



MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH

DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WEST AMERICA

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Blessings to our dearly beloved Cor-Episcopoi, Rambans, Priests, Deacons, Kaisthaness, Diocesan Council Members, Managing Committee Members, Malankara Association and Diocesan Assembly Members, and all the faithful of the Diocese of South-West America!

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

After Resurrection Sunday, the Holy Church eagerly awaits the feast of the Pentecost. The faithful anticipate the renewal of the Holy Spirit to empower and guide them in fulfilling their mission of the Church. As we serve the Church, we deeply appreciate your prayers and valuable contributions. We express our gratitude to all the members of the assembly, both the clergy and lay people, for their active participation and support in ensuring the success of the Diocesan Assembly 2024 held at Urshelm Aramana, the Diocesan Headquarters. We are confident that our continued partnership will bring greater positive change and impact to our Diocese.

As we bring into fruitfulness the mission of our diocese, the main source of income is the Diocesan Share. The generous support of every Church and its faithful members has been instrumental in the success of our diocese throughout all these years. As part of the collective decision upheld in the Diocesan Assembly 2024, the important updates are:

1. We shall remember the Holy Church and our Diocese in all our prayers that the name of the blessed Trinity is glorified at all times.
2. As part of the monetary collections required for the running of various spiritual and charitable organizations of the diocese, we kindly remind you that each parish has to fulfill the stipulated target which is set at the **Number of Families multiplied by \$100**.
3. Each parish is requested to send the required offerings **quarterly** and the whole amount to be disbursed to the diocesan office **on or before November 30**. Thus, all churches can be included in the annual report and discrepancies that arise out of late payment can be avoided.
4. The **Diocesan Assembly decided and endorsed unanimously that every parish shall pay the Diocesan Share from the Church accounts and not wait for it to be collected from its parish members**. The parish can take its own time to collect the Diocesan Share from its members for the year. This will reduce a considerable financial burden on the diocese.
5. ZELLE options for our banking purposes are rolled out. Church Donations like catholicate and diocesan share along with other donations (Seminary Day, Mission Sunday, Garbo Sunday, and Clergy Retirement Priest-Kohne Sunday offertory, etc.) can be sent via Zelle. The Zelle ID is dswa.catholicate.zelle@gmail.com.
The "PURPOSE OF PAYMENT" format is as follows: **"Title of Payment", "Church Name and Place", and "Memo"**.
Example 1 - Catholicate Share, <church name and place>, 2024 Catholicate share
Example 2 - Diocesan share, <church name and place>, 2024 Diocesan share



6. For the faithful, to send individual tithes and donations to the diocesan account, kindly send through the Zelle ID: donatetodswa.zelle@gmail.com. Your generous offerings will have a tremendous bearing on the prospects of the mission of our diocese.
7. We request the Churches to send their updated parish members list with the total count at the earliest.

Finally, we remind all our spiritual children as St. Paul did to Philemon 1:6, “I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ.” Therefore through faith and action, we shall all work for the glory of God and serve the Church, the body of Christ our Lord and our Saviour, with utmost dedication and genuineness. Prayers along with our offerings are required for our diocese to grow. We, once again, express sincere and heartfelt gratitude for all the support, and prayers received from each Church and member.

May the love of God the Father, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Urshlem Aramana, Beasley
April 26, 2024

Metropolitan Dr. Thomas Mar Ivanios