## From Dr. Joseph Mar Ivanios Episcopa, President, DSMC Circular No. 01.

Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church's respected Clergy members, committee members, dedicated choir members, and all the children of God,

## Greetings in the name of Christ Jesus!

The worship service of our Church is rooted in Biblical theology and enriched with musical expression, elevating worshippers to higher realms of spirituality and devotion. The Department of Sacred Music and Communications (DSMC) is tasked with preparing our congregation for worship and organizing our services in a systematic manner. I am delighted to acknowledge the blessed service provided by the DSMC throughout the years.

The DSMC provides modern facilities for audio and video recording, video editing, live telecasting, and offers music training. As an integral part of our Church, I encourage you to utilize these resources to the fullest extent. The dedication of each choir member to enhancing our worship experience is commendable.

I extend my congratulations to all vicars, office bearers, and choir members for their unwavering commitment. It is mandatory for all parish choirs to register with the DSMC annually. Only registered choirs will be eligible to send representatives to the 'Kaisthana Samithi'. This requirement also applies to those wishing to join the Maraman Convention Choir and DSMC Choir. The term for a Parish Choir is five years, after which a voice test will be conducted to form a new choir, allowing new members to participate. The term for the Parish Choir committee is one year, and the Choir Master or Choir Leader is eligible to become a member of the Parish 'Kaisthana Samithi'.

We have designated Sunday, May 26th, 2024, as Sacred Music Sunday, a day to pray for our choir members and dedicate them to God's service. A special offertory will be collected on this Sunday, and I urge you to send it to the DSMC office promptly to support its activities.

Choir members are chosen to share the presence of God through music and to encourage worshippers to participate in God's mission. I pray that the musical gifts of each member are nurtured and utilized to bless and grace many lives.

After six years of committed leadership, Rev. Ashish Thomas George has been transferred, and Rev. Oommen K Jacob has been appointed as the new Director, effective since May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

May Almighty God help us fulfill our duties as choir members in spreading the Gospel through music and advancing His mission for the glory of God and the establishment of His Kingdom. May the grace of God Almighty be with you all.

From the Office of the Department of Sacred Music and Communications, dated May 2nd, 2024.

Dr. Joseph Mar Ivanios Episcopa, President, DSMC.