

**In the blessed name of the Tri-une God, Self-existent,
Beginningless and Endless, Perfect in Being, (Glory be to Him)**

**Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Paulose II Catholicos of the East and
Malankara Metropolitan enthroned on the Apostolic Throne of St. Thomas**



No. 172/2020

Blessings to our beloved Vicars of the churches, Priests of the locality, *Kaisthanees* and faithful of all the Parishes!

Our dearly beloved in the Lord,

We praise the Almighty for the progress and prosperity achieved by the two Seminaries of our Church by the boundless grace of God and the generous help of our people. Our Kottayam Seminary has 134 students and Nagpur St. Thomas Seminary has 60 students for B. D. Degree Course. Apart from this, our Kottayam Seminary has 50 students belonging to various Christian denominations who pursue their Masters and Doctoral studies. In the Sruthi School of Liturgical Music, we have a new batch of students registered for 'Diploma in Liturgical Music', a course approved by the University of Serampore. The Pratyasa Counseling Centre conducts a counseling course of high standard. The Satya Jyothi online Course conducted by our Nagpur seminary too fares well. The modernization of the library is completed and Nagpur Seminary celebrated its Silver Jubilee.

By God's grace, many in our Church are desirous of the priestly ministry. We need to give the best training to the aspirants who have the vocation and dedication to serve the Church. This year 4th October (Sunday) shall be observed as Seminary Day. The whole world is going through unprecedented crisis due to Covid-19 pandemic. Though our parishes reel under unbearable financial pressure, it is pertinent to note that the undeterred functioning of our Seminaries is of paramount importance to ensure the very existence of our Holy Church. Therefore, we remind you to extend all possible financial support to our Seminaries amidst your financial stringencies. Special prayers for our Seminaries shall be offered in all our churches during Holy Qurbana on 4th October (Sunday) and all shall participate in the Seminary Day collection and offertory without fail. Those parishes which have no Holy Qurbana on 4th October shall pray for both the seminaries on the succeeding day when they have worship. We come to understand that some parishes do not send the entire amount raised through cover collection. This is invariably a sin against the justice of God. A handsome amount comprising of the money raised through cover collection, offertory on the day and the special contribution from the parish shall be sent to the Principal, Orthodox Theological Seminary, P.B.No.98, Kottayam, Kerala, 686001 before 31 October 2020. The amount so received shall be shared between the two Seminaries proportionately.

May the Grace and Blessings of God Almighty abide with you forever. And may the prayers of the Mother of our God the Holy Virgin Mary, St. Thomas the Apostle of India, our Holy Fathers Yeldo Mar Baselios, Mar Gregorios, Mar Dionysius and all the Holy Saints be a stronghold for us. Amen.

Our Father who art in Heaven.....

From Catholicate Aramana
Devalokam, Kottayam, Kerala, India
On September 08, 2020.

Baselios Marthoma Paulose II