

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



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16 July 2024

The Pastoral Visit of His Beatitude Mar Raphael Thattil, the Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church

Dear Brothers and Sisters in *Isho M'shiha*,

I am delighted to inform you that His Beatitude Mar **Raphael Thattil**, the Father and Head of the Syro Malabar Church, is making his pastoral visit to our Eparchy from the 11th to 29th of September 2024. Earlier this year, Mar Raphael Thattil was chosen and elevated as the Major Archbishop and the Successor to *Mar Thoma Sleeha*. We thank God for His missionary zeal, concern for the faithful in the diaspora and an ecclesial vision that surpasses its traditional boundaries to a global church.

As we know, the Syro-Malabar Church is an Eastern Catholic Major Archiepiscopal Church which is a *sui iuris* (*of her own right*) individual church in full communion with the Holy See in Rome and the worldwide Catholic Church. The official pastoral visit of the Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church is an occasion to confess our Ecclesial communion to our Mother Church and to show our filial obedience to the Father and Head of the Church. This custom may have much more significance in the case of an Eparchy such as ours which is in diaspora.

Aside from this, this would also be an opportunity for him to witness our commitment to the Faith, as well as our ecclesial communion and its venerable traditions. In an administrative sense, these pastoral visits will also help him to understand the Eparchy very well, assessing both its strengths and weaknesses. This would not only help him to advocate for our Eparchy in the Holy Synod of the Syro-Malabar Church and to the Holy See respectively, but also helps him to propose creative and valuable suggestions to us for our further growth.

We are blessed to have His Beatitude Mar Raphael Thattil as the chief guest for our celebrations such as annual Women's forum gathering *Thaiboosa* on the 21st of September 2024 at Bethel Convention Centre, Birmingham and Eparchial Youth Gathering *Handhoosa* on the 15th of September 2024 at the Hangar Venue, Wolverhampton. He will also visit our parishes to celebrate Holy Qurbana and

inaugurate 17 new missions. A detailed schedule of his visit is given with this circular.

In the Holy Tradition of the Church, a pastoral visit is an occasion of Grace and abundant spiritual Blessing. As we pray in the ancient East-Syriac hymn *Slosak Avoon*, we pray that ‘our Father’s Prayer be a fortress and a refuge for us’ and may this Pastoral visit help our Eparchy to become one body and one Spirit in our Lord and our God *Isho M’shiha*.

I earnestly request you to remember his visit and our Eparchy in your prayers.

Yours in our Lord and our God,

+ *Joseph Srampickal*

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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 21st of July 2024 (or the nearest Sunday when Holy Qurbana is celebrated, if there is no Holy Qurbana celebrated on the 21st of July 2024).

**THE SCHEDULE OF THE PASTORAL VISIT OF THE
MAJOR ARCHBISHOP HIS BEATITUDE MAR RAPHAEL THATTIL WITH
MAR JOSEPH SRAMPICKAL**

Day & Date	Programme, Parish/Mission	Co-ordinator & Contact Number	Time & Place	Address
Wednesday 11 Sept 24	Arrival		Ramsgate	
Thursday 12 Sept 24	Meeting the Priests		Ramsgate	Divine Retreat Centre, Ramsgate, CT11 9PA
	Mission Inauguration <i>Mar Thoma Sleeha</i> Mission, Canterbury	Rev Fr Joseph Anchanickal 07534967966	Canterbury, 5:30 pm	Our Lady Immaculate Church, 15a Castle Road Whitstable, Canterbury CT5 2DY
	Mission Inauguration, <i>Mar Aprem</i> , Mission Gillingham	Rev Fr Mathews Kurisumoottil 07767999087	Gillingham, 8:00 pm	Our Lady of Gillingham Church, 2A Ingram Rd, Gillingham ME7 1YL
Friday 13 Sept 24	Nunciature, London		London, 11:00 am	
	Holy <i>Qurbana</i> , St Paul's Catholic Church, Portsmouth	Rev Fr Jino Arikatt MCBS 07423563008	Portsmouth, 5:30 pm	St Paul's Catholic Church, 301, Allaway road Paulsgrove, PO6 4HB
Saturday 14 Sept 24	Holy <i>Qurbana</i> , Mar Sleeva Mission, Ashford	Rev Fr Joseph Anchanickal 07534967966	Ashford, 10:00 am	The John Wallis School Millbank Road, Ashford TN23 3HG
	Mission Inauguration, Marth Mariam Mission, Croydon	Rev Fr Mathews Kurisumoottil 07767999087	Croydon, 4:00 pm	St Michael's Catholic Church, 9 Fern Ave, Mitcham, CR4 1LS
Sunday 15 Sept 24	SMYM Eparchial gathering (<i>Hanthoosa</i>), Wolverhampton	Rev Fr Lijesh Mukkattu 07469685021	The Hangar Venue, 10:00 am	The Hangar Venue, Pearson Street, Wolverhampton, WV2 4HP
	Mission Inauguration, St Francis Assisi Mission, Worcester	Rev Fr Terrin Mullakkara 07985695056	Worcester, 5:00 pm	St George's Church, 53 Sansome Place, Worcester, WR1 NU
Monday 16 Sept 24	Pastoral House Blessing		Birmingham, 11:00 am	99 Old Oscott Hill, Kingstanding, Birmingham, B44 9SR
	Our Lady of Rosary and St. Terese of Lisieux Church Saltley	Rev Fr Terrin Mullakkara 07985695056	Saltley, 6:00 pm	Our Lady of Rosary and St. Terese of Lisieux Church, Saltley, B8 3BB
Tuesday 17 Sept 24	Mission Inauguration, St James Mission, Taunton	Rev Fr Rajesh Anathil 07462019182	Taunton, 6:00 pm	St. George Catholic Church Billet Field, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 3NN
	Mission Inauguration, St Mary's Mission, Gloucester	Rev Fr Jibin Vamattam 07879221309	Gloucester, 8:30 pm	St Augustine's Church, Gloucester, GL4 6DT
Wednesday 18 Sept 24	Archbishop's House, Westminster		Westminster, 11:00 am	Archbishop's House, Ambrosden Avenue London, SW1P 1QJ
	Consecration of the Church & Holy <i>Qurbana</i> , Bristol	Rev Fr Paul Olickal, 7459275486	Bristol, 6:00 pm	St Thomas Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, 9 Eden Grove, Bristol, BS7 0PQ

Thursday 19 Sept 24	Mission Inauguration & Holy Qurbana, St Thomas Mission, Salisbury.	Rev Fr Thomas Parakkandathil 07512402607	Salisbury, 6:00 pm	Holy Redeemer Church, Salisbury, SP1 3EG
Friday 20 Sept 24	Mission Inauguration, St Mary of the Angels Mission, Worthing	Rev Fr Mathew Mulayolil 07932446885	Worthing, 5:00 pm	St Mary of the Angels, Richmond Rd, Worthing, BN11 4BL
	Mission Inauguration, Haywards Heath	Rev Fr Binoy Nilayattungal 07910923658	Haywards Heath, 7:30 pm	St Paul's Church, Hazelgrove Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 3PQ
Saturday 21 Sept 24	Women's Forum annual Gathering (<i>Thaibusu</i>)	Rev Fr Jose Anchanickal 07534967966 Rev Sr Dr Jean Mathew- 07309085138	Birmingham, 10:00 am	Bethel Convention Centre, Kelvin Way, West Bromwich, England B70 7JW
Sunday 22 Sept 24	Holy <i>Qurbana</i> , Cathedral, Preston	Rev Dr Varghese Puthenpurackal 07703422395	Preston, 10:00 am	St Alphonsa of Immaculate Conception Cathedral, St Ignatius Square, Preston, PR1 1TT
	Mission Inauguration, St Helen's	Rev Fr Jobin Perumpalathussery 07799524794	St Helens, 5:00 pm	Holy Cross and St Helens Church, Corporation street St Helens, WA10 1EF
	Mission Inauguration, Wigan		Wigan, 7:00 pm	Sacred Heart Church Throstle Nest Ave, Wigan, WN6 7AT
Monday 23 Sept 24	Mission Inauguration, St Luke's mission, York	Rev Fr Andrews Chethalan 07721867396 Middlesbrough,	York, 5:30 pm	St Joseph's Catholic Church, York, YO 30 6JX
	Mission Inauguration, St Elizabeth Proposed Mission, Middlesbrough		Middlesbrough, 7:30 pm	St Thomas More Catholic Church, Middlesbrough, TS4 3EE
Tuesday 24 Sept 24	Mission Inauguration, Sacred Heart Mission, Durham	Rev Fr Binoy Mandapathil CSSR 07767582184	Durham, 5:00 pm	St Patric Catholic Church, Goatbel Terrace, Langley Moor, DH7 8JJ
	Mission Inauguration & Holy Qurbana, <i>Mar Sleeva</i> Mission, Darlington,		Darlington, 7:30 pm	Holy Family Church, 60 Cockerton Green, Darlington, DL3 9EU
Wednesday 25 Sept 24	Mission Inauguration & Holy Qurbana, St Alphonsa Mission, Keighley,	Rev Fr Jose Anthiamkulam MCBS 07472801507	Keighley, 6:00 pm	St. Joseph's Church, Queens Road, Keighley, BD21 1AT
Thursday 26 Sept 24	Mission Inauguration & Holy <i>Qurbana</i> , St Sebastian's Mission, Stockport	Rev Fr Jose Kunnumpurath 07768325792	Stockport, 6:00 pm	St Peter's Church, Stockport, SK7 4EA
Friday 27 Sept 24	Holy Qurbana, Our Lady of Queen of Peace Church, Litherland	Rev Fr James Kozhimala 07778631281	Liverpool, 6:00 pm	Our Lady Queen of Peace, Kirkstone Road West, Liverpool, L21 0EQ
Saturday 28 Sept 24	Regional Bible Convention, Leeds	Rev Fr Jojo Plappally CMI 07442664493	Leeds, 10:00 am	St Wilfred's Church, Leeds, LS12 5JW
Sunday 29 Sept 24	Departure			