



The Northeast American Diocese
of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

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Mathews Mar Barnabas
Diocesan Metropolitan

Zachariah Mar Nicholovos
Assistant Metropolitan



CK 20/2009

December 10, 2009

Blessings to the Vicar, office bearers and members of all the parishes in the Northeast American Diocese.

Dearly beloved,

We are coming to Christmas and New Year. What then is the meaning of the birth of our Lord to us? It is the manifestation of our Lord's readiness to save and perfect us in the image of the Heavenly Father.

Jesus was born among the poorest of the poor. When infant Jesus was taken to the Jerusalem temple, St. Mary was not able to offer a lamb as sacrifice. She was so poor. Jesus was born not in an ordinary house or even an inn. This shows that He came to save the last and the least. He wants to perfect us filling us with divine love. "The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." (Rom. 5:5). Let this Christmas be an occasion for us to be filled with divine love.

New Year reminds us the value of time. The value of time is infinite, provided we depend on God's grace. "Every day is a new day for a wise man." The time that is properly used will be a gain forever. Let us then do our very best, in everything, for our all round progress.

With prayers and best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Yours in our Lord,

s/d
Mathews Mar Barnabas
Diocesan Metropolitan

s/d
Zachariah Mar Nicholovos
Assistant Metropolitan