



**MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH**  
**DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WEST AMERICA**

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Blessings to our dearly beloved Cor-Episcopoi, Rambans, Priests, Deacons, Kaisthanness, and all the faithful of the Diocese of South-West America!

**Dearly Beloved in Christ,**

As per the directive from Kalpana of His Holiness under reference **HH/HES/23/2024**, the need for a **Policy To Address Sexual Misconduct** by and of the clergy, servant leaders, and laypersons was initiated in our diocese and subsequently approved by the Holy Synod in 2024. The policy aims to associate and solve reports of sexual misconduct, under professional expertise so that allegations of any nature are properly and impartially reviewed to high standards.

In striving to meet this standard, we now establish this Policy to Address Sexual Misconduct which outlines the following:

1. Protocols for Reporting and Responding to Allegations of Sexual Misconduct,
2. Expectations for clergy, servant leaders, and laypersons, and;
3. Guidelines for the Prevention of Sexual Misconduct

This Policy complements and works within the parameters of the 1934 Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church Constitution and subsequent decisions of the Holy Episcopal Synod.

A Review Committee is appointed to address the Reports of Sexual Misconduct. The committee incorporates influential members from the society. The members are

1. **Mr. Jacob Zachariah, Attorney** ([jacob.zachariah@gmail.com](mailto:jacob.zachariah@gmail.com), Phone: 713 269 9455)
2. **Dr. Binu Tharakan, Constitution**, ([btharakan@yahoo.com](mailto:btharakan@yahoo.com), Phone: 254 421 5795)
3. **Lijin Hannah Thomas, Counsellor**, ([lijin.h.thomas@gmail.com](mailto:lijin.h.thomas@gmail.com), Phone: 214 477 1836)
4. **Jijo Thomas, Police Officer** ([jjjoskariah@hotmail.com](mailto:jjjoskariah@hotmail.com), Phone: 847 630 1917)

A detailed Policy To Address Sexual Misconduct is published and should be followed in its true spirit by every Church. All the clergy, servant leaders, and laypersons shall strive for the highest standard of moral character and virtue as established by the teachings of Christ in all matters.

May the Love of God the Father, the grace of the Only-Begotten Son, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Urshlem Aramana, Beasley  
May 03, 2024

**Metropolitan Dr. Thomas Mar Ivanios**