



**MALANKARA ORTHODOX
SYRIAN CHURCH**(INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH)

DIOCESE OF UK•EUROPE•AFRICA•
UK REGISTERED CHARITY : 1159302

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Blessings to all the Vicars, Sunday School Office bearers and the faithful of the Diocese of UK-Europe and Africa, in the name of the blessed Holy Trinity:

Dearly beloved in Christ,

With reference to the letter of His Holiness the Catholicos (Letter No.HES/HH/82/2023, dated 27-02-2023), I wish to inform you that the Northeast American Diocese, Southwest American Diocese, and our Diocese have been formed into one region to operate the Sunday School Association. In connection with this development, steps are being taken to bring uniformity in administration and curriculum. In alignment with this uniform pattern, please note that the post of Vice-President will be replaced with the role of Director, and henceforth, a clergy member of the Diocese will serve as the Sunday School Director.

We are blessed to witness an increase in the number of Sunday School students—thanks be to God—which necessitates further division into smaller zones for better administration. From 01 January 2025, the UK region will operate as five zones instead of the current three zones:

1. Scotland and Northeast Zone
2. North Zone
3. Central Zone
4. Southwest Zone
5. Southeast Zone

For the rest of the Diocese, the following zones will be operational:

6. Irish Zone
7. Central and Eastern European Zone
8. African Zone

The Sunday School Executive will soon publish the list of parishes comprising these zones.

Appointments

The following appointments are hereby made, effective from 01 January 2025:

Diocesan Sunday School Director:

- Fr. Anoop M. Abraham

Board of Examinations: •To ensure smooth conduct of final exams for Classes X and XII and appropriate assessments for other classes, a Board of Examinations is constituted with immediate effect.

- Controller of Exams: Mr. Simon Chacko
- Zonal Representatives:
 - 1 South Zone: Mr. Jobin George
 - 2 Central Zone: Mrs. Siny Thankachan
 - 3 North Zone: Mr. Linz Aiyannattu
 - 4 Irish Zone: Mrs. Merin Mani
 - 5 Central and Eastern European Zone: Mr. Cyril C. Saji

Zonal Clergy Presidents (Effective 01 January 2025):

To ensure that the zones function effectively, we are introducing clergy zonal presidents for each zone. This will help strengthen the spiritual and administrative framework of the Sunday Schools in every region. The following clergy are appointed as Zonal Presidents, effective from 01 January 2025:

- 1 Scotland and Northeast Zone: Fr. Varghese P.A.
- 2 North Zone: Fr. Binu Thomas
- 3 Central Zone: Fr. Aby Philip Varghese
- 4 Southwest Zone: Fr. Geevarghese J. Tharakan
- 5 Southeast Zone: Fr. Jins K. John
- 6 Irish Zone: Fr. Eldhose Babu
- 7 Central and Eastern European Zone: Fr. Rohith Skaria Georgy
- 8 African Zone: Fr. Jobin Mammen Cherian

Irish Zone Appointments:

Following the meeting of Sunday School Teachers in the Irish Zone in October 2024, and with their recommendations, the following office bearers are appointed effective from 01 January 2025:

- Zonal Coordinator: Mr. John Mathew
- Zonal Treasurer: Dr. Febe Francis
- Zonal Safeguarding Officer -The Relevant Person: Mrs. Minu Lizbeth John

Continuing Office Bearers at the Diocesan Level

- Secretary: Mr. Vinod Philip
- Treasurer: Mr. Baby Cherian
- Joint Secretary: Mr. Robin Thomas
- Curriculum Coordinator: Mr. Suresh Daniel
- We have a Curriculum Committee in place for the Diocese.

Fr. Anoop Abraham and Mr. Suresh Daniel are appointed in liaising with the Talmido Team of the American Dioceses for the curriculum matters.

Arrangements for UK-Zones Coordinators

- North Zone and Scotland / Northeast Zone : Mrs. Shiji Biben
- Central Zone & Southwest Zone : Mrs. Tina John
- Southeast Zone : Mr. Varghese Mathai

This status quo will remain until newly formed zones will have new Coordinators elected in the Teachers General Assembly by the end of April 2024, while the existing zonal coordinators will continue with their offices in the respective zones they belong.

The ministry of Sunday School remains a cornerstone of our Diocese, nurturing faith and grounding our children in the teachings of the Church. Let us focus on this vital ministry with prayer, dedication, and unwavering commitment.

"Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14).

May God bless you all as you work faithfully for His glory.

With prayers and blessings,



+ Metropolitan Abraham Stephanos