



CHALDEAN DIOCESE  
OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE U.S.A.

# 2024

ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we celebrate our annual Bishop's Dinner we focus on the central mission of the Church as well as the central mission of each and every disciple of Jesus Christ: to proclaim the Good News – that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, has come into the world and has saved and delivered us from darkness. We must always keep our focus on this primary mission.

The desire for Jesus Christ is alive and thriving in the parishes of our Diocese and throughout our community. I express my deepest gratitude to the priests of the Diocese who work tirelessly in the vineyard to bring Jesus to His people. I am continuously encouraged with the various ministries offered throughout our parishes and ECRC, which help others to grow in a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. I am also profoundly grateful to you, faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, who through your generous contributions – both spiritual and financial – have helped the Church to strengthen Her mission in proclaiming the Good News to all.

Each month, approximately 9 to 13% of parish collections are sent to the Diocese. Together, with nearly \$750,000 raised at last year's Bishop's Dinner, these funds help support our seminarians, clergy, parishes, chancery office, and vital diocesan projects, both current and future.

The hunger for Jesus Christ, like the growth of our community, continues to expand, and the Diocese must grow as well to ensure our people are nourished by the Word of God. As we look towards the exciting future of the growth of our Diocese we look forward to a number of projects that seek to better serve you, the Church: the ongoing renovations at Mar Eliya Retreat Center, set to open this coming spring; the desire of a start of a Chaldean Catholic school system; and the hopeful founding of three more parishes in the near future, with one in Commerce Township area, one in the Macomb Township area, and another in the Bloomfield Hills area.

As the needs of the Church grow, I am confident that God will continue to provide. This summer, we can expect the ordination of two men to the priesthood, Deacons Ehab Ishak and Joseph Nannoshi, and another two to the diaconate. Where there is a need, God truly supplies!

My friends, the world today is searching for the Good News, searching for Jesus Christ. We have found Him and now we seek to build our community and our families upon Him, this foundation of Rock that will last for generations to come. Let us ensure that future generations of Chaldeans will continue to hold onto the faith.

With this mission in mind, and our commitment to financial transparency, I invite you to review the *2024 Annual Report for the Chaldean Catholic Diocese of St. Thomas the Apostle of the United States*, which can be found in this program.

Let us continue to pray for our Church, our Diocese, our clergy, that we may forever work to proclaim the name of Jesus Christ, both now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Mar Francis Y. Kalabat  
Bishop of the Chaldean Diocese  
of St. Thomas the Apostle U.S.A.

# PARISHES

PARISHES	PRIESTS	CONTACT
Holy Cross est. 2013	Msgr. Zouhair T. Kejbou, Pastor	32500 Middlebelt Road Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248) 626-5055
Holy Martyrs est. 2010	Rev. Selwan Taponi, Pastor Rev. Wisam Matti, Parochial Vicar Rev. Kevin Yono, Parochial Vicar	43700 Merrill Road Sterling Heights, MI 48314 (586) 803-3114
Mar Addai est. 1979	Rev. Stephen Kallabat, Pastor	24010 Coolidge Highway Oak Park, MI 48237 (248) 547-4648
Mart Mariam est. 1986	Rev. Ayad Hanna, Pastor Rev. Rodney Abasso, Parochial Vicar Fr. Milan Kakone, Priest in Residence	2700 Willow Road Northbrook, IL 60062 (630) 847-0149
Mother of God (Our Lady of Chaldeans Cathedral) est. 1948	Rev. Bryan Kassa, Administrator Rev. Sanharib Youkhana, Parochial Vicar Rev. Perrin Atisha, Parochial Vicar Fr. Aram Hanna, Priest in Residence	25585 Berg Road Southfield, MI 48033 (248) 356-0565
Our Lady of Perpetual Help est. 2013	Rev. Rudy Zoma, Pastor	11200 E. 12 Mile Road Warren, MI 48093 (586) 804-2114
Sacred Heart est. 1975	Rev. Fadi Philip, Pastor	30590 Dequindre Road Warren, MI 48092 (586) 393-5809
St. Ephrem est. 1947	Rev. Hermiz Haddad, Pastor	2537 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue Chicago, IL 60659 (773) 888-7984
St. George est. 2000	Rev. Fawaz Kako, Pastor Rev. John Jaddou, Parochial Vicar Rev. Namir Narra, Parochial Vicar	45700 Dequindre Road Shelby Township, MI 48317 (586) 254-7221
St. Joseph est. 1981	Rev. Sameem Balius, Pastor Rev. Patrick Setto, Parochial Vicar Rev. Fadie Gorgies, Parochial Vicar	2442 E Big Beaver Road Troy MI, 48083 (248) 528-3676
St. Paul est. 2014	(Pastoral services are cared for by Holy Martyrs Parish)	5150 E Maple Avenue Grand Blanc, MI 48439 (810) 820-8450
St. Thomas est. 1999	Rev. Pierre Konja, Pastor Rev. Muhannad Al Tawil, Parochial Vicar Rev. Matthew Zetouna, Parochial Vicar Rev. Marcus Shammami, Parochial Vicar	6900 Maple Road, West Bloomfield, MI 48322 (248) 788-2460
Missions:	Immaculate Conception Chaldean Mission in Boston, MA Administered by Dcn. Sermed Ashkouri	
	Mar Shemmon Bar Sabbae Assyrian-Chaldean Catholic Church in Tbilisi, Republic Of Georgia Administered by Msgr. Benyamin Betyadegar, Pastor	
Bishops:	Most Rev. Francis Y. Kalabat, Bishop   Most Rev. Ibrahim Ibrahim, Bishop Emeritus Retired Bishops in Residence: Most Rev. Gabriel Kassab   Most Rev. Thomas Meram	
Retired Clergy:	Rev. Jirjis Abraham   Rev. Manuel Boji   Rev. Zia Marano	

# OUR DIOCESE



The Chaldean Diocese of St. Thomas the Apostle is an Eastern Rite diocese (eparchy) under the Chaldean Catholic Patriarchate of Babylon in Baghdad, Iraq.

Once covering the entire United States, the diocese now serves about 200,000 U.S. Catholics in the eastern half of the country. Metro Detroit has the highest concentration of Chaldeans in the United States, and ten of the diocese's twelve parishes are in Michigan, with the other two parishes in Illinois.

## DIOCESE STAFF

---

**Most. Rev. Francis Y. Kalabat**  
Bishop

**Vincent Jarbow**  
Finance Officer

**Most. Rev. Ibrahim N. Ibrahim**  
Bishop Emeritus

**Nadia I. Kallabat**  
Office Administrator

**Rev. Ayad Hanna**  
Vicar General

**Lubna Seba**  
Tribunal Administrator  
Administrative Assistant

**Rev. Pierre Konja**  
Judicial Vicar

**Renee Kakos**  
Accountant

**Rev. Marcus Shammami**  
Bishop's Secretary

**Mirna Ayar**  
Advancement and Development  
Director

**Rev. Bryan Kassa**  
Director of Seminarians  
Mission to Priests

**Khairy Foumia**  
Liturgical Translator

**Rev. Perrin Atisha**  
Director of Vocations

**Jason Alkamano, CPA**  
Finance Advisor

# FINANCE REPORT

The 2023/2024 data below reflects net diocesan income from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024.  
It does not include seminarian or priest retirement funds.

## INCOME

SOURCE	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
Fundraisers	\$1,143,164	48%
Parish Assessment	\$984,500	41%
Donations	\$155,310	6%
Other Income	\$68,992	3%
Annulment Processing	\$26,660	1%
Printing & Publishing	\$24,600	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,403,226</b>	

## EXPENSES

SOURCE	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
Diocese Office Operating Costs	\$636,279	33%
Salaries	\$514,439	27%
Fundraising	\$289,047	15%
Warren Diocesan Center	\$178,397	9%
Professional Fees, Insurance, & Property Costs	\$167,723	9%
Appeals Remitted	\$130,476	6%
Annulment Processing & Safety Environments	\$20,250	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,936,611</b>	

## NET INCOME

# \$466,615

The Bishop's Office is committed to financial transparency. There is an annual third party audit. If you have financial questions or concerns, please contact the Bishop's Office.

2023 \$465,148

# CLERGY & SEMINARIANS



**Most Rev.  
Francis Kalabat**  
Bishop



**Most Rev.  
Ibrahim Ibrahim**  
Bishop Emeritus



**Most Rev.  
Gabriel Kassab**  
Bishop (Retired)



**Most Rev.  
Thomas Meram**  
Bishop (Retired)

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”  
**MATTHEW 5:16**

**27 PRIESTS**  
24 Active | 3 Retired  
(in order of year ordained)



**Rev. Stephen Kallabat**  
Pastor  
*Mar Addai*



**Rev. Jirjis Abraham**  
Retired



**Rev. Manuel Boji**  
Retired



**Msgr. Zouhair Kejbou**  
Pastor  
*Holy Cross*



**Rev. Sanharib Youkhana**  
Parochial Vicar  
*Mother of God*



**Rev. Zia Marano**  
Retired



**Rev. Selwan Taponi**  
Pastor  
*Holy Martyrs*



**Msgr. Benyamin Betyadegar**  
Pastor  
*Mar Shemmon Bar Sabbae  
(Georgia Mission)*



**Rev. Wisam Matti**  
Parochial Vicar  
*Holy Martyrs*



**Rev. Ayad Hanna**  
Pastor, Vicar General  
*Mart Mariam*



**Rev. Fadi Phillip**  
Pastor  
*Sacred Heart*



**Rev. Muhannad Al Tawil**  
Parochial Vicar  
*St. Thomas*



**Rev. Sameem Balias**  
Pastor  
*St. Joseph*



**Rev. Rudy Zoma**  
Pastor  
*Our Lady of Perpetual Help*



**Rev. Fawaz Kako**  
Pastor  
*St. George*



**Rev. Hermiz Haddad**  
Pastor  
*St. Ephrem*



**Rev. Pierre Konja**  
Pastor, Judicial Vicar  
*St. Thomas*



**Rev. Matthew Zetouna**  
Parochial Vicar  
*St. Thomas*



**Rev. Bryan Kassa**  
Administrator, Director of Semi-  
narians and Mission to Priests  
*Mother of God*



**Rev. Patrick Setto**  
Parochial Vicar  
*St. Joseph*



**Rev. John Jaddou**  
Parochial Vicar  
*St. George*



**Rev. Fadie Gorgies**  
Parochial Vicar  
*St. Joseph*



**Rev. Rodney Abasso**  
Parochial Vicar  
*Mart Mariam*



**Rev. Perrin Atisha**  
Parochial Vicar  
Director of Vocations  
*Mother of God*



**Rev. Kevin Yono**  
Parochial Vicar  
*Holy Martyrs*



**Rev. Marcus Shammami**  
Parochial Vicar  
Bishop's Secretary  
*St. Thomas*



**Rev. Namir Narra**  
Parochial Vicar  
*St. George*



**Rev. Aram Hanna**  
Priest in Residence  
*Mother of God*



**Rev. Milan Kakone**  
Priest in Residence  
*Mart Mariam*



**Dcn. Sermed Ashkouri**  
*Immaculate Conception*  
*Chaldean Catholic Boston Mission*

Since 1989, our diocese has entrusted its seminarian formation to Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, Michigan. Sacred Heart is recognized nationally and around the world as one of the leading centers in the New Evangelization.

## 15 SEMINARIANS

8 Graduate | 7 Undergraduate



**Dcn. Eahab Ishak**  
Synthesis Year



**Dcn. Joseph Nannoshi**  
Theology IV



**Brandon Elias**  
Theology III



**Lucian Gumma**  
Theology III



**Mathew Yousif**  
Theology II



**Anthony Simon**  
Theology II



**Eddie Dickow**  
Theology II



**Matthew Bakkal**  
Theology II



**Patrick Jaboro**  
Pre-Theology II



**Rami Kina**  
Philosophy II



**Andrew Mattia**  
Philosophy II



**Stavro Mikha**  
Propaedeutic Year



**Michael Atto**  
Propaedeutic Year



**Sarmad Hanna-Kachal**  
Propaedeutic Year



**Alex Kas-Shamoun**  
Propaedeutic Year

# 2023/2024 Priest Retirement Fund

Fiscal Year: July 2023 - June 2024

Christmas Collection	Donations	Mass Offerings	Bishop's Dinner	Interest
\$56,472	-	\$90,000	\$75,000	\$20,503
<b>Income</b> \$241,975	<b>Expenses</b> \$164,985	<b>Net Income</b> \$76,990	<b>Net Value</b> \$3,698,000	



# 2023/2024 Seminary Fund

Fiscal Year: July 2023 - June 2024

Christmas Collection	General Donations	Easter Collection	Bishop's Dinner	Stride for Seminarians
\$56,472	\$39,780	\$168,997	\$75,000	\$98,000
<b>Income</b> \$438,249	<b>Expenses</b> \$470,808	<b>Net Income</b> -\$32,559	<b>Net Value</b> \$3,155,000	



# 2024 SACRAMENTS

## Baptisms & Confirmations

1,187

2021|1,111 2022|1,252 2023|1,292

## 1st Communions

1,028

2021|1,128 2022|1,063 2023|1,081

## Marriages

452

2021|555 2022|483 2023|447

## Funerals

390

2021|409 2022|336 2023|358



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Mar Eliya Retreat Center

Mar Eliya Retreat Center, located in Oxford, Michigan, is nearing the completion of its remodeling and will soon open its doors to the public. As construction nears completion, the retreat center will feature 40 bedrooms, each with a private full bath. It will also include several breakout rooms and two spacious gathering areas, making it ideal for both large and small retreats, available for one or more days. With a deep desire to provide a retreat space for spiritual growth, the Diocese is excited to offer this new center to our community, through the grace of God. Generously donated by the Boji family, Mar Eliya will begin accepting reservations this spring, providing a peaceful sanctuary for those seeking rest and rejuvenation. For more information, visit [MarEliya.com](http://MarEliya.com).



## 2025 Ordinations

We are excited to share the wonderful news that Deacons Eahab Ishak and Joseph Nannoshi will be ordained to the priesthood on July 5, 2025, at Mother of God Chaldean Catholic Church. With the ongoing support and generosity of our Chaldean community, both Deacons will serve our Diocese and help strengthen the Church of Christ. This year, we are blessed to have 15 seminarians, with two more—Brandon Elias and Lucian Gumma—set to be ordained as Deacons by summer, God willing. We are grateful that more men are responding to God's call to the priesthood. Thanks to initiatives like Stride for Seminarians and the continued generosity of our faithful community, our seminarians can focus on their studies without the burden of tuition costs. Please keep all of our seminarians in your prayers. If you feel called to the priesthood or religious life, we invite you to visit [chaldeanchurch.org/vocations](http://chaldeanchurch.org/vocations).



## Search of Church and School

The Diocese is actively seeking properties or buildings to purchase to expand and establish new parishes and a future school for our growing community. With approximately 200,000 Chaldean Catholics being served annually, we are committed to finding a location that will best serve the needs of our people and offer greater convenience near Bloomfield Hills, Commerce Twp, and Macomb Township. Through continuous prayer and faith, we trust that the Lord will provide the clarity and guidance needed to determine the right time and place for acquiring a property. We are hopeful that, with His direction, we can continue to meet the spiritual needs of our faithful community.

## Advancement & Development Director

As the Chaldean Diocese continues to grow in both faith and membership, there was a rising need for a dedicated Advancement and Development Department. This new department will play a vital role in advancing our mission of Making Christ Known to All through promoting the Diocese and its achievements, along with handling fundraising, community relations, communications, and marketing. Its primary focus will be to support our current parishes, while also engaging with the community to address the visions of our future. In August 2024, the Diocese welcomed its first Advancement and Development Director, Mirna Ayar. With a bachelor's degree in accounting and nine years of experience, Mirna brings a strong financial background and expertise in nonprofit work to her new role. We are excited to have a director dedicated to the growth of the Diocese and focused on creating opportunities to support and strengthen our community in areas of need. In addition to her work as Advancement and Development Director, Mirna also serves as the director and manager of the new Mar Eliya Retreat Center, where she plays a key role in its development and success.



