



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM  
AD CHRISTIANORUM UNITATEM FOVENDAM

E Civitate Vaticana, die 19 October 2020

825  
PROT. N. .... /2020/e

TO HIS GRACE  
RIGHT REVEREND DR GEEVARGHESE MAR THEODOSIUS  
*Suffragan Metropolitan*  
*of the Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church*

It is with deep sadness that I have learned of the death of His Grace the Most Reverend Dr Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan, the Supreme Head of the Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church.

Personally and on behalf of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, I express our deepest sympathy and closeness in prayer to the episcopate, clergy and faithful of the Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church for the loss of their spiritual father.

The Pontifical Council calls to mind with sentiments of gratitude and esteem the commitment of His Grace Metropolitan Joseph Mar Thoma to Christian unity, recalling in friendship his recent visit to Rome in October 2018.

In full communion with the Churches of the Anglican Communion, His Grace was also a longstanding friend of Catholic community in Kerala, not sparing any effort in promoting common bonds with the Catholic Church in India, as well as with the ecumenical movement at the worldwide level.

We set our eyes to the glory of Jesus Christ, whose victory over death is our redemption and we make ours the words of the psalmist: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul... and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long" (Ps 23:1-2; 6).

Please accept, Your Grace, this expression of our fraternal communion and prayerful solidarity.

*Requiescat in pace*

Kurt Cardinal Koch  
*President*