



The Northeast American Diocese of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

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**By the Grace of God,
Zachariah Mar Nicholovos,
Diocesan Metropolitan**

CK No. 25/2012

December 26, 2012

Blessings to Very Reverend Chor Episcopoi, Reverend Fathers, Reverend Deacons, and faithful of the Northeast American Diocese.

Dearly beloved,

By the Grace of God, the entombment of our beloved Father in Christ, His Grace Mathews Mar Barnabas, Metropolitan, was a befitting tribute to the legacy he leaves behind.

As we continue to reflect the same sorrow of the Hebrew people as we read in the Book of Deuteronomy, when the great Patriarch Moses died, we remind our clergy and faithful once again, to remember always the teachings and example of our Vailya Thirumeni.

We wish to inform all the clergy and faithful of our Diocese, that we together will observe the 30th Day of Remembrance of His Grace Mathews Mar Barnabas, Metropolitan, on Saturday, January 5, 2013. It will be held at St. Thomas Indian Orthodox Church of Philadelphia (1009 Unruh Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). Morning Prayer will begin at 9AM followed by Holy Qurbana with special prayers for our departed Metropolitan. We expect the presence of Hierarchs and leaders of other Churches on this day.

The full participation of all our Very Reverend Chor Episcopoi, Reverend Priests, Reverend Deacons, and faithful of the Northeast American Diocese are expected on this day. We wish for this day to be a great blessing, where we can pay tribute and celebrate the life of our Barnabas Thirumeni.

As the spiritual children of our Vailya Thirumeni, it is our responsibility to ensure that the funerals, entombment, 30th Day, 40th Day Remembrance service, expenses are covered by us. He labored and struggled for each of us, and most of all he prayed for us and continues to pray for us. We wish that each parish and each family in the Diocese, receives the blessing of his intercession by making an offering to ensure all these expenses are covered. It is not only because we wish to reap the blessings, but also because it is our responsibility and obligation as his children.

Let us continue to uphold our departed Vailya Thirumeni in our prayers, and seek his holy intercession, and he prays unceasingly for us before the Throne of Christ our God.

Yours in our Lord,

Zachariah Nicholovos Metropolitan