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No. 59/2018

Blessings to all our Cor-Episcopoi, Priests, Deacons, Parish Managing Committee Members, and especially our high school graduates of the year 2018 of the Diocese of South-West America.

Dearly Beloved,

The Mar Barnabas Educational Award was instituted by our diocese in 2011 to encourage youth to excel in their academic achievement with a commitment to the church, diocese and the mission of the church. As in previous years, the top two high school graduates (completion of grade 12 in the 2017-2018 academic year) who have plans to enroll in post-secondary education will be awarded from each of the five regions of our diocese.

We hereby appoint the following individuals as the Award Committee for the 2018 Mar Barnabas Educational Award.

- 1. Rev. Fr. Mathew Alexander (Dallas Area Youth Minister)
- 2. Mr. George Geevarughese (Sabha Managing Committee Member)
- 3. Mr. Roy V. Thomas (Diocesan Council Member)

The application form, guidelines and required recommendation forms are attached herewith. These forms are also available and can be downloaded from the diocesan website. The deadline for receiving the completed application at the diocesan office via postal mail or e-mail is August 31, 2018.

We exhort all our children who have completed grade 12 in the 2017-2018 academic year to complete the application along with all the required documents as per the guidelines and submit it to the diocesan office prior to the deadline. We urge all our Vicars and Sunday School Principals to personally encourage the eligible graduates from their respective parishes to apply for the educational award.

We extend our love and prayers to all our high school graduates of this year and wish them a successful pursuit of their post-secondary education. May God Almighty bless you and guide you throughout your campus life and beyond.

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From Urshlem Indian Orthodox Center Beasley, Texas On June 15, 2018

Metr. Dr. Zacharias Mar Aprem