

Diocese of North America and Europe

The Mar Thoma

Besorah

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN EPISCOPA



Dearly beloved,

Greetings to all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Every day is a new day. It is the day God has given us. Often one wonders, ‘is it good news that awaits me in the dawn to listen, or is it any unexpected incident that causes confusion and sadness?’ Today people who long for peaceful lives are asking the question, ‘where are we heading to?’ After the brutal and heinous killing of people, unaware and without any provocation, in Orlando, Florida and the natural calamity through the wildfire at Ft. Mc Murray, Alberta which burned hundreds of homes down and forced the evacuation of thousands of residents, this becomes more relevant. Of course it points to the need for changing the mindset of an individual or a group towards a positive outlook and to get everyone involved in the peace building process. At this juncture, while we express our solidarity with the loved ones of the victims and to those of the injured, we have to pray that the power of goodness may prevail over the evil minded.

Jesus Christ reminded the faithful, ‘do not be anxious’. For God knows every need of His creation and considers every human being with more value than all other created beings. The call therefore, is to seek first the Kingdom of God, which will in turn free us from all our anxieties. The word of God exhorts the believers to ‘put your trust in the Lord’. God expects from His followers a total submission and asks them to live and serve in obedience to His will. As the worshipping community, we need to know the depth of the Divine providence. How wonderful it is to be in the safe arms of our Lord! A caring and loving God always invites us to be in His bosom and to learn from Him and also to experience the warmth of His fellowship. Hence our life becomes worship to God, praising and thanking Him for His wondrous works.

Let the Spirit of God continue to strengthen every community to be diligent in knowing His will and walking in His way. The power of the Holy Spirit will motivate everyone to overcome evil by good. We are committed to uphold the true spirit and promote the worthiness of life. It is our prayer that peace and harmony may prevail among all people to fulfill the work of God in this world.

With Prayers and regards,

Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos

Spring One Day Conference

The South East Regional Youth Fellowship (SERYF) Spring One-Day Conference was hosted by the Bethel Mar Thoma Church YF, Philadelphia on Saturday, March 26th, 2016. The theme was "From the Cross to the World," based on James 1:22-27. The main speaker was Moncy Mathews (Baltimore MTC). The conference included a service project which helped military personnel serving our country. Clergy from the various parishes, along with 170 youths from around the region attended the conference. Special thanks to Rev. Giju John, the Bethel MTC, and YF for hosting the conference.



Native American Mission VBS 2016 – Oklahoma & Alabama



The Native American Mission of our Diocese had its annual VBS Camps from June 5th-10th, at Camp Israel Folsom, Broken Bow, OK and from June 12th-17th at the Aldersgate Methodist Church, Mt. Vernon, AL. Rev. Dennis Abraham (Convener), Rev. Mathew Samuel (Assistant Vicar, Dallas MTC, Farmer's Branch), Rev. M.P. Samuel (Vicar, Atlanta MTC), clergy, NAM Subcommittee members, along with 45 volunteers attended the camps, coming from various parishes around the Diocese.

Volunteers participated by teaching VBS classes for the Choctaw

Native American children & youth, bible classes for adults, crafts, teaching songs, Leadership Summit, devotion, dedication, mentoring, and empowering the Native American community to foster leadership development and build up the youth in the area to take leadership in the faith community. The mission has not only provided faith education through VBS and the Leadership Summit, but has also strengthened the Choctaw community and has enabled them to be reminded of the everlasting presence and love of Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the Native American Mission, we would like to thank God for His blessings on all. Special thanks to the Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Episcopa, Rev. Denny Philip, Rev. Dr. Philip Varghese, members of the Diocesan Council, NAM subcommittee, parishes in Dallas & Atlanta, well-wishers, and volunteers for their prayers, support and help in making this camp a blessing.

Upcoming Events

June 30– July 3	Junior/ Senior Conference South-East Region
July 1-3	Canada Regional Family Conference
July 7-10	Junior/ Senior Conference North-East Region
July 15-17	MTYS Diocesan Conference, Chicago
July 21-24	MTVEA Diocesan Conference, Philadelphia
July 28-31	DYF Conference, Detroit



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