



St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral, Malaysia for about thirty years. He is also serving as the Chairman of the Student Christian Movement (SCM) in Malaysia, Vice-President of the National Council of Churches of Malaysia, Director of the Community Center for Inter-Faith and Peace initiative, Co-Chairman of Friendship group for Inter-religious services (FGIS) and Director of the Y.M.C.A Kuala Lumpur.

#### Key Discussions to be addressed during the conference

1. The future young generation.
2. Obstacles in coming to Church regularly.
3. Those who find it difficult to understand or relish the Holy Sacraments, the faith and tradition of our Church.
4. Those who are part of our Church from other Christian denominations.
5. Parenting challenges of the Millennial.

#### Registration for 3 days conference - AED 10 per individual

Members that are aged 25 and above should attend this 3 day conference to experience this journey. Your only platform to express your challenges.

For more information, please contact  
**050 552 2341 / 050 654 4860**  
**050 656 2234**

For Private Circulation only

## St. THOMAS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, DUBAI ORTHODOX DIASPORA

Presents

**3** day Conference

# GENERATIONS THRIVING IN FAITH

PSALMS 145:4



**WHEN**

Date	Day	Timings
26-4-2017	Wednesday	20:00 - 21:30
27-4-2017	Thursday	20:00 - 21:30
28.4-2017	Friday	11:00 - 16:00

**WHERE - St. Thomas Orthodox Cathedral, Dubai**



## What is Orthodox Diaspora?

The term diaspora comes from an ancient Greek word meaning "to scatter about." And that's exactly what the people of a diaspora do — they scatter from their homeland to places across the globe, spreading their culture as they go. The Bible refers to the Diaspora of Jews exiled from Israel by the Babylonians. The visible Church today is unable to realize it in all its fullness because of many difficulties and obsta-

## Bible and Diaspora

In the broadest meaning of the word, the Diaspora would refer to the countless Jews living outside of Israel, and that is exactly the meaning we see in John 7:35 where the Jewish religious leaders would wonder where Jesus was going and if He was intending to go to "the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks." Jesus had told them that where He was going they could not come, nor could they find Him. Jesus, of

"those that were scattered went everywhere preaching the word."

## Diaspora in Malankara Orthodox church

The Indian Orthodox Believers were among the first to travel to other foreign countries in the search of occupation, livelihood and education. World War- II provided an opportunity to witness foreign locations and aftermath, settled there. The Outside Kerala Dioceses are

thriving because of the feasibility of job opportunities and scope for better family welfare. The Outside India Dioceses are a combinations of different cultures and traditions. Here, the younger generation are ambitious, very highly qualified and professional trend-setters. The church as a whole is taking steps to amalgamate the Diaspora community. In Dubai itself, we can see the third generation of believers; thus, it is high time that these people should be addressed.

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## Aims of Diaspora

1. To provide Spiritual nourishment to the future young generation brought up in the diaspora.
  2. To provide a bridge for the people who do not come to Church regularly.
  3. To empower those people who find it difficult to understand or relish the Holy Sacraments, the faith and tradition of our Church.
  4. To Tend those who are part of our Church from other denominations and religions.
  5. Parental adaptation to the language of the Diaspora
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cles faced by our members born outside Kerala. In the light of this vision, the Indian Orthodox Diaspora is creating a platform to our upcoming generation to include them in the main stream of our church activities.

## History

Around the 1st century ad, an estimated 5,000,000 Jews lived outside Palestine, about four-fifths of them within the Roman Empire, but they looked to Palestine as the centre of their religious and cultural life. Diaspora Jews thus far outnumbered the Jews in Palestine even before the destruction of Jerusalem in ad 70.

course, was speaking of returning to be with God the Father, but the Jewish leaders thought He was going to be with Jews scattered abroad instead.

However, in the rest of the New Testament, the meaning of the Diaspora seems to evolve somewhat. First it refers more specifically to Jewish Christians who were spread out all over the Roman Empire rather than Jews in general. In Acts 8:1-4 we see the gospel being spread as the persecution of Jewish Christians began in Jerusalem, so the Jewish Christians were "scattered" or dispersed "throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria" and

