

**Joseph Srampickal**  
Bishop, Catholic Syro-Malabar Eparchy of Great Britain



Bishop's Office  
Our Lady of Rosary and St. Terese of Lisieux  
Church,  
141, Parkfield Road  
Saltley, Birmingham  
United Kingdom  
B8 3BB  
Email: bishop@csmeqb.org

Circular 02/2024

5 April 2024

## **Urha 2024 – Eparchial Family Quiz on Theology**

*All members of the Eastern Rite should know and be convinced that they can and should always preserve their legitimate liturgical rite and their established way of life, and that these may not be altered except to obtain for themselves an organic improvement. All these, then, must be observed by the members of the Eastern rites themselves. Besides, they should attain to an ever-greater knowledge and a more exact use of them, and, if in their regard they have fallen short owing to contingencies of times and persons, they should take steps to return to their ancestral traditions (Orientalium Ecclesiarum, 6).*

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

My prayerful greetings and wishes during this Holy Season of *Qyamta* (Resurrection).

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to each and every one of you for your enthusiastic participation in the Family Quiz on Liturgy during the Year of Liturgy. Your keen interest in learning more about the liturgy of our *sui iuris* Syro-Malabar Catholic Church is truly commendable. After carefully considering the feedback from both the Unit Coordinators and participants of the Family Quiz on Liturgy, the Theology Year Team has made the decision to organise an Eparchial Family Quiz on Theology this year, titled 'Urha 2024'. This decision comes during the second year of our Eparchy's second Five Year Plan, which is dedicated as the Year of Theology. In alignment with the format of the Family Quiz on Liturgy, we have initiated the publication of 20 questions weekly in the *Denha* e-bulletin, starting from the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2023. I am delighted

to announce that the rules and guidelines for the *Urha* 2024 – Eparchial Family Quiz on Theology are included with this circular for your reference.

The distinctive essence of the East Syriac theology lies in its Semitic and Biblical characteristics, which are intricately intertwined. The early Christian communities preserved the Jewish elements in liturgical practices and theological interpretations. The Syriac theology approaches divine truths through faith, often described by St Ephrem as viewing through the "eye of the spirit," and not as intellectual exercise. Consequently, theology in the East Syriac tradition, followed by the Syro-Malabar Church, is characterized as mystical and spiritual, making it challenging to distinguish theology from spirituality and liturgy. The objective of the Eparchial Family Quiz on Theology is to deepen our comprehension of the East Syriac Theology and to nurture the faith that has been passed down to us by our ancestors across generations. This faith, which our forefathers have entrusted to us, is vital for the faithful of the Eparchy as it serves as the key to accessing the Kingdom of God.

The Eparchial Family Quiz on Theology will also be held at three levels: Unit, Regional and Eparchial. A question bank of 100 questions will be published in the *Denha* e-bulletin on 09/06/2024 for the Unit Level competitions. Your priest in charge will announce the date of your Unit Level competition, before 31/07/2024. Every team that secures 80% or above marks in the Unit Level competition will be eligible to compete at the Regional Level competition held online.

The three rounds of the Regional Level competition will be held online at 8.00 pm on 13/10/2024, 20/10/2024 & 27/10/2024. The Eparchial Level competition will be conducted on Saturday, 30/11/2024 and the venue will be announced later.

The winning team at the Eparchial Level Quiz will be awarded a trophy and a cash prize of £3000, the first runner up a trophy and a cash prize of £2000 and the second runner up a trophy and a cash prize of £1000. The prize money and the expenses of the Family Quiz on Theology will be covered by the contributions of the faithful who are passionate about the theology of our Church. Parishes/Missions/Proposed Missions of the Eparchy will be

grouped in to three categories: those with up to 100 families, between 101 and 250 families and 251 families or above. The top three Parishes/Missions/Proposed Missions with the largest number of teams competing at the Regional Level in each of the above categories will also be presented with a trophy.

Practice Quizzes should be organised during the Family Unit gatherings, prior to the Unit Level competition. This will ensure that all the faithful of our Eparchy will have an active participation in the Year of Theology. It is envisaged that activities relating to the Family Quiz on Theology should be conducted by all the commissions and forums at the Parish/Mission/Proposed Mission, Regional and Eparchial Levels of the CSMEGB throughout the Year of Theology, before and beyond the date of the Parish/Mission/Proposed Mission Level competition.

The Rules and Guidelines of the *Urha* 2024 - Eparchial Family Quiz on Theology and all the questions published in the *Denha* e-bulletin thus far can be accessed on the CSMEGB website (<https://eparchyofgreatbritain.org/eparchial-family-quiz-on-theology/>). If you have any queries regarding the Eparchial Family Quiz on Theology, please contact your unit coordinator or the priest in charge or send an email to the address [yearoftheology@csmegb.net](mailto:yearoftheology@csmegb.net)

I entrust our Eparchy to the Womb of Blessed Virgin Mary. Let us all pray for the success of the Year of Theology and actively participate in the Eparchial Family Quiz on Theology and strengthen our understanding on the theology of our Church.

May our Lord Jesus Christ bless you all abundantly!

Yours in our Lord and our God,

+ Joseph Srampickal

Bishop Joseph Srampickal  
Catholic Syro-Malabar Eparchy of Great Britain.

---

NB: This circular must be read in all the Parishes/Missions/Proposed Missions of the Eparchy during the celebration of the Holy Qurbana on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2024 (or the nearest Sunday when Holy Qurbana is celebrated, if there is no Holy Qurbana celebrated on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2024).