

ORTHODOX SYRIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF THE EAST ASIA PACIFIC DIOCESE



CIRCULAR 2

June 2025

Respected Vicars, HMs and Teachers,

Greeting to you all in the name of Triune God!

Wishes of the Resurrection of our Lord

OVBS has always been a cherished time, filled with joy, learning and the warmth of fellowship. It is with great hope that we aim to create a meaningful and lasting experiences for our children. This year, we continue our commitment to nurturing the spiritual lives of our children and to make their vacation memorable.

Following are some of the decisions and plans for OVBS 2025.

A. ORTHODOX VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (OVBS)

The theme of OVBS APACD for the year 2025 is **'Walk in Purity-Psalm 119:9'**.

Similar to the previous year, we are adopting the blended model of providing both digital and printed materials.

Digital Materials are provided as PDF, Word, and PowerPoint files which can be printed and/or presented for classes according to the need of each unit, as preferred by the respective class teachers or OVBS Coordinators. Nevertheless, it is encouraged that, at a minimum the junior classes be provided printed copies of the activities (to color or do any necessary activities). **Textbooks** are provided only in digital format.

Printed Materials are ordered from OSSAE OKR (Outside Kerala Region), and could be delivered to the preferred address notified through the OVBS Order Form 2025. The hard copies provided by OKR include Song Books, Badges, Certificates, Crown, Flags and Poster. Please note, a digital form of these materials is also available, in case the OVBS Unit elect to opt for digital copies.

OVBS materials are sourced from NEA (North-East America), OSSAE OKR and OSSAE APACD. Individual units can decide on the format they would like to adopt. OSSAE Asia

Pacific Diocese (APACD) will coordinate the logistics based on the response received through the order forms.

ORDER AND PAYMENTS

1. An order form has been shared by OVBS Director of Asia Pacific Diocese and each unit shall fill their need of both digital and printed materials.
2. All Digital Materials are made available free of cost except if you have opted for a digital version of the Song Book, OSSAE OKR will charge a nominal rate, based on the number of students in that unit.
3. All Printed Materials are bought from OSSAE OKR Nagpur and payment for the materials will be as per the OKR invoice. The payments shall be made to the OSSAE Asia Pacific Diocese account, and we will coordinate the payments with OSSAE OKR, unless advised otherwise.
4. For Printed Material transportation, please advise the OVBS APACD Director whether the unit intent to collect materials directly from India or to be couriered from Nagpur to each unit. If choosing the latter, the courier charge will be incurred.
5. HMs shall ensure that the payments as per the receipt are to be remitted to OSSAE EAR Account for material and transportation (if opted) within the stipulated time frame and inform OVBS EAR Director of the same.

OVBS ACTIVITY 2025

We are greatly encouraged and delighted to witness the growing enthusiasm and vibrant spirit based on the responses received from OVBS 2024 competition/activities. These initiatives aim to capture the joy, talent and energy that define our OVBS.

Last year's competitions brought forth exceptional creativity and as shared with you all, **St.Thomas Indian Orthodox Cathedral Sydney** is selected as **'The Best OVBS Unit 2024'**.

To extend the same vibe and competitiveness, we invite all units to actively participate in the following categories:

- a. REELS – 30 Seconds reel capturing the best moments of OVBS 2025
- b. COLLAGE - A photo collage with highlights of fun and creativity. Content can be but not limited to - short messages on highlights, write up, pictures, art and craft gallery etc.
- c. THEME ACTIVITY - A video of an activity by students which conveys the Theme of the year 'Walk in Purity'

- d. PROGRAM SCHEDULE – The program schedule also will be considered while awarding the best unit and hence encouraged to share the program schedule along with the entries.

The competitions will be for each category mentioned above and overall Best Unit OVBS award will be based on the total tally from each of the above mentioned events. Kindly share your entries to the Asia Pacific Diocese (APACD) OVBS Director by email or Whatsapp on or before the due date.

May this year OVBS season bring abundant joy and strength to walk in purity and to enlighten the younger minds to be much closer to Our Lord and Our God.

Yours in Christ

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