



**MALANKARA ORTHODOX  
SYRIAN CHURCH**(INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH)

**DIOCESE OF UK•EUROPE•AFRICA•**  
UK REGISTERED CHARITY : 1159302

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**No. E-016/AMS/2022**

**31 December 2022**

**His Eminence Cardinal Kurt Koch**  
**President**  
**Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity**  
**Via della Conciliazione, 5 - 00193 Rome**

**For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees?**

**Romans 8:24**

**Your Eminence,**

"Spe salvi facti sumus" (In hope we were saved) is one of the earliest encyclicals of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. The tag line of the Encyclical was based on St. Paul's Letter to Romans 8:24, where the blessed Apostle clearly reflects on the anticipated future glory for which we patiently wait.

Holy Father was a person who walked his talk and his life very well reflected on what he had given to the world through the Encyclical. The ways in which he bridged the disconnects of Theological doctrines and the aspects of common life would be always remembered.

The Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church thankfully cherishes the memories of the Holy Father's cordiality in receiving the members of the Joint Commission for Dialogue between the Catholic and Oriental Orthodox Churches.

The Clergy, Managing Committee Members, Diocesan Council Members and the faithful of the Diocese of UK-Europe and Africa of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church (Indian Orthodox Church) join me in offering our prayerful condolences in the passing away of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, to the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity.

Prayerfully,

**+ Abraham Mar Stephanos Metropolitan**