



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

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Circular 3-2021

Dear Sisters & Brothers in our Lord Jesus Christ,

After more than a year of Covid, we are all still heavy laden, and in great need of Divine Strength. In the face of this ongoing pandemic, we turn to the Lord:

“Come to me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” (Matthew 11:28-29)

The COVID-19 pandemic has sickened over 150 million people worldwide and has claimed the lives of more than 3.1 million people. The crisis continues to worsen in India, where the second wave of infections records the world’s largest daily new cases. In this grave situation, I extend a special invitation to all of you to join me in praying for India where the Coronavirus continues to have a devastating impact. Please dedicate this Sunday (May 9, 2021) as a day of prayer and solidarity with the suffering community in India.

Currently, we are not conducting an Eparchial-wide fundraising effort. However, the parishes of our Eparchy are welcome to raise funds to help alleviate the suffering of the people of India. Parishes may send the funds raised directly to the beneficiaries, or if needed, funds can be sent to the Eparchial Chancery, and it will be distributed accordingly.

I solicit your special prayers for the speedy recovery of His Excellency Jacob Mar Barnabas, who is seriously suffering from Covid-19, and has been undergoing treatments at the Holy Family Hospital in Delhi.

Holy Father Pope Francis has called for a ‘Rosary Marathon’ from May 1st to May 31st for an end to the Coronavirus pandemic. Prayer is the most powerful weapon we have, and by praying the rosary we call upon our Blessed Mother, to intercede with her Son, Jesus, on behalf of those who are still struggling to overcome the effects of the pandemic. Let us pray for all those suffering from Covid-19, especially for Bishop Jacob Mar Barnabas.

May Almighty God bless you,

+ Bishop Philipos Mar Stephanos

N.B.: Please share this Circular with our Faithful

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