



MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH
DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WEST AMERICA

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No. 20/2026

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

Dearly Beloved,

Today, the Holy Church pays homage to the first Metropolitan of the American Diocese, the Late Lamented, His Grace, Dr. Thomas Mar Makarios, of Blessed Memory, on the 18th Memorial Feast. The Award Committee reviewed the applications based on the guidelines previously established and submitted feedback that all applicants demonstrated high levels of academic achievements, and continued to serve their respective parishes in multiple ways. Several applications were received throughout all the regions across the diocese. The prizes and certificates will be sent to their respective parish Vicars, who are to distribute them in an appropriate manner. With great joy, we announce the winners of the inaugurated diocesan program, the Mar Makarios Scholarship Award for 2025:

Southeast Region:

First Place (\$1,500.00) -**Swetha Thomas - St. Thomas Orthodox Church, Atlanta**
Second Place (\$1,000.00) -**Aimy Ann Varghese - St. Gregorios Orthodox Church, Atlanta**

Midwest Region:

First Place (\$1,500.00)-**Sarah George-St. Mary's Orthodox Church, Hazelwood**
Second Place (\$1,000.00)-**Rebecca Suku- St. Gregorios Orthodox Church, Kansas City**

South Region:

First Place (\$1,500.00) - **Reeba Biji -St. Mary's Orthodox Valiyapally, Farmers Branch**
Second Place (\$1,000.00)- **Ashley Anil- St. Mary's Orthodox Church, Houston**

We congratulate all our children who have received the Mar Makarios Scholarship Award and all the other college graduates in 2025, and pray that Almighty God may grant them the wisdom and strength to continue in their academic excellence. We take this opportunity to appreciate the award evaluation committee, which includes Very Rev. Cherian Kunnel Cor-Episcopa, Rev. Fr. George S. Mathews (Diocesan Secretary), Rev. Fr. Cyril Davy, Mr. Bijoy Thomas (Council Member), Mrs. Latha Jacob Sajan, and Mr. Kenny Varghese.

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
February 17, 2026

Metropolitan Dr. Thomas Mar Ivanios