



# The Northeast American Diocese of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

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Mathews Mar Barnabas  
Diocesan Metropolitan

Zachariah Mar Nicholovos  
Assistant Metropolitan



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Blessings to the Vicar and members of all parishes in the Northeast American Diocese,

Dearly beloved,

In 1992 we came to this land to assist His Holiness the Catholicos in the administration of this Diocese, and in 1993 we were appointed and enthroned as the Diocesan Metropolitan. We offer thanks to God for His abundant mercies and guidance in our ministry to this Diocese. We have discharged our responsibilities as Diocesan Metropolitan with the prayerful support of our clergy and faithful.

It is with a grateful heart we remember how God has helped this Diocese to grow. In 2002 we were blessed with the appointment of His Grace Zachariah Mar Nicholovos, as the Assistant Metropolitan of the Diocese. With gladness we remember and acknowledge the assistance and support of His Grace Zachariah Mar Nicholovos. Later in 2008 the American Diocese grew into two Dioceses – the Northeast American Diocese and the Southwest American Diocese.

On December 27, 2010 we wrote a letter to His Holiness the Catholicos, expressing our desire to retire. We made this decision considering our old age and physical frailties. Though we enjoy the fellowship and love of the clergy and faithful of this Diocese, we felt it is better for us and the Diocese to retire and lead a quiet retired life in India. Effective today, His Holiness the Catholicos, has relieved us of my responsibilities as the Diocesan Metropolitan of the Northeast American Diocese.

My dear children, we once again express our sincere love and gratitude to each and everyone of you. We exhort you to give all necessary support to His Grace Zachariah Mar Nicholovos who will be discharging the administrative and ministerial responsibilities of the Diocese, on behalf of His Holiness the Catholicos. Kindly remember us in your prayers.

Yours in our Lord,

Mathews Barnabas Metropolitan