



**MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH**  
**DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WEST AMERICA**

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**No: 13/2025**

Blessings to our Vicars, Cor-Episcopoi, Rambans, Priests, Parish Managing Committee members, and all the faithful of our Diocese.

**Dearlly Beloved,**

Our Diocese is truly blessed with many dedicated clergies who have answered God's call to ordained ministry and made significant sacrifices for the growth and well-being of our Church and the faithful. Since the establishment of our Diocese, much thought and discussion have been devoted to the welfare of our clergy, including their salaries and retirement benefits. After thorough study and consideration by the Diocesan Council, and based on their recommendations, we are pleased to announce the following measures that reflect our commitment to ensuring the well-being and security of our clergy.

**Firstly**, effective January 1, 2025, the minimum base salary for a parish priest shall be \$2750 with other allowances and benefits that need to be provided. In parishes where the present salary is above this base level, there should be no reduction in the salary. Smaller parishes that are unable to reach this goal will be carefully considered on a case-by-case basis. We seek your wholehearted cooperation and support to achieve this goal. **Secondly**, the new clergy pension plan will be discussed in the upcoming Diocesan General Assembly and its details will be issued thereafter.

We appreciate the wholehearted support and efforts of each church in this endeavor throughout these years. The last salary rise for the Clergy was made in the year 2012, therefore, we hope and pray our faithful will cooperate with us for the glory of God and His Kingdom, especially in understanding the needs of the clergy.

May the love of God the Father, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit be with us forever and ever.

Urshlem Aramana, Beasley  
January 28, 2025

Metropolitan Dr. Thomas Mar Ivanios