

Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

(Catholicate of the East)

Diocese of Southwest America

2711 Creek Terrace Dr. • Missouri City, TX • 77459 • Ph: 281.403.0670

Alexios Mar Eusebius
Metropolitan



DSWA/C/009/2009

August 14, 2009

Blessings to our dearly beloved Chor-Episcopoi, Priests and Parish Managing Committee Members,

As the Metropolitan, it is our continued mission to improve the ministry to the parishes and congregations within our Diocese. In order to fulfill this, we appoint Vicars as our representatives to the parish communities to administer to their spiritual needs. We take this opportunity to commend each and every one of our priests for their hard-work and dedication to the Diocese and the parish communities they have been entrusted with.

For more effective communication and administration, we hereby request that all Vicars inform the Diocesan office if they must take a leave of absence from their parish. Then the Diocesan office will direct you for the arrangement of celebrating Holy Qurbana in the Vicar's absence.

We also hereby direct all parishes and congregations who do not have a Vicar appointed to them, to inform the Diocesan office of any issues or needs, especially for the regular celebration of Holy Qurbana. According to the request and scheduling of these parishes and congregations, we will direct a priest to cater to their spiritual needs. We understand that in some places people themselves invite a priest and conducting Holy Qurbana. As part of the discipline of the Church it is necessary to have good relation with the Diocesan centre. Therefore, we advise the priests who are taking care of congregations at their own initiative or at the invitation of the congregation to inform us the details of the congregation. We are delighted to hear from our priests the observation and comments on potential congregations and parishes that can be developed.

Finally, we hereby instruct all Vicars to inform the Diocesan office of all visiting bishops, priests, rambans, and deacons, so that we can make better use of these visiting clergymen in our Diocese during their time of visit.

We thank you for working with us to improve the administration and communication within our Diocese.

Your Shepherd in Christ

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Alexios Mar Eusebius", with a small cross symbol above the end of the name. The signature is underlined.

Alexios Mar Eusebius
Metropolitan