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## **The Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church** **CATHOLICATE OF THE EAST**

**BASELIOS MARTHOMA PAULOSE II**  
CATHOLICOS OF  
THE APOSTOLIC THRONE OF  
ST. THOMAS  
AND MALANKARA METROPOLITAN



CATHOLICATE PALACE  
KOTTAYAM-686 038  
KERALA, INDIA

March 31, 2014

His Eminence Metropolitan Theophilus George Saliba  
Secretary of the Holy Synod  
Syrian Orthodox Archbishopric  
Bouschrieh, Fardous St.  
P.O. Box 90420  
Beirut, Lebanon.

Your Eminence,

At this time of great bereavement to the whole Church, we pray to God Almighty for divine consolation and guidance. We also send our fraternal greetings and love in Christ to all the Members of the Holy Synod, the Clergy and the people of the Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch.

We trust that Your Eminence has duly received the message of condolences that we sent to you on hearing the sad news of the demise of His Holiness Zakka Iwas I. We have had commemorative prayers in all our parish churches and Centers for His Holiness Patriarch Zakka of blessed memory.

As you are now in the process of electing a new Patriarch, we sincerely pray that the Holy Spirit of God may guide all the Synod Fathers to elect the right candidate worthy of the Apostolic throne of Antioch.

We hope in Christ, the Prince of Peace, that the newly elected Patriarch together with the whole Church of Antioch may do all that is possible to heal the wound of division in our Malankara Church, as well as help bring peace to all regions in conflict and war.

We pray together with whole Church of Malankara for the smooth process of election of a God - appointed Patriarch.

We would be very grateful if Your Eminence communicates this message of greetings and prayers to His Eminence the Kaimakham and all the distinguished Members of the Holy Synod.

With Prayers

Baselios Marthoma Paulose II