



APOSTOLIC VICARIATE OF NORTHERN ARABIA

BAHRAIN • KUWAIT • QATAR • SAUDI ARABIA

Prot. N. : 006 / 2018

Date: 11 January 2018

To,

**Rev. Fr. Johnny Lonis, OFM Cap
St. Daniel Comboni Parish
Jleeb al-Shuyoukh
Kuwait**

Reverend and Dear Fr. Johnny,

Peace!

By this letter I want to appoint you officially as Episcopal Vicar of the Syro-Malabar in the Vicariate. I know that the task is not easy, you shall have difficulties, but I know also that your experience and wisdom will help you to overcome problems.

You shall have a particular attention to the Syro-Malabar community of Qatar. I am sure that Fr. Peter, VG, can help you a lot because he was there for some years. I describe your role as follows:

The Apostolic Vicar has overall jurisdiction in the Vicariate and hence it is my sole prerogative to establish structures for the smooth administration of the Vicariate. One of such arrangements is to provide an Episcopal Vicar to supervise the pastoral care of the faithful belonging to the Syro-Malabar Rite.

As my Episcopal Vicar for the Syro-Malabar, you will be functioning strictly under the local Bishop who alone has jurisdiction over such migrant faithful living in the Vicariate.

This pastoral care includes mainly the supervision over celebration of the liturgy in the Syro-Malabar Rite and faith formation through proper catechesis and other spiritual activities proper to their Rite.

You have to monitor closely the functioning of these structures and to send me suggestions and recommendations for the smoothing running of these institutions. For important matters you have to seek my advice.

Though the Syro-Malabar Church has its own system of functioning, in these matters of Liturgy and faith formation, they should be integrated to the parish. Always they have to function under the direction of the Parish Priest.

While inviting Bishops and Priests from India for pastoral ministry, you should get my permission and should submit to me the purpose of their visits with detailed program of the ministry. Bishops who sent or are sending priests to Saudi Arabia without my approval are not accepted.



Also, you should coordinate the pastoral and spiritual activities of the priests. You can call occasional meetings to evaluate their ministry. You should coordinate with them the various pastoral activities in the parishes, always in consultation with the Parish Priest. You should also make dialogue with the priests concerned regarding their annual vacation or their home visits so that we can avoid inviting too many guest priests for replacement. When we reach consensus on this matter, it should be notified to the Vicar General and to me.

You will start your office on 31st January 2018.

God give you his Grace, the Holy Spirit!

+ Camillo Ballin, mccc

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Copy to:

- His Beatitude Mar George Card. Alencherry, Major Archbishop
- His Grace Archbishop Francisco M. Padilla, Apostolic Nuncio
- Fr. Peter P. Mathew, OFM Cap, Vicar General
- Fr. Paul Koenig, OFM Cap, Custos
- The Clergy of the Vicariate