

#### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

7:30 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA

• 9:30 AM ENGLISH QURBANA

11:30 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA

## **Q** Readings

Sunday June 01, 2025 Seventh Sunday of Resurrection

- Is 6:1-13 Isaiah is sanctified and sent.
- Acts 1:15-26 Matthias was enrolled with the eleven apostles
- Phil 2:1-11 (1:27-2:11)Every tongue must confess that Jesus Christ is Lord
- Mk 16:14-20 (16:9-20) Go into all the world and preach the Gospel

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## VICAR'S MESSAGE

മാലാഖാ ദൂത് ANGEL VOICE

## VENERABLE MAR MATHEW MAKIL:

A BEACON OF HOLINESS FOR THE KNANAYA COMMUNITY

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with profound joy and spiritual pride that I share with you the glad news of the declaration of Mar Mathew Makil as Venerable by His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, affirming his heroic virtues and dedication to the Church. Mar Makil's elevation to this status is a moment of grace, especially for the Syro-Malabar Church and the Knanaya Catholic Community, where his life and mission have left an enduring legacy.

#### 1. The Canonization Process: Understanding the Title "Venerable"

The Catholic Church follows a meticulous and prayerful four-stage process to declare someone a saint:

- 1. Servant of God The initial title given when a cause for canonization is formally opened.
- 2. Venerable A person is declared venerable when the Church recognizes that he or she lived a life of heroic virtue.
- 3. Blessed (Beatification) Requires one verified miracle attributed to the person's intercession.
- 4. Saint (Canonization) Requires a second verified miracle after beatification.

Mar Mathew Makil was first declared a Servant of God. After careful study of his life and writings, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints recognized that he lived a life of heroic virtue. Thus, the Holy Father declared him Venerable, the second stage toward sainthood. Now, a verified miracle through his intercession is needed for his beatification as Blessed Mar Mathew Makil.

#### 2. Life and Legacy of Mar Mathew Makil

Mar Mathew Makil (1851–1914) was a towering figure in the history of the Syro-Malabar Church. Ordained as a priest in 1874, he served with exceptional zeal. In 1896, Pope Leo XIII appointed him as the Vicar Apostolic of Changanacherry, making him the first native bishop to shepherd both the Northist and Southist (Knanaya) faithful in that region.

Seeing the pastoral needs and identity of the Knanaya Catholics, he humbly petitioned the Holy See, and in 1911, he was appointed as the first bishop of the newly established Kottayam Vicariate, exclusively for Knanaya Catholics. This marked a historical and spiritual milestone, ensuring pastoral care and preservation of the Knanaya ecclesial and cultural patrimony.

His episcopacy was characterized by:

- Founding of religious congregations like the Visitation Congregation for Women.
- Encouraging priestly and religious vocations.
- Promoting Catholic education and social welfare.
- Fostering unity, spiritual discipline, and ecclesial identity among the Syro-Malabar and Knanaya community.
- Leading a life of humility, simplicity, and holiness, centered on the Eucharist and devotion to the Sacred Heart.

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#### 3. Why His Cause Matters to Us?

Mar Makil was not just a bishop; he was a spiritual father who foresaw the needs of the Church and community. His elevation as Venerable affirms the richness of the Knanaya heritage and the holiness that can arise within it. He stands as a model of pastoral care, cultural sensitivity, and unwavering commitment to the Catholic faith.

#### 4. Our Invitation: Ask for His Intercession

Now that the Church recognizes his life of heroic virtue, we are encouraged to seek his intercession. If a miracle occurs through his prayerful help, especially a healing or a special favor, we must report it to the Church. This could contribute to his beatification.

Let us pray daily through his intercession, especially for:

- Peace and unity in our families and communities
- Vocations from our parish
- Success of our building projects and parish ministries
- Healing for the sick and hope for the struggling

Prayer for Intercession of Venerable Mar Mathew Makil:

"O God of all holiness, who led your servant Mar Mathew Makil to a life of heroic virtue, through pastoral zeal and love for your Church, we ask you to glorify him on earth by granting us the grace we seek through his intercession. (Mention your intention). May his holy example inspire us to live in charity, humility, and faith. Amen."

Let us cherish the life of Venerable Mar Mathew Makil and walk in his footsteps. May his vision guide our Knanaya community to remain strong in faith, rich in tradition, and united in Christ.

With prayers and blessings,

Fr. Abraham Mutholath Pastor, St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Forane Parish Houston, Texas



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# **SNAPSHOTS**

## SENIOR CITIZENS PROGRAM LAST WEDNESDAY





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## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- <u>Homily on John 17 20-26 by Fr. Abraham Mutholath on May 25, 2025 in</u> <u>Houston.</u>
- Graduation Ceremony for 12th graders will be held on next Sunday, June 1, starting with English Mass
  - Procession before the 9:30am Mass
  - Graduates use the first 3 rows to sit with 12th grade teachers
  - Distribution of certificates after Mass
  - Graduates meet in the mini hall for a presentation by Fr. Mutholath and refreshments.
- Those who like to join the ship cruise from Galveston to Cozumel and Progresso in Mexico from Monday through Saturday, November 3 to 8, 2025, please contact reception desk.
- Fundraising Kickoff Event
  - The official kickoff will be led by Bishop Mar Aprem on Sunday, June 8, after all three Qurbana services.
  - He will be doing 7:30 AM Qurbana in the Syro-Malankara rite.
  - Parishioners are expected to:
    - Give envelopes with donations and pledges.
    - Utilize check leaves or direct deposit forms for installment contributions.
  - All the families, children, and youth are expected to give whatever amount they can afford as first installment that day.
- Fundraising Promotions and Recognition
  - Minimum expected contribution: \$5,000 per family
  - Donor Tree: Two stars for every \$2,500 donated
  - Junior Donors: Donor tiles for contributions of \$250 or more, with a minimum of \$500 per tile
  - Foundation Stone Recognition: For donations of \$15,000 or more, with the stone size reflecting the amount contributed
  - Classroom Sponsorship: \$50,000. Already received three sponsors. Six more are available.
- Blessing of Birthdays and wedding anniversaries of June will be on coming Sunday, June 1

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- The first bishop Mar Mathai Makil is recognized as Dhannyan [Venerable] by Pope Leo 14th.
  - That is second of the four steps to sainthood.
  - Venerable: The Vatican's theological experts and the Congregation review the cause.
  - If the pope recognizes that the person lived a life of "heroic virtue," they are declared "Venerable."
  - Let us thank God for this great step for our community and ask the intercession of Venerable Mar Mathew Makil for our intentions.
  - The third step to sainthood is Beatification (Blessed) for which a miracle attributed to the intercession of the Venerable is required, usually a medically inexplicable healing.
  - The miracle undergoes scientific, theological, and ecclesiastical examination.
  - Upon approval and papal declaration, the person is beatified and given the title "Blessed."
- Knanaya Region is conducting vocation discernment from July 25-27 in Chicago for High Schoolers and up.
- Senior citizens ministry is doing Sunday Kitchen every Sunday in our gym. They
  will be contributing the earnings from that to our School building fund. Please
  support them.
- Catechism Registration for next academic year Continues. Please submit the registration form to Sr. Reji along with registration fees and 2024 Annual contribution (if not paid). Please use the opportunity for early registration to avoid late fee.

# ARTICLE

## Venerable Mar Mathew Makil Pioneer Bishop and Knanaya Leader (1851–1914)

#### **Overview**

Mar Mathew Makil (27 March 1851 – 26 January 1914) was the second Vicar Apostolic and the first indigenous bishop of the Vicariate of Kottayam, which later became the Syro-Malabar Archeparchy of Changanacherry. He was also the first Vicar Apostolic of the newly reconstituted Vicariate of Kottayam exclusively for the Knanaya Catholics, which evolved into the present-day Knanaya Catholic Archeparchy of Kottayam. In 1896, he was appointed the Vicar Apostolic of the Changanacherry Vicariate. Later, in 1911, when a separate Vicariate Apostolic was erected for the Knanaya community, he was transferred to Kottayam as its first Vicar Apostolic. He passed away in Kottayam on 26 January 1914.

He was declared a Servant of God on 26 January 2009 and was raised to the title of Venerable on 22 May 2025, with the approval of Pope Leo XIV.

#### Early Life

Mathew Makil was born in Manjoor, Travancore (present-day Kerala), as the third son of Thomman and Anna Makil-puthenpurayil. After his primary education, he studied the Syriac language at Mannanam and joined the Puthenpally Seminary, which served both Latin and Syrian rites. His spiritual formation was guided by the rector, Fr. Marcelinus Berarthi OCD, who later became the Co-adjutor Bishop of Verapoly. He was ordained a priest by Leonard Mellano of St. Louis, OCD, the Vicar Apostolic of Verapoly, on 30 May 1874 at the age of 23. His First Holy Mass was celebrated on 8 June 1874.

#### **Priestly Ministry: Professor and Vicar**

Fr. Makil's first assignment was to teach Syriac at Puthenpally Seminary for two years. He was then appointed vicar of his home parish at Kaipuzha, followed by service at Edacat parish in Kottayam, before returning to Kaipuzha as its vicar. In 1885, he was appointed secretary to Bishop Marcelinus Berarthi OCD, a former rector of his seminary. Fr. Makil received his appointment on 25 December 1885 and assumed office on 1 March 1886, serving in that role until the establishment of the Vicariate of Kottayam under Bishop Charles Lavigne.

At the time, the Syrian Catholics were under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Kodungalloor and the Vicariate of Verapoly along with Latin Catholics. Following continuous appeals to the Holy See, Pope Leo XIII separated the Syrians from the Latin jurisdictions on 20 May 1887, establishing the Vicariates of Kottayam and Trichur. Bishop Charles Lavigne, SJ, from France, was appointed as the Vicar Apostolic of Kottayam. He made Fr. Mathew Makil the Latin professor at the seminary and school he founded at Brahmamangalam for the Southist (Knanaya) community. During this period, Fr. Makil served as vicar of the Kaduthuruthy and Brahmamangalam parishes.

# ARTICLE

#### Vicar General

On 8 September 1889, the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Bishop Charles Lavigne appointed Fr. Makil as the Vicar General for the Southists, following a directive from the Vatican conveyed by the Apostolic Delegate on 6 May 1889. He was granted certain episcopal privileges, such as wearing episcopal attire, celebrating Pontifical Mass, administering the Sacrament of Confirmation, and conferring minor orders on seminarians. His first Pontifical Mass was celebrated at Kaduthuruthy Church during the observance of the Three-Day Fast in January 1890, in the presence of Bishops Lavigne and Berarthi.

#### Episcopal Ministry: Vicar Apostolic of Changanacherry

In response to recommendations by the Apostolic Vicars of Kottayam and Trichur, the Holy See restructured the two vicariates into three, appointing native bishops. Fr. Mathew Makil was appointed Vicar Apostolic of Changanacherry on 28 July 1896, alongside Fr. Aloysius Pazheparambil (Ernakulam) and Fr. John Menachery (Trichur). He received his appointment on 21 September 1896, his patronal feast day. The episcopal ordination took place at the Cathedral in Kandy, Ceylon, on 25 October 1896, presided by Delegate Apostolic Ladislao Michele Zaleski.

When Mar Makil assumed office, the Changanacherry Vicariate had 140,000 Catholics, making it the largest among the three Syrian vicariates. Trichur had 84,000 faithful and Ernakulam 66,500, while Changanacherry had approximately 102,500.

#### Efforts for a Knanaya Vicariate

The Knanaya Catholics were distressed that some of their faithful in regions like Chumkom, Karimkunnam, Diamper, Brahmamangalam, and Varappetty, with three churches, fell under the Ernakulam Vicariate. They feared the community might become fragmented under different Syrian vicariates and began appealing to the Holy See for a separate vicariate.

Simultaneously, the Northists in Changanacherry expressed discontent over being under a bishop from the minority Southist community. In 1896, Northists numbered between 100,000–109,000 with 133 parishes and 256 priests, while the Southists comprised less than 10% with 14,000–20,000 members, 12 parishes, and 21 priests. Despite this, Mar Makil governed impartially and compassionately. The objection to his appointment was not personal but communal in nature.

In 1911, Mar Makil traveled to Rome with his secretary Fr. Alexander Chulaparambil and Fr. Mathew Vattakkalam, seeking to present a petition to Pope Pius X to bifurcate the vicariate and establish separate bishops for Southists and Northists. They reached Rome on 4 May 1911. The three Syrian bishops — Mathew Makil (Changanacherry), Louis Pazheparambil (Ernakulam), and John Menachery (Trichur) — had signed the petition on 1 March 1911. On their return, they visited various parts of Europe including the Holy Land, Geneva, and Paris.

# ARTICLE

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On 8 May 1911, Mar Makil appeared before the Propaganda Fide to support the request. He met Pope Pius X on 22 May 1911 and strongly advocated for a separate vicariate for the Knanaya Catholics. Propaganda Fide recommended approval on 31 July 1911, and Pope Pius X officially approved the petition on 28 August 1911.

#### Vicariate of Kottayam for the Knanaya Catholics

On 29 August 1911, Pope Pius X re-established the Vicariate of Kottayam for the Knanaya community and appointed Mar Mathew Makil as its first bishop, effective from 30 August 1911. Msgr. Thomas Kurialachery was appointed as his successor in Changanacherry. Around 30,000 Knanaya Catholics from the Changanacherry and Ernakulam vicariates were incorporated into the reconstituted Kottayam Vicariate.

On 7 October 1911, Mar Makil arrived in Edacat (Kottayam) and later received the official papal bull on 12 October 1911. He publicly read it on 23 November 1911 at Edacat Church, which once again became the cathedral. He resided in a humble house near the present BCM College in Kottayam and faithfully served the Knanaya Vicariate until his death.

#### Major Contributions In Changanacherry

Mar Makil built upon the initiatives of Bishop Lavigne by:

- Codifying Church laws through the publication of the Book of Decrees (ദക്രേത്തു പുസ്തകം) on 21 September 1903 the first canonical code for Syrian Catholics post-1887.
- Promoting parish-based schools and girls' education.
- Mandating daily catechism in schools and parishes; publishing a three-volume catechism series and making catechism examination a prerequisite for marriage.
- Encouraging adult catechism programs.
- Supporting numerous pious associations and entrusting dynamic priests as directors.

#### **Support for Religious Congregations**

- Visitation Congregation: Founded on 22 June 1892 in Kaipuzha during his tenure as Vicar General.
- **SABS:** Approved the founding of the Sisters of the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament by Fr. Thomas Kurialacherry in 1908.
- **Sacred Heart Congregation:** Approved the founding of this congregation by Fr. Mathew Kadalikkattil in 1911.

#### Pastoral Engagement

He regularly visited remote parishes, met parishioners in their homes, and worked to reconcile schismatics. Notably, seven priests and many laypeople, including publisher Thomas of the St. Thomas Gazette, were reconciled to the Catholic Church under his leadership.

#### For the Knanaya Community

He appointed Fr. Mathew Kooplicat as Vicar General overseeing the Southist foranes of Kottayam and Kaduthuruthy and ensured pastoral care for the Knanaya faithful.

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#### Final Days and Legacy

Mar Makil celebrated his final Holy Mass on 21 January 1914. He fell ill on 23 January and passed away on 26 January after receiving the sacraments. He was buried the next day at Edacat Church, with hundreds of faithful and clergy in attendance. The Apostolic Delegate, Pope Pius X, and the Diwan of Travancore sent messages of condolence.

In 2001, the Bishop Makil Foundation was inaugurated at Edacat by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt to preserve his legacy and promote the welfare of the Knanaya community.



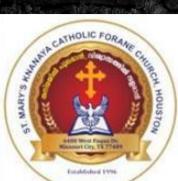
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# TIMELINE

- 1851 March 27: Birth at Manjoor, Travancore as the third son of Thomman and Anna Makilputhenpurayil.
- 1866: Joined Puthenpally Seminary for priestly formation.
- 1874 May 30: Received priestly ordination from the Vicar Apostolic of Verapoly, Leonard Mellano of St. Louis, OCD
- 1874 June 8: First Holy Mass.
- 1874 1876: Professor of Syriac language at Puthenpally Seminary.
- 1876: Vicar at St. George's Church, Kaipuzha.
- 1885 December 25: Appointment as secretary of Co-adjutor Bishop of Verapoly Marcelinus Berarthi OCD
- 1886 March 1: Took charge as secretary of Co-adjutor Bishop of Verapoly Marcelinus Berarthi OCD.
- 1889 September 8: Bishop Charles Lavigne appointed Fr. Mathew Makil as Vicar General of the Vicariate of Kottayam (Changanacherry) with special privileges.
- 1890 January: First Pontifical Mass of Fr. Mathew Makil at Kaduthuruthy Church during the Three Day Fast.
- 1896 July 28: Pope Leo XIII reconstituted the Syrian Vicariates as Changanacherry, Trichur, and Ernakulam with Mar Mathew Makil as the Vicar Apostolic of Changanacherry.
- 1896 September 21: Fr. Mathew Makil received his appointment order as Vicar Apostolic of Changanacherry.
- 1896 October 25: Consecration at the Cathedral in Kandy, Ceylon by Wladyslaw Michael Zaleski.
- 1903 September 21: Publication of the Book of Decrees (Decreth Pusthakam).
- 1911 March 1: Bishops of the Syrian Vicariates Mathew Makil, Louis Pazheparambil, John Menacheril signed the petition to Vatican requesting to appoint separate vicariates and bishops for Southist and Northists.
- 1911 May 8: Mar Makil appeared in front of Propaganda Fide to present his request for separate Vicariates for Northists and Southists.
- 1911 May 22: Met with Pope Pius X and requested to establish a vicariate exclusively for the Knanaya Catholics.
- 1911 July 31: Propaganda Fide decided to reconstitute the Vicariate of Kottayam for Knanaya Catholics.
- 1911 August 28: Pope Pius X approved the decision of Propaganda Fide to reestablish Kottayam Vicariate for Knanaya Catholics.
- 1911 August 29: Date of reconstitution of the Vicariate of Kottayam for Knanaya Catholics.
- 1911 August 30: Appointment of Mar Mathew Makil as the Vicar Apostolic of the reconstituted Vicariate of Kottayam for Knanaya Catholics.
- 1911 October 7: Mar Makil arrived at Edacat (Kottayam) after his trip to Rome.
- 1911 October 12: Mar Mathew Makil received the documents of reestablishing the Kottayam Vicariate and appointing him as the Vicar Apostolate.
- 1911 November 23: Mar Makil read the bull from Pope Pius X reestablishing the Kottayam Vicariate for the Southists and appointing him as its head.
- 1914 January 26: Died at Kottayam.
- 1914 January 27: Burial at Edacat church.
- 2001 January 26: Inauguration of Bishop Makil Foundation by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt at Edacat.
- 2009 January 26: Declaration as a Servant of God.
- 2025 May 22: Declaration as a Venerable.

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# St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic **Forane Church Houston** ENGLISH: **Confession, Holy Curbana** Adoration

# Friday: June 20 Confession - 7:00 pm Holy Qurbana (English) - 7:00 pm Adoration (English) - 8:00 to 8:45 pm

"If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. - John 7:37



# Let's cruise together!

Carnival Breeze Nov 03, 2025-Nov 08, 2025 5-Night Western Caribbean to Cozumel and Progresso in Mexico

#### Pricing and Amenities

- \$975 for 2 (Inside room)-Including all taxes and port fees. Initial deposit- \$75/person due within 3 days of booking.
- \$50 Onboard Credit
- All meals-buffet + main dining room for dinner
- Separate space for group prayers every day
- 1 hour shared cocktail party

UNLIMITED FUN, FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT AND LIVE SHOWS !!!

#### Price does not include:

- Gratuities-\$64/person for the entire cruise
- Internet Package

For booking details contact:

Fr. Abraham Mutholath : +1 773 412 6254 Sr. Reji SJC : +1 832 679 3702 Biby Thekkanatt : +1 248 974 5100

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

MAY 2025 MAY 29 THU: ASCENSION OF OUR LORD MAY 31 SAT: FEASTS OF VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**JUNE 2025** JUN 1 SUN: FEAST OF SAINT JUSTIN **JUN 8 SUN: FEAST OF SAINT MARIAM THRESIA JUN 9 MON: FEAST OF MAR APREM** JUN 11 WED: FEAST OF SAINT BARNABAS, THE APOSTLE JUN 13 FRI: FEAST OF SAINT ANTONY OF PADUA **JUN 15 SUN: FEAST OF HOLY TRINITY** JUN 19 THU: FEAST OF THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST JUN 22 SUN: FEAST OF SAINT JOHN FISHER AND SAINT **THOMAS MOORE** JUN 24 TUE FEAST OF BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST JUN 27 FRI: FEAST OF SACRED HEART OF JESUS **JUN 28 SAT: FEAST OF IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY & SAINT IRENAEUS** JUN 29 SUN: FEAST OF SAINT PETER AND SAINT PAUL, THE **APOSTLES** 



**UPDATES** 

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# **CATECHISM CORNER**

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

**ST. JOAN OF ARC** 

FEAST DAY: MAY 30

PATRONAGE: SOLDIERS, FRANCE, PRISONERS

# VERSE OF THE WEEK

ACTS 20:24-BUT I DO NOT ACCOUNT MY LIFE OF ANY VALUE NOR AS PRECIOUS TO MYSELF, IF ONLY I MAY ACCOMPLISH MY COURSE AND THE MINISTRY WHICH I RECEIVED FROM THE LORD JESUS, TO TESTIFY TO THE GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD.



# **BIBLE PASSAGE**

- ISAIAH 6:1-13
  - ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 1:15-26
- PHILLIPIANS
  - 2:1-11
- MARK 16:14-20

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## **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

#### **QURBANA SCHEDULE**

- MON FRI: 9:00 AM (MAL) 7:00 PM (MAL)
- SATURDAY: 9:30 AM (MAL)
- SUNDAY : 7:30 AM (MAL) 9:30 AM (ENG) 11:30 AM (MAL - SOLEMN)

#### **CATECHISM**

**SUNDAY:** 10:30 AM

**CONFESSION** 

MON - FRI: 6:00 PM -6:45 PM (ALSO ANYTIME UPON REQUEST)

**NOVENA (AFTER QURBANA)** 

TUESDAY: ST. ANTONY THURSDAY: ST. JUDE FIRST FRIDAY: SACRED HEART SATURDAY: B.V. MARY

### **ADORATION**

MON - FRI: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM SATURDAY: 8:30 AM- 9:30 AM FIRST FRIDAY: 8 PM TO 9 PM (MAL) THRID FRIDAY: 8 PM TO 9 PM (ENG)

### **OFFICE HOURS**

PLEASE CALL FOR APPOINTMENTS

TRUSTEES:

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## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**VICAR / PASTOR:** FR. ABRAHAM MUTHOLATH: 773-412-6254 FR. JOSHY VALIYAVEETTIL:

## **ASSOCIATE PASTOR:**

224-775-8039

JASSIM THAYILPUTHENPURAYIL

**BABU PARAYAMKALAYIL: 832-971-0924 GEORGE POOVAPADATH: SHAJUMON MUKALEL:** JAMES EDUKUTHARYIL:

713-498-0604 281-912-4150 832-497-6656 847-897-8028

#### **FACILITY MANAGEMENT:**

SIMON ELLANKIYIL:	281-499-5573
<b>BIBY THEKKANATT:</b>	248-974-5100
THOMAS KANICHATTUN	ATHARA:
	700 010 0000

**MATHEW THEKKETHIL:** 

786-216-2938 832-661-6305 **PASTORAL COORDINATOR:** 

<b>BIBY THEKKANATT:</b>	248-974-5100
<b>OFFICE SECRETARY:</b>	
SR. REJI SJC:	832-679-3702
PRO:	
ALVIN MUKALEL:	346-702-9498
DRE:	
JOHNSON VATTAMAT	TATHIL:
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Any request will be subject to review

Small fee may be charged that will go to charity via church account.