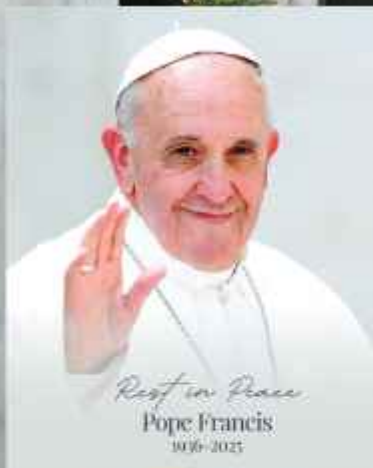


The Irish Syro Malabar Catholic

Official Newsletter of Syro Malabar Catholic Church Ireland



A Season of Renewal: Embracing the Jubilee Spirit This Easter Tide



Pope Francis: A Shepherd of Hope and Humility

MAY 2025

Syro Malabar Liturgical Seasons

Season of Resurrection



The Season of Resurrection consists of seven weeks from Easter to Pentecost. It is a time of joy recalling the new life obtained through the cross which was a sign of folly becoming the sign of redemption and glory, the resurrection of Christ as a pledge of our resurrection, His resurrection as a basis Christian faith etc.

The early Church was administering the sacrament of baptism in connection with Easter. As St. Paul reminds us, 'We were buried therefore resurrection of the Savior. In fact, the prayers and hymns of this period reflect this joy. Some of the important themes of this liturgical season are the resurrection of Christ, his victory over sin, death and Satan, with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.' (Rom 6:4-5) The week after Easter was set apart for the newly baptized. It is worth imitating this ancient tradition of administering baptism in connection with Easter.

(Syro Malabar Liturgical calendar)



"Vox Didymus: New Newsletter of the Syro-Malabar European Apostolic Visitation"

The new newsletter, Vox Didymus, of the Syro-Malabar European Apostolic Visitation began its publication in January. This newsletter will feature updates on the activities of the Syro-Malabar communities across various countries in Europe. It will be published every two months, offering valuable insights into the vibrant life and work of our communities.

"Faith in Focus: Monthly Newsletter of the Dublin Syro-Malabar Church"

The Syro-Malabar Church in Dublin publishes a monthly newsletter titled 'Faith in Focus', which highlights the activities of the Qurbana Centers in the Dublin region. This newsletter is made available in PDF format every month, providing updates and insights into the spiritual life and community initiatives.





The Newsletter Team

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Faithful in Europe

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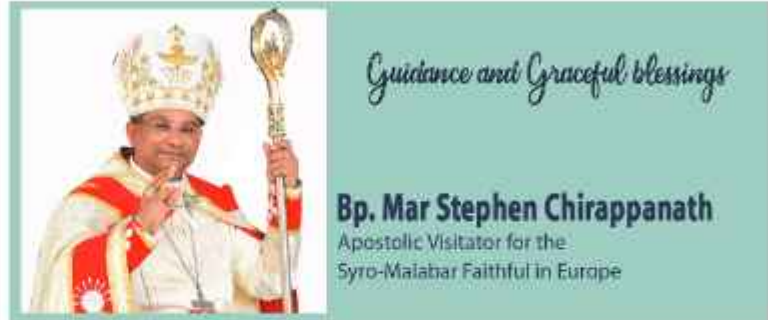
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Cover Photo : Vatican News



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! As we journey through this beautiful season of Easter, we are reminded of the hope and renewal that the Resurrection brings to our lives.

We are during Jubilee year 2025 also known as a Holy Year, a special time marked by grace, prayer, and pilgrimage. Pope Francis has designated it "Pilgrims of Hope," an invitation to renew hope in a world facing war, climate change, and other challenges. And our focus is Renewal, forgiveness, reconciliation, and prayer. We are here to offer hope and witness to the world.

Pope Francis "For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope.", he continues "Pilgrimage is of course a fundamental element of every Jubilee event. Setting out on a journey is traditionally associated with our human quest for meaning in life." Even if we can't travel far away, the Jubilee Year will still be a journey for all of us - a journey of hope.

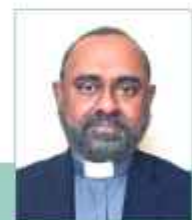
"By our actions, our words, the decisions we make each day, our patient efforts to sow seeds of beauty and kindness wherever we find ourselves, we want to sing of hope... and reawaken in every heart the joy and courage to embrace life to the full."

In this edition of our newsletter, you'll have a virtual pilgrimage of the celebrations of our people who celebrated Jesus, Faith and Church in our mass centres across the Island of Ireland, you will get updates on upcoming events, reflections to inspire your spiritual growth, and ways to stay connected with our community. Whether you're looking to deepen your faith, get involved, or simply stay informed, there's something here for everyone.

Thank you everybody who put together your thoughts together to get released the newsletter. Big thanks to our Apostolic Visitor Bishop Stephen Chirappanath for his paternal blessings, Fr. Joseph Oliakattil for his continued guidance as National Director, our loving Priests look after the faithful at different Qurbana centres our secretaries and PROs, Syro Malabar Church Ireland PRO Biju Nadackal, and who helped for designing and page setting with photographs. May the joy of the risen Christ fill your hearts and homes.

Yours In Christ,

Fr. Jose Bharanikulangara
SMCI- Dept of Media, Communication
& Public Relations





In Gratitude and Grace: Celebrating Pope Francis



Pope Francis died in 21st April 2025 (Easter Monday) at the age of 88 at Domus Sanctae Martae in Vatican city. Francis served as Pope, the head of the Catholic church for 12 years. Pope Francis' mortal remains buried in Basilica of St. Mary Major, Eternal city Rome, on Saturday 26th April

Thank the Lord for the countless gifts God bestowed on the Christian people and the world through His servant, Pope Francis. Merciful Lord grant late Pope an eternal home in the Kingdom of heaven.



Rest in Peace Dear Papa

4 The Irish Syro Malabar Catholic.
SYRO MALABAR CATHOLIC CHURCH, IRELAND

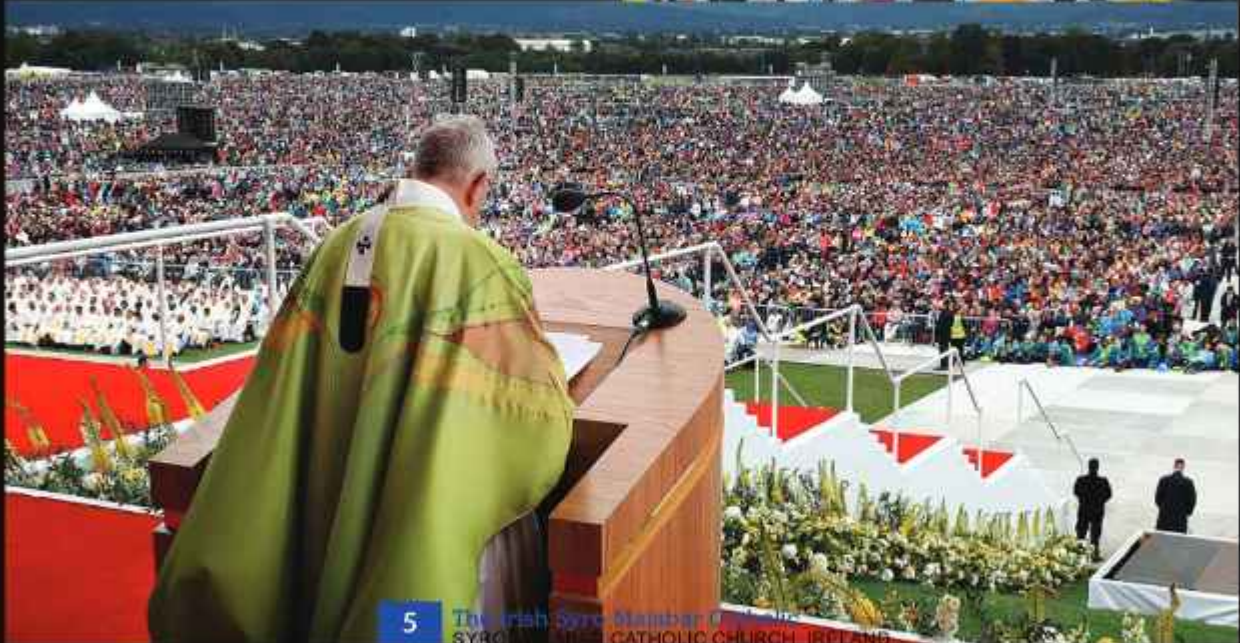
*Pope Francis:
A Life of Compassion Captured*



with Syro Malabar Church Leaders



in Ireland 2018



Easter Message

As we celebrate the feast of Easter, the triumph of life over death and light over darkness, we are invited to reflect on our identity as a pilgrim people, deeply rooted in the apostolic faith handed down to us by St. Thomas the Apostle.

The Syro-Malabar Church has, from its very beginning, been a Church on pilgrimage – journeying through centuries, sustained by the Word of God, the Holy Qurbana, and the living tradition of faith. Today, as a global community scattered across many nations, we continue this sacred journey with unwavering hope, bearing witness to the Resurrection in every place we are called to serve.

Easter reminds us that our pilgrimage is not aimless; it is guided by the sure promise of Christ's victory. In a world often marked by suffering and uncertainty, the Resurrection proclaims that death is not the end and despair is not the final word. Christ, the Risen Lord, walks with us, strengthening us through His presence in the Eucharist, in His Word, and in the life of the Church.

As members of the Syro-Malabar community, we are entrusted with a unique mission: to be bearers of this Easter hope. We are called to build up our families, nurture vocations, foster unity, and serve as bridges of love and reconciliation in the societies we inhabit. The ancient and rich spiritual heritage of our Church is not merely a legacy to be preserved but a living fountain from which new life flows for the world today.

May the light of the Risen Christ dispel every darkness from our hearts. As pilgrims of hope, let us move forward with courage, faith, and joy, proclaiming to all: "Christ is truly risen, and we are His witnesses!"

Wishing you all a blessed and joyful Easter.

Fr. Joseph Mathew



Meet the National Coordinator: Fr. Joseph Mathew Oliakkattil

Fr. Joseph Oliakkattil, a dedicated priest of the Diocese of Thamarassery, has been serving as the National Coordinator of the Syro-Malabar Church in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland since 2023. A native of Thottumukkam parish, Fr. Joseph brings with him a wealth of pastoral and administrative experience. He has served in various parishes within the Thamarassery Diocese, including Koodaranji, Panamplavu, Nooranthode, Kodanchery, Paroppady, and the Sacred Heart Forane Church in Thiruvambady. Academically, Fr. Joseph holds Master's degrees in both Sociology and Social Work and has also worked as a consultant in related fields. In addition to his parish ministry, he played key roles in diocesan initiatives, serving as Director of the Center for Overall Development and Karunya Bhavan, and as a member of the Diocesan Finance Council and consultation body. His pastoral journey also includes mission work in the Diocese of Faridabad (Delhi) and among the Syro-Malabar faithful in Saudi Arabia. As National Coordinator, Fr. Joseph is entrusted with the important mission of unifying and overseeing the pastoral activities of the Syro-Malabar Church across both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, fostering a vibrant and connected faith community.



With Gratitude and Good Wishes: A Heartfelt Farewell

After more than six years of dedicated service as the Catechism Director of the Syro-Malabar Church in Ireland, Fr. Roy George Vattakattu has now returned to his home diocese of Mananthavady. The Syro-Malabar community in Ireland bid him a heartfelt and loving farewell in gratitude for his service.

Fr. Roy, a priest of the Mananthavady Diocese, previously served in the parishes of Chundakkara, Kayyunnai, and Manimooly. He pursued higher studies in Rome and subsequently served as the Director of Catechism in his home diocese. In 2018, he was appointed to serve in Ireland, where he faithfully ministered in several Syro-Malabar communities including Blanchardstown, Beaumont, Swords, Navan, Wexford, Mullingar, Tullamore, and Drogheda. He also rendered valuable service within the Dublin and Navan dioceses.

During his time in Ireland, Fr. Roy served as the Syro-Malabar Ireland Catechism Director, playing a pivotal role in guiding and strengthening faith formation across the country. He was also entrusted with the responsibility of overseeing Syro Malabar Catechetical Departments in English-speaking countries outside India, highlighting his global impact in the Church's educational mission.

As Fr. Roy returns to the Mananthavady Diocese after his commendable service in Ireland, the entire Syro-Malabar community extends their heartfelt prayers and best wishes for his future ministry.

New Appointments –

Rev. Dr. Binoj Mulavarickal Appointed one of the General Coordinators of the Syro-Malabar Apostolic Visitation for Europe



The Syro-Malabar Church has appointed Rev. Dr. Binoj Mulavarickal as one of the General Coordinators for the Apostolic Visitation for Europe, alongside Fr. Babu Panattuparambll. The initiative aims to strengthen pastoral care for Syro-Malabar faithful across the continent.

A priest of the Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamaly, Fr. Binoj currently serves as Director of the Youth Apostolate in Europe. He is widely known for his liturgical music, having composed several well-received devotional songs. Holding a Doctorate in Moral Theology from Rome, his leadership in youth ministry and contributions to church music have earned him broad recognition within the Syro-Malabar diaspora in Europe.



Fr. Jose Bharanikulangara is the new Regional Coordinator of the Syro-Malabar Church in Belfast

Fr. Jose Bharanikulangara has been appointed as the new Regional coordinator of the Syro-Malabar Church in Belfast, Ireland. He previously served as the Regional coordinator for the Galway region. He is a priest of the Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamaly and hails from Mallussery, Angamaly, Kerala.

Prior to his ministry in Ireland, he also served in the Syro-Malabar Mission of Faridabad, Delhi. He currently also holds the position of Director of Media, Communication, and Public Relations for the Syro-Malabar Church in Ireland.

Fr. Antony (Babu) Parathepathikal Appointed Regional Coordinator of Galway Syro-Malabar Church

Fr. Antony (Babu) Parathepathikal, a priest of the Archdiocese of Thalassery and currently serving at the Knock International Eucharistic Marian Pilgrimage Centre, has been appointed as the Regional coordinator of the Galway region for the Syro-Malabar Church in Ireland.

A native of Thayyeni in Kasaragod, Fr. Antony has previously served in various parishes under the Archdiocese of Thalassery, including Udayagiri, Panathady, Adamppara, Udayapuram, Konakkad, Kacherikadavu, and Kalluvayal. He also held the role of Procurator of the Archdiocese for six years and served as the Director of St. Joseph's Hospital, Karuvanchal, before moving to Ireland.

Fr. Varghese (Baiju Davis) Kannampilly Appointed Chaplain of the Syro-Malabar Church in Dublin

Fr. Baiju Davis Kannampilly has been appointed as the new Chaplain of the Syro-Malabar Church in Dublin, Ireland. He belongs to the Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamaly and is a native of Konoor, Koratty, Kerala. His appointment is expected to enhance the pastoral care and liturgical life of the vibrant Syro-Malabar community in Dublin.

Fr. Philip Perunnatt has been Appointed as the Chaplain of Galway Syro-Malabar Church

Fr. Philip Perunnatt, a priest from the Diocese of Idukki and a native of Pandippara, has taken charge as the Chaplain of the Galway Syro-Malabar Church. His appointment is seen as a boost to the spiritual ministry of the Syro-Malabar community in the region.

Fr. Santhosh Thomas OFM Cap Appointed Chaplain of Kilkenny Syro-Malabar Qurbana Centre

Fr. Santhosh Thomas OFM Cap Appointed Chaplain of Kilkenny Syro-Malabar Centre. Capuchin priest Fr. Santhosh Thomas OFM Cap has been appointed as the Chaplain of the Kilkenny Syro-Malabar Qurbana Centre. A native of Kundayithodu, Kozhikode, Fr. Santhosh is expected to lead the faithful in Kilkenny with dedication and spiritual guidance.

These appointments mark a significant step in strengthening the pastoral mission and community engagement of the Syro-Malabar Church in Ireland.



Vatican Announces Grand Plans for 2025 Jubilee Year

Rome, April 7, 2025 — As the Catholic Church ushers in the Jubilee Year 2025, pilgrims from around the world are flocking to Rome to partake in what is expected to be one of the most significant religious events of the decade. Officially opened on Christmas Eve 2024 by Pope Francis with the ceremonial opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica, the Jubilee is a year of spiritual renewal, forgiveness, and pilgrimage.

Under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope," the Jubilee seeks to inspire faith and unity in a world marked by conflict, climate crises, and societal division. The Vatican has scheduled a rich calendar of liturgical celebrations, ecumenical events, and charitable outreach initiatives throughout the year. Special attention is being given to youth, families, prisoners, and the marginalized.

City officials in Rome anticipate over 30 million visitors during the Holy Year. In preparation, the Italian government has invested in infrastructure upgrades, public transport improvements, and multilingual support services. The city's historic churches, including the four papal basilicas, are open for pilgrimages, with many offering extended hours.

The Jubilee tradition, which dates back to 1300, occurs every 25 years unless declared otherwise. For many, 2025 represents a rare opportunity to deepen their faith and connect with a global community of believers.

The Jubilee Logo



The logo shows four stylized figures, representing all of humanity, coming from the four corners of the earth. They embrace each other to indicate the solidarity and fraternity which should unite all peoples. The figure at the front is holding onto the cross. It is not only the sign of the faith which this lead figure embraces, but also of hope, which can never be abandoned, because we are always in need of hope, especially in our moments of greatest need. There are the rough waves under the figures, symbolising the fact that life's pilgrimage does not always go smoothly in calm waters. Often the circumstances of daily life and events in the wider world require a greater call to hope. That's why we should pay special attention to the lower part of the cross which has been elongated and turned into the shape of an anchor which is let down into the waves.

The anchor is well known as a symbol of hope. In maritime jargon the 'anchor of hope' refers to the reserve anchor used by vessels involved in emergency manoeuvres to stabilise the ship during storms. It is worth noting that the image illustrates the pilgrim's journey not as an individual undertaking, but rather as something communal, marked by an increasing dynamism leading one ever closer to the cross. The cross in the logo is by no means static, but it is also dynamic. It bends down towards humanity, not leaving human beings alone, but stretching out to them to offer the certainty of its presence and the security of hope. At the bottom of the logo is the motto of the 2025 Jubilee Year: *Peregrinantes in Spem* (Pilgrims in hope), represented in green letters.



Jubilee Year 2025 Inaugurated in the Syro Malabar Church, Ireland

The official inauguration of the Jubilee Year 2025, declared by His Holiness Pope Francis, was held at Our Lady of Victories Church in Glasnevin, Dublin, under the auspices of the Syro-Malabar Church in Ireland.

Fr. Jose Bharanikulangara, Regional Director for Belfast and Director of Communication, Media, and Public Relations for the Ireland Syro-Malabar Church, lit the ceremonial lamp and officially launched the Jubilee celebrations. The event was attended by National Pastoral Council Secretary Fr. Seban Sebastian, Fr. Baiju Davis Kannampally, National Pastoral Council trustees Liji Lijo and Binoy Jose, various department secretaries, Dublin regional leaders, and members of the Pastoral Council.

Faithful from across Ireland gathered to take part in the solemn and joyous occasion.

In connection with the Jubilee, various departments and devotional organizations of the Syro-Malabar Church in Ireland are planning a range of activities throughout the year. One major initiative is a Marian pilgrimage to Portugal, Spain, and France, organized by the Bible Apostolate, scheduled to take place between July and August.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

Franciscus



Syro Malabar Church Europe

Bp. Mar Stephen Chirappanath

Apostolic Visitator for the Syro Malabar Catholic Faithful in Europe

Ireland National Pastoral Council - 2025 - 26

Fr. Joseph Mathew Oliakattil	National Coordinator & Director - Liturgy
Fr. Ceban Sebastian Vellamathara	General Secretary & Catechism Director
Fr. Jose Bharanikulangara	Regional Coordinator Belfast, Director – Communication & Media
Fr. Jilson Kokkandathil	Regional Coordinator – Cork
Fr. Babu Pratheppathickal	Regional Coordinator - Galway
Fr. Baiju Davis Kannampilly	Director SMYM
Fr. Joe (George) Pazheparambil	Director – Children’s Ministry
Fr. Sijo John Venkittackal	Director – Family Apostolate
Fr. Jain Mathew Mannathukaran	Director – Family Units
Fr. Anish Mahtew Vachiparayil	Director – Pithruvedi
Fr. Saji Dominic Ponminissery	Director – Mathruvedi
Fr. Dr. Joshy Parokkaran	Director – Bible Apostolate
Fr. Bijo Njaloor Chacko	Director – Alter Servers
Fr. Paul Thettayil	Chaplain – Clonmel
Fr. Jomon Kakkanattu	Chaplain – Waterford
Fr. Prince Maliyil	Chaplain – Limerick
Fr. Santhosh Thomas OFM Cap	Chaplain – Kilkenny
Fr. Philip Perunnattu	Chaplain - Galway
Fr. Dominic Thoomkuzhy	Chaplain – Letterkenny
Fr. Reji Kurian	Chaplain – Longford
Fr. Rony Maliyekkal	Chaplain - Enniskillen
Binoy Jose	NPC Treasurer
Ligi Ligo	NPC Secretary
Bijumon Lukose Nadackal	PRO
Jose Chacko	Secretary – Catechism
Tibi Mathew	Secretary Finance
Robil Kuriakose	Secretary – Liturgy
Simmy Ajith	SMYM Animator
Jincy Jospheh	Secretary – Children’s Ministry
Alphonsa Pias	Secretary – Family Apostolate
Bijumon Michael	Secretary – Family Units
Seejo Kachappilly	NPC Co-ordination Council
Pintu Jacob	PMS & IT

Region	Name	Mass centre & Designation	Diocese
Belfast	Moncy Thomas	Trustee/Portadown	Armagh
	Joseph Augustine	Catechism headmaster/Derry	Derry
	John Joseph	Trustee/Enniskillian	Clogher
	Shajimon Varghese	Trustee/ Belfast	Down and Connor
	Kunjumon Iyochan	Catechism headmaster/ Belfast	Down and Connor
	Saji Vathappallil	Trustee/catechism - Lisburn	Down and Connor
	Reji Thomas Karikandathil	Antrim, Trustee	Down and Connor
	Teby Paul	Trustee/ Newry	Drumore
Siju George	Catechism headmaster/ Newry	Drumore	
Cork	Sibin Abraham	Trustee/ Cork	Cork & Ross
	Lijo Joy Maniangattu	Catechism Headmaster/ Cork	Cork & Ross
	Denish Devasia	Trustee/ Wexford	Ferns
	Deepu Mathew	Catechism Headmaster/ Wexford	Ferns
	Sijo Poulose	Trustee/Tralelee	Kerry
	Biju Sebastian	Catechism HM/Tralelee	Kerry
	Monachan Narakathara	Trustee/Limerick	Limerick
	Jiji Jose	Catechism Headmistress/ Limerick	Limerick
	Benny George	Trustee/ Kilkenny	Ossory
	Sony Skaria	Catechism Headmaster/ Kilkenny	Ossory
	Josemon Abraham Kuttikkat	Trustee/ Waterford	Waterford and Lismore
	Saumya Robin	Catechism Headmaster/ Waterford	Waterford and Lismore
Dublin	Jeevan Mathew	Dundalk, Trustee	Armagh
	Mathew Philipose	Dundalk, Catechism HM	Armagh
	Sabu Mathew	Drogheda, Trustee	Armagh
	Benny John	Blanchardstown, Trustee	Dublin
	Cicily Reji,	Tallaght, Catechism HM	Dublin
	Jimmy Anthony	Lucan, Trustee	Dublin
	Joychan Ozhukayil	Tallaght, Family units Secretary	Dublin
	Tom Thomas	Beaumont, Trustee	Dublin
	Vincent Mozhiparambil Porinju	Bray, Catechism HM	Dublin
	Ninu Sojan	Naas, Catechism HM	Kildare & Leighlin
	Biju Thomas	Nass, Trustee	Kildare & Leighlin
	Vacant	Navan, TBC	Meath
	Galway	Jojust Chamakala	Cavan, Catechism HM
Abhin Clement		Cavan, Trustee	Kilmore
James Joseph		Longford, Trustee	Ardagh & Clonmacnoise
Jolly Toji		Ballinasloe, Catechism HM	Clonfert
Terins Jose		Sligo, Trustee	Elphin
Siji Mathai		Sligo, Catechism HM	Elphin
Anil Jacob		Galway, Trustee	Kilmacuagh, Kilfenoa & Galway,
Archana Varkey		Castlebar, HM	Tuam
Manoj Jacob		Knock , Trustee	Tuam
Sibi Kuriakose		Mullingar, Trustee	Meath
Jijimon Mathew		Mullingar, Catechism HM	Meath
Babu Mathew		Tullamore, Trustee	Meath
Joy K Mathai		Tullamore, Catechism HM	Meath
Joshymon P.V		Letterkenny, Trustee	Raphoe
Deepak John		Letterkenny, Catechism HM	Raphoe
Robin Jose Kavumpuram		Galway , Altar servers secretary	Kilmacuagh, Kilfenoa & Galway,



Ireland Syro-Malabar Church Hands Over Wayanad & Vilangad Disaster Relief Fund – Rehabilitation Efforts Underway

The Ireland Syro-Malabar Church has handed over the funds it raised for those affected by the natural calamities in Vilangad (Kozhikode) and Wayanad to the respective diocesan social service societies of Thamarassery and Mananthavady.

A total of €69,838.30 was collected through various Syro-Malabar communities and individual contributors across Europe, including €32,680.17 from different Mass centers in Ireland. The funds were transferred through the Syro-Malabar Church's European Apostolic Visitation office to the dioceses impacted by the disaster.

In July 2024, a major landslide in Mundakai, Churamala, and Vellarimala regions of Meppadi village in Wayanad claimed 420 lives and left many missing. The total estimated damage from the disaster was around 1,200 crore. As part of the European Syro-Malabar Church's relief efforts, €27,935.32 (24,99,595) was handed over to the Wayanad Social Service Society (WSS) under the Mananthavady Diocese. The initial phase of building houses and related facilities on newly acquired land has already begun under the society's leadership.

Another devastating landslide occurred in Vilangad, Kozhikode in July 2024, resulting in the loss of one life and widespread destruction of homes and agricultural land. Although timely precautions taken in the wake of the earlier Wayanad disaster helped minimize casualties, the financial loss was still significant. To aid those affected, €41,902.98 (37,51,477) was handed over to the Thamarassery Diocese through its Centre for Overall Development (COD). Under COD's leadership, 41 new homes are planned to be constructed in Vilangad. Construction has already started on eight of these homes. The project was inaugurated by Major Archbishop Mar Raphael Thattil, who laid the foundation stone. Further construction will proceed as more land becomes available.

European Apostolic Visitor Bishop Mar Stephen Chirappanath and Ireland Syro-Malabar Church Coordinator Fr. Joseph Olyyakattu expressed their heartfelt gratitude to all faithful who generously contributed, demonstrating Christian values through compassion and solidarity with their suffering brothers and sisters





BIBLIA '25 National Grand Finale – Castlebar Team Crowned Champion

The national grand finale of the Syro-Malabar Church of Ireland's Bible Quiz competition, BIBLIA '25, organized by the Catechism Department, was held at Our Lady of Victories Church, Glasnevin, Dublin. The event saw enthusiastic participation from teams representing nine Mass centers across four regions of Ireland. After a spirited contest, the Castlebar team claimed the national title.

Castlebar had earlier won the first place in the Galway regional round, and they continued their winning streak to secure the top national position. **Winners:** 1st Place – Castlebar Mass Centre (Galway Region): Emin Sojan, Evon Sojan, Anna Grace Jacob, Joel Prince.

2nd Place – Phibsborough Mass Centre (Dublin Region): Rosemaria Thomas, Daniel Jacob, Stephen Sijo, Bonaventure, Nisha Joseph.

3rd Place – Tullamore Mass Centre (Galway Region): Isabel Shobin, Nia Philip, Noah Philip, Noel Philip, Joy Kalathumakkil.

Phibsborough, the host center from the Dublin region, secured second place at the national level and had also topped their regional competition. The third place was secured by the Tullamore team from the Galway region.





The grand finale was inaugurated by Fr. Baiju Davis Kannampally on Saturday, February 22 at 2:00 PM. The quiz, consisting of eight rounds including audio-visual rounds, was conducted with great energy and excitement by quiz master Fr. Seban Sebastian Vellamattathara.

The prize distribution was led by Fr. Jose Bharanikulangara, Regional Director of the Belfast Region of the Syro-Malabar Church in Ireland. Winners of Gloria 2024, the Christmas season online speech competition, were also awarded during the event.

Catechism Director Fr. Roy Vattakatt, Secretary Mr. Jose Chacko, National Pastoral Council trustees Liji Lijo, Binoy S. Jose, Dublin Zonal Trustee Secretary Jimmy Antony, Benny John, Tom Thomas, and Julie Chiriyath played key roles in organizing the event. A large number of faithful from across Ireland attended the event, offering support and encouragement to the participating teams.

The Bible Quiz competitions, aimed at deepening knowledge about the Bible and saints of the Church, have been a regular initiative of the Syro-Malabar Catechism Department in Dublin. This year, for the first time, the competitions were expanded to include all 35 Mass centers in Ireland, with nearly 1,800 faithful participating. Winners from regional live quiz rounds advanced to the national finale. The ever-rolling trophies and national-level prizes will be distributed during the All-Ireland Knock Pilgrimage on May 10.

Winners of the January 11 National-Level Bible Quiz: Sub Juniors: Joel Prince (Castlebar – Galway) Juniors: Eva Elsa Sumod (Naas – Dublin) Seniors: Joel Varghese (Bray – Dublin) Super Seniors: Emmanuel Zachariah (Limerick – Cork) General Category: Nisha Joseph (Phibsborough – Dublin).



CARDINAL

A cardinal (Latin: Sanctae Romanae Ecclesiae cardinalis, lit. 'cardinal of the Holy Roman Church') is a senior member of the clergy of the Catholic Church. As titular members of the clergy of the Diocese of Rome, they serve as advisors to the pope, who is the bishop of Rome. Cardinals are chosen and formally created by the pope, and typically hold the title for life. Collectively, they constitute the College of Cardinals. The most solemn responsibility of the cardinals is to elect a new pope in a conclave, almost always from among themselves, with a few historical exceptions, when the Holy See is vacant.

During the period between a pope's death or resignation and the election of his successor, the day-to-day governance of the Holy See is in the hands of the College of Cardinals. The right to participate in a conclave is limited to cardinals who have not reached the age of 80 years by the day the vacancy occurs. Cardinals collectively participate in papal consistories, in which matters of importance to the Church are considered and new cardinals may be created. Cardinals of working age are also often appointed to roles overseeing dicasteries (departments) of the Roman Curia, the central administration of the Catholic Church.

Cardinals are drawn from a variety of backgrounds, being appointed as cardinals in addition to their existing roles within the Church. Most cardinals are bishops and archbishops leading dioceses and archdioceses around the world – often the most prominent diocese or archdiocese in their country. Others are titular bishops who are current or former officials within the Roman Curia, generally the heads of dicasteries and other bodies linked to the Curia. As of 21 April 2025, there are 252 serving cardinals, of whom 135 are eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope.



Mar Joseph Cardinal Parecattil (1969 - 1987)
 Mar Antony Cardinal Padiyara (1988 -2000)
 Mar Varkey Cardinal Vithayathil (2001 - 2011)
 Mar George Cardinal Alencherry (2012 -)
 Mar George Cardinal Koovakad (2024 -)

MATHRUVEDI



DUBLIN REGIONAL MATHRUVEDI GATHERING

The "Mothers of Hope" gathering organised by Dublin Regional Mathruvedi took place on 3rd February 2025 at Our Lady of Holy Rosary Church, Rialto, with around 80 attendees, including SMYM and Regional Committee members under the guidance of Fr. Baiju Kannampilly.

The Holy Qurbana was celebrated by the National Coordinator, Fr. Joseph Oliakattil and the choir was led by mothers from various mass centres in Dublin, accompanied by key board from SMYM. Mothers participated in the offertory, and SMYM children distributed roses and handwritten cards as a heartfelt gesture.

The official inauguration of Mathruvedi activities for 2025-26 was marked by lamp lighting ceremony by Fr. Joseph Oliakattil, Fr. Baiju Kannampilly, Fr. Priyesh Pudussery, Mr. Binoy Jose (NPC Trustee), Mrs. Ligi Lijo (NPC Secretary), Mr. Jimmy Antony (Dublin Regional Secretary), Mrs. Rosy Jacob (Dublin Regional Mathruvedi President) & Mathruvedi representatives.

Post lunch, Fr. Priyesh Pudussery delivered an interactive talk on adolescent parenting. The gathering also featured fun activities and games which were highly enjoyed.

Overall, the gathering was well-organized and appreciated, with hopes for future gatherings to support mothers' spiritual, physical, and mental growth.



CHILDRENS MINISTRY



**Cherupushpa
Mission
League**

CML SPECIAL LENTEN GATHERING 2025: A MEANINGFUL EVENING OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION

On Saturday, March 22, 2025, at 6:00 PM, a special Lenten gathering was held via Zoom, bringing together our Catechism children in prayer, reflection, and celebration of the Lenten season. This event, organized by the Children's Ministry (Cherupushpa Mission League) of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church Dublin, provided a meaningful and engaging way for children to deepen their spiritual journey.

The evening began with The Way of the Cross, a solemn reflection on the passion and sacrifice of Christ, led by our children from various Mass centers. The children, in English, beautifully conveyed the significance of this sacred journey, drawing all attendees into the deep meaning of Christ's suffering.

Fr. Ceban Sebastian opened the gathering with heartfelt prayers, setting a reverent tone for the evening's activities. The participation and enthusiasm of everyone involved were truly remarkable.

A Lenten Message was then shared by Rev. Fr. Kevin Mundackal, the first American-born Syro-Malabar Priest from the Diocese of Chicago. His insightful words provided spiritual guidance to help deepen our understanding of this holy season. His reflections were particularly valuable for the children, giving them a clearer understanding of the Lenten journey.

To add an element of fun and engagement, a Lenten Kahoot Quiz was held, allowing children to interact with the faith in a light-hearted and educational way. The quiz was a huge success, with a great turnout and enthusiastic participation from all the children. The winners were:

First Prize: Kevin Dais from Swords

Second Prize: Jerin Joseph Varghese from Bray

Third Prize: Josh Joseph Varghese from Bray



Family Apostolate

Alphonsa Binu (Secretary, Family Apostolate)

The Family Apostolate is an integral part of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church in Ireland, dedicated to nurturing strong, faith-filled families. Its mission is to strengthen family life, guide youth toward Christ-centered marriages, and foster a vibrant Christian community. This year, the Family Apostolate will focus on promoting spiritual growth, supporting families in need, and encouraging a culture of responsibility and service. Special attention will be given to young and newly married couples through tailored programs and pastoral support to help them build strong foundations rooted in faith and love.



Three-Day Marriage Preparation Course Feb 7-9, 2025

A key event this year was the Marriage Preparation Course, which took place from February 7 to 9, 2025, at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Rialto, Dublin. The program, organized by the Family Apostolate Department, saw the participation of 63 candidates eager to build a strong foundation for their married life.

The course began with a Holy Qurbana celebrated by Fr. Baiju Kannampilly, setting a spiritual tone for the days ahead. The inaugural session was led by Fr. Joseph Mathew Oliakkattil (National Coordinator) and Fr. Sijo John Venkittackal (Family Apostolate Coordinator), along with key leaders including Mrs. Ligi Lijo (National Pastoral Council Secretary), Alphonsa Binu (Family Apostolate Secretary), Mr. Binoy Jose (National Pastoral Council Treasurer), Mr. Jimmy Antony (Dublin Regional Secretary), and Mrs. Julie Chirlyath (PRO – Dublin Region).

The program provided comprehensive guidance on essential aspects of married life, by experienced speakers. Topics covered included Canon law and the theology of marriage, Faith and spirituality in marriage, Psychological insights for a healthy relationship, Effective communication and financial planning. Led by both clergy and experienced lay speakers, the sessions encouraged open discussion, reflection, and engagement. The course emphasized the importance of preparing, not just practically, but spiritually for the sacrament of marriage.

The event concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony and a feedback session to further enhance future programs. It was a truly enriching experience, equipping participants with wisdom, tools, and faith for their journey ahead. We continue to pray for all couples preparing for the sacrament of marriage. May your journey together be guided by God's grace, rooted in love, and blessed with peace and joy.

Next Marriage Preparation Course – June and November 2025

Our next Marriage Preparation Courses for 2025 will take place from June 6 to 8 and November 7 to 9. Please register early through PMS, as spaces are limited. The registration link is available on the SMCC website (<https://syromalabar.ie/>)



MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

Orukam

CONDUCTED BY
FAMILY APOSTOLATE DEPARTMENT

6, 7, 8 JUN 2025
7, 8, 9 NOV 2025

**Rialto Parish Centre
DOB CY61**
Course Time: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Candidates to arrange own accommodation and transport

Only 80 seats in each course

PMS LINK OPEN FOR REGISTRATION
<https://pms.smcpms.ie/pmsui/guestlogin>
(Registration or Post course feedback form)

FOR INFORMATION
Email: apostolam@syromalabar.ie Phone: 0477678865/0668094950

SYRO MALABAR CATHOLIC CHURCH, IRELAND

SMILE : Syro Malabar Inclusive Life Experience



The Syro Malabar Church in Ireland is committed to fostering inclusivity through our flagship initiative, SMILE (Syro Malabar Inclusive Life Experience). Currently, the SMILE program serves numerous families across the Syro Malabar Church's various Mass centers in Ireland and Northern Ireland. SMILE is a heartfelt initiative designed to create inclusive programs that support children and families with special needs. The primary goal of the program is to bring children with special gifts and their families into the heart of the church, allowing them to fully participate in all sacramental and ecclesial rites. This includes developing accessible, disability-friendly programs that enable individuals with a range of disabilities to lead fulfilling lives and engage in church and social activities to the fullest.

SMILE Committee 2025/2026

Fr. Joseph Oliakattil National Coordinator, SMCC Ireland, continues to serve as the Director of the SMILE Program. For the 2025–2026 term, the following committee members have taken on leadership roles within the program. President : Binu Antony, Secretary: Kunjumol Saibu, Joint Secretary: Alphonsa Binu, Treasurer : Saju Jacob, Executive members : Lee Mukadan, Sijo Joseph. Baby Ittira. Pradeep Baby, Intercessory Prayer coordinator: Jyothi Saju

SMILE Activities

SMILE organizes adaptive Masses every two months, online prayer sessions, and inclusive events like Christmas celebrations. It also provides support through advocacy, information on entitlements, and resources on therapy and parenting.

Some of the recent SMILE activities highlighted below.

SMIE Visit to Rome

In a momentous milestone for the program, around 55 SMILE members had the incredible opportunity to meet with Pope Francis during a special papal audience and received a blessing in October 2024. This unforgettable experience was a testament to the global inclusivity of the church and a memorable occasion for all participants.



Empowering Journeys: Enriching Life for Special Needs Families – An Online Session with Zerah Jose

On Friday, 28th February 2025, an online seminar titled “Empowering Journeys: Enriching Life for Special Needs Families” was held to support parents with practical guidance to navigate through the challenges of their children's developmental journeys. The seminar was conducted by the Mrs. Zerah Jose, a renowned NLP (Neuro-Linguistic Programming) Master Therapist, Author, Mentor, and Life Coach. Drawing from her wealth of experience, Mrs. Jose shared valuable insights into how parents and caregivers can empower themselves and their children with special needs. With over 35 families participating, this online seminar was a powerful reminder that no family is alone in their journey .

At its core, SMILE aims to ensure that the baptismal rights of every individual are respected and upheld, promoting true inclusion within the Syro Malabar Church in Ireland. Inspired by the words of Pope Francis—“The way we experience illness and disability is an index of the love we are ready to offer”—SMILE stands as a beacon of love, support, and inclusion in our community.



CENACLE 2025

The Cenacle Leadership Residential Programme took place from 10th to 12th January 2025 at the Dominican Retreat Centre, Tallaght, with 23 participants from across Ireland, including 11 from Dublin region.

Hosted in the peaceful surroundings of the retreat centre, the programme was well-received by all attendees. The programme focused on leadership development, faith formation, and community building through workshops and team activities.

Supporting the participants were two dedicated animators, eight youth volunteers, and Fr. Binoj Mulavarikkal to guide and support their spiritual journey. The Cenacle offered a unique opportunity for young people to connect, reflect, and grow in their faith.

The gathering also featured fun activities and games which were highly enjoyed. Overall, the gathering was well-organized and appreciated, with hopes for future gatherings to support mothers' spiritual, physical, and mental growth.

HOPE 2025 - SMYM REGIONAL GATHERING

On 1st March, 2025, SMYM Dublin hosted the first gathering of the Jubilee Year of HOPE. The gathering was graced by the esteemed presence of Fr. Binoj Mulavaricakal, Vicar General, Apostolic Visitation for Syro Malabar Faithful in Europe, who travelled exclusively for HOPE 2025, making the occasion even more special.

The day commenced with the celebration of the Holy Qurbana by Fr. Binoj Mulavaricakal. Around 160 participants from across Qurbana centres in Dublin region played an active role, taking part in the readings, offertory procession and choir. The inauguration ceremony followed the Holy Qurbana with lamp-lighting by Fr. Binoj Mulavaricakal alongside Fr. Baiju Kannampilly SMYM Director - Ireland, Dublin Regional Secretary Jimmy Anthony, Dublin Regional Committee members, SMYM Ireland animators, Dublin SMYM Committee members, and coordinators from each Qurbana Centre.

After a delightful lunch, the participants reassembled for an engaging icebreaker session, setting the stage for one of the most anticipated segments of the day. Each Qurbana centre had prepared a performance, ranging from dance and skits to musical presentations, all of which were judged based on creativity and message delivery. These performances were not only entertaining but also conveyed meaningful messages, making them a highlight of the gathering.

After the performances, Fr. Binoj delivered an inspiring and thought-provoking talk. The day concluded with an adoration session which under Fr. Binoj's leadership created an atmosphere of deep reflection and spiritual connection, leaving a profound impact on the youth.

The gathering received overwhelmingly positive feedback, highlighting the need for more gatherings to help the youth grow in faith and community. SMYM Dublin looks forward to organizing more gatherings that will

ST. PATRICK'S NOVENA: A VIRTUAL GATHERING OF FAITH AND COMMUNITY

The St. Patrick's Novena, organized by the Dublin Regional Altar Servers team, under the guidance of Fr. Ceban Sebastian was successfully held online via Zoom from March 14-16, 2025. This spiritually enriching gathering brought together altar servers from 14 different Mass centres across, fostering a sense of community and leadership in a virtual format.

Day 1 of the Novena was led by Fr. Priyesh Pudussery, Fr. Baiju Kannampilly led the novena on Day 2, and Fr. Sijo Venkittackal led the novena on Day 3. Prayers were assigned to altar servers of various Mass centres, with the children leading the prayers and participating in reflective sharing sessions.

On March 14, the designated Mass centres were Beaumont, Blanchardstown, Drogheda, Dundalk, and Swords. Following the prayers, the Beaumont centre shared insights on the Jubilee Year. March 15 saw Lucan, Inchicore, Naas, and Phibsborough leading the prayers, with the Lucan centre sharing reflections on Pope Francis. On the final day, March 16, the altar servers from Athy, Blackrock, Bray, Navan, and Tallaght took the lead, with the Tallaght centre offering a reflection on St. Patrick.

The involvement of 220 children over the three days highlights the broad reach of the event. The Novena not only nurtured faith but also demonstrated the adaptability of religious practices in modern times through virtual engagement.

A special addition to this year's Novena was a Blooket Quiz conducted on the final day by SMYM members. This interactive activity provided a fun and engaging way to reinforce the teachings of the Novena. The winners were:

1. Safin Santhosh - Tallaght
2. Marshwin Martin - Lucan
3. Meribelle Binu - Blanchardstown

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all the participants. Winners of the quiz will receive their prizes during the Savio Fest, scheduled to take place on May 17, 2025.

Overall, the St. Patrick's Novena was a deeply meaningful and spiritually uplifting experience, bringing young altar servers together in prayer and reflection. It was truly a testament to the power of faith and community in a digital age!

BELFAST

Belfast Regional Bible Fest

Ananth Joseph (Regional PRO, Bifast)



The Syro Malabar Catholic community in Northern Ireland organized a grand Bible Fest, a celebration of art and culture, on March 8 at All Saints College in Belfast. The event was inaugurated by Belfast Region Coordinator Fr. Jose Bharanikulangara, who lit the lamp to mark the beginning. The festival featured various art forms, including dance, music, and drama, all based on biblical themes. The participants, including children and adults, showcased their talents in different competitions, such as singing, dancing, and skits. The event was well-attended, with hundreds of people gathering to appreciate the artistic performances. The festival aimed to promote the Syro Malabar Catholic community's cultural heritage and artistic talents in Northern Ireland. The event was a huge success, with participants and audience members alike praising the quality of the performances. The Bible Fest has been organized for the past 15 years and has become increasingly popular, attracting a large number of participants and audience members. The event featured judges and trainers who were past winners of school and university youth festivals in Kerala, which added to the festival's high standards. The festival concluded with the distribution of prizes to the winners, and the event ended successfully in the evening.



Belfast Regional Bible Quiz

The Belfast Regional Bible Quiz competition was held in January and February. From this, participants from Belfast were selected for the Dublin Grand Finale. On February 22, the Grand Finale took place in Dublin, featuring participants from Belfast and Lisburn.

The participants from Belfast who won prizes were:

Regiena Babu, Taneesha Dileesh, Monica Biju, Mathew Biju, Clive Joseph. The participants from Lisburn who secured second place were:

Sheeba Jomon, Neil Jayan, Nathaniel N Velasseryil, Suzanne N Velasseryil.



ANTRIM QURBANA CENTRE

Amal Shiji (PRO, SMC Antrim)



SMILE SEMINAR

St. Mother Teresa Syro Malabar Catholic Church Antrim Hosts an Informative Session on SMILE (A SYRO MALABAR INCLUSIVE LIFE EXPERIENCE) Antrim, March 16, 2025 – The Syro Malabar Church Antrim, under the Department of Family Units, successfully conducted an insightful Information Session on Syro Malabar Inclusive Life Experience (SMILE) at St. Joseph Church, Antrim. The session, held after the 3:30 PM Holy Mass, aimed to raise awareness about supporting children with special needs and their families within the community. The event was led by Binu Antony and Alphonsa Binu, who shared valuable insights on identifying individuals with special needs and how the community can extend

support to them. They emphasized the importance of inclusivity, compassion, and collective responsibility in ensuring a welcoming environment for all families. Through discussions and real-life experiences, the session reinforced the core message: "Every Smile Matters, Every Family Belongs." Let's continue to build a more inclusive

St. Mother Teresa Syro Malabar Community, Antrim, Celebrates Mother's Day with Candle Gift Ceremony Antrim, March 30, 2025 – The St. Mother Teresa Syro Malabar Community in Antrim marked this year's Mother's Day with a heartfelt tribute to all mothers. Following the Sunday Holy Mass, the community organized a special celebration, highlighting the importance of motherhood and the invaluable role of mothers in society. As a token of appreciation and love, the community distributed candles to all the mothers present. The candles symbolized the light, warmth, and guidance that mothers bring into the lives of their families. The ceremony was a touching moment of gratitude and reverence, creating a sense of unity and appreciation among the attendees. Fr. Jain Mathew, who led the Holy Mass, emphasized the selfless love and sacrifices of mothers in his sermon, urging the faithful to cherish and honor their mothers not just on this special day but throughout the year. The celebration was attended by families from the parish, who joined together in prayer and thanksgiving. The St. Mother Teresa Syro Malabar Community continues to uphold its values of faith, love, and service, strengthening the bond among its members through such meaningful celebrations. The Mother's Day event was a beautiful reminder of the love and respect that mothers deserve, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.



St. Sebastian's Syro-Malabar Church, Lisburn

The First Mass Centre Feast Celebration

Following the establishment of the Mass Centre, the Lisburn Syro-Malabar community joyfully celebrated their first Mass Centre Feast on January 17th, 18th, and 19th. The three-day event was marked by vibrant participation, with 40 presbyteries leading various aspects of the celebration, reflecting the unity and spiritual enthusiasm of the faithful.

Pithruvedhi One-Day Outing

The Lisburn Pithruvedhi organized a one-day outing to Tollymore Forest Park in Newcastle, offering a day of fellowship and relaxation amidst nature. A total of 35 members took part in the event, which provided an opportunity to strengthen bonds and enjoy the beauty of God's creation.



BELFAST QURBANA CENTRE

Tom Thomas (PRO, SMC Bifast)



The Jubilee Inauguration

The Catholic Jubilee is a sacred event observed every 25 years serving as a period of forgiveness, grace, and spiritual renewal. The theme for the 2025 Jubilee Year, as declared by Pope Francis, is "Pilgrims of Hope," aiming to foster a sense of hope and trust in a world facing challenges like war, the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the climate crisis. Belfast Mass Centre Jubilee inauguration began with a special Eucharistic celebration led by Fr. Jose Bharanikulangara along with Fr. Anish Vanchiparayil.

Taking Charge: The New Parish Committee

In parallel with the Jubilee celebrations, the parish introduced its newly elected committee members, marking the beginning of a new chapter in church governance and community service. The newly appointed committee members took their oath of service, pledging to uphold the mission of the Church and work diligently to foster spiritual and social development within the parish.

Fr. Jose emphasised importance of teamwork, humility and unwavering faith in carrying out the Catholic's mission. He urged the committee to work closely with the clergy and the laity to ensure a thriving and spiritually nourishing catholic parish environment.

Youth Meet

Youth Meet led by NET ministries held on 26th January 20225 at parish centre. This event brought together young people offering opportunity to deepen their faith, engage in meaningful discussions, and strengthen their connection with the Church.

The youth meet, featured dynamic sessions led by experienced missionaries from NET ministry Ireland, focusing on themes such as discipleship, personal testimony, and living a Christ-centred life in today's world. Through interactive activities, praise and worship and small group reflections, participants were encouraged to explore their faith in a supportive and uplifting environment.

Our youth expressed gratitude for the opportunity to engage with peers who share their beliefs and to receive spiritual guidance from NET Ministries Ireland. Many were inspired to take on active roles within their parishes further enriching their faith journey and the overall mission of the Church.



Bible Fest

Following the Eucharistic celebration on 16th March 2025, the Bible Fest winners from Belfast Mass Centre were called forward to receive their awards and blessings. Each winner was presented with special tokens of appreciation, recognising their commitment and dedication.



A Year of Hope and Action

As the Jubilee Year 2025 unfolds, the parish has lined up various activities to promote faith formation, evangelisation, and social outreach. Pilgrimages, retreats, and charitable programs will be at the heart of the celebrations, providing parishioners with numerous opportunities to grow in faith and serve those in need. The new parish committee, along with SMYM, Mathruvedi and Prithruvedi has already begun planning initiatives that align with the Church's mission.



Children Lenten Retreat: Take a break with Jesus

As the season of Lent invites us into a time of reflection, prayer and renewal; NET Ministries Ireland conducted a transformative Lenten Retreat titled, "Take a Break with Jesus" on 30th March 2025. The retreat was inaugurated with a welcome speech by Fr. Jose Bharanikulangara, who set the tone for a spiritually enriching experience. His words emphasized the importance of taking time to reflect on our relationship with Jesus and preparing our hearts for the season of Lent.

The retreat was conducted in two groups to ensure a more age-appropriate and impactful experience:

- Group 1: Class 1 to Class 6
- Group 2: Class 7 to Class 12

Each group participated in sessions tailored to their level, ensuring that all attendees could deeply connect with the themes of the retreat. This retreat was designed to help children and young people encounter Christ in a meaningful way while also engaging in a fun and interactive faith experience.

One of the key highlights of the retreat was the session on God the Father's love. Through powerful testimonies, scripture reflections, and guided discussions, participants were encouraged to embrace the unconditional love of God. The session aimed to deepen their understanding of God's role as a loving and merciful Father who desires a personal relationship with each of His children.

Music has always been a vital part of faith formation, and this retreat was no exception. Participants had the opportunity to worship through uplifting praise songs led by the NET Ministries team. The songs helped to create an atmosphere of prayer, joy, and spiritual connection, allowing everyone to express their faith through melodies and heartfelt lyrics.

The retreat also emphasized the importance of Christian community and joy. Several engaging games were organised to foster teamwork, laughter, and friendship among the participants. These activities not only added a fun element to the retreat but also served as metaphors for faith, resilience and unity in Christ.

The retreat ended with a thanksgiving address by Fr. Anish Vanchiparayil, who expressed gratitude to the organizers, volunteers and participants for making the retreat a success. His words of encouragement reminded everyone to carry forward the lessons learned and to stay steadfast in their faith.

The "Take a Break with Jesus" retreat by NET Ministries Ireland was truly a time of renewal, joy and deepened faith. It provided a much-needed space for young people to encounter God's love, express their faith through music and build lasting friendships through fun and meaningful activities. As Lent continues, participants are encouraged to carry this experience forward, allowing it to inspire their spiritual growth and walk with Christ.

DERRY QURBANA CENTRE

VOICE OF DERRY

The community members both children and adult participated in the Regional Bible Fest in Belfast with lots of enthusiasm and won number of prizes in various competitions. The liturgical season of Lent was begun with the observance of Ash Monday. The community members received the ashes on the forehead symbolizing repentance, mortality and a call to seek forgiveness and renewal. Mother's Day was celebrated under the leadership of Mathrujoythi association. Thirunna Presudhendhi coupon was officially inaugurated and given to the General Convener and Trustees. The Catechism children attended the Scholarship examination conducted by National Level, Dublin. One day Lenten Retreat was conducted in preparation of entering to the Holy Week.



Cork Region Bible Quiz 2025 – A Day of Faith, Fellowship, and Friendly Competition

The Cork Mass Centre of the Syro Malabar Church in Ireland had the honor of hosting the Cork Region Bible Quiz Competition on Saturday, February 1st, at 1:00 PM. The event took place at the SMA Hall, Wilton, Cork, and brought together participants from across the region in a vibrant celebration of Scripture and community.

The event commenced with a warm welcome speech by Sabin K. Abraham, setting the tone for an engaging and spiritually enriching afternoon. The quiz competition was skillfully and fairly conducted by Quiz Master Fr. Priyesh, whose dynamic presentation kept both participants and the audience fully engaged.

Teams representing Cork, Limerick, Kilkenny, and Waterford competed in a closely contested battle of Biblical knowledge. After an intense and exciting series of rounds, the final rankings were as follows:

1st Place – Cork, 2nd Place – Limerick, 3rd Place – Waterford, 4th Place – Kilkenny.

With this victory, both Cork and Limerick Mass Centres have secured their place in the National Grand Finale held in Dublin on February 22nd.

Congratulations to all the participating teams for their enthusiasm and commitment. Trophies, medals, and mementos were distributed to the participants and winners by Fr. Santosh and Fr. Priyesh. Special recognition was also given to those who excelled in the written examination conducted as part of the regional competition. A heartfelt vote of thanks was extended to Fr. Priyesh for his exemplary leadership and fairness in conducting the quiz. The success of the event would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the organizing team, especially the dedicated leaders of the Cork Mass Centre, to whom we extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation. The event concluded around 4:00 PM with a formal vote of thanks by Sony Scaria, marking the end of a truly memorable and inspiring gathering.

**CORK QURBANA CENTRE**

The pics say it all.....

Jaison Joseph (PRO, Cork)



New Pradhinihiyogam. SMCC Community Cork.

Silver Jubilee Celebration of Fr. Jilson Kokkandathil



Participating for Eucharistic Procession Diocese of Cork and Ross.

Pastoral Visit of Bishop Mar Fintan Gavin, Diocese of Cork and Ross

Madhbaha Pravesanam' for Altar boys



The St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Mass Centre in Kilkenny, under the vibrant leadership of Rev. Fr. Santosh Thomas and a newly elected committee, continues to flourish through strong community engagement and active participation by family units.

Bible Quiz

Monthly family gatherings have played a key role in nurturing community spirit. In a recent highlight, parishioners participated in a Bible Quiz Competition at the Mass Centre level. The winning team went on to represent Kilkenny at the Cork Regional Bible Quiz Competition, proudly demonstrating their scriptural knowledge and commitment.

Bible Kalolsavam

The annual Bible Kalolsavam was conducted over two days, featuring healthy competition among four participant groups. The event was notably enhanced by the enthusiastic support of parents, whose encouragement was instrumental throughout. Winners of the event will be formally recognized during the upcoming Catechism Annual Day celebrations.

St. Joseph's Ootu Thirunal

The parish also commemorated the feast of St. Joseph's Ootu Thirunal with great reverence. Celebrations included a festive Thirunal Mass, traditional Ladeenju, and a solemn procession. The event witnessed a strong turnout, reflecting the deep faith and unity of the community.



WATERFORD QURBANA CENTRE

Ebin Thomas (PRO, Waterford)

The Syro Malabar Catholic Community in Waterford places family at the heart of its spiritual and community life, recognizing it as the cornerstone of a strong and faithful society. In a world where evolving ideologies and modern lifestyles often challenge traditional family values, we remain committed to nurturing and upholding the essence of family life.

By making family the foundation of every initiative, we strive to strengthen bonds, instill faith, and create a supportive environment where love, faith, and values are passed down through generations. Through this commitment, we not only enrich our own community but also contribute to a more compassionate and faith-driven society.

Bible quiz 2025 – A celebration of faith & knowledge

The Bible Quiz Competition 2025 was a true testament of our student's dedication to faith and knowledge. With nearly 70% of students participating, your enthusiasm and commitment to the Word of God were truly inspiring. Congratulations to Team SMCC!

We proudly celebrate Team SMCC's outstanding achievement, securing third place in the regional-level Bible Quiz competition held in Cork on February 1, 2025.

A special appreciation to Hanna Maria Rijosh, Tessa Lijo, Hannah, Joe Mathew, and Ann Mary for their remarkable performance.

Altar Servants: Selection, Training, and Installation.

The formation of children in faith, family, and divine vocation begins at an early stage, shaping their spiritual journey with dedication and purpose. In recognition of this, SMCC has selected 12 students from Class 4 to 11 and provided them with rigorous training to serve as Altar Servants, fostering their liturgical service and spiritual discipline. Now officially installed, these students will serve on a rotational basis in designated groups at the altar, deepening their commitment to the faith and the Church's sacred traditions.

Sacristy visit

To enhance Catechism students' understanding of the Holy Eucharist, we conducted a practical visit to the sacristy. They had hands-on experience will provide students with an in-depth exploration of liturgical vestments, sacred vessels, and their significance in the Mass.

- * Highlight the symbolism of vestments and sacred vessels.
- * Set clear expectations for respectful behavior.

Detailed explanations of vestments, sacred vessels, altar linens, and liturgical books.

This initiative aims to enrich students' faith experience, offering them a practical and meaningful encounter with the sacred elements of the Church, we continue this for the next batch in the coming years.

A two-phase initiative

To ensure a meaningful spiritual experience for all students, we have structured this initiative in two phases:

1. Senior students & youth (Classes 7-11) – Conducted an in-house retreat at Glencomeragh, focusing on deeper spiritual reflection and engagement.
2. Junior students (Classes 1-6) – A dedicated on-premise retreat will be organized, tailored to their spiritual growth and understanding.

Through this initiative, we strive to nurture faith, encourage reflection, and inspire a lifelong spiritual journey for our students.



Women's day celebration

March 8, 2025 – The spirit of empowerment and unity filled the air as SMCC Mathruvedhi hosted a remarkable celebration for International Women's Day. A large congregation gathered to mark the occasion, graced by the esteemed Chief Guest, Fr. Jomon Kakkanattu, whose inspiring words set the tone for a day of reflection, learning, and appreciation of women's invaluable contributions to society.

A key highlight of the event was an engaging workshop titled "The Art of Balance: Dancing Between Heart and Hand with Mary and Martha – A Theological and Physiological Rereading." This insightful session explored the profound symbolism of Mary and Martha, illustrating the delicate equilibrium between devotion and action, mirroring the essence of family life.

In his keynote address, Fr. Jomon Kakkanattu emphasized the indispensable role of women in shaping families, communities, and faith. "Women have always been at the heart of change and progress. Today, we honor their resilience, grace, and unwavering spirit," he remarked.

The SMCC Mathruvedhi Women's Day Celebration left a lasting impact on all attendees, reinforcing the message of empowerment, faith, and community support. As the church looks ahead to future initiatives, participants departed with renewed purpose and inspiration, committed to continuing their journey of faith and empowerment. Building on the valuable insights from the recent Women's Day workshop, we are introducing a monthly academic series exploring key themes in Theology, Philosophy, and Psychology, with Family as its central focus.

Titled Caffè Didaché – A Taste of Tradition...A Journey of Faith, this initiative is designed for those with a keen interest in the intersection of faith and reason. The term Didaché, derived from Greek, means "Teaching" or "Doctrine", reflecting our commitment to intellectual and spiritual growth. Held monthly, these sessions will provide a structured yet engaging platform for thought-provoking discussions, ensuring that each gathering systematically explores diverse topics while keeping Family at the heart of every dialogue.

Bake and Snack Fest

CML Waterford Hosts Bake & Snack Fest with Catechism Students – February 23, 2025

CML Waterford successfully organized the Bake & Snack Fest on February 23, 2025, bringing the community together for a delightful day of homemade treats and fellowship. A special highlight of the event was that all snacks were prepared by Catechism students, showcasing their culinary skills, teamwork, and dedication. Attendees enjoyed a variety of sweet and savory delights, prepared with enthusiasm and creativity. The event received overwhelming appreciation, as students took pride in presenting their handmade creations.

A new chapter: Launching the Family-Focused Book Club

Marking another milestone, CML Waterford proudly introduced the Family-Focused Book Club – A Journey to Read, Reflect, and Connect. This initiative aims to cultivate a love for reading, encouraging families to choose books over screens and nurture young minds with wisdom beyond gadgets. The credit goes to Fr. Jomon Kakkanattu (Vicar), Ms. Saumya Robin (Headmistress), Anu Lijo (Coordinator), and Ms. Preetha Tom and Ms. Agnus Ann (Animators) for their dedication in making this initiative a reality.



Looking ahead

The unwavering support of the SMCC family has made this initiative truly meaningful. As we move forward, we remain committed to fostering a passion for reading, strengthening our faith-centered and knowledge-driven community.

Mother's Day

SMCC Mathruvedhi joyfully celebrates Mother's Day – March 30, 2025

SMCC Mathruvedhi celebrated Mother's Day with heartfelt joy on March 30, 2025, bringing families together for a day of love, appreciation, and gratitude. The celebration featured a Mother & Child Photo Contest and an exciting lucky draw, adding to the festive spirit.

The photo contest witnessed enthusiastic participation, with families capturing and sharing beautiful moments with meaningful captions, while the lucky draw brought an element of excitement to the event. It was a wonderful tribute to mothers, recognizing their unconditional love, sacrifices, and unwavering dedication.

Winners of the photo contest & lucky draw:

1st Prize (€50) – Bency Thomas

2nd Prize (€25) – Dona Limichan

Lucky Draw Gift Hamper Winner – Anu Lijo

A celebration with a cause

As part of our Mother's Day initiative, rather than allocating funds solely for the celebration, SMCC Mathruvedhi is proud to contribute €100 to the Wayanad Home Project, supporting this noble cause and extending the spirit of love and generosity beyond our community.

WEXFORD QURBANA CENTRE

Jisha Robin (Secretary, Wexford)



Lent Preparation Retreat

In preparation for Lent a Retreat was conducted by St. Alphonsa church Wexford (Syromalabar) which was led by Fr. Binoj Mulavarickal on 2/3/25 at Friary Church wexford. The preaching of the word helped us to receive God's Mercy through repentance and get spiritual awakening as a new humanbeing in preparation for Easter. (Fr. Bonoj's devotional songs helped us to give a spiritual elevation.)

GALWAY

Castlebar Emerges Victorious at Biblia 2025 Galway Regional Grand Finale



In a vibrant showcase of talent and knowledge, Castlebar clinched the first place at the Biblia 2025 Galway Regional Grand Finale held at Gillooly Hall, Sligo. The prestigious event brought together top contenders from various Syro-Malabar communities across Ireland.

Tullamore Qurbana Centre secured the second position, while Galway Mass Centre took home the third place, marking a strong finish in a keenly contested finale.

The competition was officially inaugurated and moderated by Fr. Joseph Oliyakkatt, the national coordinator of the Syro-Malabar Church in Ireland. The event celebrated scriptural knowledge, community spirit, and youth engagement within the Church.

Ballinasloe Qurbana Centre

Eby Chacko (PRO, Ballinasloe)



St. Mary's SMCC Hosts Joyful Christmas Mass and Festivities in Ballinasloe, Dec. 30 – St. Mary's Syro-Malabar Catholic Community (SMCC) of Ballinasloe ushered in the festive season with a solemn and joyful Christmas celebration, beginning with a special Mass held at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Creagh. The Mass was celebrated by Fr. Philip Perunnattu, who delivered an uplifting and reflective homily that resonated with the congregation. The spiritual gathering was followed by a vibrant celebration at Moore Community Hall, which was filled with festive cheer and community spirit. Highlights of the evening included a captivating Nativity play performed by catechism students and young children, drawing warm applause from the audience. The program also featured a selection of melodious Christmas carols—both solo and choral—alongside energetic dance performances by the parish's younger members. The festive atmosphere was further enlivened by a parish-organized raffle, with a variety of prizes bringing smiles to the lucky winners. The evening culminated in a hearty community dinner, fostering fellowship and togetherness among all those in attendance. The event marked a memorable celebration of faith, joy, and unity for the St. Mary's SMCC community.

CASTLEBAR QURBANA CENTRE

Alaina Jibu (PRO, Castlebar)



Bake Sale Supports Catechism Department

On December 23rd, a bake sale was organized to raise funds for the parish Catechism Department. The event saw enthusiastic participation from parishioners, with homemade treats offered to support the formation of young minds in faith. The successful fundraiser underscored the community's commitment to nurturing the spiritual growth of its younger generation.

Spiritual Renewal Through Retreats

A series of retreats held at Knock Shrine brought opportunities for spiritual reflection and renewal.

The Christmas Retreat, conducted on December 21st, was led by Fr. Binoj Mulavarickal and offered a space for reflection during the Advent season.

The Annual Retreat took place on August 24th, 2024, and was guided by Fr. Binoy Karimaruthinkal. The retreat focused on deepening personal faith and communal connection.

The Easter One-Day Retreat, held on April 12th, 2025, was led by Sr. Ann Maria and provided a spiritually uplifting experience celebrating the Resurrection of Christ.

Castlebar Triumphs at Biblia 2025

Demonstrating exceptional scriptural knowledge and teamwork, the Castlebar team emerged as champions at the national finals of Biblia 2025, the prestigious Bible quiz competition. Their victory is a proud moment for the community and a testament to their dedication to the Word of God. These events reflect the continuing vitality and devotion of the Syro-Malabar Catholic community, fostering faith, unity, and service.

CAVAN QURBANA CENTRE

Leo Kottaram (PRO, Cavan)

St. Joseph's Feast and Pithruvedi Inauguration Unites Community in Faith and Fellowship



The annual Feast of St. Joseph was celebrated with great devotion and communal spirit at the Holy Family Syro-Malabar Catholic Church (SMCC) Qurbana Centre in Cavan. The event drew hundreds of faithful from near and far to honor St. Joseph, the patron saint of workers and fathers.

This year's celebration was particularly special as it also marked the formal inauguration of the Pithruvedi Cavan Unit. The ceremony was led by Chaplain Fr. Bijo Njaloor Chacko, with the ceremonial lamp lighting performed by Mr. Rony George, President of the Pithruvedi. The occasion brought together committee members and a large number of parishioners, highlighting the strong sense of unity and purpose within the community.

Organized by the Pithruvedi Cavan Unit, the feast included the calling together of St. Joseph Nominals for a special confluence, further deepening the spiritual connection among the participants. The celebration featured a solemn Holy Mass, followed by a traditional circumambulation, adding to the reverent atmosphere of the day. The event concluded with a joyful family dinner, allowing parishioners to share in fellowship and celebration. The Feast of St. Joseph served as a poignant reminder of the values of faith, devotion, and family life. As the community honored the life and virtues of St. Joseph, the day stood as a call to live with greater faith, love, and commitment in everyday life. Wishing all a blessed and joyous Feast of St. Joseph.

GALWAY QURBANA CENTRE

Wilson (PRO, Galway)

St. Joseph's Feast Celebrated with Devotion at Galway Mass Centre



In honor of the Feast of St. Joseph, a solemn Holy Qurbana was celebrated at the Galway Mass Centre on Sunday, March 16th. The liturgy was officiated by Rev. Fr. Babu, bringing together the faithful in a spirit of prayer and reverence. Following the Mass, an offertory procession and distribution of offerings were held, organized by the St. Joseph Family Unit in collaboration with the Pithruvedi. The event was marked by wholehearted community participation and spiritual reflection. The celebration served as a meaningful tribute to St. Joseph, highlighting his virtues of humility, faith, and dedication to family life, while also strengthening bonds within the parish community.

SLIGO QURBANA CENTRE

St. Joseph's Feast Celebrated with Solemnity at Sligo Mass Centre

As part of the celebrations for the Feast of St. Joseph, a solemn Holy Qurbana was held on Sunday, March 9th, at the Sligo Mass Centre. The liturgy was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Babu, marking a spiritually uplifting day for the community. Following the Holy Mass, a traditional offertory presentation and distribution of offerings were conducted under the joint leadership of the St. Joseph Family Unit and the newly formed Pithruvedi. The rituals were marked by deep devotion and community participation. The occasion also witnessed the official inauguration of the Pithruvedi at the Sligo Mass Centre, further strengthening the spiritual and social fabric of the parish community. The day's events highlighted the enduring values of faith, unity, and service exemplified by St. Joseph, and brought the faithful together in a spirit of prayer and fellowship.



2025-2026 REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Syro Malabar Catholic Church, Dublin Regional Election for 2025- 2026 has been successfully completed, and the newly elected committee has officially taken charge.

The office bearers are as follows:

- Treasurer: **Mr. Benny John**
- Secretary: **Mr. Jimmy Antony**
- Joint Secretary: **Mr. Tom Thomas** PRO: **Mrs. Julie Chiriath**
- Internal Auditors: **Mr. Dominic Savio & Mr. Jayan Mukalel**
- Child Safeguarding & Garda Vetting: **Mr. Seejo Kachapilly & Mr. Sony Joseph**
- Parish Management System: **Mr. Pintu Jacob**

Departments:

- Bible Apostolate & Evangelisation: **Mr. Suresh Sebastian** Liturgy: **Mr. Jose Sebastian**
- Family Apostolate: **Mrs. Alphonsa Binu**
- Catechism: **Mr. Vincent Porinchu**
- Family Units: **Mr. Joychan Mathew**

Pious Associations:

- Pithruvedi President: **Mr. Siby Sebastian** Mathruvedi President: **Mrs. Rosy Jacob**
- Altar Servers Animator: **Mr. Sudhish Joseph**
- Children's Ministry: **Mrs. Jincy Joseph**
- SMYM President: **Mr. Nathan Thomas Chirayath** SMYM Animator: **Dr. Lisamma Abraham**

We are grateful to the outgoing Committee members for their dedicated service and commitment. Your efforts have made a lasting impact, and we cherish your leadership.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the newly elected team as they step into their roles. Let us keep them in our prayers as they embark on this important journey of service and leadership. Wishing them a term filled with blessings, meaningful contributions, and a spirit of togetherness.

TRAINING FOR NEW MEMBERS

Training sessions were successfully conducted for newly elected parish council members. The training was conducted on 4th and 10th January 2025 at Tallaght and Phibsborough. These sessions were designed to help members understand their roles and responsibilities. Through interactive discussions and practical examples, members gained an understanding of their responsibilities and how to work collaboratively for the benefit of the community.

**TRAINING FOR TRUSTEES**

A training session was conducted for trustees on 18th January 2025 at St. Thomas Pastoral Centre, Rialto. It aimed to enhance participants' understanding of system functionality and provide essential guidance on efficient account management. The session was designed with a hands-on approach, allowing trustees to apply the skills learned.

TRAINING FOR NEW MEMBERS & ANIMATORS

The last training session for newly elected parish council members and animators was successfully conducted on 28th February 2025 at Parish of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary of Fatima, Rialto. Around 65 members participated in the session. These sessions were designed to help members understand their roles and responsibilities. Through interactive discussions and practical examples, members gained an understanding of their responsibilities and to work collaboratively for benefit of the community.



BIBLIA 2025 - DUBLIN REGIONAL FINALE



Biblia 2025 – Dublin Regional Grand Finale was successfully held on 1 February 2025 at the TUD Sports Hall, Blanchardstown, bringing together 11 teams from the region. Under the guidance of quiz master Fr. Baiju Kannampilly, participants showcased their deep understanding of the Bible.

Phibsborough Mass Centre secured the first prize, Tallaght Mass Centre won the second prize, while the Lucan Mass Centre won third prize, demonstrating remarkable dedication and preparation.

The event was a celebration of faith, as each team demonstrated their commitment to deepening their understanding of God's Word. The enthusiasm of all the participants as well as the audience emphasized the importance of such events which help in spiritual growth and community spirit.

Phibsborough Mass Centre, Tallaght Mass Centre, and Lucan Mass Centre participated in the National Grand Finale, which took place on February 22 at Our Lady of Victorious Church in Glasnevin,

May all participants continue to shine and inspire others with their wisdom and faith. Congratulations to all who participated in the Regional Finale.



LENTEN RETREAT: 28-30 MARCH 2025

Lenten Retreat 2025 was held at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church, Glasnevin from March 28-30, 2025. This spiritually enriching retreat aimed to deepen the faith of community members through prayer, worship, and reflection. The retreat was led by Br. P. D. Dominic, Chairman & Executive Director of Marian TV USA, QueenMary Ministry USA, and Marian Eucharistic Ministry USA.

The retreat was inaugurated by the National Coordinator - Fr. Joseph Oliakkattil along with Fr. Ceban Sebastian and Br. Dominic P.D. along with Regional and Phibsborough Qurbana Centre committee members.

Each day of the retreat commenced with the Holy Qurbana, setting a reverent tone for the sessions that followed. Participants engaged in uplifting praise and worship, the proclamation of the Word, and received the opportunity for confession throughout the retreat.

A key focus of the retreat was the Eucharistic Experience, allowing attendees to cultivate a deeper connection with the Holy Eucharist.





Over three blessed days, Br. P.D. Dominic delivered a deeply inspiring message, emphasizing the grace of the Holy Eucharist and its central role in the life of every believer. He reminded us that the Eucharist is not just a ritual but the very essence of our faith—the source and summit of Christian life. Encouraging all to deepen their devotion, he spoke about the transformative power of the Eucharist and how it should be the center and substance of our daily lives. One of the most moving moments of the retreat was the Eucharistic Adoration and Procession. With hearts lifted in prayer, the faithful participated fully in this sacred time of worship. The solemnity and serenity of the moment left an indelible impact on everyone present, strengthening their faith and drawing them closer to Christ.



PITHRUVEDI

SUPER DAD BADMINTON TOURNAMENT 2025: A GRAND CELEBRATION OF SPORTSMANSHIP !



The Dublin Regional Pithruvedi organized the highly anticipated Super Dad Badminton Competition on March 15, 2025, at the Poppintree Community Sport Centre, Dublin. Running from 10 AM to 4 PM, the tournament saw 36 teams from various Qurbana centres compete with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship.

The competition was inaugurated by Pithruvedi's Regional Director, Rev. Fr. Sijo John Venkittakkal, in the presence of the SMCC regional committee and esteemed Pithruvedi members. The event was further graced by the support of Fr. Baiju Kannampilly, Fr. Ceban Sebastian, Fr. Priyesh Pudussery and Fr. Jins Valiplakkal, who encouraged the players throughout the day.

Following intense matches and thrilling performances, the winners of the tournament were awarded cash prizes in a grand closing ceremony officiated by Syro Malabar Ireland National Coordinator, Rev. Fr. Joseph Mathew Oliakattil.

Winners of the Super Dad Badminton Competition 2025:

- First Position - Bastin James & Rajesh John from Phibsborough Qurbana Centre
- Second Position - Jerry Noble & Prakas Kunchukuttan from Blanchardstown Qurbana Centre
- Third Position - Jojo George & Sijin Cyriac from Blanchardstown Qurbana Centre
- Best Player Awards winners - Anvin Johny & Dipu Jose from Swords Qurbana Centre

A huge round of applause to all the winners for their incredible performance! Your dedication, talent, and perseverance truly stood out on the court.

The Pithruvedi Regional Team extends its heartfelt gratitude to all participating teams for making this tournament an exciting and unforgettable experience. The sportsmanship and teamwork displayed throughout the event were commendable. A special thanks to the Dublin Regional Committee for their unwavering support in making this competition a grand success.

Faith in Action - Highlights from recent events across our Dublin Ourbana Centres

Beaumont



Blackrock



Blanchardstown



Bray





Lucan



Phibsborough



Nass



Navan



Tallaght

Happy Easter !



SWORDS



SMYM CENACLE



SMYM

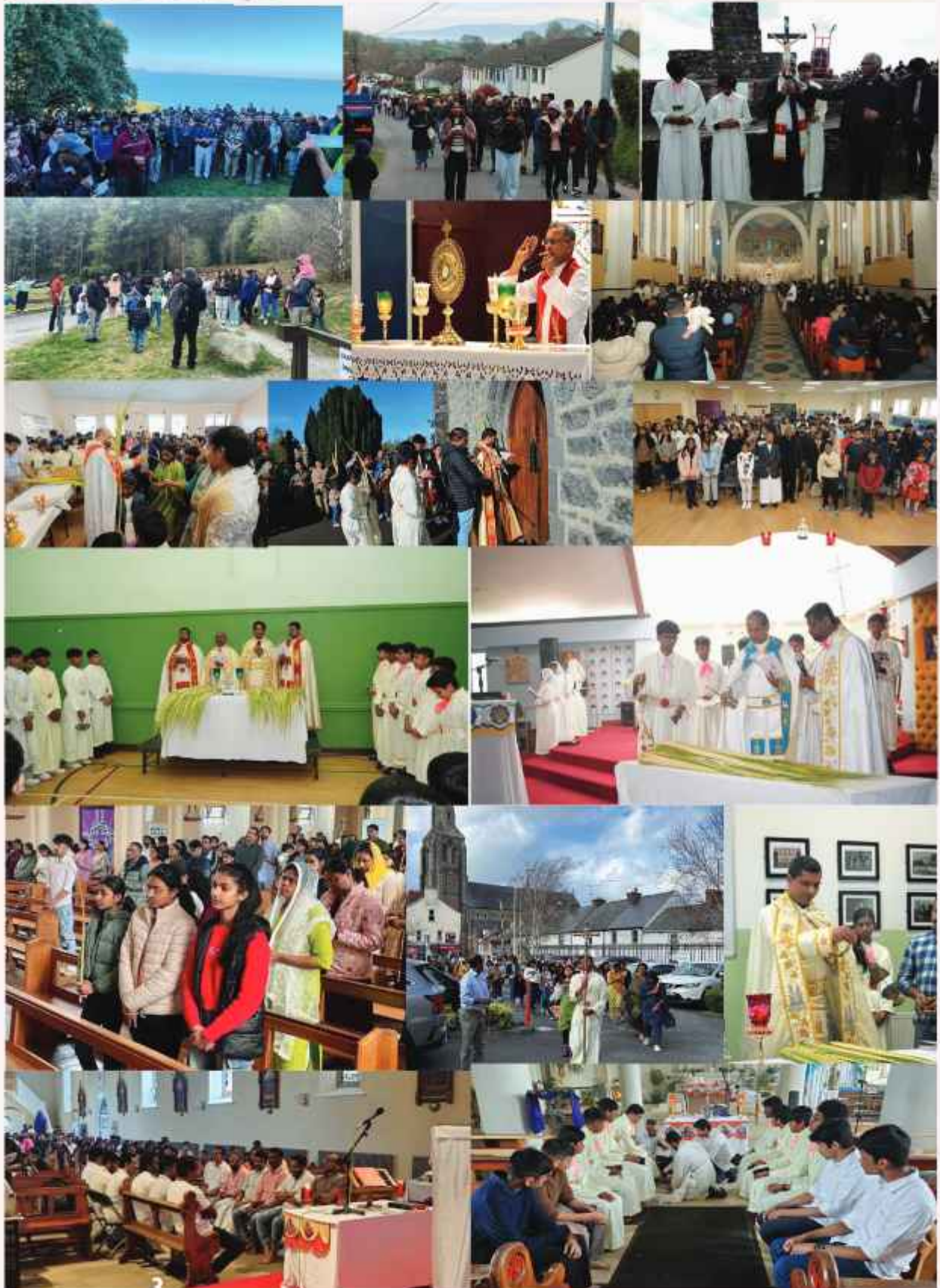


**H
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Reflections of the Passion: Holy Week Across the Community





**SYRO MALABAR CATHOLIC CHURCH
IRELAND**




**KNOCK
PILGRIMAGE**

IRELAND'S INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC &
MARIAN SHRINE, CO MAYO

SATURDAY, 10TH MAY 2025, 10 AM

AT KNOCK BASILICA
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
HOLY QURBANA (SYRO MALABAR MASS)
HONORING CEREMONY
ROSARY PROCESSION

all are welcome

Main Celebrant

Mar Stephen Chirappanath
Apostolic Visitor for the Syro-Malabar Faithful in Europe



Fr. Joseph Oliakkattil
National Coordinator, Syro Malabar Church, Ireland.





National Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine by Syro-Malabar Church, Ireland on May 10

The Syro-Malabar Church of Ireland will hold its annual National Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine on Saturday, May 10. The pilgrimage will bring together Syro-Malabar faithful from both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland at the internationally renowned Marian pilgrimage site, the Knock Shrine, where the Blessed Virgin Mary's presence is deeply felt.

Preparations for the pilgrimage are already underway at all 37 Syro-Malabar Mass centres across Ireland, which will be participating in the Marian pilgrimage. The pilgrimage will commence with a service at the Knock Basilica at 10 AM, followed by the celebration of the Syro-Malabar Holy Qurbana (Mass) and a devotional procession. All Syro-Malabar priests in Ireland will participate in the event.

Bishop Mar Stephen Chirappanath, Apostolic Visitor for the Syro-Malabar faithful in Europe, will be the chief celebrant of the Holy Qurbana and the pilgrimage events.

In addition, students who excelled in the Catechism Scholarship Examination, winners of the National Bible Quiz competition, as well as students who achieved top marks in the 2024 Leaving Cert Exam (A-Level examinations - Northern Ireland) will be honored during the pilgrimage. Large families in Ireland with five or more children will also be recognized for their commitment to family life.

The Knock Shrine has historical significance, with the first Marian apparition occurring on August 21, 1879, in the small village of Knock, County Mayo. Over 15 people witnessed the apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary, accompanied by St. Joseph, St. John the Apostle, an altar, a cross, an angel, and a lamb. This vision lasted for approximately two hours and was later declared credible by two papally-appointed commissions. Both Pope Saint John Paul II and Pope Francis have visited Knock, as well as Saint Mother Teresa, who prayed at the shrine. Thousands of international pilgrims visit Knock every year.

Malayali families visiting Ireland often make pilgrimages to Knock Shrine to pray and receive blessings. Every second Saturday of the month, there is a Syro-Malabar Holy Qurbana at 12 PM. The Syro-Malabar clergy also offer their services at this Marian pilgrimage site.

The Syro-Malabar Church National Pastoral Council has been coordinating the arrangements for the Knock Marian pilgrimage. The Church leadership has extended a heartfelt invitation to all the faithful in Ireland to participate in this prayerful event.





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