



CHERUPUSHPA MISSION LEAGUE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES



SYRO MALABAR EPARCHY
OF ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE, MELBOURNE

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OF ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE, MELBOURNE

Dear Rev. Fathers, Sisters, Parents, Teachers, and Beloved Children,

It gives me immense joy to extend my heartfelt greetings and blessings to all associated with the *Cherupushpa* Mission League. The Church has always considered children not merely as the future of society, but as active participants in the mission of Christ today.

In today's rapidly changing world, children require not only academic excellence but also spiritual strength, moral values, compassion, discipline, and a sense of responsibility towards society and the Church. The Mission League serves as a beautiful platform for the integral development of children by helping them grow in core values.

Inspired by the life and missionary zeal of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, the Little Flower, Mission league instills values of faith, service, leadership, love for humanity, and commitment to Christian living through its various activities

The operational guidelines prepared for the league provide a clear direction for organizing and carrying out its activities effectively in every parish and mission. These guidelines will help priests, animators, parents, and children work together in unity and commitment for the smooth functioning and spiritual growth of the members.

I sincerely appreciate the dedicated efforts of all priests, teachers, animators, and parents who guide our children with love and care. Dear children, you are the hope of the Church and society. I encourage you to participate actively in the Mission League and become shining witnesses of Jesus through your words and actions.

Let us work together—children, parents, and leaders—to make this mission a vibrant and fruitful journey of faith. May each child grow like a “little flower” in the garden of the Church, spreading the fragrance of love, kindness, and service wherever they go.

With prayers and blessings,

+Bishop John Panamthottathil

Bishop of Syro-Malabar Eparchy of St. Thomas the Apostle, Melbourne

11 June 2026

1. Introduction: Cherupushpa Mission League (CML) is one of the mission ventures of the Syro-Malabar Church started on October 3, 1947, as a lay initiative to promote the missionary zeal among the members of the Church, especially children and youngsters. Two visionaries P. C. Abram Pallattukunnel who is popularly known as Kunjettan (Little Brother) and Fr Joseph Maliparampil formed this pious organisation. The purpose of CML is to practice what children learn through the catechism School faith program, especially the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. By setting clear structure and guidelines, CML can improve organizational efficiency, foster inclusive participation, and uphold spiritual integrity and values in its activities, ensuring respect for mission principles. Eparchial leadership reserves the right to review these guidelines periodically or as required to maintain their relevance and effectiveness in meeting the evolving needs of the children and community. Directors, Coordinators, Secretaries, animators, parents and members are to strictly comply with these guidelines along with any other relevant guidelines of the eparchy. Content of this document is intended solely for the use of the individuals or entity to whom it is addressed. Unauthorized disclosure, copying, reproduction, distribution, or reliance on the contents of this document is strictly prohibited

2. AIM: Fostering the Mission Spirit and Assisting the Missionaries by means of Prayer, Man, Money, Vocation Promotion, Initiate Leadership, and Spiritual Development.

3. MOTTO:

Love- God's love was unconditional one filled with mercy

Service- The call to be a Christian is to serve the community and the society in all possible ways, Service, and Suffering.

Sacrifice- Jesus Christ set the example of Supreme Sacrifice. The love to fellow being is tested on the rubbing stone of sacrifice.

Sufferings- Nowhere do we see Him so clearly as on the cross. Nowhere do we see His deity so manifest as on the cross. There is no crown without cross and no gain without pain.

4. HEAVENLY PATRON: St. Therese of Lisieux (Little Flower)

Co-Patrons:

- St. Thomas the Apostle
- St. Francis Xavier
- St. Alphonsa

5. MEMBERSHIP:

5.1 Parents of eligible children who accept the Mission League's terms and conditions may complete the annual enrolment at the beginning of the year (January). Enrollment will not be permitted after the deadline unless the family has recently moved into the area or another special circumstance approved by the parish/mission priest/director. Children who wish to continue must re-enroll each subsequent years. Participation is voluntary, and children should be encouraged—but not pressured—to join.

5.2 Children from grades 5 through 12 registered with respective parishes/missions, enrolled and active in catechism, and have received their First Holy Communion are eligible for membership. As per each parish/mission demographic profile children can be divided into junior and senior CML.

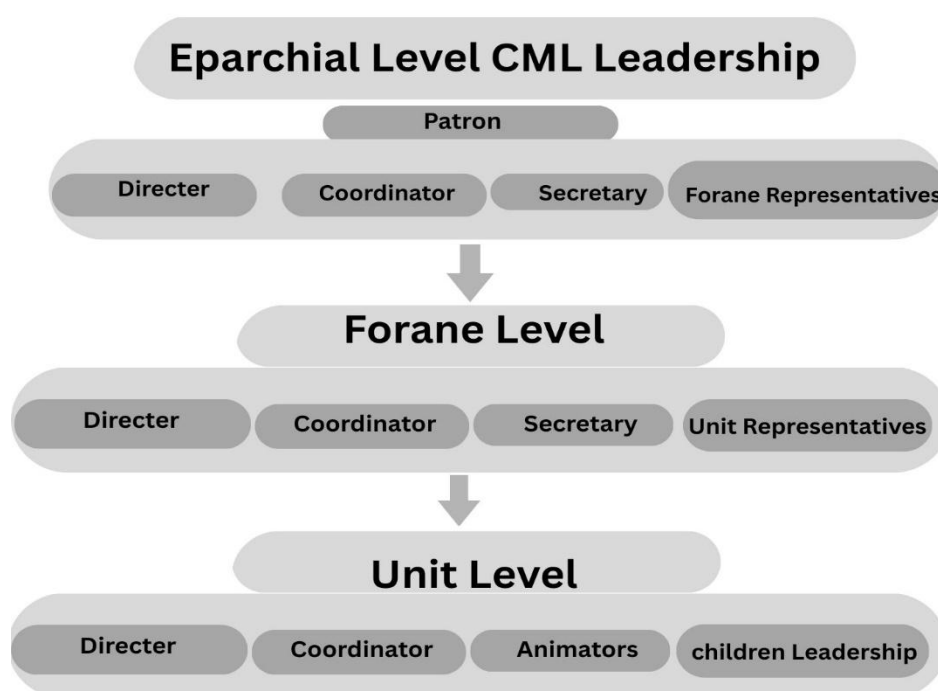
5.3 Children must lead lives of faith, love, and service to others, actively participating in church activities and sacraments.

5.4 Children must recite the daily CML prayers for missionaries worldwide.

5.5 Being an exclusive parent initiative, parents must **(mandatory)** actively commit to volunteering and take leadership and responsibilities for their children's activities according to the assigned roster.

5.6 Children are expected to attend regular Mission League prayer meetings (fortnightly or monthly) and other activities supported by their parents. Children who are absent without any valid reason and notification for more than 3 months will be removed from the register without any notification.

6. ORGANIZATION & LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE



6.1 Eparchial Leadership: CML Eparchial Leadership Team functions collaboratively, rooted in prayer, service, and missionary spirit. Each member shares responsibility in planning, decision-making, and implementation, fostering unity and active participation throughout the eparchy. Strong leadership is marked by accountability, communication, teamwork, and a deep commitment to nurturing young missionaries in faith and action.

6.1.1. Patron: Bishop, Syro-Malabar Eparchy of St. Thomas the Apostle, Melbourne

6.1.2. Eparchial Director (Priest): The spiritual and pastoral leader of CML in the Eparchy, appointed by the bishop for a term of three years, with the possibility of extension for additional terms at the bishop's discretion.

Responsibilities

- Provide strong spiritual leadership and clear direction for CML at the Eparchy level.
- Strategically design and implement a dynamic annual pastoral and missionary plan.
- Lead and oversee impactful Eparchy-wide initiatives, including retreats, camps, mission days, competitions, and rallies.
- Mentor, empower, and actively support Forane Directors and leadership teams.
- Safeguard the integrity of all initiatives by ensuring fidelity to the mission and spirituality of the Eparchial Cherupushpa Mission League, free from personal or ideological influence.
- Represent CML with clarity and conviction in Eparchial pastoral assemblies.
- Inspire and nurture missionary zeal and vocation awareness among children

6.1.3. Eparchial Coordinator (Lay person)

The Eparchial Coordinator serves as the principal organizing and operational leader of CML at the eparchial level. Eparchial Bishop in consultation with the director, shall appoint a layperson to this position for a term of two years, taking into consideration the individual's prior experience in the Cherupushpa Mission League and demonstrated leadership abilities, ideally a parent of CML member. Although a new person is preferred, the coordinator may be reappointed for no more than one additional consecutive term if required. The Coordinator must also exhibit a strong commitment to pastoral ministry, possess sound organizational and communication skills, and be capable of effective collaboration with both clergy and laity at eparchial, the forane and unit levels.

Responsibilities

- Lead and coordinate all CML activities across the Eparchy with efficiency and vision.
- Foster strong, consistent communication between the Eparchy Director, Forane teams, and parish units.
- Develop and manage a comprehensive annual calendar of programs and initiatives.
- Organize and facilitate impactful formation programs, training sessions, and leadership conferences.
- Play a key role in planning and executing Eparchy-level camps, rallies, and mission initiatives.
- Oversee and strengthen the functioning of Forane units through regular guidance and follow-up.
- Systematically gather, review, and present reports from Forane coordinators.
- Motivate and increase active participation of children in all Eparchial programs.

6.1.4. Secretary (Lay person)

The Eparchial Secretary is responsible for the administration, documentation, communication, and financial record-keeping of the CML at the eparchial level. The Secretary shall be selected from the forane representatives appointed by the Director for a term of two years, taking into consideration the individual's administrative abilities, organizational skills, financial aptitude, and commitment to pastoral service. The Secretary may be reappointed for one additional term at the Director's discretion, with a maximum of two terms.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Record minutes of meetings.
- Maintain official documents and reports.
- Prepare and distribute circulars, notices, and invitations.
- Maintain an updated database of CML members and parish units.
- Prepare the annual report of diocesan activities, including financial accounts.
- Maintain accurate accounts and financial records of diocesan CML activities.
- Facilitate communication with Forane secretaries.

6.1.5. Forane/regional Representatives: Preferably Coordinators representing regions/foranes.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Represent their Forane/Region in the Eparchial Leadership Team and participate in meetings and decision-making.
- Act as a link between the Eparchy and Forane/Regional units, ensuring clear communication.
- Coordinate and support CML activities at the regional level.
- Share local needs, feedback, and reports with the Eparchial Team.
- Assist in implementing eparchial programs and organizing events.
- Promote participation, leadership, and missionary spirit among members.
- Uphold the values and responsibilities of the Eparchial Leadership Team.
- If the forane representative also serves as the unit or mission coordinator, their tenure with eparchial leadership will be two years, even though the unit coordinator term is one year and the position is assigned by another individual.

6.2. FORANE/REGIONAL LEVEL – LEADERSHIP**6.2.1. Forane Director (Priest)**

The Forane Director, a priest nominated from among the clergy of the parishes within the Forane, shall serve as the spiritual guide and principal leader of CML at the Forane level. The Forane Director shall be appointed for a term of three years and may be reappointed for further additional terms.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provide ongoing spiritual formation and guidance to CML members in the Forane.
- Mentor and support parish animators and CML leaders in their pastoral and organizational responsibilities.
- Organize Forane-level retreats, prayer gatherings, mission activities, and other pastoral initiatives.
- Implement and oversee diocesan programs and directives within the Forane.
- Support parish units, promote active participation, and encourage recruitment of new members.
- Attend diocesan leadership meetings and maintain communication with diocesan authorities regarding Forane activities.

6.2.2. Forane Coordinator

The Forane Coordinator, a layperson appointed from among the parishes of the Forane, shall serve as the operational leader of CML within the Forane. The Coordinator shall be appointed by the Director for a term of two years and may be reappointed for one additional term, with a maximum of two terms.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Coordinate activities and programs among all parish CML units within the Forane in discussion with the director.
- Organize Forane-level competitions, rallies, prayer gatherings, and other events.
- Assist the Forane Director in planning and implementing programs.
- Communicate eparchial announcements, circulars, and directives to the parish units.
- Collect reports, updates, and feedback from parish units for submission to the eparchial authorities.
- Encourage active participation of parish units in eparchial -level events and initiatives.

6.2.3. Forane Secretary (Layperson)

The Forane Secretary, a layperson appointed from the unit representatives, shall serve as the chief administrative and financial officer at the Forane level. The Secretary shall be appointed for a term of two years and may be reappointed for one additional term, with a maximum of two terms.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Record minutes of Forane-level meetings and maintain official documents, reports, and correspondence.
- Prepare and distribute circulars, notices, and invitations to parish units.
- Maintain updated records of CML members and parish units within the Forane.
- Collect contributions, fees, and donations from parish units and maintain accurate financial accounts.
- Prepare financial reports for the Forane Director, Coordinator, and diocesan authorities.
- Ensure proper utilization of funds for authorized programs and activities.
- Support the Forane Director and Coordinator in administrative, organizational, and financial tasks.

6.2.4. Parish/Mission representatives, preferably parish/Mission coordinators

- Represent their Parish/Mission in the Forane Leadership Team and participate in meetings and planning.
- Act as a link between the Forane Team and Parish/Mission units, ensuring clear communication.
- Coordinate and support CML activities at the parish/mission level.
- Share local updates, needs, and feedback with the Forane Team.
- Assist in implementing forane programs and participating in regional events.
- Encourage active participation of children and support local animators.
- Promote unity, discipline, and missionary spirit in line with CML guidelines.
- Although the term for a parish or unit mission coordinator is one year, their tenure with forane or eparchial leadership extends to two years.

6.3. Parish/Mission Leadership

6.3.1. Director: Priest of the Parish/Mission with roles as below

- Provide leadership and encouragement to CML coordination team, members and activities.
- Initiate in organizing meetings and other activities and guide the members for their spiritual growth. Direct all the activities to fulfill the CML aims.

6.3.2. Coordinator: One of the parent representatives of the children who has coordination skills and passion in the pious organisation, designated by the director or elected from parents. Prior experience in the pious organisations, creativity, innovations, coordinating children's activities to be considered. Their roles and responsibilities are as below:

- Support Director in leading CML
- Assume responsibilities in the absence of Director
- Give guidance and direction to the animators and parents
- Overall responsibility of activities- planning and coordination, allocation of roles to animators and children.
- Inviting expression of interest last week of December, creating WhatsApp group in consultation and under the guidance of the director and calling children and parents for meeting to elect new leadership.
- The newly elected coordinator shall engage with the outgoing coordinator to coordinate the handover process and ensure the seamless transition of Mission League activities.

6.3.3. Animators: 4-5 parents either nominated by parish priest or selected from parents of the mission league children, who have passion and interest in the program. It is preferred that at least one of the animators be a catechism teacher from among the parents. Any kind of personal ideologies or group politics must not influence the selection of animators; instead, they must collaborate towards a shared objective of overall wellbeing of the children. There must be enough animators as per number of the children to support the CML activities. It is preferable to have at least one member of the previous leadership team, ideally the coordinator, remain on the new leadership team to ensure a smooth transition of activities. Each animator will be assigned specific lead roles such as -media and promotion, Liturgy, Sports, arts and crafts, and workshops/camps. All parents and children can be assigned under each section to facilitate the program coordination.

Animators help create a supportive, safe, and engaging environment that benefits the children, the parents, and the wider community. Main responsibilities

- Monitor children's safety and well-being through adequate supervision and support
- Planning regular activities assigned to their roles
- Coordinating indoor and outdoor activities
- Communication and coordination -liaising with parents and team collaboration
- Spiritual guidance and role modelling
- Handling logistics and resources
- Promoting community and engagement

6.3.4. Members: Children enrolled for the CML. Members may be divided into two groups based on age and overall size—such as senior and junior CML—and, if necessary, each group may have its own parent and children leadership terms.

6.3.5. Parent Volunteers: All parents of the CML members, who are the backbone of CML. Parents to volunteer Children's activities as per the assigned roster and actively participate in the planning and coordination of the programs, work towards the overall improvement of CML, and be good model for the children. Parents to voluntarily accept leadership roles if required and attend relevant meetings.

6.3.6. Children Leadership: Leadership team as described below to be selected from the senior-most grades following a fair policy. While opportunities may generally be offered on a *first-come, first-served* basis, due consideration should be given to children who may not always come forward but show potential and would benefit from opportunities to develop their leadership and coordination skills. The goal of leadership selection is not only to recognize active members but also to form and nurture future leaders in the true spirit of the Cherupushpa Mission League.

6.3.6.1. President

- Lead the Meetings
- Responsible for sharing leadership with fellow officers (Vice-President Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer, Joint Treasurer)
- Responsible for relaying information and weekly updates about CML
- Create Effective Communication with Fellow Officers

6.3.6.2. Vice President

- Assume responsibilities of President in his/her Absence
- Lead meetings and follow up on directors' initiatives
- Responsible for all associated records and reports that are part of CML
- additional groups and provide leadership to its activities as required.

6.3.6.3. Secretary:

- Responsible for record keeping including financial reports, participant numbers, participant attendance, volunteer hours, pictures, and Officer Meeting Minutes.
- Create Agenda for Officer Meetings
- Lead in organizing activities according the aims of CML.
- Ensure that all CML records and assets are properly maintained.
- Present the activity reports and financial reports in the appropriate meetings and get the approvals. Convey the communications from upper level in the meetings
- Share Work with Joint Secretary according to each personal capability

6.3.6.4. Joint Secretary

- Assist Secretary with record-keeping duties
- Assume responsibilities in the absence of the Secretary.

6.3.6.5. Treasurer

- Responsible for updating the financial status of CML

- Responsible for accounting and expenditures including financial planning

6.3.6.3. Joint Treasurer

- Assist Treasurer with accounting and financial responsibilities
- Assume responsibilities in the absence of the Treasurer

Note: Parents of the children are expected to support their child's leadership responsibilities and maintain communication with the Coordinator and animators. Adults are not to communicate directly with children (other than their own) via phone or social media.

The term for the coordinator, animators, and children office bearers is one year, with elections held annually (February). They may be re-elected; however, no one may serve more than two consecutive terms.

Coordinator, animators and parent volunteers to have WWCC, sign volunteer service agreement and follow eparchial safeguarding policies and procedures

7. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

7.1. Discipline management:

- From the beginning, establish clear rules regarding behavior (e.g., punctuality, mutual respect, empathy, gratitude, keeping silent when appropriate). Ensure everyone understands these guidelines.
- Acknowledge children's efforts to motivate them, using opportunities to teach positive behavior and values. Consistently apply rules and positive reinforcement to encourage good conduct and maintain fairness
- If any child behaves disruptively, address the issue immediately in a calm and respectful manner with two adults present. Approach disruptions with understanding, offering guidance for improvement rather than any kind of punitive approaches. Younger children may need redirection and simple reminders, while older children might benefit from more structured conversations about the importance of focus and respect. Follow eparchial safeguarding policies for any disciplinary actions.

7.2. Prayer Life/Liturgy:

- Encourage children to make prayer a daily habit, both individually and as a group. Ensure that prayer times are sacred and respected by all. Begin and finish each activity with prayers.
- Animators and parents should model prayerful lives, guiding the children in fostering a deeper relationship with God through Holy Qurbana, prayers, reflection, and reading of the Bible.
- All CML liturgical practices must strictly adhere to the norms set by the Syro-Malabar Eparchy of Melbourne, using only official eparchial liturgical textbooks and songs. Personal interpretations or individual preferences are to be avoided, and organisers must ensure that children are never pressured to adopt any unofficial practices. The language used in any liturgical practices should be understandable to the children.
- Use this time to strengthen bonds of unity and reflect on common values.

- Follow Eparchial Church choir guidelines when its applicable.

7.3. Promoting inclusivity:

- Promote unity and inclusion, ensuring no one is excluded due to cliques or selective friendships. Address any form of groupism or bullying seriously.
- Plan team-building activities that encourage collaboration and mutual respect.
- Encourage open interactions to prevent tight-knit subgroups, ensuring everyone can contribute and connect during group activities.
- Avoid singling out children negatively on the basis of their age or skills. Prioritize support and growth, offering all children equal opportunities to perform and lead (following allocation of duties and giving turns to everyone equally), while ensuring fairness and avoiding favoritism or overemphasizing any child's skills. In alignment with the mission values, a strict first-come, first-served approach may not always be appropriate.
- Adapt to Individual Needs: Each child is unique, so be flexible in our approach. Some children may need additional encouragement or alternative learning strategies, especially if they have special needs.

7.4. Parental Involvement

- Encourage parents to participate in supporting the mission league activities, whether by helping with transportation, assisting with events, or volunteering for administrative tasks and regular meeting on their rostered days.
- Actively participate in regular parental meetings to discuss mission league goals, expectations, and the spiritual and educational benefits of their children's participation.
- Foster open communication with parents. Allow them to voice concerns or suggestions about their child's involvement and development within the mission league activities.

7.5. Time Management

- Arrive on time for all meetings, activities and prayers. Respect others' time.
- Follow the scheduled break times to ensure smooth flow of activities.
- Be mindful of time during activities and events to avoid delays.
- Stay focused on tasks and avoid unnecessary distractions to make the most of the time.
- Be prepared ahead of time for meetings and events to ensure efficient use of time.
- Complete assigned tasks and responsibilities by the agreed deadlines.

7.6. Steering clear of any political bias

- Remind animators, parents and children that the mission league is a space dedicated to faith and values, not for any particular personal or group bias or ideologies. Keep any kind of such discussions or interferences including any decision making and selection out of the group to ensure a peaceful, focused environment.

- Animators and parents should remain neutral and encourage children to respect diverse viewpoints, without letting any local politics influence or overshadow the group's shared mission.

7.7. Moving Toward Shared Goals and Direction:

- Regularly revisit the mission and values of the Cherupushpa Mission League to keep everyone aligned with the shared goals of faith, spirituality, and service to others.
- Encourage open discussions about the future of the group, ensuring that all members, both animators, parents and children, feel invested in the direction the group is heading.
- Set collective and individual goals that reflect the core values of the Mission League, motivating both children, parents and animators to work toward achieving them together

7.8. Integral and Holistic Development of Children

- Along with spiritual formation, children should be formed holistically through leadership, communication, public speaking, personality development, and emotional resilience to build confidence, responsibility, and maturity.
- They should be trained in creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, goal setting, routine building, and time management to develop discipline, independence, and sound judgment.
- Social, interpersonal, and life skills such as teamwork, empathy, inclusiveness, assertiveness, boundary setting, and cultural appreciation should be nurtured to promote respectful and harmonious relationships.
- Environmental awareness, financial discipline, and responsible stewardship should be encouraged to foster accountability and sustainable living.
- Digital literacy, cyber safety, and ethical use of technology and artificial intelligence should be emphasized for safe and responsible engagement with the modern world.
- Reading habits, mental well-being, volunteerism, and participation in physical, cultural, and outdoor activities should be promoted to build character, service-mindedness, fitness, and overall growth.
- Ultimately, these initiatives aim to form faith-filled, emotionally mature, socially responsible, and mission-oriented individuals who contribute positively to the Church and society.

7.9. Social Media Use (For Animators and Children):

- Maintain confidentiality at all times. Do not share personal information about the children or the group without consent. This includes photos, contact details, videos, and group activities.
- Both animators and children must behave with respect online, following the same principles that govern behavior in person. Avoid any form of bullying, exclusion, or negative speech on social media platforms.
- Encourage the use of secure, private channels (e.g., official WhatsApp groups, Facebook and Instagram group) for group communications. These must be monitored by animators to ensure appropriate conduct. No alternative social media group to be

formed without the approval from the parish priest. Children under 18 should not be part of any social media group including whatsapp group where adults are members.

- Obtain parental consent before sharing any photos or videos of children online. Be transparent with parents about what will be shared and how.
- Any online communication (if required) from an adult to a child should take place through their parent's social media account and in their presence.
- Discourage excessive use of social media among children and promote time for spiritual growth, social interactions, learning, and other healthy activities.
- Follow Eparchial Social media operational guidelines, privacy and data protection policy in collecting and sharing personal information.

7.10. Mobile phone Use:

- Children are discouraged to bring mobile phones to Mission League meetings and prayers to avoid peer pressure and reduction of social interactions and focus on mission values. Phones can also reduce social interaction during breaks. Parents can contact animators to reach children, and vice versa.
- Any phones brought should remain on silent or "Do Not Disturb" mode during activities and events. Phones must not be used for games or messaging during group activities.
- Phones must only be used for emergencies or with animator permission.
- No photos, videos, or recordings of the children or activities to be taken without consent. Respect everyone's privacy.
- Do not post group activities without prior approval from leadership team and parents.

7.10. Exclusive Programs for Members (Non-members Not Encouraged):

- Member-Only Activities: Create exclusive programs and events specifically for members of the Cherupushpa Mission League, where non-members are not encouraged to participate. This ensures a more focused and spiritually nurturing environment.
- Welcoming New Members: While exclusivity is important, animators must actively engage and welcome new members in a way that encourages growth and inclusion. Focus on introducing non-members to the values of the Mission League through outreach and invitation.

7.11. Focus on Values and Spirituality:

- Continuously emphasize the importance of love, respect, honesty, humility, gratitude, empathy, mindfulness and service. These values must be the foundation for all activities, discussions, and decisions within the group.
- Ensure that all programs, events, and discussions are centered around strengthening the children's spiritual lives and understanding of the Catholic faith.
- Incorporate regular times for reflection, confession, and growth in the group. Encourage children to discuss their spiritual journey and offer mutual support in their faith development.

7.12. Financial management

- CML accounting must be done as a separate section of the CDF account of the parish. No separate bank account to be opened for CML.
- All CML income and expenditures shall be maintained with clear reference to CML and transaction particulars. This should be discussed with parish priest and *Kaikkars*
- All income and expenditures must be documented accurately by the treasurer and verified by the coordinator before presenting to unit CML family; periodic financial reports may be submitted to the Forane Coordinator and eparchial authorities.
- CML funds are to be used solely for approved CML activities, programs, and mission initiatives. Significant expenditures above a predetermined limit require prior approval from the Director.
- Accounts may be audited periodically audited as per eparchial guidelines to ensure transparency accountability and proper use of funds.
- All financial records, including receipts, vouchers, and statements, must be preserved for a minimum of five years.
- Going forward, units may be expected to make a financial contribution to support the operating costs of the eparchial leadership

7.13. Usage of CML logo and badges- CML to use official CML badges, logos, flags, letter head and any other properties including T Shirts. All flyers and any other materials should align with theme of CML and should be in either English or Malayalam understood by everyone. Social media display picture and name should be aligned with the CML theme.

8. MEETINGS

The group should convene at least once a month, though parishes are encouraged to meet more frequently if possible. It is recommended to choose a consistent day and time each month based on the parish schedule. Various seating arrangements can be considered, such as a circular setup, to ensure full participation of both children and parents. Parents are encouraged to participate in the prayers and discussions during the meeting; however, children should take the lead, and their voices must not be overshadowed by parental input. It is preferable for children to rotate roles during meetings

8.1. CML Regular Meeting Sample format:

1. Prayer- to be rostered
2. Welcome –Vice President
3. Introductory Message –Director /Coordinator/Animator
4. Activity Report(s)/Previous meeting minutes –Secretary
5. Financial Report- Treasurer
5. Announcements
7. Discussions of current/future programs-Lead by President/Vice president- reflection of past events, time to be allocated for each discussion points
8. Vote of Thanks –Joint Secretary
9. Angelus prayer
10. Team building activities/discussion/sports

Roles should be rotated and every one should get a chance and follow fair policy

8.2. Meeting minutes format

Meeting Date, Time and Venue, meeting ending time				
Meeting Schedule		Time/Lead person		
Holy Qurbana		9 AM		
Bible reading				
CML Prayer				
Welcome				
Minutes of previous meeting		Read by, seconded by		
Current meeting minutes		By		
Treasurer's report		by		
Discussion lead		By		
Vote of Thanks		By		
Angelus		By		
Any other schedule				
Discussion Points/Decision		Persons responsible	Time line	Comments
1				

9. INVENTORY FOR STARTING CML AT PARISH/MISSION LEVEL

Items needed to start CML (If you do not have all the items, try to acquire these items over the years)

- Attendance Register
- Statue of Little Flower (Thérèse of Lisieux)
- Badges
- Banner
- Spiritual Diary (CML book)
- Account book
- Meeting Minutes book
- Registration forms (can be online)
- Record book
- Volunteer Forms
- Release/Consent Forms from Parents for Pilgrimages

10. IMPORTANT DAYS

1. CML activity year inauguration – February
2. CML patron saint feast - St. Therese of Lisieux (October 1st).
3. Mission Sunday- Usually 3rd Sunday of October

There should be a procession with the CML Flag with offertory, Statue or Picture of the Little Flower, Prayer, and then Blessing of the badges), and Holy Qurbana will be led by Mission League members. Readings, Choir, prayers by CML children

Children and parents to be clearly assigned with responsibilities and necessary trial and trainings to be done before the event A template of the program is available on request.

11. GRACE POINTS/MARKS:

Catechism Children who participate in the CML activities may receive grace points/marks as determined by the parish priest and catechism leadership.

12. SUGGESTED MISSION LEAGUE REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- Regular monthly or fortnightly Mission League Prayer meetings; if possible followed by Holy Qurbana. Children to lead Holy Qurbana Choir, readings and prayers, Rosary.
- Indoor/outdoor games and sports
- Team building activities/workshops
- children's parliament-
- Mission League book club
- Spiritual Kahoot with different topics
- Bible Quiz w/ prizes
- Church pews cleaning arrange mass books. Etc.
- Choir rehearsals
- Saints slide Presentation/flyer designing on designated feast days/events
- Arts/Craft activities

13. SUGGESTED MISSION LEAGUE ANNUAL REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- Preparing annual activity calendar
- Pilgrimage
- Mission Sunday Fundraiser (Bake sale, games, market, lucky dips, art activities etc.)
- Church Feast Day Activities (Mission League Stall – leading novena on designated day, choir, foods, pious articles sale, etc.)
- Coordinate Passion play on Good Friday, Visualization of Easter (*Uyirppu*) and Easter Egg Hunt
- Christmas Carols, tree, crib making, making cakes
- Social/Fun Day (With new members)
- Children's Eucharistic Adoration lead by Mission League Members (3-4 times per year).
- Lead English Rosary on Saturdays in October-Rosary Month -designated day
- Lead English Way of the Cross-on designated Friday during Lent.
- Participate in Vacation Bible School and camps
- Video Project for CML members
- Music Band
- Representation in parish fest
- Coordinate some Art projects – coloring and arts exhibition for smaller kids or the whole catechism students
- Summer Gardening Project (can be done on church premises) if possible
- Trekking/hiking/nature walk/mini marathone
- Day camps/camp fire/residential camps
- Contests on spiritual subjects between the groups, exploring online platforms (eg: Kahoot).
- Organising blood donation drives.
- Readers/writers/chess club
- Spiritual challenges like Rosary challenge, Bible verses challenge etc.
- Organize study classes and workshops.
- Different art and literal competitions, fun activities etc.
- Debate, Discussion & Critical Thinking, stage and performance workshops.

Note: The activities to be reviewed regularly and children's views to be considered along with the practicality and inclusivity elements

14. PRAYERS

14.1. Daily CML Prayers: (Recite Daily)

1. Our Father... (1)
2. Hail Mary... (1)
3. Glory Be... (1)
4. Sacred Heart of Jesus, Thy Kingdom Come
5. Immaculate Heart of Mary, Pray for the World
6. St. Thomas the Apostle, Pray for Us
7. St. Francis Xavier, Pray for Us
8. St. Thérèse of Lisieux, Pray for Us
9. St. Alphonsa, Pray for Us

14.2. MISSION LEAGUE PRAYER (For activity inauguration/mission Day)

Director: Come, O Holy Spirit.

Members: Fill the hearts of thy faithful and inflame them with the fire of thy Divine Love.

Director: Lord, send forth thy spirit, and then all shall be created.

Members: And the face of the earth shall be renewed.

Director: Let us pray. O God, who has instructed the hearts of thy faithful by the light of thy Holy Spirit, grant that we may understand what is truth and live accordingly so that we may be filled with joy and consolation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Members: Amen

Director & Members: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth of all that is seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father. Through Him, all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, He was born of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died and was buried. On the third day, He rose in fulfillment of the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Director: What do you desire?

Members: We desire to foster mission spirit in individuals/families, parishes, and other institutions. / We intend to work together / according to the will of God / and by means of prayer, contribution, and organized activities / as well as by fostering vocations / and strive to make all our missionary enterprises / successful in parishes and dioceses all over the world.

(Meanwhile, the Director blesses the badges, reciting the following prayer: He gives the badges to each one of the members. The choir sings mission songs.)

(Name) Receive the badge of the Little Flower Mission League. May Jesus bless you to become a zealous missionary.

Reading: Ephesians Chapter 3: Verses 7 – 12

(The Director turns to the altar and recites the following Litany loudly)

Director: Let us pray together with humility and hope that God may help us.

Members: May Lord help us

Director: To live according to the new life obtained from baptism and the strength and fortitude from confirmation.

Members: May Lord help us

Director: To be the salt of the earth and the light of the world

Members: May Lord help us

Director: To preserve the Christian spirit in our church, homes, and society.

Members May lord help us

Director: To preach the Gospel to the poor and to heal the wounded of heart.

Members: May Lord help us

Director: To preserve in us, our faith in your strong protection and providence.

Members: May Lord help us.

Director: Let us thank the merciful God, for the blessing we have obtained to participate in the spreading of the Gospel and for the manifold graces of encouragement and cooperation that we have had in the fulfillment of our duties. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Members: Amen

Director: Let us pray that God may bless our Holy Father Pope Francis, all the bishops, and priests in the world, and our bishop Mar John. We pray to the Lord.

Members: We pray to thee, O Lord

Director: To give your light and peace to those who are engaged in Your service

Members: We pray to thee, O Lord.

Director: To increase our strength and interest to help the missionary activities by Christian life, prayer, and contribution.

Members: We pray to thee, O Lord

Director: To send enough missionaries with the readiness of service and spirit of sacrifice to the places where your Gospel is not known

Members: We pray to thee, O Lord

Director: For the people of all religions who have yet to know thee, the one God, and to love thee.

Members: We pray to thee, O Lord.

Director: For our county and all its inhabitant and for the leaders who strive for its spiritual and physical welfare

Members: We pray to thee, O Lord

Director: Let us dedicate ourselves to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Members: Lord, we offer ourselves to thee

Director: Let us pray. O God, who desires that all men come to know the truth and be saved, send forth more workers to your vineyard and give them the fullness of hope. May your Holy Gospel, be preached everywhere and respected by all. May the people of all creeds and races know you, the one true God, and your son who is our Lord Jesus Christ.

Members: Amen.

Director: St. Thomas our Father and the first apostle of India, pray for us, that we may be ready to work, suffer and even die for the church.

Members: Amen.

Director: St. Francis Xavier, the second apostle of India, pray for us, that we may imitate your missionary spirit and zeal for souls.

Members: Amen.

Director: St. Therese of Child Jesus, our heavenly Patroness, make us and our missionary endeavors fruitful by your heavenly intercession.

Members: Amen.

Director: Sacred Heart of Jesus,

Members: Thy kingdom come.

Director: Immaculate Heart of Mary

Members: Pray for us.

Director: St. Joseph

Members: Pray for us.

Director: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Now, † always and forever.

Members: Amen

14.3. Regular Meeting prayer:

Holy Spirit Song

Invocations

- **Sacred Heart of Jesus:** I trust in you.
- **Most Sacred Heart of Jesus:** Have mercy on us.
- **My God and my all:** Have mercy on us
- **Jesus, Mary and Joseph:** Be with me always.
- **Holy Spirit:** Fill the hearts of your faithful
- **Our Lord:** Increase our faith
- **Holy Mary:** Pray for us.
- **Jesus Christ the Son of Living God:** Have mercy on me, a sinner

Leader: All of creation, Praise the Lord

- **Members:** All of mankind, Praise the Lord

Leader: For Great is your mercy for your people

- **Members:** Blessed are you forever.

Leader: Let us pray

- **Members:** Peace be with us

Leader: Bible Reading

Leader: God our Father, Your will is for all men and women to be saved and come to the knowledge of your Truth. Send workers into your great harvest that the Gospel may be preached to every creature and your people, gathered together by the Word of life and strengthened by the power of the Sacraments, may advance in the way of salvation and love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

- **Members:** Amen.

Thanks giving/Mother Mary song

15. ENROLMENT FORM *(online forms could be used, data protection policy to be followed)*

1. **Child's Full Name:**
2. **Preferred Name:**
3. **Gender:**
4. **Current School Grade Level:**
5. **Is the child registered/enrolled with the Mission/Parish and Catechism?**
☐ Yes ☐ No
6. **Parent/Guardian Name: Relationship to Child: Contact Phone Number: Email Address: Home Address:**
7. **Emergency Contact (Other than Parent):**
Name:
Contact Number:
Relationship to Child:
8. **Child's Special Interests/Skills:**
9. **Additional Information Relevant to Child's Participation in Cherupushpa Mission League:**
10. **Consent & Agreement:**
 - ☐ I fully read, understood and agree to the terms of the Cherupushpa mission league and agree to support and encourage our child's active and respectful participation in the Mission League activities.
 - ☐ I understand that I will be notified if my child becomes unwell or injured. I have provided up-to-date emergency contact information, and I give permission for medical assistance to be sought if necessary.
 - ☐ I agree that a nominated emergency contact may be contacted if I am unavailable to pick up my child/to be contacted.
 - ☐ I agree to receive updates via email or WhatsApp and be added to the Missions League's messaging list.
 - ☐ I have discussed the program with my child, and they understand and are willing and interested in joining.
 - ☐ I give permission for my child to be photographed or videotaped for documentation and promotional purposes by Mission League.

Parent/Guardian Name:

Signature:

Date:



For any enquiries, Contact

Director

***Cherupushpa* Mission League**

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