



THE SYRO-MALANKARA CATHOLIC CHURCH
Sunday School Day - 2015
Message
from the Chairman of the Synodal Commission
for Faith Formation

Greetings to all in the name of the Triune God!

The Syro-Malankara Catholic Church celebrates Sunday School Day on 2 August 2015. The catechism, the platform for the transmission of faith, is the most important ministry in the Church. It is the right and duty of the Church to transmit meaningfully the dogmas, the liturgical traditions, the Word of God, the sacraments, the moral values, the spiritual traditions and the social vision. The Sunday School Day is an occasion to share the message of this divine mission.

The modern age, in which change is fast and complex, the divine call to transmit our faith is so challenging. This mission should be actualized through a common activity which includes the teachers, parents, priests and religious who are zealous in faith and have deep knowledge and commitment. Hence, all our parishes should undertake all the activities of faith formation, the Sunday school, as an important responsibility. The whole Church is urged to partake in this ministry with great enthusiasm and divine grace.

We should continuously awaken and enlighten in all the students, teachers and parents the importance of faith formation. The divine faith and the character formation that goes with it are the greatest gifts and riches that can be handed over to our coming generation. Let us try to inculcate this mission and awareness. May the Sunday School Day of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church become an inspiring occasion to think and live as the children of God against the world moved by the slavery and domination of materialism! As at the apostolic times, the divine call for and duty of transmitting the faith shall be kept up in our hearts as a prayer

intention. May the various celebrations of the Sunday School Day in the different Eparchies be a blessing!

It is a matter of joy that the departments of faith formation in all our Eparchies are functioning effectively. I place on record the gratitude and appreciation of the Church to all those who engage in this divine mission. I urge all whole-heartedly to carry out the activities of faith formation more fruitfully. Rev. Dr George Thomas Kochuvilayil, from the Major Archieparchy of Trivandrum is appointed the Secretary to the Synodal Commission for Faith Formation of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church. The activities of the Malankara Catholic Children's League (MCCL), the practical platform and the official association of the Sunday School shall be made active in all our parishes. Rev. Fr Saji Arrackal, from the Eparchy of Muvattupuzha, is working as the Director of the MCCL.

This year also, at the anniversary celebrations of the Reunion, the 'Sunday School Students' *Sanghamam* will be held at Tiruvalla. The students and teachers should participate in the MCCL *Sanghamam* which begins at 9 am on Sunday, 20 September 2015.

I am happy to inform you that the office for the Synodal Commission for Faith Formation has started to function in our Major Archiepiscopal Curia at the Catholicate Centre. The text books of catechism are available in the Catholicate Centre.

I request all, your active participation, co-operation, encouragement and prayer for the work of Sunday School and MCCL. Let us remember all who taught us, especially the Servant of God Mar Ivanios, to be the children of God. Let us pray for the grace of the Holy Spirit, the source of all divine wisdom.

May God bless you abundantly!

Sd/-

✠ **Philipose Mar Stephanos**

Chairman, Synodal Commission for Faith Formation

25.07.2015
Catholicate Centre, Pattom
Thiruvananthapuram

N.B. :This circular should be read in all our churches, mission centres and centres of worship during the Holy Qurbano on Sunday, 2 August 2015.
