



Prot. No. 0191/2016

25 February 2016

DECREE OF CONVOCATION

The XXIII Synod of Bishops of the Syro-Malabar Major Archiepiscopal Church in its Second Session, held from 17 to 29 August 2015, decided to convene the fourth Major Archiepiscopal Assembly of this Church from 26 to 28 August 2016 at Sahrdaya College of Engineering and Technology, Kodakara, in the Eparchy of Irinjalakuda and to constitute a Committee of Bishops consisting of Bishop Pauly Kannoorkadan, Convener, Bishop Sebastian Adayanthrath and Bishop George Rajendran SDB, Members. Fr Shaji Abraham Kochupurayil MCBS will be the Secretary. The theme of the Assembly, as decided by the same Synodal Session and later modified by the XXIV Synod, Session I, held from 07 to 12 January 2016 will be **“The Response of the Church to the Challenges of Today”** with the specification of **‘Simplicity in Life, Witness in Family and Mission of the Migrants’**.

The Central Organizing Committee of the Major Archiepiscopal Assembly in its meeting held on 22 February 2016 proposed to begin the Assembly by the evening of 25th August 2016 so that all the themes could be discussed sufficiently in depth. This proposal was later communicated to all the Bishops of our Synod.

In conformity with the said decisions and presuming ratification of the change of date of the beginning of the Assembly by the forthcoming Synodal Session in August, and in accordance with Article 4 §§ 1&3 of the Statutes of the Major Archiepiscopal Assembly, I, George Cardinal Alencherry, the Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church, hereby convoke the Major Archiepiscopal Assembly of the Syro-Malabar Church (2016), which will begin with the Holy *Qurbana* at 05.00 p.m. on Thursday 25 August and be concluded with Lunch at 1.00 p.m. on Sunday 28 August 2016, at Sahrdaya College of Engineering and Technology, Kodakara.

The Synod Fathers are hereby requested to make this known to the People of God entrusted to their care and to do all that is required for the success of the said Assembly.

Given at Kakkanad from the Major Archiepiscopal Curia of the Syro-Malabar Church at Mount St. Thomas on 25 February 2016.

Fr. Antony Kollannur
Major Archiepiscopal Chancellor

George Cardinal Alencherry
Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church

