



# The Northeast American Diocese of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

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

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Blessings to the Vicars, Assistant Vicars, and faithful of the Northeast American Diocese, especially our students!

Dearly beloved,

The new school year is upon us and our young people are often faced with a question by many members of society: “what do you want to be when you grow up?” This question is a loaded question which may offer a sense of anxiety, or a sense of affirmation in one’s life’s goal(s). It is of utmost importance that we should strive to “become someone” who is rooted in not only knowledge of this world, but also Heavenly Wisdom.

Many of our young people seek their vocation with conviction, however there is a great number who have forgotten their primary calling – *to be a child of God*. Often our community may emphasize on the importance of education, while forgetting the value of a strong spiritual life. The knowledge we retain from our educational institutions are important, but we will fail if we do not consistently seek Divine Wisdom.

As always, every new academic year brings a set of challenges to be overcome and new opportunities to grow from. The students throughout our Diocese have achieved so much, and will be able to achieve much more through their daily communion with Wisdom – Jesus Christ.

May God, Who is the source of all Wisdom and knowledge, bless and sanctify each student as they begin this new academic year.

Yours in our Lord,

Zachariah Nicholovos, Metropolitan