

OO - RC/syr-india

**"JOINT COMMISSION BETWEEN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
AND THE MALANKARA SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH" (INDIA)  
United to Syrian Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch under Patriarch Ignatius Zakka I Iwas at Damascus  
[ [www.syrianorthodoxchurch.org](http://www.syrianorthodoxchurch.org) ]**

Sponsored by: The Malankara Syrian Orthodox Church [ [www.indianorthodoxchurch.com](http://www.indianorthodoxchurch.com) ] /  
Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity formerly Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity  
[ [www.christianunity.va](http://www.christianunity.va) ]

COMMON DECLARATION of Pope Paul VI and Mar Ignatius Jacob III 27 October 1971  
COMMON DECLARATION of Pope John Paul II and Mar Ignatius Zakka I Iwas 23 June 1984

MEETINGS:

December 15, 1990 - Manganam, India

*"Preparatory meeting; establishment of three sub-committees on pastoral problems, inter-marriage, historical background of the division" - REPORT*

1. December 6-7, 1991 - Kottayam, India

*"Mixed Marriages; Pastoral problems; Historical Background of the Division"*

2. December 14-15, 1992 - Kottayam, India

*"Mixed Marriages; Pastoral Guidelines for Catholics and Orthodox" - REPORT*

3. November 19, 1993 - Mutanthuruthy, India

*"Mixed Marriages; Pastoral Guidelines for Catholics and Orthodox; Bishops' Function and Role at Local and Regional Levels" - REPORT and AGREEMENT ON INTER-CHURCH MARRIAGES and PASTORAL GUIDELINES*

4. December 9, 1994 - Kottayam, India

*"Reception of the Guidelines and Pastoral Directives on Marriage; Function and Role of Bishops on the Regional and Local Levels; Role of the Episcopate in the Unity of the Church; Common Witness" - REPORT*

5. October 9, 1995 - Kottayam, India

September 25, 2000 - Kottayam, India

*"Preparatory Meeting" - REPORT*

6. October 14-16, 2001 - Mulanthuruthy (Ernakulam), India

*"Assessment of the Agreements reached in the Period between 1990 and 1994 and an Evaluation of their Application on the Practical Level; Doctrinal Study on the Relation between Episcopacy and the Petrine Ministry; Historical Approach of our Common Heritage, Developed and Lived during the Pre-Portuguese Period" - REPORT*

7. October 13-15, 2002 - Kottayam, India

*"The Petrine Ministry in Relation to the See of Rome and the See of Antioch" - REPORT*

8. October 7, 2003 - Mulanthuruthy (Emakulam, Kerala)  
*"Two issues were on the agenda, related to (1) the nature of the Church, and (2) common witness"- REPORT*
9. October 11, 2004 - Kottayam, India  
*"Four topics were discussed, related to ecclesial communion: (1) Degrees of Communion. Hierarchy of Truth; (2) Ecumenical Perspectives on Communion; (3) Biblical and Theological Understanding of Communion; (4) Communion and Primacy (work on a first draft of a comprehensive statement)" - REPORT*
10. December 5, 2005 - Puthencruz, India  
*"Church as Communion; various models of communion which existed in the early centuries of Christianity, particularly between the Churches situated inside and those outside the Roman Empire." - REPORT*
11. September 11, 2006 - Kottayam, India  
*"Reception of Agreements between the Catholic Church and the Malankara Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church" - REPORT*
12. December 15, 2009 - Puthencruz, India  
*"The Petrine ministry in the Latin liturgical tradition and in the Syrian liturgical tradition, followed by a reflection on how the Oriental Orthodox Churches see the document from the North American Orthodox-Catholic Theological Consultation entitled: 'Steps Towards A Reunited Church'" - REPORT*
13. December 7, 2010 - Kottayam, India  
*"The Petrine ministry, the moral issues on marriage and divorce and the preparation of the publication of the Agreements and Statements between the Catholic Church and the Malankara Syrian Orthodox Church in the last 25 years" - REPORT*
14. December 6, 2011 - Puthencruz, India  
*"Episcopal churches and the Pentecostal movements; drafting a practical joint plan such as publishing pamphlets, pastoral letters etc.." - REPORT*
15. December 5, 2012 - Kottayam, India  
*"Statement on 'Nature, Constitution and Mission of the Church'; mission in the religious pluralistic context of India"*
16. December 16, 2013 - Puthencruz, India  
*"Ministry according to the Syrian liturgical and patristic tradition; the presentation of a document from the North American Orthodox-Catholic Theological Consultation, entitled 'Steps Towards A Reunited Church: A Sketch of an Orthodox-Catholic Vision for the Future'"*
17. December 3, 2014 - Kottayam, India  
*"The Petrine ministry in the Latin liturgical tradition and in the Syrian liturgical tradition; a reflection on how the Oriental Orthodox Churches see the document from the North American Orthodox-Catholic Theological Consultation entitled: 'Steps Towards A Reunited Church'"*
18. December 14, 2015 - Puthencruz, India  
*"The Petrine ministry; the moral issues on marriage and divorce and the preparation of the publication of the Agreements and Statements between the Catholic Church and the Malankara Syrian Orthodox Church in the last 25 years"*
19. December 12, 2016 - Kottayam, India  
*"Pastoral Guidelines for sharing in prayer and sacramental life in the Church; Malankara Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church's perspective on particular church, local church and universal church; implementation of the Agreement on Mixed Marriage"*
20. December 11, 2017 - Puthencruz, India  
*"Common reflection on the pastoral guidelines on inter-church marriages signed by the authorities of both Churches; study of the ecclesiology of Mor Jacog of Sarug" - REPORT*

21. December 11, 2018 - Puthencruz, India  
*"Joint Pastoral Guidelines on Inter-Church marriage; the ecclesiology of Saint Ephrem; the Catholic understanding of local-universal Church; the Syrian Orthodox understanding of local-universal Church"*
22. December 9, 2019 - Mulanthuruthy, India  
*"Discussed a project of joint pastoral guidelines for interchurch marriages; A Contextual Reading of Patristic Theology; Principles of koinonia in St Basil the Great" - REPORT*
23. December 9, 2020 - Manganam, Kottayam, India  
*"The Fruits of the Dialogue; Ecclesiology of Jacob of Sarug; and Revised Joint Pastoral Guidelines for Inter-Church Marriages"*

CO-CHAIRMEN: Bishop Pierre Duprey, Secretary, Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (1990-1994)  
Bishop Marc Ouellet, Secretary, Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (2001-2002)  
Archbishop Mar Joseph Powathil (2003, 2006)  
Bishop Brian Farrell, lc, Secretary, Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (2004, 2005, 2009-2018)

Metropolitan Abrahm Mar Clemis (1990)  
Thomas Mar Osthathius (1991)  
Dr. Thomas Mor Athanasius (1992, 1994)  
Yuhanon Mor Meletius (1993)  
Metropolitan Yuhanon Mar Philexinos (2001)  
Mar Koorilose (2002 )  
Metropolitan Kuriakose Mar Theophilos (2003-2005, 2009-2018)  
Bishop Thomas Mor Themotheos (2006)

CO-SECRETARIES: Msgr. Gérard Daucourt, Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (1990, 1991)  
Rev. Bernard Dubasque, Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (1992, 1993, 1994)  
Rev. Johan Bonny, Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (2001-2006)  
Rev. Gabriel Quicke, Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (2009-2017)  
Rev. Fr. Hyacinthe Destivelle, Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (2018-)

Rev. Kuriakose Moolayil (1991-1994)  
Chor Bishop Adai Jacob (2001- 2005, 2009-)  
Rev. Shibu Cherian (2006)