

# Besorah

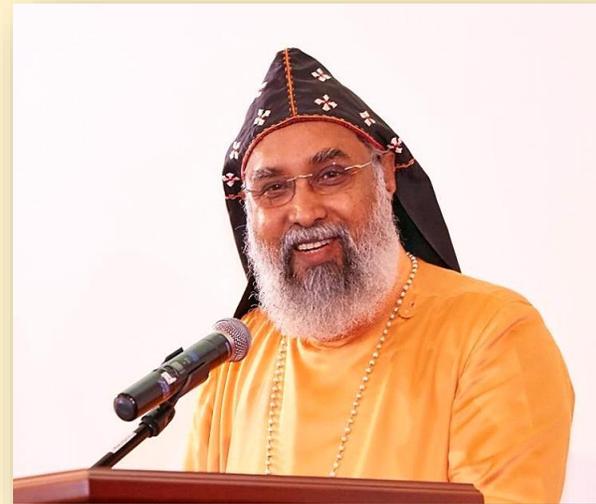
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## MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN EPISCOPA

Dearly Beloved,

It gives me great joy to greet all of you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank God for the Divine guidance that we receive every day in our life. The Diocesan and regional conferences held last few months helped various organizations to revive their activities with renewed strength. The family conference of Europe was another milestone, that gave new insights and inspiration to preserve the 'timeless' in a changing world. It also provided an opportunity to reflect on the God given gifts and possibilities, to promote life in keeping the richness that we received through the Word of God, and the inspiration to involve in mission with an openness to receive the guidance of the Holy Spirit to broaden our understanding of the 'other' and to bring changes in our perspectives.

The increasing incidents of violence and attacks on people at different parts of the world are alarming and call for the world community to keep vigil and involve with peace initiatives. The painful memories of 9/11 reminds of the need for respect to life and restraining from destructive tendencies. The mass shooting at the shopping center in Washington is another nightmare bringing to focus once again the rising violence. Though the reasons of these killings vary, there is need to develop a culture of peace among human communities. It has been noted that the consideration of common humanity and the oneness of all people on earth will help everyone to create an atmosphere of harmonious living. All religions propagate this aspect of love and peace that are essentials for peaceful co-existence and to preserve the life with dignity and honor.



In this context the role of the church is significant, in promoting confidence and healthy relations between people and communities. The diversity and differences that exists in the world need to be accepted as divine gifts and every effort should be taken to respect the fellow human being as the one created by the same God in the same image. Therefore the understanding of the Church has to be redefined and reoriented in relation to the location and the emerging social realities. Church has to reconstruct the 'being and the becoming' through its relations and witness. Being is the body of the Church and becoming is the gifts of the Church. Church as the body of Christ is called to mediate the nature and manifest divine gifts in the world. It reflects more clearly in the saying of Jesus Christ, 'Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven' (Mt.5.16).

With Prayers and Regards,

**Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos**

Diocesan Episcopa

## MTVEA Diocesan Conference



The 13<sup>th</sup> MTVEA Diocesan Conference was held at the Philadelphia MTC from July 21<sup>st</sup> to July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016, hosted by the Philadelphia MTC Edavaka Mission. The theme of the conference was *“Arise and Go; The Call and Commission”* based on Jonah 1:1-2. Around 650 delegates registered and attended the conference from various parishes of North America. Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Theethose, Episcopa of Malabar Diocese, was the main speaker for the conference. A panel discussion on the subject *“Lighted to Lighten: Who Will Keep it Lit?”* was held on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## 34<sup>th</sup> Europe Mar Thoma Family Conference 2016



The 34<sup>th</sup> Europe Mar Thoma Family Conference was held at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Alfreton DE55 1AU from Augusts 26<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> and hosted by Sinai Mar Thoma Church North London. The theme was *“Preserving the Timeless While Adapting to the Times.”*



This year’s conference was ably led by our Diocesan Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos. The main theme based adult sessions were led by Lord Rev. Dr. Leslie Griffiths, British Methodist minister and life peer in the House of Lords. Over 400 members, including youth and children, attended the conference this year at the beautiful Hayes Conference Centre. This year’s conference was an enriching experience and blessing to all the people who attended and one that will make a difference to their lives, as an individual and as a family, going forward.

## UK & Europe Regional Mar Thoma Youth Conference



The 2<sup>nd</sup> UK & Europe Regional Mar Thoma Youth Conference took place at the Ashburnham Christian Trust in East Sussex, UK (hosted by the St. James MTC, UK) from Aug 5-7. The theme for conference was *“Remember Your Creator in the Days of Your Youth”* based on Ecclesiastes 12:1. Rev. Jaisen A. Thomas (Vicar, St. Thomas MTC, NY) and Mr. Daniel Kalta, a youth missionary with Youth with a Mission (YWAM) were the main speakers. Around 170 delegates from parishes & congregations in UK, Ireland, & Switzerland attended.

### Upcoming Events

September 28 – October 1 Diocesan Senior Fellowship Conference: St John’s MTC New York  
October 6-9 Sevika Sangham Diocesan Conference, St. Mathews MTC, Toronto  
October 27 Mexico Mission Trip

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