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# 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 Mathews III Catholicos of the East and Malankara Metropolitan enthroned on the Apostolic Throne of St. Thomas 

No. 61/2023


Blessings to our beloved Vicar of.
church, priests of the locality, Kaisthanees and all members of the parish!

Our dearly beloved in the Lord,

Let us praise the Almighty for the manifold blessings and inestimable grace for enabling our Church, founded by St. Thomas, the Apostle, to thrive in the midst of umpteen challenges and crises. The Catholicate of the East is the symbol of the apostolic heritage, identity and indigenous character of the Malankara Church. Catholicate Day or Sabha Dinam is set apart to recollect the significance and value of the Catholicate and to pray for the Church. This year the Catholicate Day falls on Sunday, $26^{\text {th }}$ March, the $36^{\text {th }}$ day of the Great Lent. It is our ardent wish that the Catholicate Day observance be a blessed occasion to grow in the fullness of the Holy Spirit, for the renewal of families, sanctification of our spiritual life and above all for the transformation in our personal life. Special prayers for the Church shall be offered on the day during Holy Qurbana. Catholicate flag shall be hoisted and all shall take the Catholicate Day pledge. Speeches shall be arranged to highlight the significance of the Catholicate and to explain the faith, history and traditions of the Church. In those parishes where there is no Holy Qurbana on the day, the Catholicate Day shall be observed on the next Sunday and special offerings may be collected.

The main source of income of the Church is the amount we get through the Catholicate Day Collection. We heavily depend on the cover collection for funding the charity projects of the Church and for nurturing our spiritual organisations. Since the collection received during the last few years fell short of the target, due to the covid pandemic, it became difficult to give ample funds to various projects of the Church. We praise God to see that Rs. 10 crores, the target amount for last year is being almost reached.

Dearly beloved, The church has decided that we need to collect at least Rupees 22 crores as Catholicate Day Collection during the financial year 2023-24 in order to implement all the projects envisaged and included in the budget of the Holy Church. This 22 crores comprise of 15 crores from the parishes of the Church, 5 crores from individuals and 2 crores from various institutions of the Church. To achieve this goal $50 \%$ increase is envisaged. The target for the parishes is fixed as per the list submitted by the parishes at the central office of the Church for the Malankara Syrian Christian Association 2022. At least one day's average income of the family shall be given for the development of the Church. The average income shall be calculated as the total daily income of all members in a family who have a fixed income. We lovingly exhort you all to participate in this collection considering it as a humble offering in front of God for the progress of the Church, inspired by the love
and allegiance to the Church. We remind you of the scriptural truth 'the tithe belongs to God'. All our beloved shall participate in the Catholicate Day observance and the Cover Collection.

To make the Cover Collection a success, the folders and covers should be delivered to all the families at the right time. Contributions shall be accepted from bureaucrats, traders industrialists and well wishers of the Church. Due interest should be taken by the parish Vicars. An amount exceeding the target should be collected by visiting maximum families. The amount so collected shall be remitted to the Catholicate Office along with the offertory of the Catholicate Day and Ressessa within the stipulated time. The amount of donation for a family in Kerala is stipulated as Rs. 300 and Rs. 350 for families in parishes which are given special status or titles (like Cathedral, Pilgrim Centre, Maha Edavaka, Valiyapllay, Catholicate Simhasana Pally) and Rs. 400 for families belonging to parishes in main cities like Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam, Kozhikode, Trissur and Kottayam. Accordingly, the minimum amount of donation for a family in that parish is Rs. The target for the parish is Rs. $\qquad$ The covers and folders shall be distributed in all Diocesan centres from the Central office. The office bearers of the parishes shall attend the meeting at the respective Diocesan Centres for the distribution of the covers and collect and distribute these covers in all the houses of the parish before the Catholicate day on $26^{\text {th }}$ March, 2023. H. G. Yuhanon Mar Policarpos, the President, Finance Committee, Rev. Fr. Dr. Thomas Varghese Amayil, the Priest Trustee, Sri. Ronny Varghese Abraham, the Lay Trustee and Adv. Biju Oommen, the Association Secretary shall attend maximum meetings. Accordingly the meeting of Diocese will be held on $\qquad$ at $\qquad$

Dearly beloved, we lovingly ask you to pray for us, our brother Metropolitans, all our Priests, monastic communities, members and workers of our spiritual organisations and all our beloved faithful across the world. We strongly believe that the prayers of our beloved faithful are very valuable to restore peace and tranquillity in the Church and remove all dissentions and discords in the Church.

May the Grace and Blessings of the 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 $\qquad$


Baselios Marthoma Mathews III

From Catholicate Aramana
Devalokam, Kottayam, Kerala, India
On February 28, 2023

