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+ABRAHAM MAR STEPHANOS METROPOLITAN

No. E-114/AMS/2023

30 March 2023

Blessings to the Vicar, Managing Committee Members and the Faithful of St Behnan's Indian Orthodox Church, Hereford, in the name of the blessed Holy Trinity:

Dearly beloved in Christ,

The 'Annual General Meeting' of the Diocesan General Assembly is scheduled to be held on Monday, 29 May 2023 at St. Thomas Indian Orthodox Church, Liverpool, and the meeting will commence at 11 AM. The tenure of the current Diocesan General Assembly and the Diocesan Council is coming to its end. Our Parishes should elect the Assembly members in accordance to section 46 of the 1934 Constitution of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church. Following the aforementioned section of the Constitution, the quantum of representation from each unit was approved by the Diocesan General Assembly held on 25 March 2023. Accordingly, along with your vicar, you are entitled to elect one lay member.

On the convening of the Diocesan General Assembly with the newly elected members on 29 May 2023, we shall elect the new Diocesan Council constituting the Diocesan Secretary and the Council Members.

You may provide the name and address of the representative elected at the Parish General Body, duly signed by the vicar, and submit it to the Diocesan email ID, office@indianorthodoxuk.org on or before Monday 08 May 2023. Further to this, please note that a declaration form duly filled and endorsed by the vicar also to be produced at the registration counter on the day of the Diocesan General Assembly. Both the forms along with the details of the election procedures will be made available to all the vicars by the New Sunday.

The Agenda of the Diocesan General Assembly on 29 May 2023 is as follows:

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Notification of the General Assembly
- 3. Scriptural Reflection
- 4. Presidential Address
- 5. Minutes of the Diocesan General Assembly held on 25 March 2023
- 6. Matters Arising from the Minutes
- 7. Annual Report for the Year 2022-2023
- 8. Annual Accounts for the Year 2022-2023
- 9. Family Conference 2024 and Visit of His Holiness the Catholicos
- 10. Diocesan Council Election
- 11. Budget for the Year 2023-2024
- 12. Any Other Business Approved by the Chair
- 13. Prayer and Benediction

As all of you know, the Diocesan General Assembly and the Diocesan Council have a significant role in the ministry of the Diocese. It goes without saying that we need people of greater commitment who would hold fast to the values of the Kingdom of God. Please hold everything about the General Assemblies at the Parish and the Diocesan levels in your prayers.

May the intercession of Holy Mother Mary, St. Gregorios and St. Dionysius be a fortress for us.

God bless

+ Abraham Mar Stephanos Metropolitan