

**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. 23/2026

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

Dearly Beloved,

Let us glorify God for the growth of our Church, established by the Holy Apostle St. Thomas, amidst challenges. The Catholicate of the East, a symbol of the Malankara Church's self-awareness, deeply reflects the Apostolic heritage, indigenous identity, and freedom of the Holy Church. The observance of the Catholicate Day must be arranged to enhance the spiritual vitality of the Holy Church and to pray specifically for the Church. The Catholicate Day in 2026 falls on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, which is the 36<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Great Lent. On that day, we must pray specifically for the Holy Church during the Holy *Qurbana*; hoist the Catholicate flag and the whole congregation shall take the pledge of the Catholicate Day. In connection with the celebrations, special instructions should be given related to the relevance of the Catholicate and the faith and traditions of the Holy Church. In places where there is no Holy *Qurbana* on that particular day, celebrations should be conducted the following Sunday, and special offerings should be collected.

The funds raised through the Catholicate Day collection are indeed the main source of income for the Holy Church. We primarily rely on the Catholicate Day collection for the charitable activities of the Holy Church and the sustenance of spiritual organizations. Since the amount raised through the Catholicate Day collection last year was less than expected, it has become impossible to provide full financial support for the church's various projects.

Dear ones,

As part of the goal to start 'Public Relation Centers' in all major cities in Kerala, foundation stone has been laid to build a center in Thiruvananthapuram, and activities have begun in a building purchased by the Church in Ernakulam. Land has been acquired in Kodungallur, where Apostle St. Thomas first imprinted his footprints in India, and a foundation stone has been laid for a suitable memorial; we got the necessary permission from the Government to construct a building. We hope to begin the construction without delay. Initial works have begun to establish a 'Public Health Institute' at Haripad and for teaching paramedical courses under the supervision of the Parumala Hospital, at Kozhuvallur. The work of a camp center in Mathilakam, the expansion of the Ayurvedic hospital that has started functioning in Kottayam, Panachikkad and construction of 'Welfare Homes' for senior citizens at Paingottur near Muvattupuzha have all started. The 'Aradra Charitable Project' and the 'Sahodaran' project continue to strengthen the Church's charitable activities that can never be forgotten. We primarily rely on the Catholicate Day collection for the realization of all these projects. Advancing the works of the Holy Church, which is the body of our Lord, is indeed

(P.T.O.)

part of the Church's mission. It has been decided to collect a total of 22 crores rupees through the Catholicate Day collection for the year 2026-27, including 15 crores from parishes, 5 crores from individuals, and 2 crores from the institutions of the church. Each family should contribute at least one day's average income to the progress of the Holy Church. The average income should be calculated as the total daily earnings of all individuals with a regular income in the family. We lovingly request everyone to view this matter as an offering to God, as a symbol of love and care towards the Church's progress. We must remember the biblical truth that 'The tithe belongs to God.' All church members should sincerely cooperate in the observance of Church Day and the collection of offerings.

To reach the collection target, the Catholicate Day envelopes and folders must be distributed to all households in a timely manner. Parish priests should take a special interest in this matter, visiting as many homes as possible to collect an amount that exceeds the target. This amount, along with the Catholicate Day offertory and *reeshisa*, should be paid at the church center within the stipulated time. We have not reached the target of 22 crore rupees set for last year. The contribution amount for this year has been fixed, with a minimum of ..... rupees per household for parishes in Outside Kerala. Accordingly, the target amount for each household of that parish has been fixed at a minimum of ..... rupees. The envelopes and folders will be delivered from the church center to all Diocesan centers. The responsibility of delivering the envelopes and folders to parishes will be taken by the Diocese, and church officials must ensure they reach every household before March 22, the Catholicate Day.

Dearly beloved,

Please remember to pray for Us the humble and meek, Our brother bishops, the clergy, the religious communities, spiritual organization workers, and believers around the world. The prayer of each believer is valuable for establishing eternal peace in the church and eradicating divisions and conflicts completely.

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.....



From Catholicate Aramana  
Devalokam, Kottayam, Kerala, India  
On February 09, 2026

**Baselios Marthoma Mathews III**