



The Northeast American Diocese of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

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

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April 7, 2012

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

Dearly beloved,

Once again, God has given us the opportunity to celebrate the great Mystery of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. This sacred Feast Day reminds us that even in the darkest moments of our life; God's grace is overshadowing us and protecting us. Although we may pass through the darkest valley of death, He is leading us and He is with us.

As we confess in the prayers of the Church: "...Do not be afraid O disciples! Take courage, and be comforted and gather together! If Your Master was struck today, He will resurrect on Sunday as the prophecy declared about Him."

The pain and suffering the Lord experience could not take hold of Him forever. This is our experience through the glorious experience of the One True Light, Christ our Lord, as we celebrate the victory of the empty tomb.

Let each of us leave our burdens, our struggles, our challenges upon the wood of the cross, where the Paschal Lamb has been offered, and resurrect as bearers of the great news. For today: "God is risen and all His enemies have been dispersed; they have knelt down and fallen; but we have arisen and are prepared and our help is by the name of the Lord, who redeemed us from the destruction of death."

May the Resurrected Lord bless you and keep you throughout this joyous season.

Yours in our Lord,

Zachariah Nicholovos Metropolitan

Our Father, Who art in Heaven...