

Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church

Thiruvananthapuram-Kollam Diocese

RT. REV. DR. JOSEPH MAR BARNABAS
SUFFRAGAN METROPOLITAN



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സുഫ്രാഗൻ മെത്രാപ്പോലീത്താ

Trivandrum, January 1, 2023

His Holiness Pope FRANCIS,

Vatican City

Your Holiness,

Fraternal Greetings from the Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church, Kerala, India

With deep sorrow, I have learned of the passing of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. We, the children of our Lord in Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church, Kerala, India, the Holy See of St. Thomas, express to your Holiness, and to the entire Catholic Church our condolences and the prayerful closeness of our Hierarchy His Beatitude Dr. Theodosius Mar Thoma Metropolitan, members of the Honorable Synod, clergy and all lay faithful of the Church at this time of deeply-felt loss.

The whole Christian world has lost one of its outstanding spiritual leaders, courageous and wise in leading people through very difficult times. Pope Benedict was one of the greatest theologians of his age committed to the faith of the Church and also known as the defender of this faith through his writings and teachings. The foundation of his thought and the basis of his prayer, writing, and his preaching was Jesus Christ, the Gospel and the image of the invisible God.

Your Holiness, May the memory of Pope Benedict XVI long and devoted service to the whole Christendom live on as a challenge and a stimulus to all. May His memory be eternal!

Fraternally Yours in the Lord,

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+ Dr. Joseph Mar Barnabas Suffragan Metropolitan
Member, PRO ORIENTE Forum Syriacum



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