

**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. 19/2026

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

Our dearly beloved in the Lord,

Through the Holy Great Lent, we are entering into the blessed remembrance of the salvific passion, the mystical Passover supper, and the glorious, life-giving resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. As reminded in the liturgies of the Lenten season, we must all be able to observe the fast in purity, not merely by abstaining from food, but by staying away from all the weaknesses that try to separate us from God. Through the spiritual struggle of fasting, our ego and pride must be eradicated. The divine light of Christ must shine among us. It is because of a lack of self-control that we feel everything the world offers is acceptable and desirable. It is deeply important to recognize God's will for us and align our lives accordingly. Idle moments, unnecessary talks, and thoughtless actions are the stumbling blocks that make all of us fall equally. Everyone should take care to observe the Holy Lent in all our families with the utmost care and dedication. Parents must train their children in the practice of fasting. Priests should take special care to conduct the canonical Lenten prayers (*Yama Namaskaram* / Liturgy of the hours) in all churches; furthermore, Lenten prayers must be fulfilled without fail in all our homes. The true treasure that parents can save up for the next generation consists of worship, prayers, observance of Lent, fasting, prostrations, vigils, and meditation on the Word of God.

If it is God's will, we desire to consecrate the **Holy Mooron** on Friday, March 27, the fortieth Friday marking the completion of this year's Great Lent, at the Devalokam Catholicate Palace Chapel. For this, we surrender ourselves to God in prayer. For this divine and most sacred sacrament, the holiness, fasting, prayer, and dedication of the entire Church are required. In order that the dwelling of the Holy Spirit—who completes and perfects all things—may be experienced in this sacrament, those who perform it and those who participate in it must prepare themselves with great reverence, trembling, purity, and holiness. We prayerfully wish all the children of the Church a blessed Lenten season filled with the fullness of the Spirit of God.

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.....

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Baselios Marthoma Mathews III".

Baselios Marthoma Mathews III

From Catholicate Aramana
Devalokam, Kottayam, Kerala, India, On January 23, 2026