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# FROM THE APOSTOLIC SEE OF MALANKARA METROPOLITAN DR. AHEGDOSIUS MAR THOMA 

Circular No. 111



Blessings to you all the Clergy, Trustees and Members of all the Parishes under our authority.

Dearly beloved in Christ,
"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away" (Matt. 24:35).
Bible Sunday, $3^{\text {rd }}$ December, is a day set aside to give thanks to God for the Bible that transforms human minds and leads to salvation of the soul, for its availability in book and digital media formats, to pray for the ministry of the Bible Society, and to offer a generous thanksgiving. After the formation of the Bible Society in March 1804, the first translation of the Bible began in December. Therefore, the Bible Sunday is observed in December every year. We exhort you to pray for the Bible Society during worship on that day and to willingly participate in the offertory.
The Bible Society of India, one of the largest ecumenical movements, is performing a great service in helping the churches in the evangelization of India by translating the scriptures from the Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic originals into various languages, thus making the Word of God available to all the people of India in their own 'language of the heart', in a simple, attractive style and at an affordable price. Currently 110 Bible translation projects (including one in sign language) are in progress under the auspices of the Bible Society of India. Out of the 1672 languages of India, the Word of God has already been published in more than 200 languages. During the past year, the Bible Society was able to distribute $3,79,851$ copies of the Bible in Kerala. Along with that, various project Bibles were also given. We express our gratitude in the name of God for all the gifts that the Bible Society has received from the parishes in the past days. The Metropolitan is a member of the Auxiliary Committee and Dr. Abraham Mar Paulos Episcopa is a member of the National Executive Committee and the Working Committee of the Bible Society.
The Bible Society of India has 17 auxiliaries in various states and one translation centre in Shillong. The Kerala Auxiliary has 150 branches divided into 29 regions, and its activities are progressing in all the districts of the state. There are various resource mobilization schemes (Platinum Rs. 25,000, Diamond Rs. 10,000, Golden Rs. 5,000, and Silver Rs. 2,500) for the mission of spreading the Word of God to all. Any amount, big or small, is valuable for the completion of this mission. A generous donation from the members of the Church is expected on this Bible Sunday as well. All offertories received on Bible Sunday must be submitted to the Sabha Office. Through this, the smallest child to the oldest member of the church share in the mission of publishing the Bible. Our clergy and lay members should willingly participate in the activities and resource mobilization of the Bible Society branches. In this changing world, may the unchanging Word of God guide each of us with hope, healing, and guidance.


Grace be with you all.
Dated $30^{\text {th }}$ October 2023, from Poolatheen, Thiruvalla,


Dr. Theodosius Mar Thoma Metropolitan

