



## **Academic Board of St. Petersburg Theological Academy confers the title of honorary doctor on its graduate His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Mathews III**



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On August 31, there took place a joint session of the Academic Board and the General Meeting of professors and lecturers of the St. Petersburg Theological Academy, at which its rector, Bishop Siluan of Petergof, read out a resolution of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' with a blessing to confer the title of doctor honoris causa to the Primate of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Mathews III.

His Holiness was enthroned as Catholicos of the East and Malankara Metropolitan on October 15, 2021. He is reckoned as the 92<sup>nd</sup> Primate of the Apostolic Throne of St. Thomas.

He was born in India on February 12, 1949. After his school education, he joined Kerala University where he got his Bachelor of Science in chemistry. Thereupon he joined the Orthodox Theological Seminary in Kottayam. He studied at the Leningrad Theological Academy from October 1977 to June 1979 and after that at the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome where he earned masters and doctorate degrees in philosophy.

Baselios Marthoma Mathews III was consecrated bishop on April 30, 1991 in Parumala, and elevated to the rank of metropolitan in 1993. He is a teacher and faculty member at the Orthodox Theological Seminary in Kottayam.

His Holiness is well known by his active social ministry. He has started many ventures to help give employment opportunities to women from the economically backward classes. Also, he served the Holy Episcopal Synod as its secretary.

Baselios Marthoma Mathews III has authored several scholarly books, including “Word Became Flesh: The Christology of Philoxenos of Mabbug” published in 2021 on the basis of his doctorate defended at the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome in 1984, reports the press service of the St. Petersburg Theological Academy.

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