



# CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF INDIA (CBCI)

C.B.C.I. Centre, 1 Ashok Place, Near Gole Dakhana, New Delhi-110 001 India

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**Most. Rev. Theodore Mascarenhas SFX**  
SECRETARY GENERAL

Ref: CBCI-Gen/Cir-14/2017

10<sup>th</sup> October, 2017

## TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HIERARCHY

**Subject: Erection of Syro-Malabar Eparchies of Shamshabad and Hosur and Appointment of their first Bishops.**

Your Eminences, Graces, Excellencies,

In the light of the Communication received from the Apostolic Nunciature, I wish to inform you that His Holiness Pope Francis has erected the Syro-Malabar Eparchies of Shamshabad and Hosur, and has appointed as its first Bishops, respectively, His Lordship Rt. Rev. Raphael Thattil, till now Auxiliary Bishop of Trichur and Rev. Fr. Sebastian (Jobby) Pozholiparampil, of the clergy of Irinjalakuda.

At the same time the Holy Father has extended the boundaries of the Eparchies of Ramanathapuram and Thuckalay.

These provisions were made public in Rome on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2017, at noon local time, corresponding to 15:30 hours, Indian Standard Time, together with a Letter of the Holy Father.

**His Lordship, Rt. Rev. Raphael Thattil** was born on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 1956, was ordained Priest on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 1980 and consecrated Titular Bishop of Buruni and Auxiliary Bishop of Trichur on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2010. He was appointed Apostolic Visitor of the Syro-Malabars residing in India outside the *territorium proprium* on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.





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**Rev. Fr. Sebastian (Jobby) Pozholiparampil** was born on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 1957 at Pullur, in the Diocese of Irinjalakuda. After his school education, he joined the St. Mary's Minor Seminary, Thope, Trichur, and had his philosophical and theological formation at *St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary*, Vadavathoor. He was ordained Priest on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 1982. He holds a Licentiate in Theology from the Angelicum, Rome. He served the Eparchy as Asst. Parish Priest at Aloor, and Parish Priest at Kaipamangalam, East Chendrapini, Cheelor, Padiyoor, Meladoor, Parappukara Forane, Thottipal and Cathedral Church. He was Rector of the Spirituality Centre, Eparchial Finance Officer, Vice Rector of the Minor Seminary, Director of Santisadanam, Director of Legion of Mary and Secretary of the Presbyteral Council. Presently, Syncellus of the Eparchy of Irinjalakuda and Rector of *St. Paul's Minor Seminary* and Vocation promoter. He was formerly the Coordinator of Chennai Mission.



We congratulate the Syro-Malabar Church for two new Eparchies and rejoice with them. We send our prayerful greetings and best wishes to Bishop Raphael Thattil and Fr. Sebastian (Jobby) Pozholiparampil and assure them of our prayers and wholehearted collaboration to the Syro-Malabar Church.

Yours Sincerely in Our Lord,

*Theodore Mascarenhas*

Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, SFX  
Secretary General, CBCI