



St. Mary, Queen of Peace
Syro-Malankara Catholic Eparchy in the USA and Canada

Dr. Philipos Mar Stephanos Thottathil
Bishop of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Eparchy of the USA and Canada

Circular 9/2020

Dear Rev. Corepiscopi, Rev. Fathers and Religious Sisters, and the faithful in Christ,

Cordial greetings to you! I wish to bring the following matters to your kind and earnest attention. Due to the present unprecedented pandemic situation, we have taken a few important decisions in our Eparchy in consultation with the clergy and the pastoral councils.

1. The period of service of the parish council is extended for one more year, that is, until the end of 2021. However, in the event of a dire need to change any office bearer, permission must be sought from the Bishop before taking any decisions.
2. The Parish Council and General Body meetings with routine agenda could be held online.
3. The period of the service of the leadership team of the MCYM Parish Units is extended for one more year- till the end of 2021 and the Eparchial Board extended till the end of 2022.
4. **Most importantly**, I invite your generous co-operation and support in actualizing a long-cherished dream to have a **Pastoral Center for our Eparchy**. After many consultations, we decided to purchase the School building complex next to our Chancery, which was listed for sale by the Diocese of Rockville Centre. In this context, as opined by the clergy and the pastoral council of our Eparchy, I intend to send a personal letter to all the families of our Eparchy explaining the details about this project and requesting their support and prayers. **For this purpose, I kindly request all our priests to send all the names of the heads of the families of our parishes, to our Chancery by email malankarachancery@gmail.com before November 10th, 2020.** I shall write their names in the appeal letter with my original signature and shall mail them from the Chancery.
5. It shall be extremely helpful if you would identify and point out to me the names of potential donors who can make a major donation or give substantial loans.
6. Please consider lending the 'saving bank deposits' which are set apart for long term use of the parish to this project. The Eparchy shall pay back the amount as and when needed.

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7. The proto-syncellus and the finance officer of our Eparchy, Rev. Msgr. Mangalath Corepiscopa will be in contact with you regarding all financial matters and kindly extend your generous co-operation.
8. Kindly communicate the content of this circular to our faithful and take all efforts to motivate all concerned to participate generously in our fundraising campaign.

With profound gratitude and prayerful best wishes,

In Jesus Christ,

+ Philipos Stephanos

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Bishop of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Eparchy in the USA and Canada.
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