



Dallas Area OCYM

Presents:



# The Challenges of Raising a Christian Family in American Society

Saturday, April 6, 2013 @ 1:30 PM

St. Thomas Orthodox Church

9414 Shiloh Rd., Dallas, TX 75228



## Main Speaker:

H. G. Dr. Gabriel Mar Gregorios

Metropolitan of Thiruvananthapuram



## Special Presenter:

Chris Harding Esq.

Holmes, Diggs, and Eames LLC.

*"Rights, Responsibilities and Protections of  
Parents in the American Legal System"*

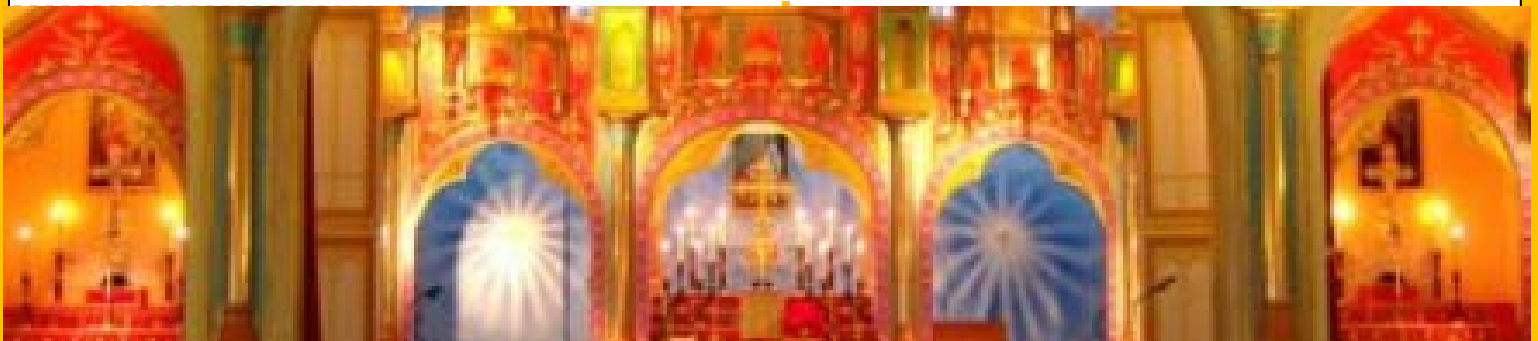
## Workshops:

### *Christian Parenting: Raising Children in a Multicultural and Secular Society*

A discussion on how Christian parents can help their children maintain their faith and values in the face of the negative influences in society, school and the media.

### *Technology vs. Family Life*

Modern technology is pervasive and has profoundly affected all aspects of family life. We will discuss both the positive and negative impacts of technology and develop strategies for parents to understand how their children use technology, as well as the dangers and opportunities technology offers.



Rev. Fr. Mathews George

OCYM Vice President

Shibu Mathew

Area Coordinator

Johnson Jacob

Area Secretary

Diana Shinoy

Area Jt. Secretary

Orthodox Christian Youth Movement - Dallas Area USA

For Questions please contact [dannythankachan@gmail.com](mailto:dannythankachan@gmail.com) or [dianashinoy05@yahoo.com](mailto:dianashinoy05@yahoo.com)



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## Conference Agenda

1:30 - Registration

2:00 - Opening Song - St. Thomas Youth league

2:15 - Bible Reading - Youth Member (from a sister church)

Psalms 128

2:20 - Welcome Speech - Shibu Mathew

2:25 - Introduction of Topic - Danny Thankachan

2:30 - Welcome Thirumeni - Rajesh Achen

2:30 - Main Speaker—**H. G. Dr. Gabriel Mar Gregorios**

3:15 - Workshop # 1

Group A - Christian Parenting/Raising Children In a Multi-Cultural Society

Group B - Technology vs. Family Life

3:45 - Break - Tea & Snacks

4:00 - Workshop # 2

Group B - Christian Parenting/Raising Children In a Multi-Cultural Society

Group A - Technology vs. Family Life

4:30 - Solo Song—Diana Shinoy

4:35 - Special Presentation—**Chris Harding Esq.**

***“Rights, Responsibilities and Protections of Parents in the American Legal System”***

5:15 - Q & A Session w/ Second Speaker

5:30 - Evaluation / Opinion

5:45 - Vote of Thanks - Johnson Jacob

5:50 - Concluding Prayer— (Senior attending Achan)



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## The Challenges of **Raising a Christian Family** in American Society



### **H. G. Dr. Gabriel Mar Gregorios**



H.G. Gabriel Mar Gregorios was born on January 28, 1948 as third son of Thumpamon Vaddakke Thazhethil, Kanjikkal Chacko John and Pandalam Kudassinadu Ramanattu Mulamoottil Aleyamma John and the family belong to the Kudassinadu St. Stephens Cathedral of Chengannoor Diocese. Preliminary education of Gabriel was done at St. Stephens High School, Pathanapuram and Pre-Degree in the St. Stephens College. After graduating in English Literature [B.A.] from Basalios College, Kottayam, Gabriel proceeded for Theological studies at Orthodox Seminary, Kottayam. He had Acquired GST from there and B.D. degree from Serampore University.

On November 4, 1969 Gabriel was ordained as deacon and on February 8, 1974, as a priest. Fr. Gabriel took M.T.H degree in New Testament, Three year Diploma in Hebrew Language and two year Diploma in Aramaic Language and great proficiency in Greek from the Paris Catholic University. He had done research in Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, USA, about 'Grace in the Epistles of St.Paul'. Based on the dissertation and Thesis of this research

study, he was awarded doctorate by the Serampore University. Also he had undergone post graduate research in Cambridge University. Fr. Gabriel had acquired proficiency in ancient languages of Aramaic, Hebrew, Greek, Syriac and in modern languages German, French and English etc.

Fr. Gabriel served as vicar of fifteen parishes including parishes at Bombay, Delhi, Kottayam, Trivandrum over period of long 30 years. He was deeply involved in many ecumenical corporate activities of the Church. He had also served as Registrar and Director of F.F.R.R.C which act as a United Theological research Centre of Marthoma, C.S.I, Orthodox Seminaries [1995-2003]. He had a major contribution to uplift this centre as one of the biggest Theological Research Center where maximum number of researchers got attracted from different states of India. He is the chief architect of this institution to elevate it as Doctoral Research Center giving M.T.H degree in 8 subjects from 1999 onwards. Fr. Gabriel also acted as Malankara Orthodox Church representative of ecumenical organizations like Orthodox-Marthoma Dialogue Forum, Orthodox-Lutheran Dialog Forum, Bible Society Kerala Auxiliary Committee, Theological Literature Forum etc. for six years each.

During 1996-2000 he was the treasurer of Society for Biblical Studies which is an organization of the Theological Scholars in India. He also held the posts of Associate Director of the Orthodox Youth Magazine, Organizer of the publication of the Sunday Schools books for Oriental Orthodox Churches, Convener of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Vattasseril Mar Dionasios [1983-85], Orthodox Seminary Registrar, Warden and Alumni Association President.

From 1982 onwards Fr. Gabriel is the Professor of New Testament Department in Orthodox Theological Seminary, Kottayam. He also holds the post of Fellow of George Bell Ecumenical Institute, England, and Administrative Committee Member of Serampore University etc. He had also authored many Theological Books like Towards A New Humanity, Towards The Grace Of God, Cross And Grace etc. On August 7, 2004 Fr. Gabriel was elevated as Ramban by Basalios Mar Thoma Mathews II at Devalokam Catholicate Aramana Chapel.

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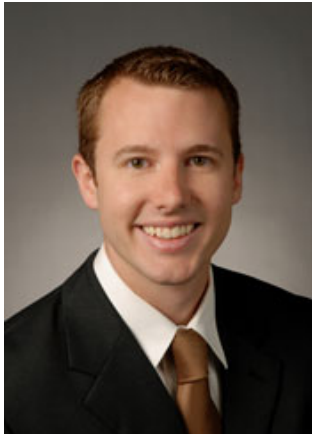
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## Speaker Biography



Chris believes one of the most important aspects of family law is seeing the 'big picture.' This means understanding the law, the facts of your case and the range of possible outcomes. Only after knowing each of those can an attorney convey the risks and potential results and guide you to make the right decision for your case, your life and your family. He understands every person and every case is unique. Chris will advocate for the very best possible result in your case.

He has worked on a variety of family law cases, including tracing of assets, property division of estates worth more than one million dollars, international and interstate child custody issues, enforcement actions as well as pre-marital and post-marital agreements. Chris continues to be a student of the Law and helps to educate others by maintaining the "Hot Topics" section of the Firm web site, which features current issues in Texas family law. Topics have included how a bankruptcy can affect child support and the differences between alimony and court ordered spousal maintenance.

Chris joined the firm after graduating cum laude from Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law. During his time at SMU, Chris competed in numerous mock and moot competitions and placed nationally. Chris is a native Texan, growing up in the Houston area and completing his undergraduate studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

### Memberships:

State Bar of Texas - Family Law Section, Civil Litigation Section  
Dallas Bar Association - Family Law Section, Civil Litigation Section  
Dallas Association of Young Lawyers  
Texas Exes - Dallas Chapter  
College of The State Bar of Texas

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