

ܩܘܪܝܘܢܐ ܕܩܝܫܝܘܬܐ ܕܩܝܫܝܘܬܐ ܕܩܝܫܝܘܬܐ
ANTIOCHIAN SYRIAC ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Antiochian
Syriac Orthodox Church*



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Metropolitan and Primate Mor Severius Moses

Ahomstr. 24 b, CH-9240 Uzwil; www.syrorthodoxchurch.com E-Mail: morseverius@hotmail.com Tel: 0041/ 55 41 86 389

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To.

Dear beloved our most Reverend Brothers in the Episcopal Ministry, our Metropolitan Vicar, Chorepiskopos, Priests, Deacons, Monks, parish councils, church organizations and the faithful of our holy Syrian Orthodox Church of Europe.

The blessing and the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

After enquiring your welfare we here by inform you that we are very happy that our church is growing very fast day by day. And, it has been growing across the world so that recently We were concerned and thought about the aptness of our church's current name.

Our church finds it's roots in the holy Church of Antioch which has been established by the holy Apostle St Peter, in 37 AD. **"And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch"** (*Acts 11:26*). The ancient Church of Antioch had played a prominent role in the formulation and early interpretation of Christian doctrines. Moreover, it has played an important role in the first three Ecumenical Councils held at Nicea (+325), Constantinople (+381), and Ephesus (+431).

Our Eucharistic Liturgy, the Liturgy of St. James, is one of the ancient rite firstly used by Jerusalem Church which was continued by the Church in Antioch. Thus, the Liturgy of St James provides a general introduction to the Eucharistic Liturgy of the ancient Church of Antioch. The Faith of our church is "Apostolic" and "Orthodox" in its nature from the very beginning. Our church follows the teachings of our holy Syriac Fathers and the ancient sacred 'Syriac Tradition'. Because of above mentioned reasons we decided to change the name of our Church according to our roots as well as the historical importance of the place of Antioch in the Christendom.

We are happy to inform you that as per the decision of the holy Synod as the Primate/Head of the church, we have approved to change the name of our Church from **"Syrian Orthodox Church of Europe"** to **"Antiochian Syriac Orthodox Church"** with immediate effect. We urge you all to use the new name in all the documents and correspondence accordingly with out delay.

May God bless you all.

Mor Severius Moses
Metropolitan and Primate of the Antiochian Syriac Orthodox Church