

THE INDIAN (MALANKARA) ORTHODOX CHURCH

Diocese of UK- Europe and Africa

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Blessings to the Priests and all the faithful members of the Diocese of UK-Europe and Africa:

Dearly beloved in Almighty Lord,

***I will give you thanks in the great assembly; among the throngs I will praise you.
(Psalm 35:18)***

As you are informed vide Kalpana no 344/2022 by the Malankara Metropolitan His Holiness Baselious Marthoma Mathews III, We have been relieved of the responsibilities as the Metropolitan of the Diocese of UK-Europe and Africa with effect from 03 November 2022 and His Grace Abraham Mar Stephanos is appointed as the new Diocesan Metropolitan.

May We take this opportunity to thank Almighty Lord for His profuse Mercy and Love showered upon me since 2019 during all these years while serving the Church as the Metropolitan of that diocese.

We would hereby urge all of you that to welcome our new Diocesan Metropolitan His Grace Abraham Mar Stephanos with utmost Love and extend him with all the necessary support and cooperation so that His Grace could endeavour a blessed ministry for the Glory of the Church in that part of the world. You should Pray to Almighty Lord for giving all the wisdom and power to your new shepherd and also, We hereby remind that you shall remember Mar Stephanos as the Diocesan Metropolitan in the first Diptych from 03 November 2022.

The time has arrived for me to say Goodbye!. We take this opportunity to submit my earnest gratitude from the bottom of my heart to all the Priests and Laymen of the Diocese of UK-Europe and Africa for your sincere love, affectionate care, steadfast loyalty and more over your powerful prayers for me to God which have been the strength and hope for me in all these years. Though I could not have rose upto your aspirations, I am profoundly grateful to Lord for His abundant Mercy which has shown remarkable growth for the diocese, beyond my expectations, both spiritually as well in the infrastructural front.

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May We take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all the former Diocesan Secretaries, Revd. Abraham George Cor Episcopa, Rev Fr Thomas P John, Revd Fr. Varghese Mathew and present secretary Revd Fr Happy Jacob for their sincere service during their respective tenures which have been a strong hold for Us to run the administrative office of the diocese. Also We would like to thank all the Sabha Managing committee members, Diocesan Council members, Diocesan representatives, Spiritual Organisation office bearers, Parish Office bearers, Family Conference conveners, office bearers of the Diocesan office and all the well-wishers of our diocese for their unconditional support towards me in my work in His Vineyard. On a special note, We would like to thank St Gregorios IOC London for their care and hospitality by providing accommodation in the initial years of Our service in that diocese.

It would be inappropriate for me not to mention a few names here. With gratitude We remember the remarkable contributions and support rendered by Dr. K. Georgekutty, St Gregorios IOC London, Mr P.M Raju, St Thomas IOC Hemel Hempstead and Mrs Alice George St Gregorios IOC London, who all are left us from this world for heavenly abode. We sincerely express Our gratitude to Mr Rojan Thomas and his family in Swindon, St Marys IOC Bristol for their overwhelming hospitality and care rendered to Us during Our stay at Diocesan Centre, Malankara House, Swindon. Our special thanks to Mr Abraham Kurian, St Gregorios IOC London and Mr Tibu Thankachen, St Thomas IOC, Hemel Hempstead for sincerely contributing their time and energy in professionally managing the Diocesan accounts in these past years. Last but not least, with lots of gratitude We express Our profound thanks to Mr Saji Varghese, St Gregorios IOC London for his sincere works as the PRO and his devotion towards Us and for professionally managing the functioning of the Diocesan Office since 2009 when We took charge of the diocese.

To all of you with love, if any of Our words, deeds or actions, did hurt your feelings or might have upset your minds or given hardship in heart, We would request to forgive Us in the name of the Lord. We would assure that We have not kept any ill feeling about anything or anyone in my heart and all of you will ever be in Our Prayers.

May We request your Prayers to Lord Almighty for His Mercy toward me in toiling in His Vineyard for the Glory of the Kingdom of God.

With Prayers and Blessings

Your Shepherd in Him


+ Mathews Mar Thimothios Metropolitan