



**ST. MARY QUEEN OF PEACE
SYRO-MALANKARA CATHOLIC EPARCHY
IN THE USA & CANADA**

1500 Depaul Street • Elmont, NY 11003

Office of the Bishop
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Circular 2-2021

Dear Rt. Rev. Corepiscopoi, Rev. Fathers, Rev. Religious Sisters, and dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

Christ is risen! Indeed, He is truly Risen!

I wish you all a most blessed Easter. As we continue to experience the fears and pains related to the COVID-19 pandemic, this great Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord brings us renewed hope of divine peace and new life in the Risen Lord. On Easter Sunday, we confess and declare our faith that 'Christ is truly risen.' Faith in the Risen Lord is the heart of our Christian living. St. Paul says, 'if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain' (1 Cor. 15:14 RSV). Hope and peace are the key spiritual gifts of Easter. True believers and the humanity can overcome the agonies of life in God and experience peace and happiness. Peace of Christ enables us to settle and strengthen even the most terrible circumstances and situations. The risen Lord assures us that "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." (John 14:27). As we exchange peace to one another, let us wish and pray that we all experience all dimensions of peace in our day-to-day existence.

I wish to share with you the following information:

- 1. Rev. Dr. Saji Mukkoot** is canonically incardinated in our Eparchy with effect from 25th March 2021. We extend him a cordial welcome to our Eparchy and wish that his new ascription would strengthen our Eparchy in manifold manners.
- 2. The newly ordained priest for our Eparchy, Rev. Fr. Varghese Anchanithadathil**, is appointed as Assistant to Rt. Rev. Msgr. Gigi Philip, to strengthen the new missions in the province of Ontario, Canada.

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3. The acquisition of our proposed Pastoral Center building is in progress. We hope to have its ownership registration in the month of May. The fundraising campaign for this project is still ongoing. So far, we have received pledges totaling \$323,051 USD, out of which \$190,417.17 has been received. Our Eparchy is immensely grateful to all the donors, whose list (Parish-wise) will be published at the end of April. Kindly encourage our people and the parish to participate in this common endeavor.

Thanking You,
Most Sincerely, in the Risen Lord,

+ Philipos Mar Stephanos

NB: Rev. Fathers, please communicate this Circular to the members of your Parish.