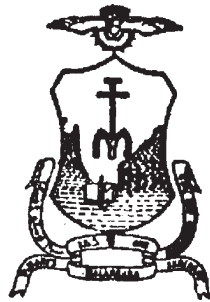


ST. MARY'S
MALANKARA SEMINARY
TRIVANDRUM



CALENDAR
&
DIRECTORY
2009-2010

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Heavenly Patroness
MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

Patron

His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cleemis Catholicos
Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church

Members of the Seminary Commission

Chairman

Most Rev. Abraham Mar Julios
Bishop of Muvattupuzha

Most Rev. Geevarghese Mar Divannasios
Bishop of Bathery

Most Rev. Yoohanon Mar Chrysostom
Bishop of Marthandom

MALANKARA HIERARCHY

His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cleemis Catholicos

Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church

Most Rev. Thomas Mar Koorilos

Metropolitan Archbishop of Tiruvalla

Most Rev. Geevarghese Mar Divannasios

Bishop of Bathery

Most Rev. Yoohanon Mar Chrysostom

Bishop of Marthandom

Most Rev. Abraham Mar Julios

Bishop of Muvattupuzha

Most Rev. Joshua Mar Ignathios

Bishop of Mavelikara

Most Rev. Geevarghese Mar Timotheos

Metropolitan Emeritus of Tiruvalla

Most Rev. Joseph Mar Thomas

*Auxiliary Bishop of Trivandrum
Apostolic Visitor to North America and Europe*

Most Rev. Jacob Mar Barnabas

Apostolic Visitor in the Extra Territorial Regions in India

THE SEMINARY ANTHEM

*Let's acclaim, let's acclaim God Triune acclaim
And proclaim and proclaim Christ the burning flame
Follow in His way aright and His love so bright
Brave all strife and strive for the light.*

*Heed His call and tell ev'ry one Glory, Kingdom, power of the Son
Peace to each, Truth to each, His Good News we teach
Faith, Hope, Love is what we ought to preach.*

*Alma Mater, true Malankarite, Take this pledge and in love unite
Live His peace, share His peace, Be His loyal friend
Mary Mother , guiding till the end.*

ST. MARY'S MALANKARA SEMINARY

TRIVANDRUM

In the Providence of God, St. Mary's Malankara Seminary was inaugurated on June 29, 1983. The desire to set up a Major Seminary had been voiced from several quarters in the Church and it gathered momentum at the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Reunion Movement in December 1980. The Papal Legate to the celebrations, Wladyslaw Cardinal Rubin, the then Prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, encouraged the starting of a Major Seminary for the Malankara Catholic Church.

In fact, the establishment of a Major Seminary for the training of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Clergy was clearly envisaged by the Holy See at the time of the Reunion of the late Archbishop Mar Ivanios and Bishop Mar Theophilos in 1930 (*See letter of the Apostolic Delegation No. 2035/130, Bangalore, August 20, 1930; Apostolic Constitution "Christo Pastorum Principi", June 11, 1932*). Moreover, the Second Vatican Council advises: "In each nation or particular Rite, 'a Programme of Priestly Formation' should be undertaken" (*Optatam Totius no. 1*).

In accordance with this directive, the Syro-Malankara Hierarchy decided to start a Major Seminary in 1983 and Trivandrum was chosen to be the seat of the Seminary. The Holy See granted formal recognition to the Seminary by its letter of September 8, 1984 (*Prot. No. 87/83*). As a temporary arrangement, the Seminary started functioning in the buildings of the St. Aloysius' Seminary at Pattom, Trivandrum, offering only a three-year Philosophy Course.

The Seminary is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. The motto of the Seminary is 'To continue Jesus' mission of love and service'. The Seminary is primarily intended for the formation of candidates from all the Syro-Malankara Eparchies and is open to the candidates of the Religious Institutes of the Syro-Malankara Church. It also welcomes students from Eparchies and Religious Institutes of the other individual Churches.

His Holiness Pope John Paul II, on the occasion of his visit to Trivandrum, blessed the foundation stone for the new buildings of the

Seminary on February 8, 1986. In his homily at Trivandrum, the Pope addressing the Malankara Church said: "The establishment of the Major Seminary dedicated to Mary, the Mother of the Church, is a sign of your vitality. It offers great hope of further strength and consolidation" (See *L'Osservatore Romano Feb. 17, 1986*). The visit of His Eminence Simon Cardinal Lourdsamy, the then Prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, to this Seminary on August 19, 1987 gave a new impetus to the development of the Seminary.

The construction of the first phase of the Seminary building was completed in May 1989. The clergy, religious congregations, institutions and the laity of the Malankara Catholic Church were all involved in this work. The Bishops of the Syro-Malankara Church, with Most Rev. Benedict Mar Gregorios, the then Archbishop of Trivandrum as the main celebrant blessed the newly constructed building on May 25, 1989. The Seminary started functioning in the new quarters from June 12, 1989. The second phase in the growth of the Seminary is marked by the inauguration of the Theology course on June 29, 1992. The Seminary Chapel was consecrated on February 9, 1996 and the Staff Quarters was inaugurated on June 22, 1998.

On April 4, 2005, The Congregation for Catholic Education has granted Malankara Seminary affiliation to the Faculty of Theology of the Pontifical Urbanian University, Rome. The Theology Course of the Seminary is open also to the Religious and the Lay People with prescribed qualifications to obtain Bachelor's Degree in Theology.

The first batch of 19 students who successfully completed their formation was ordained priests in 1996. Since then, every year new batches of priests have passed out to carry on the mission of Jesus in various Dioceses and Religious Congregations. The Silver Jubilee of the establishment of the Seminary was celebrated from 29th June 2007 to 29th June 2008.

The Seminary is in constant pursuit of imparting quality formation for the mission in the Church and looks forward to exploring new dimensions of a formative programme relevant to the time, for the future priests of the Church, enabling them to continue Jesus' mission of unity, love and service for the glory of God.