



# The Northeast American Diocese of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

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By the Grace of God,  
Zachariah Mar Nicholovos,  
Diocesan Metropolitan

CK No. 14/2017

July 18, 2017

Blessings to our Very Reverend Chor Episcopoi, Reverend Fathers, Reverend Deacons, and faithful of the Northeast American Diocese!

Dearly beloved,

We offer thanksgiving to God for a historic week for our Diocese, and the greater Church.

His Holiness' Apostolic Visit to our Diocese came during one of the most participated Family & Youth Conferences in the history of our Diocese, with over one thousand faithful. Furthermore, nearly every parish and congregation in our Diocese was represented at this conference. We commend the hard work of our Vicars, Assistant Vicars, and Diocesan Assembly delegates in encouraging our faithful to participate in this year's conference. We recognize and commend the entire conference committee for their hard work. Under the leadership of Reverend Father Dr. Varghese M. Daniel and Mr. George Thumpayil, the committee members spent many sleepless nights (even throughout the conference), to ensure it was a spiritual and blessed conference. Each of the main speakers of the Family & Youth Conference offered thought provoking reflections upon this year's theme, to encourage us in our spiritual journey.

After the conference, the clergy and faithful joined together at Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center for the Inauguration and Blessing of our new spiritual home. His Holiness commended our Diocese for the clear vision, and decisive step to bring the ministry of our Church on this continent to another level. We echo the words of His Holiness, who called upon all people of our Diocese to continue supporting this ministry with your prayers and cooperation.

This week was indeed a joyful, and memorable week for our Diocese. This is only due to the corporate efforts our Clergy, Diocesan Council members, Diocesan Assembly members, Church Managing Committee Members, Chancery Staff, and numerous dedicated volunteers. We pray that God will reward each of you thirty, sixty and hundred-fold, for your sincere labor and dedication to the Church. We solicit the continued prayers, and cooperation of all our clergy and faithful, so we may continue to work together for the progress, and growth of our Diocese.

Yours in our Lord,

Zachariah Nicholovos, Metropolitan