

**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. 29/2018

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

Dearly beloved,

We are entering in to the Great Lent which elevates the Holy Church to the fullness of holiness and spiritual renewal through repentance. We lead to absolution through tears, vigil, prayer and fasting. The oriental fathers teach us that we 'become the beloved of angels and thus transported to heaven' through the process of self - purification in the Lent.

The paths of passion during the Great Lent are enriched by the thanksgiving hymns of Hosanna, the washing of Passover, the endurance of Calvary, the glorious paths of peace of Easter. Our life environment is increasingly polluted by discords and dissensions, immorality, carnal desires and materialism. May the Great Lent enable us to transform ourselves with divine light of humility, holiness and unadulterated love, to take part in the passion of our Lord and to experience the divine joy and peace of Easter. All our faithful should observe the Great Lent with austerity.

Again our beloved,

Holy Mooron is the symbol of the economy of Holy Spirit in the Holy Church. It is the Holy Oil used only for consecrating the Holy Altar of the churches in the name of the Holy Trinity and to graft the believers to the Body of Christ through anointment in Holy Baptism. Trusting in the grace of God, we propose to conduct the consecration of *Holy Mooron (Mooron Koodasa)* on 23rd March 2018 (40th Friday of the Great Lent) at our Catholicate Aramana Chapel.

We exhort one and all in our Holy Church to prepare themselves with fasting, prayer and holy living for the forty days of the Great Lent for the glorious and holy sacrament of the consecration of the *Holy Mooron*. Let us all pray diligently these days for the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Oil which is consecrated and thereby obtaining abundant invisible grace of the Holy Spirit to each one of us. The faithful of the Church shall pray fervently to strengthen us to conduct the holy service of consecration in holiness and for the fullness of the power of Holy Spirit on the Holy Church as a whole and for the graceful consecration of the Holy Oil. Maximum number of priests and the faithful of the Church should attend the consecration service and receive heavenly blessings. Further, it is our loving and soft reminder to all our parishes to provide maximum support and possible help for this glorious event of the Church.

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 Mar Gregorios, Yeldo Mar Baselios, Mar Dionysius and all the Holy Saints be a stronghold for us. Amen.

Our Father who art in Heaven.....

Baselios Marthoma Paulose II

From Catholicate Aramana
Devalokam, Kottayam, Kerala, India
On February 1, 2018.