THE INDIAN (MALANKARA) ORTHODOX CHURCH

Diocese of UK- Europe and Africa

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GEN/20/009

Blessings to the Vicars/Priests-in-Charge, Parish Office bearers and all the faithful in our diocese;

Dearly beloved in Christ!

The whole world is in agony and distress on the outbreak of COVID19 epidemic. Let us continue Pray to Almighty God to stretch His invisible hands and heal the humankind, give courage to the affected families, strength to those caring the ill patients and bless with heavenly powers to those doing research to find the cure for the epidemic.

We reassure you all that we will be safe and secure in His hands. The compassionate and loving God Almighty will never leave you in enemies wicked plans. Surely 'He will save you from the fowlers snare and from the deadly pestilence' (Psalm 91:3). You should follow the good hygienic practises and necessary personal care which would keep the disease away from you. Our Lord Jesus Christ said It is not the healthy who need a doctor but the sick. Let us pray and support each other in whatever permissible way we could.

In this critical juncture, to control and stop the spread of the epidemic, We urge all of you to strictly follow the government orders and Health Official guidelines as relevant to your country of living. It is our duty of care and responsibility as law abiding citizens to follow the laws of the land. We would like to re iterate the instructions by our Bawa Thirumeni in His Holiness' Kalpana to all our faithful about our obligation in imposing restrictions on public gatherings and maintain appropriate social distancing in our fellowships and Congregational worships. Please note that as per our faith the Priest is performing the Holy Eucharist service for the attendees and for the faithful who cannot attend the service due to reasons beyond their controls. We have entrusted the Diocesan office to issue the generic guidelines for all Parishes in the affected areas of our diocese.

Once again assuring Our prayers for all of you

Your Spiritual Father and Shepherd

Thimothios Metropolitan