

MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH(INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH)

DIOCESE OF UK•EUROPE•AFRICA• UK REGISTERED CHARITY : 1139302 +METROPOLITAN ABRAHAM MAR STEPHANOS MALANKARA HOUSE 35 HENMAN CLOSE SWINDON SN25 4ZW UNITED KINGDOM TEL: +44 1793 921224 MOBILE: +44 7391 210127 E-MAIL:metropolitan@indianorthodoxuk.org abrahamstephanos@mosc.in

No. E-159/AMS/2024

08 August 2024

Blessings to dear Achens, Office Bearers of the OCYM, and Beloved Youth Members of the Diocese of UK-Europe and Africa, in the name of the blessed Holy Trinity:

## Dearly beloved in Christ,

Further to my previous communications (letters No. E-131, 132, and 141), I would like to emphasize the growing importance of our Diocese's Hospitality Team, particularly in light of the extensive student migration to various countries within our Diocese.

As we welcome an increasing number of students and young professionals into our community, it is essential that we provide them with spiritual support and a sense of belonging. The Hospitality Team plays a critical role in this ministry, ensuring that these individuals are connected with our parishes and receive the pastoral care they need.

In addition to Mr. Reuel Elias, who is the Hospitality Lead, I am pleased to inform you of the appointments made to enhance the effectiveness of our Hospitality Team:

• **Mr. Bibin Bobachan** of St. George, London, will serve as the point of contact for the UK. Additionally, Bibin is co-opted to the Diocesan Committee.

• Mr. Stijo Moni of St. Thomas, Dublin, Rep. of Ireland, will serve as the point of contact for Ireland.

To support Reuel, Bibin, and Stijo in their roles, the following members from the existing Diocesan Committee have been assigned:

- 1. Ms. Sheena John, St. Thomas, Germany
- 2. Ms. Jean Jaimson, St. Elijah's, Georgia & Eastern Europe
- 3. Mr. Abin Raju, St. Mary's, Bristol
- 4. Mr. Ephrem Sam, St. George, London
- 5. Mr. Nihal Paul Idiculla, St. Thomas, South Africa

## **Roles and Responsibilities:**

- Engage with all dioceses prior to the start of the university term to obtain details of students planning to travel into our Diocese.
- Manage the OASSIS database platform.
- Engage and support students and working professionals arriving in our Diocese.
- Arrange regular programs (virtually or in person) following alignment with the OCYM Executive.
- Connect students to the nearest Church via the Regional and Unit Vicar, OCYM Secretary, or Zonal Representative.
- Convene the Hospitality Team once every three months (online or in person) to assess progress and plan activities aimed at developing the faith and doctrine of our Church, while providing moral support to students.
- Communicate meeting updates with the OCYM Executive in a timely manner.
- Ensure that Executive Members (Vice President, Secretary, and Joint Secretary) are part of all communication and online chat groups for transparent communication.
- Obtain pre-approval from the OCYM Executive for any financial-related decisions as per the Diocese OCYM financial guidelines.
- Present a yearly report to the OCYM Executive and discuss financial matters with the OCYM Treasurer.

The Ministry of Hospitality is integral to our mission of nurturing the spiritual lives of young people in our Diocese. Through your active participation and prayers, we can ensure that each student feels welcomed, valued, and connected to our Church.

May God bless all our efforts in this noble ministry.

With prayers and blessings,

Abrahay

+ Metropolitan Abraham Stephanos