

Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

(Catholicate of the East)

Diocese of South-West America

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Alexios Mar Eusebius
Metropolitan



May 17, 2011

DSWA/C/06 /2011

Blessings to the Vicars, Office Bearers, Parish Managing Committee members, and all the faithful of the Diocese of South-West America.

Dearly Beloved,

It has been just over two years since the formation of our Diocese. As it has been in practice, Diocesan Day is celebrated annually on the first Sunday of June, and this year it will be celebrated on Sunday, June 5th. We exhort all of our parishes to celebrate this day by remembering the Diocese during the celebration of the Holy Qurbana and offering a special intercessory prayer at its conclusion.

It is our desire that each family should participate in the growth of the Diocese and feel privileged to be a member of this ancient church. The diocesan day collection is the main source of income for our Diocese and with this amount we have to support all the projects and ministries as well as the needs of the diocesan center. Each family of our diocese should contribute a minimum of \$100 towards the diocesan day collection. It is only with your whole-hearted support and united effort that we can fulfill our dreams and visions for this Diocese. As it is already in practice, ten percent of the total amount collected each year will be set apart for charity projects and mission work.

As we reflect on the past two years of our Diocese, we thank God for His blessings. During the coming year, our desire is to focus on strengthening our spiritual organizations to cater to the spiritual needs of our faithful. We must work together to build spiritual homes that are centered on Christ and overcome the temptations of the world that is very much corrupted by evil.

During the celebration of our second diocesan day, let us thank God for another year and unite in prayer asking the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us through the coming year. May the intercessions of St. Mary, the Mother of God, St. Thomas, the Apostle to India, and St. Gregorios and St. Dionysius be a fortress for us all.

Your Shepherd in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alexios Mar Eusebius" with a small cross above the 'i' in "Eusebius". The signature is underlined.

Alexios Mar Eusebius
Metropolitan