

H.H Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Paulose II The Supreme Head of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church

His Holiness was born on 30th August 1946 at Pazhanji, Kerala, India and was named Paul, after his Grandfather. Paul attended church services regularly and became an altar boy at his young age. He was an active member of MGOCSM (Mar Gregorios Orthodox Christian Student Movement) in his church. He completed theological studies in GST (Graduation in Sacred Theology) from Orthodox Theological Seminary, Kottayam and BD (Bachelor of Divinity) from Serampoor University. Paul was ordained as Sub-Deacon in 1972 at Parumala Seminary and next year he became full Deacon at Koratty Seheyon Seminary. On 21st June 1973, Dn. Paul was ordained as a Priest. In 1984 he was elected by the Malankara Association as a candidate to be the Bishop and became Remban.

On 15th May 1985 Ramban Paul was ordained as a Bishop with title Paulose Mar Milithios at the age of 38 at Mavelikara, Puthiyacavu St. Mary's Church by His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Mathews I. He is the first Metropolitan after Parumala Thirumeni and Puthenkavil Geevarghese Mar Philexinos to be ordained as Bishop below the age of 40. The newly ordained Bishop Mar Milithios was appointed as the Metropolitan of the Diocese of Kunnankulam.

The Holy Episcopal synod and the Managing committee nominated him as the successor to the Catholicos of the East and Malankara Metropolitan on 27th Sep 2006. Paulose Mar Milithios was enthroned as the 91st Catholicos of the East and Malankara Metropolitan at the solemn ceremony at St. Paul's and St. Peter's church, Parumala on Monday, 1st November 2010.

His Holiness is the Eighth Catholicos of the East since the re-establishment of the Catholicate in India in 1912 and the 21st Malankara Metropolitan.



**St. Gregorios Orthodox Church
Edmonton, Canada
(15603-99 Ave, T5T 0J2)**

**Apostolic visit
of
His Holiness Moran Mar Baselios
Marthoma Paulose II**



**Catholicos and The Supreme Head
of the Indian Orthodox Church
on the
3rd and 4th of September 2016**

Dear Sir / Madam,

St. Gregorios Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church, Edmonton, cordially invite you and your family on the auspicious occasion of the Apostolic visit of His Holiness Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Paulose II, Catholicos and the Supreme head of the Indian Orthodox Church on the 3rd and 4th of September 2016. This is the first time the Supreme head of our church from India is visiting Western Canada. H.G. Alexios Mar Eusebius, Metropolitan of South-West Diocese will also accompany His Holiness. It will be a blessed occasion where we would love to have you in the fellowship.

With Prayer

Fr Shabu Varughese

Vicar

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Program

Saturday, September 3rd.

- 5.00pm : Reception to His Holiness and distinguished guest at the Church
- 5.30 pm : Public Meeting
- 6.30pm : Prayer & Apostolic Blessings
- 7:00pm : Refreshments

Sunday, September 4th.

- 8.30 am : Morning Prayer followed by Holy Qurbana (Eucharist)
- 11.30 am : Lunch (Onam Sadhya)

Indian (Malankara) Orthodox Church

The Indian Orthodox Syrian Church was founded by St. Thomas the apostle during the first century (AD 52). This autonomous (autocephalous) church is headed by the Catholicos of the East, presently His Holiness Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Paulose II. The church stands as one of the largest ancient churches of the world with an indigenous character of its own. With around 2.5 million members and 30 dioceses, the church is spread all across the globe in the US, UK, Europe, Africa, Australia and other regions of the world. The headquarters of the church is at Devalokam, Kottayam, India. The faith of the Church is established on the basis of the three Ecumenical Councils of Nicea, Constantinople and Ephesus and is one of the member in the family of Oriental Orthodox Churches. The Indian Orthodox Church is in good relationship with the Byzantine Orthodox Churches, Catholic Church and other Churches of the world.

The Catholicity is a symbol of Apostolic authority and heritage of the original Indian Church. The Church is founded on the martyrdom of St. Thomas, the Apostle of India and on the declaration of his faith 'My Lord and My God'. The church teaches that her children should live for the glory of the Kingdom of God and become 'the Light and the Salt' of the earth. This church is blessed with two saints of her own, St. Gregorios of Parumala (canonized in 1947) and St. Dionysus of Vattaaseril (canonized in 2003) along with the numerous ancient holy fathers recognized by the Oriental Orthodox Churches.

May the Almighty God lead this Church for the greater glory of His Name, and may the Holy Spirit bless and guide to enlighten the world with Divine love and peace.

