



The Northeast American Diocese of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

2158 ROUTE 106 • MUTTONTOWN • NEW YORK 11791



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

CK No. 4/2015

March 12, 2015

Blessings to Very Reverend Chor Episcopoi, Reverend Fathers, Reverend Deacons, Diocesan Council Members, and Managing Committee Members of the Northeast American Diocese.

Dearly beloved,

We wish to inform you that the annual Diocesan Family & Youth Conference will be held from Wednesday, July 15th, 2015 to Saturday, July 18th, 2015 at Honor's Haven Resort and Spa, located at 1195 Arrowhead Road, Ellenville, NY 12428. The theme of this year's conference will be "Generations Thriving in Faith" based on Psalm 145:4 : "One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts."

The keynote speaker for this year's Family & Youth Conference will be the renowned, Very Rev. Fr. Philip Thomas Chor Episcopos, Vicar of St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Very Rev. Fr. Philip Thomas has been actively serving one of the oldest Diaspora communities of the Malankara Church. He offers not only his extensive knowledge, but his unique experience in the growth of the Malankara Orthodox Christian faith outside of Kerala. His insight and inspirational leadership of the Diaspora community can offer an example, and platform of discussion for our Church's growth in North America. The conference will be an opportunity to hear the wisdom shared from various dynamic speakers of our Church, and to gather together as a Diocesan family in prayer, and fellowship.

As this is the only major gathering of the Diocese, we anticipate the prayerful support and dynamic leadership of our Vicars, and Assistant Vicars in ensuring all our faithful to participate in this year's Family & Youth Conference. Additionally, all elected Diocesan Assembly representatives from each parish will serve as the Conference liaisons on behalf of their respective parish.

Furthermore we appoint the following office bearers for the Family & Youth Conference, until further orders:

General Secretary: Dr. Jolly Thomas

Treasurer: Mr. Thomas George

Joint Treasurer: Mr. Jeemon Varghese

Souvenir Chief Editor: Ms. Lincy Thomas

Souvenir Finance Chair: Mr. Philipose Philip

As we have done in the past few years, the Conference Choir has been a combined choir from one area in the Diocese. This year we have asked the Rockland area parishes to form a choir. We hereby appoint Rev. Fr. Dr. Raju Varghese to offer leadership to this choir.

The Committee is in the process of producing a colorful Souvenir for this year's Family & Youth Conference, which will be circulated all over North America, and be a reference book for our parishes in the Diocese. Best compliments from individual well-wishers and/or businesses are also encouraged. We are requesting for articles and materials for the Souvenir. All parishes are requested to ensure their parish is included in the souvenir. The parish information can be included on half a page at the rate of \$200.00 or full page at the rate of \$300.00. The check should be made payable to the 'Northeast American Diocese'. Kindly include 'Souvenir' on the memo line. All submissions for the Souvenir should be sent directly to the Diocesan Office by May 15, 2015.



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A website has been created for the conference at www.fyconf.org for all updated information, forms, and registrations. Online registrations are preferred; however paper registrations are also accepted. All new and pre-registered participants are asked to register promptly and confirm your room allocation as soon as possible. Once maximum capacity is reached, all further registrants will be put on a waiting list in the order they are received.

We request you to reach out to Rev. Fr. Vijay Thomas, Conference Coordinator, or Dr. Jolly Thomas, General Secretary, to offer them your prayerful support.

We look forward to seeing all our Vicars, Assistant Vicars, and faithful at the annual Family & Youth Conference.

Yours in our Lord,

Zachariah Nicholovos, Metropolitan