



of the Archbishop

LETTER OF CARDINAL BERNARDIN
TO THE KNANAYA CATHOLICS
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

September 3, 1985

My dear friends,

As your Archbishop I have been concerned about the spiritual welfare of the members of your community. As you know, for various reasons it has been deemed appropriate to arrange for a distinct ministry to serve the Knanaya Catholics of the Archdiocese. Unfortunately, amongst yourselves there are deeply felt differences over who should be considered a member of the Knanaya community. While I realize that these differences have their roots in long-standing customs and practices of your community in India, the Gospel calls us to transcend these differences and to accept equally all of our brothers and sisters. Nothing could be more essential to the message of Christ.

The present moment is one of transition and of decision. It is a transition because Father Jacob Chollampel, who has served with fidelity and devotion all of the Kerala Catholics and in particular your own community, is now returning to India to be succeeded by Father Cyriac Manthuruthy, who will begin this new ministry devoted to the Knanaya community. It is a moment of decision because this new beginning calls us to a conversion of heart and a reconciliation of differences. All who are born of Knanaya Catholic families have equal rights and equal obligations in this ministry and all of its official activities and functions. It is only with this understanding that this new ministry can begin and can flourish.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

My friends, I count on all of you now to accept these pastoral directives and to unite together so that together we may give glory to our Father and grow in our love and care for one another.

With every good wish, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1579

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

of the Chancellor

2) 751-5220

Dear Members of the Knanaya Community,

As you may know, matters relating to the various Oriental rites of the Church are governed by the Congregation for Oriental Churches in Rome, which is headed by Cardinal Lourdasamy. In light of the differences of opinion in the community over the norms to be followed for membership in the Ministry to Knanaya Catholics, Cardinal Bernardin presented the issue to Rome. Recently he received word from the oriental Congregation stating that "the special ministry for the Knanaya community can be faithfully conducted, only on the basis that those Knanaya Catholics who married non-Knanaya spouses enjoy equal status in the ministry. This Congregation does not accept that the customary practice followed in Kerala, of excluding from the community those who marry non-Knanaya spouses, is extensible to the United States of America."

The Congregation also went on to point out that the Bishop of Kottayam has no authority over the faithful outside of his territory and that the community here in Chicago is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Chicago.

We realize that soem will be pleased with this decision and some will not, however everyone should receive this decision in a spirit of humility and charity. Everyone must do his or her part to build bridges of understanding and to move on from here in a spirit of brotherhood and cooperation.

We will be writing to the Bishop of Kottayam again, now that these norms have been decided, and we will ask him to send a priest to serve the community. We hope that it will not be too long before a priest arrives to minister to the Knanaya Catholics. In the meantime we ask you to support the leadership of the Interim Committee which is authorized to plan and organize the spiritual services to the community.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Robert L. Kesly

Rev. Robert L. Kesly
Chancellor



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

ice of the Chancellor

June 7, 1986

(312) 751-8220

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE KANAYA COMMUNITY

As you well know, there has been a serious disagreement within your midst over the norms for membership in the Knanaya Syro-Malabar Ministry here in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Some wanted to retain the tradition of India that marriage outside the ethnic group makes one ineligible for membership. Others wanted to have membership open to all Knanites, even those who married outside the ethnic community. This issue was presented to the Oriental Congregation in Rome which declared that the ministry here must be open to all Knanites, regardless of whom they have married.

Once that decision was made the Archdiocese contacted the Bishop of Kottayam, the Knanite diocese in India, to ask if he would be willing to send a priest to serve you under those terms.

In response he asked if the people would be willing to accept a priest under those conditions. Since it seemed pointless to ask a priest to come here from India to serve you if his ministry under these norms would not be accepted, I attempted to obtain your reaction and convened the Interim Committee. This group had been appointed by me in consultation with both factions in the dispute. In setting up this committee, everyone had agreed that it was to be responsible for all matters associated with your liturgies until the ministry could be re-established on regular basis.

At our meeting on May 3, 1986 I presented to the Interim Committee a statement which I asked them to sign. This statement merely asked for the assurance that even if one did not personally agree with the norms decreed by Rome, he would not interfere with the work of the ministry conducted under those norms. At the meeting all members of the Interim Committee signed the statement. Although some members who were opposed to the norms wanted to add personal statements to that effect, I explained that that would be inappropriate. The purpose of the statement was not to determine opinion for or against the norms but to determine whether the community would peacefully cooperate with a priest working under these norms decided by Rome. The Convenor of the Interim Committee and the members were then asked to circulate this statement to the Knanaya community.

Acting on my request the Convenor of the committee did so. Other members of the committee, however, declared that they were retracting their signed agreement and circulated a form making

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

false accusations and claiming to depose the Convenor and elect a new Convenor. Let me very clear that they had no authority to do so and in acting as they have done, are in defiance of the authorities of the Church.

Under the circumstances, the following conclusions seem inevitable: "

(1) We will withdraw the request to ask for a priest from Kottayam.

(2) For the time being all special Masses for the Knanites will be cancelled. People can attend Mass at their own parish churches.

(3) The Interim Committee will be disbanded. A new pastoral council for the ministry will be appointed and it will be composed only of people who accept the norms decided upon by the Archdiocese of Chicago and by Rome.

(4) After the new pastoral council is formed we will resume having Masses in your native language, using priests who are available locally.

(5) Any attempt by a group of dissidents to set up their own liturgies should be clearly understood to be in defiance of the decisions of the highest authorities in the Church and members of the Knanite community are urged to have no part in such attempts to further divide the community.

I urge all of you to pray for peace and harmony. Let us all rise above petty jealousies and discriminatory attitudes and come together again as one people, united in one faith and one spirit.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

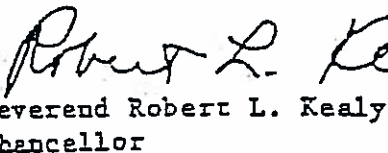

Reverend Robert L. Kealy
Chancellor

EXHIBIT - 3

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8220
Fax (312) 751-5361

February 3, 1996

Reverend Simon Edathiparampil
Director
Knanaya Catholic Mission
c/o I.H.M. Church
3834 N. Spaulding
Chicago, IL 60618

Dear Father Simon:

Thank you for your letter of January 15, 1996, informing me of recent developments during the process for unification of the two social organizations, KCS and KANA. I am very disappointed to learn that the Legislative Body and the Board of Directors of the Knanaya Catholic Society have rejected the proposed unification of the two social organizations despite the expressed wishes of Cardinal Bernardin, the endorsement of Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry, and my own personal appeals and efforts at mediation.

Therefore, if unity of the two social organizations cannot be achieved, we must focus on achieving and expressing such unity through the Mission itself. In order to do this, I am asking you to prepare a plan which will address:

- a) social activities for the Mission;
- b) a youth group for the Mission; and
- c) a permanent pastoral council.

Please note that all of the elements of the plan must include non-endogenous people.

The deadline for presenting this plan to me is February 29, 1996. After being reviewed and approved by Ms. Teresita Nuval and myself, the plan must be implemented by April 15, 1996. If these deadlines are not met, I will recommend to the Cardinal that the Knanaya Catholic Mission be closed.

While I would hope to avoid such an outcome, I would see no alternative since the continued divisions in the community would be a serious harm and scandal which the Archdiocese could no longer tolerate. In that event, we would also regretfully be required to ask your bishop to recall you to India, since we could not have the Mission or an extern priest functioning here apart from Archdiocesan authority.

Reverend Simon Edathiparampil
February 3, 1996
Page 2

Last month I was in Rome during the Synod of Syro-Malabar bishops. While in Rome, I visited the Congregation for Oriental Churches. I was advised that the Congregation for Oriental Churches still adheres to its position that the Knansya custom of strict endogamy should not be exported from India to North America.

At the opening of the Syro-Malabar synod at the Vatican on January 8, 1996, His Holiness Pope John Paul II said, "Conflicts must be banned, since no good can come except from love." He said unity is built up day after day, and "to leave someone behind is a failure for all. To walk together is a victory for all." I pray that our Holy Father's wishes will be heeded both in India and in Chicago.

With every good wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Thomas J. Paprocki

Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki
Chancellor

cc: His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Bernardin
His Excellency Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry, Bishop of Kottayam
Ms. Teresita Nuval, Asian-American Consultant, Office of Ethnic Ministries
Mr. Joy Vachachira, President, KCS
✓ Mr. Joseph Mullaappallil, President, KANA

EXHIBIT 4

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8330
Fax (312) 337-6379

April 1, 1996

Dear Bishop Kunnacherry:

Father Thomas Paprocki, Chancellor of the Archdiocese and my delegate for the Archdiocese's Knanaya Catholic Mission, has given me a copy of your letter of March 21, 1996 to Father Simon Edathiparampil, the Mission's Director. I am very grateful for your efforts to help bring unity to Knanites living in the Chicago area. You are correct in saying that the continued existence of the two separate organizations, K.C.S. and K.A.N.A., will do more harm than good.

At the same time, I must express my serious concern about the following statement in your letter:

One who fails or refuses to observe the custom relating to endogamy forfeits his right to be a member of the Kottayam Diocese and the Knanaya Community. He also forfeits his right to be a member of an association or society of Knanites. There can be no compromise on this. It is better to close down the Mission and withdraw the priest if it becomes necessary to compromise on our basic principles.

This is contrary to the instruction which we have been following from the Congregation for Oriental Churches in Rome, stating that

the special ministry for the Knanaya Community can be faithfully conducted only on the basis that those Knanaya Catholics who married non-Knanaya spouses enjoy equal status in the ministry. This Congregation does not accept that the customary practice followed in Kerala, of excluding from the community those who marry non-Knanaya spouses, is extensible to the United States of America.

It is in keeping with this instruction and my own wishes that Father Simon established a pastoral council in February, 1996 which allowed for non-endogamous representation. When Father Simon was assigned to the Mission last year, you wrote to Father Paprocki on July 5, 1995, with assurance that Father Simon "will be working under the authority and jurisdiction of His Eminence Cardinal Bernardin and that he will comply with the policy of the Chicago Archdiocese with regard to the Knanaya Catholic Mission there." That is why I was surprised to see your recent letter to Father Simon, telling him that it is "necessary to continue the pre-February 1996 position in the Knanaya Catholic Mission in order to facilitate the unity among our people."

Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry

April 1, 1996

Page Two

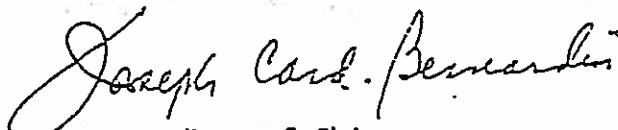
A return to the pre-February 1996 position, excluding non-endogamous representation on the pastoral council, would be contrary to my wishes and the policy of the Archdiocese. While unity among the social organizations would be desirable, those groups are independent of the Archdiocese. My primary and direct concern is for the unity of the Mission, and I do not see how unity can ever be achieved if non-endogamous people are excluded from full participation.

It is my understanding that Father Simon will be going to India after Easter and that he will have an opportunity to speak with you. I ask that you please communicate to Father Simon that he is to follow my wishes and the Archdiocese's policy for the Mission. Specifically, this means that he is to continue with the February 1996 plan for the Archdiocese's Knanaya Catholic Mission, which provides for non-endogamous persons to enjoy full participation in the Mission and representation on the Mission's pastoral council.

Your understanding and cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

With cordial good wishes for a blessed Easter, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Archbishop of Chicago

Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry
Bishop of Kottayam
The Catholic Bishop's House
P.B. No. 71
Kottayam - 686001
Kerala, India

cc: Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki, Chancellor, Archdiocese of Chicago
Ms. Teresita Nuval, Asian-American Consultant, Office of Ethnic Ministries
- Reverend Simon Edathiparampil, Director, Knanaya Catholic Mission
Mr. Jose Kaniyaly, President, Knanaya Catholic Congress of North America
Mr. Joy Vachachira, President, Knanaya Catholic Society
Mr. Joseph Mullappallil, President, Knanaya Association of North America

EXHIBIT 5

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690

July 29, 1996

(312) 751-8220
Fax (312) 751-5381

Mr. Joseph Mullappallil
President
Knanaya Association of North America
4305 West Irving Park Road
Chicago, IL 60641

Dear Joseph:

As we discussed today by telephone, Cardinal Bernardin met with Bishop Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry on July 26th. Also present for this meeting were Father Simon Edathiparampil and myself. Their conversation was cordial and open, while respecting their mutual differences.

They first discussed Bishop Kunnacherry's petition to the Holy See asking the Congregation for Oriental Churches to revoke or revise its rescript of January 30, 1986 (Prot. N. 124/83), which stated, "This Congregation does not accept that the customary practice followed in Kerala, of excluding from the community those who marry non-Knanaya spouses, is extensible to the United States of America." In response to Bishop Kunnacherry's request that Cardinal Bernardin support his petition, the Cardinal responded that in conscience he could not do so. He said that he would, of course, abide by whatever decision the Holy See renders in this regard.

While this matter is pending in Rome, and also since the Holy See has appointed Bishop Gregory Karotemprel as Apostolic Visitor to North America to assess the pastoral care of Syro-Malabar Catholics in the United States of America and in Canada, they decided that it will be best in the meantime to maintain the *status quo* at the Knanaya Catholic Mission of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Accordingly, in the meantime, the implementation of a pastoral council for the Mission as previously proposed will not be insisted upon.

Given the complexity of the matters involved, I hope that you will understand and accept the outcome of this meeting. It is sad that divisions remain in the Knanaya community, but unity will only come about when all the members of the community are willing to overcome their differences. I pray that God will one day grant this grace.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki
Chancellor

cc: Ms. Teresita Nuval, Asian-American Consultant, Office of Ethnic Ministries

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8220
Fax (312) 751-5381

April 13, 1998

Mr. Lukose Paret
Secretary
Knanaya Association of North America
9025 N. National
Morton Grove, IL 60053

Dear Pat:

I am writing belatedly and apologetically in response to the correspondence and phone calls from Joseph Mullappallil and yourself regarding the decision of the Holy See to the appeal of the Bishop of Kottayam concerning the policy of the Archdiocese of Chicago for the Knanaya Catholic Mission in Chicago. Due to attending the Synod in Rome for three weeks in November, my father's death in December, the replacement of my administrative assistant in January, coordinating the trip for over 900 pilgrims to Rome for Cardinal George's elevation to the College of Cardinals in February, and taking some much-needed vacation in March, I have been somewhat distracted, to say the least. Now that we have also finished our observances of Lent and Easter Sunday, I am finally able to address your concerns. Thank you for your patience.

On October 3, 1997, Cardinal Achille Silvestrini, Prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches, issued a decision in reference to the request of Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry, Bishop of Kottayam of the Syro-Malabar Rite, to revoke the Congregation's rescript issued in 1986 supporting the pastoral policy of the late Cardinal Bernardin for the Knanaya Catholic Mission of Chicago. Since the decision is contained in a letter addressed to Mar Kunnacherry with a copy provided to Cardinal George, I believe it would not be appropriate to circulate copies of this correspondence. Insofar as the contents of that letter pertain to the life of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Knanaya Catholic Mission, however, I will quote from pertinent passages. After expressing the appreciation of the Congregation for Eastern Churches to Mar Kunnacherry for his "continued concern and support for the pastoral care of the Syro-Malabar faithful of the Eparchy of Kottayam living in the United States and in other locations outside Kerala," Cardinal Silvestrini wrote:

After careful consideration of the material of the case, this Congregation continues to support the pastoral policy of the late Cardinal Bernardin, the same policy which his successor Archbishop Francis George wishes to continue. As was stated in the rescript Prot. N. 124/83 of 30 January 1986, this Congregation re-affirms that "the special ministry for the Knanaya community can be conducted only on the basis that those Knanaya Catholics who married non-Knanaya spouses may enjoy equal status in the ministry. This Congregation does not accept that the customary practice followed in Kerala of excluding from the community those who marry non-Knanaya spouses, is extendible to the United States of America."

Mr. Lukose Paret
April 13, 1998
Page 2

In his cover letter to Archbishop George, Cardinal Silvestrini wrote, "It is the hope of this Congregation that this decision will clarify all uncertainties and facilitate the pastoral care of the Syro-Malabar faithful in the Knanaya Mission."

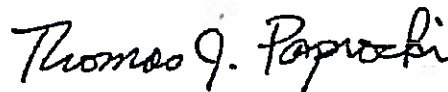
Regarding your question whether the conditions for the existence of the ministry will be restored, as set forth in my letter dated February 3, 1996 to the Director of the Mission, I wrote to Joseph Mullappallil on July 29, 1996 that it would be best "to maintain the *status quo* at the Knanaya Catholic Mission" pending the outcome not only of Mar Kunnacherry's appeal, but also the report of Bishop Gregory Karotemprel, who was appointed by the Holy See "as Apostolic Visitor to North America to assess the pastoral care of Syro-Malabar Catholics in the United States of America and in Canada."

On August 4, 1997, Archbishop Miroslav Marusyn, Secretary of the Congregation for the Eastern Churches, informed Archbishop George that "the report furnished by Bishop Karotemprel has only recently been submitted to the Holy Father and is presently under the study of this Congregation." He further stated "that upon completion of the study, any further recommendations will be communicated to the concerned bishops as soon as possible."

For now, I am informing Father Simon Edathiparampil, Director of the Archdiocese's Knanaya Catholic Mission, of the decision of the Holy See regarding Mar Kunnacherry's appeal and I will be in conversation with him about the Archdiocese's policies for the Mission.

With best wishes for a blessed Easter season, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki
Chancellor

cc: Reverend Simon Edathiparampil, Director
Knanaya Catholic Mission
of the Archdiocese of Chicago

Mr. Joseph Mullappallil, President
Knanaya Association of North America

Ms. Teresita Nuval, Asian-American Consultant, Office of Ethnic Ministries

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8220
Fax (312) 751-5381

October 26, 1995

His Excellency
Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry
Bishop of Kottayam
Post Office Box 71
Kottayam 686 001
Kerala, INDIA

Dear Bishop Kunnacherry:

On behalf of His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, and as his Delegate for Eastern Catholic Churches under his jurisdiction in the Archdiocese of Chicago, I am writing to you concerning the formation of one Knanaya Catholic Association in Chicago.

As you know, the Knanaya Catholic community in Chicago has suffered some serious divisions which are harmful to the unity of Christ's Church. Now, after lengthy discussions, it appears that it may be possible to reach an agreeable accommodation among the parties involved.

The two current organizations, KANA and KCS, would cease to exist under the terms of agreement for the formation of one Knanaya Catholic Association in Chicago. The name of the new organization would be the "Knanaya Catholic Congress of Chicago." A copy of the agreement is enclosed.

The Archdiocese of Chicago is eager to approve this new organization if it will bring unity and an end to the sad divisions in the Knanaya Catholic community in Chicago. However, in order for this new organization to be fully supported by all members of the community, it would be most helpful to receive your endorsement. Accordingly, I would be most pleased to receive from you a letter endorsing the formation of the Knanaya Catholic Congress of Chicago and expressing your wishes for Knanaya Catholics in Chicago to come together in unity and peace.

With gratitude for your consideration of this matter, and with cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas J. Paprocki".

Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki
Chancellor

cc: His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin
Rev. Simon Edathiparampil, Director, Knanaya Catholic Mission of the
Archdiocese of Chicago
bc: Mr. Joy Vachachira
Ms. Teresita Nuval, Asian-American Consultant, Ofc. of Ethnic Ministries



CONGREGATIO
PRO ECCLESIIS ORIENTALIBUS

00193 Roma 27 March 2003
Via della Conciliazione, 34
Indirizzo postale: 00120 Città del Vaticano

Prot. N. 24/91

Dear Mr. Lukose,

Herewith I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated February 26, 2003 with which you forwarded to this Dicastery information on the Knanaya community in North America and copies of publications by the KCCNA.

Thank you for this and previous communications, which you have kindly sent to this Office, and thank you for keeping this Congregation informed on important developments in the Knanaya community in the US.

Despite reports to the contrary, this Dicastery firmly holds to the pastoral instructions and directives of the Archbishops of Chicago, most recently re-confirmed by this Office with letter Prot. N. 24/91 of October 26, 2002 to His Excellency Mar Jacob Angadiath, Bishop of St. Thomas the Apostle Syro-Malabar Eparchy of Chicago, and therefore does not foresee any change in the assessment of the Holy See in this regard.

Please rest assured that this Dicastery is following the developments in the Knanaya community very carefully and most fervently hopes that all Syro-Malabar faithful, without distinction, may remain firmly united in the one faith of the Syro-Malabar Church and recognize how richly blessed they are being part of this most venerable Catholic tradition.

With kindest regards and prayerful best wishes

+ Ignace Moussa Card. Daoud

✠ Ignace Moussa Card. Daoud
Patriarch emeritus of Antioch of the Syrians, Prefect

+ Antonio Maria Veglio
✠ Antonio Maria Veglio
Secretary

Sig. Peter LUKOSE
President
"Knanaya Association of North America"
P.O. Box 12

JAN-3-2004 09:05A FROM:

TO: 18476631283

P: 1



Mar Jacob Angadiath
 Bishop
 Permanent Apostolic Visitor to Canada

St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Catholic Diocese of Chicago

3009 S. 49th Avenue
 Cicero, IL 60804
 Tel: 708-656-3362, 708-656-3365
 Fax: 708-656-8663
www.stthomasdiocese.org
bishop@stthomasdiocese.org

December 19, 2003

Mr. Cyriac Parathara
 1709 Clear Lake Avenue
 Milpitar, CA 95035

Ref.: Knanaya Mission

Dear Mr. Cyriac,

Your letters dated Nov. 11, 2003 and Dec. 16, 2003 have reached me in due time. Sorry for the delay to respond to your request.

Knanaya Catholic Missions are recognized as missions of this St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Diocese of Chicago based on the "Instructions" I have received from the Congregation for Oriental Churches in Rome. Knanaya Missions are for all Knanaya Catholics. But no Knanaya Mission in this diocese is strictly endogamous. Knanaya Catholics who get married to non-Knanaya spouses will continue in their Knanaya Missions along with their spouses and children.

May I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Yours sincerely in the Lord,

+ Jacob Angadiath

Mar Jacob Angadiath
 Bishop

Copies: Most Rev. Patrick J. McGrath
Rev. Fr. Dominic Joseph

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago
Episcopal Vicar of Vicariate IV



1400 South Austin Blvd.
Cicero, Illinois 60804

(708) 329-4040
Fax: (708) 222-8854

September 26, 2006

Mr. Pat Lukose/Lukose Pattiyal
1001 Elgin Ave.
Forest Park, IL 60130

Dear Pat:

Please excuse the delay in responding to your letter of January 9, 2006 due to the volume of my correspondence and commitments as a Bishop. You wrote about two things.

First, regarding St. Eulalia Parish, Cardinal George and I reached the conclusion that the Archdiocese of Chicago needs only one parish in Maywood. As you know, after several months of prayerful consideration and deliberation, it was decided retain St. Eulalia Parish and to close St. James Parish effective September 1, 2006.

Second, regarding the Knanaya Catholic Community, St. James Church has been sold to the St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Catholic Diocese of Chicago and Bishop Mar Jacob Angadiath has established a new parish there under the title of Sacred Heart Knanaya Catholic Church. In our discussions, I have always tried to be clear about following the protocols of the Holy See with regard to providing pastoral service to non-endogamous members of the community.

I was present last Sunday for the Holy Mass and Inaugural services of the new Sacred Heart Knanaya Catholic Church in Maywood, Illinois. My presence and involvement should not be construed as endorsing discrimination or any other unethical practices in any way. On the contrary, I pray that the establishment of this new parish will be beneficial for the entire Knanaya Catholic community.

Please pray for me as I pray for you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Paprocki".

Most Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki
Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago
Episcopal Vicar of Vicariate IV