

# ST. JOHN'S ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH ANDHERI

*Built On a Glorious Heritage*

## RUBY JUBILEE

*40th Anniversary Celebrations 2018-19*



**Inaugural Ceremony  
Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

Holy Qurbana followed by Opening Ceremony of the Re-located & Upgraded Clinic/Medical camp at the Church complex and Jubilee Inaugural Public Function Blessed by the gracious presence of H. G. Geevarghese Mar Coorilos, Former Vicars, & Other Eminent Personalities

**YEAR-LONG EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOCUSED ON**

Spiritual Invigoration of the Parishioners > Engaging in Socially relevant Philanthropic Activities > Enhancing Amenities in the Church complex

**Grand Finale End of 2019**

Blessed by the gracious presence of H. H. Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Paulose II – The Supreme Head of the Malankara Orthodox Church, H. G. Thomas Mar Athanasios, Metropolitan of Chengannur, H. G. Geevarghese Mar Coorilos, Metropolitan of Bombay, Bishops of other Churches, Social & Cultural leaders, Former Vicars, Other Priests of Bombay Diocese and Eminent Personalities from different walks of life

*Pray ..... Participate ..... & ..... Promote*

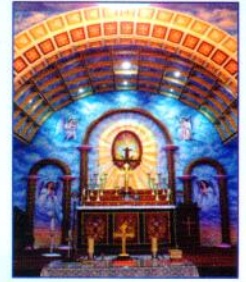


## St. John's Orthodox Syrian Church Andheri

St. John's Nagar, Near Pidilite Industries

Kondivita, Andheri East,

Mumbai – 400 059



Dear friends,

By the Grace of God Almighty, the prayers of all our Holy Saints and the abundant care of our Patron Saint St. John the Baptist, our Parish is poised to celebrate its Ruby Jubilee – the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018-19. It was on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1978 that the first Holy Qurbana of Andheri parish was solemnised at an Industrial Gala by Rev. Fr. K. T. Thomas – presently H. G. Thomas Mar Athanasios, the Metropolitan of Chengannur. As we celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> year of its establishment, we recall the many milestones that we have had crossed along the way as also many pitfalls that we had overcome successfully. Yes, it has been a long and rewarding journey for the parish members to put in their sweat and accomplish their cherished goal in a grand and befitting way. A parish with ordinary members of salaried strata, that did not have the wherewithal, yet demonstrated its inner strength of intense will to build up a marvellous church of the Orthodox order in the heart of Mumbai that stands today as the towering manifestation of unity, perseverance and exuberance.

As we sit back and pray in our magnificent 4-storeyed church complex, it conjures up an exhilarating experience relishing those nostalgic memories of a bygone era filled with thrills and challenges as also the defining moments of our memorable journey. Looking back to our past, St. John's OSC Andheri cannot ever forget those invaluable supports of Holy Family church in sheltering us in our time of despair. We are highly indebted to them as also to a host of magnanimous people who have contributed immensely to our growth and have become an inseparable part of our history. We ought to respect their sterling contribution and felicitate them with a heartfelt of gratitude. As most of them are in the fag-end of their life, many may not be lucky enough to receive our felicitation when we celebrate our Golden Jubilee after ten years. And hence when Andheri parish is in its zenith, celebrates its Ruby Jubilee in 2018-19, offering our heartfelt gratitude to God Almighty, all our spiritual Heads, our mentors and Well Wishers – living or departed, who have contributed directly or indirectly and stood by us in the hour of distress.

An elaborate programme of Events & Activities have been drawn up as part of the Ruby celebrations, stretching over an year, starting from the Inaugural function on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2018 to the Grand Finale towards the end of 2019. Commemorating the Ruby Jubilee, the Parish would like to avail this opportunity to bring around an era of Renaissance through Spiritual Invigoration of its folks, enhancing our Philanthropic Activities, Improving Amenities in our Church complex besides bringing out a Booklet carrying the Glorious History of our Parish.

God willing, our ceremonial functions will be blessed by the gracious presence of **Bawa Thirumeni**, Senior Bishops of Orthodox and of other Churches, Govt. Dignitaries, Social & Cultural leaders, Eminent Personalities from all walks of life, Former Vicars and Well-wishers. We, the Parishioners – Men, Women & Children have a role cut-out for each one of us and our hands are full with exciting activities to be performed in the coming days. Let's therefore pledge to utilise part of our gifted talents and time for the sake of our beloved Parish and the society at large. Let's pay heed to His words **“The Harvest truly is plentiful, but the labourers are few”-St. Mathew 9-37. Should you be remembered in History, either Write things worth Reading or Do things worth Writing.**

**For and on behalf of the Ruby Jubilee Celebration Committee**

**Rev. Fr. Varghese Thomas (Joemon Achan)**  
The Chairman & Vicar

**Bin K. Kuriakose**  
General Convener

**T.D.Koshy**  
Convener (Publicity)

# Ruby Jubilee Celebrations

## OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

### OUR MOTTO

*We believe in the maxim that "Charity is the essence of Christianity and that God Judges a man by his Motives and not by his External Actions"*

### OUR VISION

*In commemoration of its Ruby Jubilee Celebrations, St. John's Orthodox Syrian Church Andheri while paying its heartfelt gratitude to all those who have contributed to the build up of this lively parish, nurtures a vision to bring around an era of Renaissance in the Parish through spiritual invigoration of our parishioners, provoking their thoughts, touching their hearts and illuminating their inner-self leading to a paradigm shift in their attitude to see vividly the God's mission enshrined in each one of them so as to offer their innumerable talents that remained untapped for the common good of the parish, transforming it to an ideal parish of their dreams that upholds the values of Orthodox faith, caters to the social justice besides remain vibrant and passionate in socially relevant philanthropic activities, spreading the fragrance of life to the people around*

### OUR FOCUS

*The Year-long Events & Programmes, commemorating the Ruby Celebrations, are sharply focussed on three areas:*

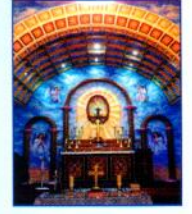
- (1) Spiritual invigoration of our Parishioners*
- (2) Serving the Poor by enhancing our Charitable Activities*
- (3) Improving Amenities in our Church complex*

## RUBY JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

### HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR 2018-19

#### A. SPIRITUAL INVIGORATION PROGRAMMES

- Organising Conventions during the Jubilee period by inviting leading Speakers
- Organising special Study Classes separately for Children, Youths, Women and Elders by respective subject Experts on various topics ranging from spirituality, Orthodox faith, Holy Qurbana. Separate Counselling sessions, debate and interactions on Present-day challenges haunting the Children, Youths and Elders.
- Quiz/Essay Competitions on Biblical and Orthodox faith – Winners felicitated
- Grooming session for Laymen to enable them to conduct Prayer meetings etc.
- Pilgrimage to Gregorian Centre, Roha and St. George Balikagram, Dehu Road, Pune



## B. CHARITY INITIATIVES

- Opening of the Relocated & Upgraded **Charitable Dispensary** at the Church Complex
- Instituting an Endowment Fund in the name of “**St. John's Jubilee Endowment Fund**” (SJEF) whose bank interest will be spent for charitable purposes while the capital amount remain intact
- To sponsor marriage expenses of a couple of Poor girls, and sponsor expenses of destitute children in orphanages under Malankara Orthodox Church
- Initiating a novel scheme “**Pick Your Luck to Serve the Poor**”- under which food provisions will be provided to poor families
- Financial and material Aid to poor cancer patients
- Free school kits to poor students
- Feeding poor Cancer patients of Tata Hospital once a month in Jubilee year
- Exploring the feasibility to install a **Community Fridge** at the Church complex for feeding the poor on a regular basis
- Blood Donation drive during the Jubilee period
- Organising visits to Old-age Homes and Orphanages in and around Mumbai
- Initiating a drive for regular collection of unused common medicines, not time-barred, for the use of poor patients [Medicine Box to be kept in church hall]

## C .ENHANCING AMENITIES IN THE CHURCH COMPLEX

- Providing Lift facility in the Church complex for the Aged & Disabled
- Revamping suitably space at 3<sup>rd</sup> floor with A/C for its optimum utilisation
- Revamping the Library Hall with a Meeting Table & Show cases for Trophies etc.
- Initiating feasibility study for harnessing Solar Power & Rain Water Harvesting for the Church complex
- Making available to the Faiths enough copies of prayer books of all ceremonies
- Making a Wheel Chair-friendly entrance to the Church, facilitating the disabled

## ST. JOHN'S JUBILEE ENDOWMENT FUND – STAR DONOR SCHEME

| TYPE | DONOR GRADE | DONATION AMOUNT       |
|------|-------------|-----------------------|
| A    | SUPER STAR  | Rs. 1-00 lakh & above |
| B    | 7 - STAR    | Rs. 70,000            |
| C    | 5 - STAR    | Rs. 50,000            |
| D    | 3 - STAR    | Rs. 30,000            |
| E    | 2 - STAR    | Rs. 20,000            |

## SALIENT FEATURES OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND:

1. The fund raised through the Star Donor Scheme goes to the Endowment Fund initiated in the name of “**St. John's Jubilee Endowment Fund**” whose bank interest will be used for charity while the capital amount remain intact
2. Star donors will find suitable mention in the Jubilee Souvenir and elsewhere
3. This Fund will be managed by an independent Charity Council elected by G. B

## RUBY JUBILEE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

| Sr. No | DESIGNATION                                    | NAME  |
|--------|--|---|
| 1      | <b>Patron</b>                                  | H.H. Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Paulose II |
| 2      | <b>President</b>                               | H. G. Geevarghese Mar Coorilos              |
| 3      | <b>Chairman</b>                                | Rev. Fr. Varghese Thomas (Joemon Achan)     |
| 4      | <b>General Convener</b>                        | Mr. Bin K. Kuriakose                        |
| 5      | Jt. General Convener                           | Capt. M. V. Alexander                       |
| 6      | <b>Convener (Media &amp; Publicity)</b>        | Mr. T. D. Koshy                             |
| 7      | Jt. Convener (Media & Publicity)               | Mr. Raju Daniel                             |
| 8      | <b>Convener (Finance)</b>                      | Mr. John Jacob                              |
| 9      | Jt. Convener (Finance)                         | Mr. Bijoy Koshy Baby                        |
| 10     | <b>Convener (Souvenir)</b>                     | Mr. K. T. Mathew                            |
| 11     | Jt. Convener (Souvenir)                        | Mr. Jacob Chacko                            |
| 12     | <b>Convener (Programme)</b>                    | Mr. Alex Mathew                             |
| 13     | Jt. Convener (Programme)                       | Mr. Anu Daniel                              |
| 14     | <b>Convener (Charity)</b>                      | Mrs. Cecily Mathew                          |
| 15     | Jt. Convener (Charity)                         | Mrs. Mary Scriah                            |
| 16     | <b>Convener (Reception &amp; Felicitation)</b> | Mr. John Mathew                             |
| 17     | Jt. Convener (Reception & Felicitation)        | Mr. Shinu Philip                            |
| 18     | <b>Convener (Food)</b>                         | Mr. V. T. Abraham                           |
| 19     | Jt. Convener (Food)                            | Mr. Joy Thomas                              |
| 20     | <b>Convener (Volunteer)</b>                    | Mr. Kenas Mathew                            |
| 21     | Jt. Convener (Volunteer)                       | Mr. Rejjo Raju                              |
| 22     | <b>Hon. Parish Treasurer</b>                   | Mr. Koshy Baby                              |
| 23     | <b>Hon. Parish Secretary</b>                   | Mr. John M. Varghese                        |
| 24     | Jt. Treasurer                                  | Mr. Bin K. Kurikose                         |
| 25     | Jt. Secretary                                  | Mr. Kenas Mathew                            |
| 26     | Secretary (Marthamariya Samajam)               | Mrs. Jolly Varghese                         |
| 27     | Secretary (MGOSSM)                             | Ms. Angela Bin Kuriakose                    |
| 28     | Secretary (Youth Movement)                     | Mr. Vinson Varghese                         |
| 29     | Sunday School Head                             | Mrs. Betty Mathew                           |
| 30     | Secretary (Elders Forum)                       | Mr. A. J. John                              |
| 31     | Co-ordinator (Divya Bhodanam)                  | Capt. M. P. Alexander                       |
| 32     | Co-ordinator AMMOS                             | Mr. K. J. Mathew                            |
| 33     | <b>Mentor - Members</b>                        | Mr. T. V. Thomas                            |
| 34     | --do--   | Mr. Thomas K. Mathew                        |
| 35     | --do--   | Mr. V. L. Mathew                            |
| 36     | --do--   | Mr. Thomas George                           |
| 37     | --do--   | Mr. T. D. Samuel                            |
| 38     | --do--   | Mrs. Susan Kuriakose                        |
| 39     | --do--   | Mrs. Saramma Kurivila                       |
| 40     | --do--   | Mrs. Annamma George                         |
| 41     | --do--   | Mrs. Annamma Varghese                       |
| 42     | --do--   | Dr. (Mrs.) Sosamma Samuel                   |
| 43     | <b>Members (General)</b>                       | Mr. Reji Daniel                             |
| 44     | --do--   | Mr. Joy John                                |
| 45     | --do--   | Mr. Joy Thomas (Marol)                      |
| 46     | --do--   | Mrs. Suja Alexander                         |
| 47     | --do--   | Mrs. Seema George                           |
| 48     | --do--   | Mrs. Selin John                             |
| 49     | --do--   | Mrs. Lizy Vinoy                             |

NOTE: The Chairman, Gen. Convener, Jt. Gen. Convener along with Conveners, Jt. Conveners of the Sub-committees, Parish Treasurer & Secretary constitute the 'Working Committee'

## Ruby Jubilee Working Committee of Conveners



### FUND RAISING INITIATIVES

**1. Release of Jubilee Souvenir 2. Release of Manorama Supplements 3. Organising Cultural/Entertainment Programmes**

### OUR CONTACTS

|                    |               |                      |               |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Chairman (Vicar)   | : 99234 28654 | General Convener     | : 83693 55258 |
| Convener (Fin)     | : 98213 73201 | Convener (Media)     | : 98200 59429 |
| Convener (Program) | : 98212 30540 | Convener (Souvenir)  | : 98203 03857 |
| Convener (Charity) | : 99303 14783 | Convener (Reception) | : 98219 31816 |
| Convener (Food)    | : 98691 43186 | Convener (Volunteer) | : 98672 44821 |

Payments can be made through A/c payee cheques to "ST. JOHN'S ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH ANDHERI" or through NEFT/RTGS transfer to Current A/c No. 0552104000025902 IDBI Bank, Marol Andheri-East Branch with IFSC: IBKL0000552

*With Best Compliments from*

**RAJU DANIEL**  
98202 30779

**ROBIN RAJU**  
98196 37359

**REJJO RAJU**  
98337 28048

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