch for Christmas and New Year's greetings.

His Excellency Mr. Nasrullah Rashnoodi

On Tuesday, December 26, 2023, His Holiness Mar Awa III, Catholicos-Patriarch, received in audience at the Patriarchate His Excellency Mr. Nasrullah Rashnoodi, Consul General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Erbil, accompanied by a delegation from the Consulate.

During the audience, Mr. Rashnoodi offered his personal greetings and well-wishes for the feast of Christmas and the New Year, with the hope that 2024 will be a year filled with peace for the entire world, especially for the Middle East. His Holiness thanked His Excellency for his visit and reemphasized from his Christmas homily the need to continue to pray for peace in the world and the Holy Land, particularly in Gaza, and for a complete ceasefire and release of all captives.

News from the Archdiocese of India

Mar Sliva Church Parish Day

The 53rd Parish Day of Mar Sliva Church, Kochi, was duly celebrated on Sunday 24th September 2023. On that morning, a solemn Holy Qurbana was celebrated under the patronage of His Beatitude Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan. A general meeting of the parish was then held. HB Mar Awgin Kuriakose, who was elevated to the rank of Metropolitan, was congratulated at the said general meeting. Priests from Ernakulam-Kochi region who have received their ordination from Kochi itself and also who have served the Kochi church were honored with parish awards.

On that day, the couples from the parish who celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary and the parish members who celebrated their eightieth birthday were felicitated by wearing Golden Shawl and giving the parish awards. The students who secured high marks in SSLC-Plus Two, Sunday school teachers and Sunday school students were felicitated for the academic year 2022-23.

The meeting, which was enriched by the participation of parishioners, grandchildren and elders, concluded with the blessing of His Beatitude Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan.

Senior Priests Honored

Senior priests of the Holy Church were honored at their homes under the leadership of the Central Committee of the Men's Association.

Reverend Fr. PK Varghese who completed 65 years of priesthood, Reverend Fr. AC Anthony who completed 50 years in the priesthood, Reverend Fr. CK Yohannan, Reverend Fr. TO Ignatius and Reverend Fr. TV Thomas who completed 55 years in the priesthood were honored by the organization. All the services rendered and still being rendered by the honorable priests are gratefully remembered. Wishing them health and wellbeing.

Seniors Day

The Men's Association of Chaldean Syrian Church of the East organized 'Seniors Day' on Sunday 22nd October 2023 under the leadership of Central Committee. HB Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan inaugurated the ceremony. President Rev. Fr. Jose

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Vengassery presided. General Secretary Mr. Abi J Ponmanissery spoke while honoring all the members who completed 75 years in the organization.

Clergy Council Secretary Rev. Fr. K. R. Inassu, The Board of Central Trusty Chairman Mr. Jacob Olakengil, Fr. Abin Babu, Mr. James Ukan and Mr. Bedjo John preached. There was a seminar on “Lifestyle and Anti Aging” conducted by Dr. Reena Chittilapilli, Chief Dietitian, Amala Medical College. Members who have completed 75 years of age have been honored by the Metropolitan with gifts of love from the Men’s Association.

The 41st Kuruvilachan Art Festival

The 41st *Kuruvilaachchan Kalamela* (Art Festival in the name of priest Kuruvila) was organized on 1, 23 and 24 October 2024. The 41st Kuruvilaachchan Kalamela was inaugurated by HB Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan. HB Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan inaugurated the festival after placing a floral wreath at the grave of Reverend Kuruvilachan, who is buried in the Church of priest Kuruvila. The Metropolitan called upon the Sunday school students to advance in life by upholding the unshakable faith of the ancient eastern Church of the East and by holding fast to the ardent evangelical interest of Kuruvilachan. Hundreds of students from different parishes participated in the art fair. Students were able to showcase their talents in various events. Mar Addai Shleeha Parish retained the top position in the art fair held on a competitive basis with more points. Mar Mari Shleeha Parish was crowned second and Mar Awgin Thuvna Parish third.

The main reason for the success of the 41st Kuruvilachan Kalamela is the full cooperation of teachers and parents who love the Sunday school movement. However, teachers and parents are aware that student participation is declining. May the teachers and students be able to participate in the Kuruvilayachan Kalamela with more enthusiasm in the coming years.

Retreat

On Sunday 29th October 2023, a Retreat was held at Tirur Seminary for the students of the 10th class of Sunday School. HB Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan celebrated the Holy Qurbana at Tirur Mar Yonan Church. The Metropolitan called upon the children to live with theological awareness and walk closely with the Church to face the challenges of the times. Venerable Vinod Pallan led the Retreat held at the seminary after the Holy Mass. He became a good guide by understanding the emotional problems of teenage children and giving them the advice they need. The 2023 Retreat was beneficial to all the students who participated from various backgrounds. The children who participated in the Retreat returned home with new decisions and a better conviction to intervene in the problems of the church and society in a beneficial way.

Sunday School Day 2023

Sunday School Day 2023 will be held on December 3rd with a colorful rally and stills. It should be possible to get maximum number of members from each parish to participate in the rally. Let every church believer participate in this and be proud of it by understanding it as the church’s declaration of faith rally.....Father Vinod Timathi - General Secretary.

Mar Addai Shleeha Church, Paravattani, Thrissur

Family reunion day was celebrated at Parvattani Mar Addai Shleeha Church. The programs started with the Holy Qurbana in the morning and concluded at 9.30 pm. Dr. Mini Cariappa, Head of Anatomy, Amala Medical College, conducted the seminar on ‘Family as Heaven’. There were sports competitions, art shows, dances and prize giving for the winners of the Sunday school semi-annual examination.

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As part of the Family Unity Day celebration, under the leadership of 'Mar Abhimalek Timotheus Memorial Sadhu Protection Nidhi', the 'Sneha Puthapu' project to provide blankets to the needy was handed over by Rev. Fr. Runo Varghese to Secretary Anto D Ollukaran. Assistant Vicar Rev Fr. Timotheos Joy, Sister Annie T Y and Kaikars Mr. Tony Raphael & Mr. Paul Mathew also offered greetings.

St. Thomas Church, Coimbatore

Fr. Antony Kaitharan, Parish Vicar, hoisted the flag for the festival celebration of St. Thomas Church, Coimbatore held on 25th and 26th. Coimbatore is the only church outside Kerala of the Assyrian Church of the East named after the Apostle of India. On the 25th at 7.30 pm there was an evening prayer followed by the procession in the traditional style of the Assyrian Church around the shrine. On 26th, at 7.30 am, the festive program was held under the leadership of Fr. Sunny S Koola. Fr. Anthony Kaitaran Assisted.

Mar Timotheus Church, Calicut

Mar Timotheus Church, Calicut celebrated the parish festival on 25th and 26th November. November 25 *Ramsha* prayer followed by the devotional festival procession. Holy Qurbana at 7.30 am on November 26 followed by the auction as part of the Tithe. The General meeting was at 5.30 pm. Calicut Mayor Dr. Bina Philip was the chief guest at the function. St. Maries CSI Church Father James, Parish Priest Fr. Binu Joseph, Deacon Sanu Simon, Kaikars Mr. Abi Francis & Mr. Varghese Mathew, Parish Council Representatives Mr. A M Antony and Mr. John Peter attended the ceremony. The festival was concluded with the blessing of Vicar Fr. Binu Joseph.

Mar Augin Thoovana Church, West Fort, Thrissur

The flag hoisting ceremony of Mar Awgin Thuvana Church, which located in the heart of Thrissur West Fort in the name of Saint Mar Awgin, by His Beatitude Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan was held after the Sunday Qurbana on November 12th. On Friday 17th morning the Holy Qurbana was conducted for the dead of the parish and service was held.

In the evening 'switch on' ceremony of the illumination of the Church was performed by Hon'ble Circle Inspector Sri Harshad of Thrissur West Police Station. Then there were art performances by Sunday school children, devotional organizations and parishioners. On the 18th Saturday evening, *Ramsha* prayer and festival procession were performed. On Sunday morning, the 19th, the Holy Qurbana was celebrated by the Parish Priest Fr. Tinto K Timothy. And then there was the love feast.

Thrissur Corporation Deputy Mayor Mrs. ML Rossy inaugurated the public meeting held at 6pm. At the general meeting, the members of the Central Trustee Board were honored, the parishioner and cine artist Mithila Jobi was honored, and the Sunday school children and the children who participated in the Kuruvilachan Art competition were given prizes. Then there was a music festival.

Children's Park

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees Mr. Jacob Baby Olakengil inaugurated the Children's Park at Mar Thimotheus LP School, Kuriachira. Rev Fr. Denny Thalokaran gave the benediction. Corporate Manager Dr. Sister Jincy Othottil gave a congratulatory speech. LP School Headmistress Mrs Princy Isaac thanked. Vice Chairman Mr. Rajan Jose Mannuthi, Member Board of Trustees Mr. Lali Raphael, High School Head Master Mr. Denny Mathews, PTA Vice President Mr. Sumesh Thazhtha, OSA Committee Member Mr. Bose and other PTA members, OSA members, teachers and children were present.

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Calendar - 2024	
January 01. Memorial of Mar Zaia 05. Memorial of Mart Mariam 06. Epiphany 12. Memorial of Mar Yohannan Mamdhana 19. Memorial of St Peter & Paul 19. Memorial of 4 Evangelists 22-24 Ba'utha of Ninevites 25. Kubalthaibutha 26. Memorial of Mar Esthapanose Sahda 26. Mar Awa Catholicos 28. Mar Yonan	July 02. Mar B'hisho 03. St. Thomas Day 05. Memorial of 72 Apostles 07. Nusardail & Memorial of 12 disciples 12. Mar Yakob of Nisibis 12. Memorial of St. Mar Yosip Khananisho (d. 1977) 15. Mar Kuriakose and Mother Yolethe 19. Mar Mari Shleeha 26. Mar Eyyob Hdayyavaya
February 02. Syriac Malpans, Greek Malpans 09. Friday of Departed 11. Lent Begins 16. Forty Martyrs Crowned in Ghieda	August 01. Beginning of 15 Day Fast 06. Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor 09. Shmone and her Children 15. Death of Mart Mariam (Shunaya) 16. Mar Shimun Barsabbae 23. Mar Qardagh Sahda
March 06. Mid Lent 16. Mar Benyamin Shimun, Martyr (1918) 17. Mar Michael, Friend of Angels 22. Friday of Lazar 24. Oshana 25. Tidings to Mart Mariam from Angel Gabriel 28. Pis'ha of our Lord (Maundy Thursday) 29. Good Friday 30. Holy Saturday 31. Easter	September 01. Rabban Hurmizd 08. Birth of Mart Mariam 13. Festival of Cross 13. Consecration of III Mar Awa III 13. Mar Elia Prophet 14. Mar Bhisho 18. Remembrance of Yonakhir & his wife Hanna, Mother of Marth Mariam 19. Mar Shallitha
April 05. Confessor's Day 05. Mar Shimun Bar Sabbac 07. New Sunday 15. Rabban Hurmizd 24. Memorial of Mar Gewargis 26. Mar Sargis, Mar Backhos 28. Mar Addai Shleeha	October 01. Mar Khananiya, who baptised St. Paul 12. Three Hundred Saints of Shigar 13. Mar Moshe Nwiya 15. Mar Pithyon
May 01. Memorial of St. Mar Abimalek Timotheus (d. 1945) 03. Shmonie and her Children 09. Sulaqa (Ascension) 19. Pentecost 22. 1st Holy Qurbana by Mar Yakob 24. Friday of Gold	November 03. Hallowing of the Church 04. Mar Gewargis Sahda 10. Day of Tithes 15. Memorial of All Saints 19. Mar Yaqob M'pasqa 22. Mar Augin Thoovana
June -----	December 01. Subara (Advent) Begins 06. Mar Gabriel of Karsa, 06. Mar Abdisho Armaya 22. Memorial of 12000 Martyrs 22. Mar Awa of Nineveh 25. Christmas



Seniors above 75 years of age attended the 'Seniors Day' organized by the Chaldean Syrian Church of the East Men's Association with H. B. Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan on 22 October 2023.



The Men's Association Central Committee honors the senior priests of the Holy Church by visiting them in their homes.



Participants of the retreat held at Tirur Seminary in Thrissur



Metropolitan HB Mar Awgin Kuriakose inaugurates the Kuruvilachan Kalamela (Art Festival in the name of priest Kuruvila) by hoisting the flag at the Chaldean Syrian School ground, Thrissur.