



MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH

DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WEST AMERICA



Alexios Mar Eusebius
Metropolitan

3101 Hopkins Road,
Beasley, TX 77417, USA
Office: (281) 403-0670
Fax: (281) 459-0814
website: www.ds-wa.org
email: mareusebius@ds-wa.org

DSWA/C/05/2014

March 19, 2014

Blessings to all the Vicars of the Diocese of South-West America!

Dear Achens,

This letter is regarding Rev. Fr. John K. Vaidyan, who currently resides in Atlanta.

In recent months, Achen has willfully chosen to disregard our advice and continues to associate himself with a group he brought together from different parishes of various denominations. In addition to celebrating the Divine Liturgy for this group without our express authorization, he has uncanonically formed a parish for which a name was declared, and he has conducted a parish assembly meeting, elected a parish managing committee, incorporated the alleged parish in the state of Georgia, and created a website (www.stgegoriosatlanta.com) which claims the parish belongs to the Diocese of South-West America with himself serving as the present Vicar, all without our consent.

We sent a letter to Achen (DSWA/CL/02/2014) dated February 11, 2014, directing him to relinquish and fully withdraw the steps taken for the formation of a new parish. We received an unsatisfactory reply dated February 14, 2014, in which he wrote, "I do not think that I am doing anything wrong or illegal as per my conscience." This spoke to us that Achen neither has any remorse for his actions nor the desire to change the situation. Since no action was taken to do what was asked of Achen, we wrote our most recent letter (DSWA/CL/03/2014) dated March 7, 2014, reiterating our initial request, while granting a final five day period from the date of the letter to remedy the situation. Instead, we received a response from his Attorney.

Having directly neglected our orders and disobeyed the oath Achen took at the time of his Holy Ordination, by our order (DSWA/CL/04/2014) dated March 12, 2014, Rev. Fr. John K. Vaidyan was relieved as a priest of the Diocese of South-West America. Achen is not permitted to perform any priestly functions including the celebration of any liturgical services within the Diocese of South-West America. He is also prohibited from claiming himself as a priest representing the Diocese of South-West America, and does not have the authorization, permission or authority to organize any congregation or parish within the geographical jurisdiction of our diocese. This information is given with the intention that you may not invite him for any parish or liturgical related matters of the parishes entrusted to you in this Diocese.

It is our prayer and hope that Achen may be moved to seek reconciliation and restoration of his ability to function as a priest within this diocese through repentance and renunciation of his errors.

Your shepherd in Christ,

Alexios Mar Eusebius, Metropolitan