



The Mar Thoma

Besorah

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN EPISCOPA

Dear beloved in Christ,

I am happy to greet you as we have entered the second half of the year. In July, we had the Junior Senior Conferences at New Jersey, Voluntary Evangelistic Association Diocesan Conference at San Francisco and Youth Conference at Houston. I am happy that all the conferences were well organized and created a platform for coming together, to deeply meditate on the word of God and experience the Christian Fellowship. The themes of the conferences were dealt with exhortations, posing strong challenges before us. While the Sunday school children deliberated on 'Being Ambassadors for Christ' and grow from 'Selfie to Selfless', the Youth decided to embark upon 'the Pursuit' of what is eternal. It was a time of rededication for the MTVEA members to be 'Faithful Witnesses in the Land'. We need always to keep in mind that it is the deep study of the word of God and submission to its fulfilment that keep us rooted in faith and help to grow as a witnessing community.

It gives us immense joy that two of our youths have completed their theological studies and entered into the ministry of the Church. Rev Arun Samuel Varghese was ordained as Kassessa on July 15 at the Mar Thoma Church of Dallas, Farmers Branch. The Kassessa ordination of Rev. Dn. Jess George is scheduled to be held on August 5th at Chicago Mar Thoma Church. I pray that God will use them effectively for the furtherance of His kingdom.

The gospel is for everyone and is experienced by different people in different ways. While, for the captives; it is release, it is sight to the blind; for the oppressed, it is freedom; for the sick, it is cure; for the sinner, it is forgiveness and for the hungry it is food. Self-understanding of Jesus was so clear that he was anointed to be the good news. We see in Jesus, good news personified. The Church is sent to the world to be the good news. It is the sensitivity to the needs of the people around, that helps us respond creatively. Mission sprouts from such spontaneous responses and it makes the existence of the Church meaningful and relevant. Sunday, **August 13, 2017 is set apart as Suvishesha Nidhi Sunday** to rededicate ourselves for Mission.

Prayerful regards,

Isaac Mar Philoxenos

Diocesan Episcopa



Diocesan Council 2017-20

JUNIOR SENIOR CONFERENCES



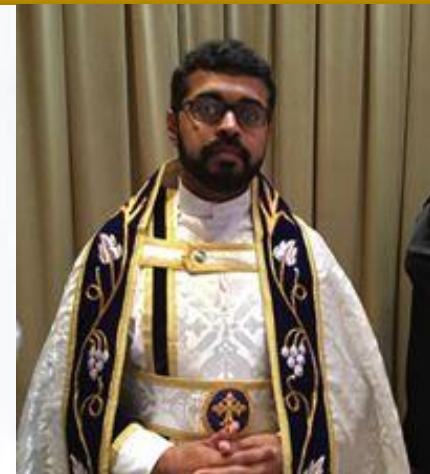
The Junior Senior Conferences of the Southeast & Northeast Regional Sunday schools took place respectively from 6/29-7/2, and 7/6-7/9 at the Ramapo College, Mahwah, NJ. Leaders included the Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Isaac Mar Philoxenos Episcopa, Rev. Denny Philip (Diocesan Secretary), Youth Chaplains Rev. Dennis Abraham, Rev. Shibi Abraham. The main speakers were: Rev. Larry Varghese (Southeast), Hency Varghese (Southeast), Rev. Brady Funn (Northeast), & Daryl Abraham (Southeast). Themes/Key Verses respectively: "Ambassadors of Christ" (2 Cor 5:20); Selfie vs. Selfless" (1 Sam 16:7b). More than 200 students attended each conference.

The conference included bible study, main talks, group discussions, Q & A with Thirumeni/Achens, outdoor activities, and praise/worship. Special thanks to the regional Sunday School committees of the NE & SE regions for their prayers and hard work for making this year's conferences a success.

HOLY ORDINATION: REV. DN. ARUN SAMUEL VARGHESE



The Holy Ordination Service of Rev Arun Samuel Varghese was conducted by the Metropolitan, the Most. Rev. Dr Joseph Mar Thoma in the presence of the Diocesan Episcopa, Rt. Rev. Dr Isaac Mar Philoxenos on Saturday, July 15, 2017 at the Mar Thoma Church of Dallas Farmers Branch. Rev. Biju P. Simon gave the message during the service. Rev. Saji P. C. and Rev. Mathew Samuel made all the arrangements for the the service.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 5** Ordination of Rev. Dn. Jess George at Chicago MTC
- August 24– 27** Regional Family Conference Europe
- September 5-7** Sabha Mandalam

EPISCOPAL VISIT

- August 6** St. Thomas MTC, Indianapolis
- August 7** St. Louis MTC
- August 13** Oklahoma MTC
- August 20** Jerusalem MTC, Connecticut



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