



Circular 8/2025

13 October 2025

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

"I will make them come and bow down before your feet and they will learn that *Dilexi te* (I have loved you)" (Rev 3:9).

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

As you remember that the service of the extraordinary ministers of the Holy Communion in our Eparchy began on 25th December 2024. The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy communion are supposed to lead exemplary spiritual and sacramental life and they have to participate in the yearly retreat and training programme. The permission to function as extraordinary ministers of Holy communion was for one year and every year it should get renewed from the Eparchial Bishop according to the need of the respective Parish/Mission/ Proposed Mission.

Those extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion wish to continue the service are invited to get the consent from the respective priest in charge and participate in the yearly retreat and training programme. Those Parish Priests/Mission Directors/Mission Coordinators wish to have the service of additional extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion can select the necessary number of candidates after due consideration and study on their life of faith and morals. This should be in consultation with the respective Parish councils. The names of those who renew and the new candidates should be sent to the email: chancery@csmegb.org on or before Monday the 3rd November 2025.

The candidates have to attend three online classes on Theology of Holy Qurbana by Rev Dr Pauli Maniyatt, President, *Paurasthya Vidhyapitham*, Vadavathoor and one day in person training programme and retreat. The one day training programme and retreat starts at 9.30 am and ends at 5.30 pm on Sunday 7th December 2025 at Mar Yawsep Pastoral House Maryvale, Birmingham. During the concluding session of the retreat, they will be awarded the course certificate and the appointment letter signed by the Eparchial Bishop. The dates and time of the Online classes: **15th, 22nd and 29th of November 2025 from 4pm to 5.30pm.**

In the Eparchy of Great Britain there will be a common dress code for all the extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The Syro-Malabar faithful who are currently serving as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in other *Sui Iuris* churches also have to attend this training programme if their service is to be continued in the Eparchy of Great Britain.

Yours in our Lord and our God,

+ *Joseph Srampickal*

Joseph Srampickal
Bishop, 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 19th of October 2025 (or the nearest Sunday when Holy Qurbana is celebrated, if there is no Holy Qurbana celebrated on the 19th of October 2025).