

# Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

*(Catholicate of the East)*

## *Diocese of South-West America*

3703 Chesterdale Dr. · Missouri City, TX · 77459 · Ph: 281.403.0670 · Fax: 281.459.0814

---

**Alexios Mar Eusebius**  
**Metropolitan**



August 20, 2011

DSWA/C/08/2011

Blessings to all our Chor-Episcopoi, Priests, Deacons, Parish Managing Committee members, and all the faithful, especially our dear students.

Dearly Beloved,

As the summer concludes, our students are approaching the start of a new academic year. For every Christian, education is not simply collecting information and attaining knowledge but growing in wisdom. Wisdom is related to all aspects of life including our body, mind, and soul. In Proverbs 16:16 we read, "How much better to get wisdom than gold. To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver." The value of wisdom and understanding is so precious and it is worth much more than gold or silver. God created Wisdom, and it is His gift for mankind. It is the responsibility of every student to discipline yourself and understand the purpose of your education while developing a matured personality on all levels.

We remind all our students that personal prayer and reading of the Scriptures should not be missed on any given day. We encourage every student to take a few moments for meditation each day to clear your mind and be still in the presence of God. Our children who are moving away from their parents and attending colleges and universities should take special care in keeping this disciplined life. Even if you are away from home, you should have your own personal Bible and prayer book for use each day.

My Dear Children, the advanced modes of communication in the world today can easily corrupt our intellect and our lives if we are not careful. The internet and mobile devices, although good, can be a great danger if misused and abused. Parents should be aware of this and all students should take every effort to develop a sense of maturity so that you can keep away from evil behavior and seek to live a life that is pleasing and acceptable to God.

# Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

*(Catholicate of the East)*

## *Diocese of South-West America*

*3703 Chesterdale Dr. · Missouri City, TX · 77459 · Ph: 281.403.0670 · Fax: 281.459.0814*

---

It is also our concern that a good number of youth are engaging themselves in alcohol and substance abuse. Our Church is taking this as a serious concern and is developing programs to help our youth overcome these struggles and temptations. Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, and we are obligated to treat it with respect and honor it. We pray that all our students will be able to make the right choices by surrounding themselves with people who will bring them up and not distract them from fellowship with Christ. We also remind you of the respect that is due unto your teachers, your elders, and your parents.

We take this opportunity to extend our love and blessings to all our beloved students for the new academic year, and we assure you of our continuous prayers. May the intercessions of St. Mary, the Mother of God, St. Thomas, the Apostle to India, the saints of Malankara, Mar Gregorios and Mar Dionysius, and all the holy saints, be a fortress for us all.

Your Shepherd in Christ,



Alexios Mar Eusebius  
Metropolitan