

**In the blessed name of the Tri-une God, Self-existent,
Beginningless and Endless, Perfect in Being, (Glory be to Him)**

**Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Didymus I Catholicos of the East and
Malankara Metropolitan enthroned on the apostolic throne of St. Thomas**



No. 66/2009

Blessings to our dearly beloved Vicars of all churches, priests of the locality, trustees of the church, and all the members of the parish.

Our dearly beloved in the Lord,

It is our practice to celebrate the Catholicate Day or Church Day on the 36th Sunday. This year it falls on March 29th. You have to take all preparations for conducting the usual programmes of this day. On this day morning you are asked to hoist the Catholicate Day Flag; to offer special prayers for the church during the Holy Qurbana and after the Holy Qurbana the faithful need to be exhorted about the faith of our Church, our tradition, the independence of the Church, and the audacious steps taken by our forefathers. Following this there should be the oath taking of the Church Day. The vicars have to give leadership for carrying out all these programmes in consultation with the Managing Committee.

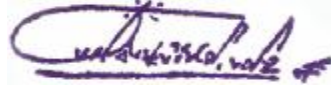
The preparations are being made for the consecration of the Holy Mooron on the 40th day of the lent ie, on April 3, 2009 at the Aramana Chapel, Devalokam. It will be a blessing for those who can attend this Holy Sacrament. I earnestly exhort you all to pray to God Almighty for us and for our brethren Metropolitans so that we might be able to complete this sacrament in the most blessed manner.

Dearly beloved,

You have to work hard for making the Catholicate Day Collection a great success. After consulting the Finance Committee the target for 2009 – 10 is set as Rs.3 Crores. For this from each family you have to give at least the average income of a day. The Catholicate Day Collection is utilized giving priority for the charity works and for the welfare of the poor and the needy. See that the cover and the folder reach each house and the cover with the donation is promptly collected. You may approach those who are employed and the business men of your parish and collect donations directly from them for the Church. We exhort you to collect beyond the target amount by visiting each house of the parish under the leadership of the Vicar and the other office bearers of the Parish. We specially demand that all possible endeavors should be made by conducting meeting on different levels such as Parish, Members of the Managing Committee and representatives of the spiritual organizations for making the celebrations and cover collection a grand success.

May the Grace and Blessings of the God Almighty abide with you forever. And may the prayers of the Mother of our God, the Holy Virgin Mary, St. Thomas the Apostle of India, our Holy Fathers Mar Gregorios, Mar Dionysius and all the Holy saints be a stronghold for us. Amen.

Our Father who art in Heaven.....

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to be in Malayalam script, enclosed in a purple oval shape.

Baselios Marthoma Didymus I.

From Catholicate Aramana
Devalokam, Kottayam, Kerala, India
On February 17, 2009.