

THE DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA & EUROPE

The Mar Thoma Church

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius
Diocesan Bishop

The Rev. Binoy J. Thomas
Bishop's/Diocesan Secretary

Mr. Philip Thomas
Diocesan Treasurer



Sinai Mar Thoma Center

2320 S. Merrick Avenue

Merrick, NY 11566

Tel: (516) 377-3311

(516) 377-0188

Fax: (516) 377-3322

Email: marthoma@aol.com

Email: marthomadiocese@gmail.com

DC/718/ 2014

November 4, 2014

BLESSINGS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MAR THOMA CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE

Dearly beloved in Christ,

We celebrate November 23, 2014 as the Diaspora Sunday for the Diocese of North America and Europe. All the parishes should observe Diaspora Sunday by making special announcements, using the liturgy and giving an appropriate Sermon based on the theme; "Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith (Heb 13:7)".

The World Council of Churches and similar ecumenical bodies consider the Mar Thoma Church as an ancient Church and as a Diaspora Community. Diaspora Sunday will be an occasion to remember all the pioneers of our Church who, after immigrating to the various continents, held on to their faith, expressed their loyalty to the Church and engaged in the ministry of community formation and community living. As a Diocese, we now have 78 worshiping units that have come into existence because of the dedication and sacrifice of the first generation Mar Thoma immigrants to North America and Europe. As the second and third generation of Mar Thoma immigrants dwelling in various continents, let us be grateful to all those who spent their lives, their talent, time, and wealth, for the formation of parishes and congregations and for imparting spiritual growth. The current generation has the responsibility to continue the ministry and to care for and respect their older generations; and to lead a meaningful and relevant Christian life with strong faith and hope.

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates (Deutonomy.6:5-9)".

May the blessings of God be with us all.

Yours in Christ's Ministry

Geevarghese Mar Theodosius
Diocesan Bishop

