



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

1500 Depaul Street • Elmont, NY 11003

Office of the Bishop
Most Rev. Dr. Philipos Mar Stephanos
Email: marstephanos@gmail.com
Tel: (516) 265 - 2479

Circular 4 - 2021

Dear Rt. Rev. Corepiscopoi, Rev. Fathers, Rev. Sisters, and dear Faithful our Lord Jesus Christ,

Cordial Greetings!

We all know that our motherland India is struggling with a deadly COVID-19 outbreak. Thousands of people have died and hundreds of thousands of people are infected each day. The whole country is in a health care crisis, not able to take care of the millions who are suffering.

More resources are needed now to respond to the outbreak which has stretched the country's healthcare system to its breaking point. Hospitals are overfilled and lifesaving supplies such as oxygen and ventilators are in short supply. Thousands of people are at risk of being left to die without lifesaving support.

We continue to pray for all those who are suffering, and in a special way we pray for His Excellency Jacob Mar Barnabas, who has personally overseen many pandemic relief efforts throughout Northern India and is currently in critical condition at Holy Family Hospital in Delhi due to COVID-19.

In this context it is our Christian mission to extend our solidarity with the suffering people in India. Therefore, as proposed in the Clergy Meeting of our Eparchy, we intend to raise funds for COVID-19 relief.

Hence, I call upon all the parishes within our Eparchy to hold an emergency collection on Sunday, May 23, 2021, to help alleviate the suffering in India. Please encourage our faithful to contribute generously. You can also contact people of goodwill outside of our parishes to join in this fundraising campaign. Parish receipts or Eparchial receipts may be issued for tax purposes. The collections shall be forwarded to the Finance Office of the Eparchy

Our Lady of Good health, pray for us!

+ Bishop Philipos Mar Stephanos
Dated May 15, 2021

Tel. 516-233-1656 | Fax 516-616-0727
Email: malankarachancery@gmail.com
<http://www.malankaracatholicna.church/>