

Syro-Malabar Mission Year 2011-2012

General Information's to the Dioceses

Warm greetings from the Central Organizing Committee of the Mission Year!

After a series of meetings of the Central Organizing Committee as well as of the other committees for the Mission Year celebrations, we are able to give the attached details to facilitate the implementation of the action plan for the Mission Year in all the eparchies. Hope these will be helpful in chalking out the detailed action plan and programs in the eparchy.

I. Inaugural Celebrations: As per the decision of the Synod, the formal inauguration of the Mission Year is to be done in every archeparchy / eparchy with the celebration of the Holy Qurbana in the respective Cathedral, with local Bishop as the main celebrant on 15th August, 2011.

➤ Suggested Procedure for the Inauguration

- ♣ Reading the Decree of the Major Archbishop
- ♣ Lighting the mission candle specially prepared for the occasion
- ♣ Praying the mission prayer together
- ♣ Singing the mission anthem together
- ♣ A mission rally of the catechism children and the youth may be organized to solemnize the day

II. Facilitating Services Available at the Center

- ❖ A website www.smmissionyear.org will be launched for the Mission Year, to help Eparchy / Institute to provide matter for regular reporting.
- ❖ Prayer for missions, *Karozutha* prayers, will be prepared by the Commission for Liturgy. They will be available at 'Secretariat, Mission Year' at Mount St. Thomas Kakkanad, by July.
- ❖ A wall calendar for the Mission Year will be published with the picture of St. Thomas, the Logo and the Motto of the Mission Year printed on it. Please place your orders before 30th of April. The wall Calendar will be made available before the commencement of the Mission Year. It costs Rs 5 per copy.
- ❖ The Mission Animation Team from the Center will take the lead in conducting the Essay Competition and Mission Quiz at various levels and will help to organize the mission animation programs in the eparchies.
- ❖ A Guide Book for the Mission Quiz will be prepared by the Committee for Mission animation and copies will be available from August 2011.
- ❖ A Common Logo for the Mission Year will be prepared and circulated
- ❖ The Mission Anthem for the Mission Year recorded on CD will be available at the centre by July 2011.
- ❖ The Commission for Laity will help in organizing various Mission Year programs for various lay catholic associations

- ❖ The Commission for Clergy and the Institutes of Consecrated Life help in organizing missiological classes, mission animation programmes, exposure programs, study classes etc. on mission *ad gentes* for priests and religious
- ❖ The Commission for Clergy and Institutes of Consecrated Life help in arranging various classes, seminars, exposure programs for the Major seminarians with the help of Seminary Commissions and Rectors
- ❖ The Committee for Renewal Programs will prepare 12 write-ups on Mission Documents for the Parish/ Diocesan bulletins.
- ❖ A team for one day seminar for parishes and formation houses on *ad gentes* mission will be made available by the Commission for Renewal Programmes.
- ❖ Study materials on mission *ad gentes* will be prepared and circulated for the use of discussion in the Family units by the Committee for Renewal programmes.
- ❖ Supplementary lessons on *ad gentes* mission for the catechism classes will be prepared by the Synodal Commission for Catechism
- ❖ Instructions are being sent to the retreat centers and journals to concentrate on *ad gentes* mission during the Mission Year
- ❖ It is advisable that 'the mission *ad gentes*' be given focuses in the retreats, recollections, study classes and seminars conducted in the Archeparchies / Eparchies, during the Mission Year.
- ❖ The pastoral letter of the Major Archbishop on the Mission Year should reach you by June and it is expected to be read on 3rd July.

III. Organization of the 'Mission Year' in each Archeparchy / Eparchy

- ❖ Please appoint one, preferably, priest as the co-ordinator of the 'Mission Year' in the Eparchy and constitute a committee to assist him. May I request the name of the co-ordinator appointed be communicated to the Secretary, Central Organizing Committee, Mission Year 2011 Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad by 30th of April. (Email. smissionyear@gmail.com Mobile Number: 9539918927)
- ❖ Please convene meetings of the Presbyteral Council and Pastoral Council in the eparchy to plan out the details of the Mission Year celebrations in the Eparchy.
- ❖ A copy of the Archeparchial / Eparchial Mission Year plan is to be sent to the central secretariat for the purpose of documentation and for the preparation of the annual planner at Major Archiepiscopal level.
- ❖ The service of the 'Mission Animation Team' at the central would be available to give orientation on the Mission Year to the Presbyteral Council or the Pastoral Council of any eparchy, that may need it.
- ❖ During this Mission Year special emphasis shall be laid on strengthening the bond and collaboration between the home eparchy and the sponsored mission eparchy. Each eparchy shall plan out the details of this collaboration.

IV. Approved Action Plan for the Mission Year

Enclosed please find a copy of the action plan for the Mission Year approved by the Synod of Bishops. Those sections of the Action Plan that specifically concerns the Archeparchies / Eparchies and Parishes are given below.

Metropolitan/Eparchial Level

(Applicable also for every organized center for migrants)

- Prepare a detailed plan of action for the mission year celebration in the dioceses in consultation with the Presbyteral Council and the Pastoral Council
- Prepare an year planner and diary for mission year celebration
- Give a focused coverage on missions in the diocesan publications especially in the diocesan website.
- Arrange Mission Retreats in parishes
- Organize sharing by missionaries in as many parishes as possible
- Take steps to strengthen the Mission League in every parish
- Organize 'missionary-meet' in every Diocese/Forane, Parish to honour the missionaries
- Form a resource team in every eparchy/ parish to give orientation to the youth and Mission League members on mission
- Launch a series of preaching on Mission in TV channels and introduce the apostolates in the mission centers
- Arrange a mission-fest (rally, exhibition and tableau) at least for a day in every eparchy.

(Appendix No. 2)

- ♣ Give the diocesan clergy a chance to work in the missions for a few years
- ♣ Promote organized visits to mission territories by the youth, laity and religious in Kerala
- ♣ Make Mission Directories at eparchial level
- ♣ Take initiative to send laity with missionary aptitude to mission territories giving them proper mission orientation
- ♣ Disseminate the Mission Policy of the Syro-Malabar Church among the faithful, clergy and religious through study classes and discussions

Parish and Family Level

(Applicable also for every parish/mass centre for migrants)

- Have Parish level mission day celebration for mission, with exhibition, mission retreat etc.
- Organize a 'get-together' of missionaries at parish level
- Encourage prayer campaigns for vocations
- Collect information of the faithful who study and work outside
- Make different pious associations (Mathru vedi, Pitruvedi, CML, Jesus Youth, Vincent de Paul etc) mission minded and encourage them to promote missionary vocations
- Every pious association in the parish be asked to draw out its own action plan for the celebration of the mission year

- Prepare themes based on missionary nature of the Church and missionary vocation of the Christians, for discussion and meditation in family units and prayer groups during the year.

(Appendix No. 3)

- ♣ Promote adoption of families in the missions by families in the parishes
- ♣ Revive CML in every parish.
- ♣ Arrange sharing by missionaries
- ♣ Encourage prayer campaigns for vocations

V. Financial Plan

- ❖ The Synod of Bishops have decided to meet the expenses of the 'Mission Year' through a 'special Sunday collection' and through the contribution of fixed amounts from the Archeparchies / Eparchies, Institutes of Consecrated Life, Societies of Apostolic Life, their Provinces and units. The amount fixed by the Finance Committee and approved by the Permanent Synod will be communicated later.

❖ VI. Children's Meet

The Major Archiepiscopal level Children's Meet is arranged on 27th Dec at Bharananganam.

VII. Various Committees for the Conduct of the Mission Year

The following committees have been constituted for the effective implementation of the Mission Year programs with specific task assigned to them.

i. Central Organizing Committee

The Central Organizing Committee is the main responsible entity for the detailed planning and implementation of the approved Action Plan with the help of the steering committee and other committees constituted for the purpose.

ii. Steering Committee

It implements the Action Plan as per the decision of the Central Organizing Committee and gathers every now and then to review the progress

- ✓ Appointment of various subcommittees
- ✓ Assigning them tasks with details
- ✓ Approval of the detailed programmes presented by the sub-committees
- ✓ Monitoring the developments
- ✓ Taking decisions on conflicting issues

- ✓ Closely examining the functions of the subcommittees
- ✓ Communicating the information to various bodies and persons
- ✓ Ensuring the planned activities take place as per the work-calendar.

iii. Finance Committee

It is responsible for the financial matters of the celebration.

- ✓ Prepare the budget once the programs are approved and receive approval from Permanent Synod
- ✓ Find resources to meet the expenses
- ✓ Prepare the final financial report

iv. Committee for Mission Animation, Essay Competition & Mission Quiz

The task of the committee is to help in achieving the objectives of the mission year through various mission animation programs, essay competitions and mission quiz in collaboration with all the sections of the Syro-Malabar faithful.

- ✓ Organize various mission animation programmes for all the sections of the Syro-Malabar faithful throughout the Mission Year
- ✓ Conduct the essay competitions on *ad gentes* mission for the Syro-Malabar faithful with the help of resource persons and experts
- ✓ Conduct Mission Quiz for various sections of the Syro-Malabar faithful with the help of experts and resource persons
- ✓ Prepare a *Guide Book* for the Mission Quiz
- ✓ Find sponsors and award prizes

v. Committee for Media and Public Relations

The task of the Committee is to make known the message and the events of the Mission Year in the whole Syro-Malabar Church

- ✓ Prepare and print promotional materials and posters for Mission Year
- ✓ Articles and write ups for periodicals and journals
- ✓ Keep the Catholic media informed of the activities
- ✓ Fix Mission year logo and mission year anthem
- ✓ Prepare annual planner for the mission year
- ✓ Keep contacts and collect information from dioceses, institutes and seminaries for documentation
- ✓ Publish souvenir of the mission year
- ✓ Regular updating of the Website of the Mission Year

vi. Committee for Documentation and Evaluation

Document the history of the Syro-Malabar missionary involvements and enterprises

- ✓ Study of the history of the mission eparchies and critically appraisal of the missionary involvements and mission methodologies and evaluation of their effect.

vii. Committee for Renewal Programs

- ✓ Guide the retreat centers to concentrate on *ad gentes* mission during the year
- ✓ Prepare various study materials on *ad gentes* mission for study and discussion in the family unit meetings and meetings of various associations during the mission year
- ✓ Prepare write ups and hand outs for the use of Dioceses and parishes.

viii. Committee for Mission Seminars & Studies on *ad gentes* Mission (LRC)

- ✓ It arranges study programs and seminars for various sections of the faithful with the approval of the steering Committee, publication of the seminar papers and conclusions
- ✓ Preparation of materials, preparation of hand outs for the use of dioceses and parishes

ix. Committee for Children's Meet (CML)

- ✓ Organize Mission meet of the Children at Bharananganam
- ✓ Help in organizing diocesan, and zonal mission meets of the Children

VIII. Concluding Celebration: Concluding ceremony will be organized in Delhi combined with an international seminar with the help of Delhi mission. All the bishops of the Syro-Malabar Church are expected to participate in it. Representatives from all our eparchies will be invited for the celebration. The details of the concluding ceremony will be communicated later.

Looking forward to your co-operation and wishing the very best for a meaningful mission year celebration in your eparchy

With Easter greetings

Bishop Sebastian Vadakel
Convener
Central Organizing Committee of Mission Year
Fr. Jose Cheriampanatt Mst
Secretary
Central organizing Committee for the Mission Year

News Mission Year

1. A Meeting of the CML Executive Body was held at Mount St. Thomas Kakkanad to chalk out programs for the Children's Meet to be held on 27th Dec 2011 at Bharananganam in connection with the Syro-Malabar Mission Year. 15000 CML members from 5th standard to Plus two level from all the Syro-Malabar Dioceses and migrant centers are expected to gather at Bharananganam.
2. Meeting of the Editors of Catholic Periodicals, Directors of TV Channels and Directors of Retreat Centers will be held on 10th May 2011 at Mount St. Thomas Kakkanad to discuss their role in making known the message of the Mission Year to the faithful.
3. The Second Meeting of the Central organizing Committee and Steering Committee for the Mission Year will be held on 13th May 2011 at Mount St. Thomas to discuss on the effective implementation of the Action plan for the Mission Year celebration at various levels of the Syro-Malabar Church.