



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

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

**+METROPOLITAN ABRAHAM MAR STEPHANOS**

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**Blessings to beloved Achens, Esteemed Office Bearers, and dear Faithful of the Diocese of UK-Europe and Africa, in the name of the Blessed Holy Trinity:**

**Dearly beloved in Christ,**

*“Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.” — Hebrews 13:7*

As we approach 23 February 2025, we are reminded that this date marks the 17th Memorial Day (Dukhrono) of His Grace Dr. Thomas Mar Makarios of blessed memory. His Grace was called to eternal rest on 23 February 2008, after a life dedicated to the service of our Lord and the spiritual nourishment of our Diocese.

His Grace Dr. Thomas Mar Makarios, the first Metropolitan of our Diocese, played a pivotal role in establishing and nurturing our parishes across the UK, Europe, and Africa. His visionary leadership, profound theological insights, and unwavering commitment to the Church have left an indelible mark on our community. We owe a debt of gratitude for his tireless efforts in laying the foundation upon which we continue to build.

In honor of His Grace’s blessed memory, I kindly request all parishes to conduct a memorial service (Dukhrono) during the Divine Liturgy on Saturday, 22 February 2025, or on Sunday, 23 February 2025, if feasible. This will be an opportunity for us to collectively remember and celebrate the life and contributions of our beloved Metropolitan.

Along with the American Dioceses, together our Diocese will organize the Memorial Holy Eucharist and the reception thereafter at the resting place of His Grace, which is the Chapel at the Catholicate Palace, Devalokam, Kottayam. His Grace Zachariah Mar Nicholovos Metropolitan will be the chief celebrant at the Eucharist, and I wish to participate, for which I humbly request your prayers.

Let us come together in prayer, reflecting on the exemplary life of His Grace Dr. Thomas Mar Makarios, and seek his intercessions as we continue our spiritual journey.

May the memory of our departed Metropolitan be eternal, and may his soul find rest in the bosom of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Yours in Christ,

**+ Metropolitan Abraham Stephanos**