



June 3, 2008 - Syro-Malabar Community & St. Jeremiah's Church in Framingham

The Archdiocese of Boston announced today that beginning in early June 2008, a priest of the Syro-Malabar Church will provide a Mass of the Roman Rite in English on Sundays at St. Jeremiah Church in Framingham, MA

Cardinal Seán is granting the Syro-Malabar priest permission for this one Mass on Sunday in the same way that he has granted it to the Latin-rite priests who have been celebrating Mass at St. Jeremiah's.

We pray that in the days and weeks ahead, we can continue to live out our faith through the common interests we share together as Catholics and people of God.

A priest of the Syro-Malabar Church will live in the rectory at St. Jeremiah and provide ministry at the church for the Syro-Malabar community in the Archdiocese of Boston. The Syro-Malabar priest will work with those currently at St. Jeremiah church to arrange a mutually agreeable plan for the use of the church. The Syro-Malabar diocese will be responsible for the operating expenses of the church and rectory. The Syro-Malabar community will have a full pastoral and liturgical life at St. Jeremiah Church.

This step is not intended to signal that Saint Jeremiah Parish will reopen as a parish of the Archdiocese of Boston. After all canonical appeals have been concluded and taking their results into consideration, the Archdiocese will be in consultation with the leadership of the Syro-Malabar eparchy concerning the possibility of establishing a Syro-Malabar parish at St. Jeremiah's. Such a parish would not be a parish of the Archdiocese but of the Syro-Malabar eparchy in the United States, with its headquarters in Chicago. It will be a similar situation to that which exists at Our Lady of the Cedars of Lebanon in Jamaica Plain. Although Our Lady of the Cedars is located in the Archdiocese of Boston, it is a parish of the Maronite eparchy in the United States with its seat in Brooklyn.

To learn more about the Syro-Malabar Church please visit their website at <http://www.smcim.org>.

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