



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

Urshlem, 3101 Hopkins Road, Beasley, TX 77417, USA  
Office: (281) 403 0670 Fax: (281) 459 0814  
Email: thomasmarivanios@gmail.com



Dr. Thomas Mar Ivanios  
Metropolitan



Email: metropolitan.dswa@gmail.com  
Website: www.ds-wa.org

**No: 148-2025**

**Blessings to our beloved Vicars, Assistant Vicars, Priests of the locality, Cor-Episcopi, Ramban, Deacons, and faithful of our Diocese,**

**Dearly Beloved,**

We are delighted to announce the winners of the **Mar Barnabas Educational Award** for the year 2025. The Mar Barnabas Educational Award was instituted in 2011 to encourage our children to excel academically, with a commitment to their Parish, Diocese, and the Mission of the Church. Each year, twelfth-grade graduates entering their first year of post-secondary education are invited to apply for the award.

The award committee completed the review process according to previously established evaluation guidelines and submitted the feedback that all of the applicants demonstrated a high level of academic achievements, along with qualities of leadership, commendable involvement, and commitment to their respective parishes. With great pleasure, we announce the recipients of the 2025 Mar Barnabas Educational Award:

**Midwestern Region**

1st Place	Riya George	St. Gregorios Orthodox Church Elmhurst, Illinois
1st Place	Hope Geevarghese	St. Gregorios Orthodox Church Elmhurst, Illinois

**North Texas & Oklahoma Region**

1st Place	Zachary Thomas	St. Thomas Orthodox Church Oklahoma
2nd Place	Leon Daniel	St. George Orthodox Church Irving, Texas
2nd Place	Neha Mariam Thomas	St. Mary's Orthodox Valiyapally Farmers Branch, Texas



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**South Texas Region**

1st Place	Neha Varghese	St. Gregorios Orthodox Church Houston, Texas
2nd Place	Jeremy Chacko	St. Gregorios Orthodox Church Austin, Texas

**Southeastern Region**

1st Place	Angela Elizabeth Joseph	St. Gregorios Orthodox Church South Florida
2nd Place	Ayana John	St. Gregorios Orthodox Church South Florida

**Western Region**

1st Place	Alana Anil	St. Mary's Malankara Orthodox Church Chatsworth, California
2nd Place	Joel Abraham	St. Thomas Orthodox Church Phoenix, Arizona

We congratulate all our children who have received the Mar Barnabas Education Award in 2025 and pray that Almighty God may grant them the wisdom and strength to continue in their academic excellence while remaining committed to Christ our Lord and His Holy Church. May the prayers and intercession of our late lamented Metropolitan Mathews Mar Barnabas, in whose memory the educational award was established, continue to be with all of our children of the diocese. The prizes and certificates will be sent to their respective parish Vicars, who are to distribute them in an appropriate manner.



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May I take this opportunity to appreciate the award evaluation committee for their valuable time, which includes Rev. Fr. Mathew Alexander, Mrs. Smitha Kurian, and Diocesan Council Member - Mr. Prasad John, along with the Diocesan Secretary - Rev. Fr. George Sajeev Mathews, for their work on the Mar Barnabas Educational Award Committee.

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 forever and ever.

Urshlem Aramana, Beasley  
December 12, 2025

**Metropolitan Dr. Thomas Mar Ivanios**