

**BY THE GRACE OF GOD**

**Ignatius Zakka I Iwas  
Patriarch of Antioch and All the East  
Supreme Head of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church**

No.E218/08

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Apostolic Benediction to our beloved spiritual children: the Rev. Vicar, the Assistant Vicar, managing Committee members and all the other devoted faithful of our St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Church, Areepparamb, Kottayam, Kerala, India.

We are happy to learn from our beloved His Eminence Mor Themotheos Thomas, the diocesan Metropolitan of that church, that, your parish is celebrating the birth centenary of the late Very Reverend Cor-Episcopo M. T. Thomas, the former vicar of that church. We understand that he was an outstanding priest with noble characters and able leadership qualities, which helped that parish to achieve great progress. He was also the founder vicar of that church. We remember our visit to that church in 1982, with the late lamented Catholicos Mor Baselious Paulose II, of blessed memory. You had then granted us a very warm welcome. With much delight we remember that the Cor-Episcopo had steered the whole arrangements of that memorable visit. On this occasion, when that parish celebrates the birth centenary festivities of the late Cor-Episcopo M.T.Thomas, we extend our Apostolic blessings to all the parishners and keep you and especially the Cor-Episcopo in our prayers. May God Almighty delight his soul with his chosen ones in heaven. We extend our Apostolic blessings to you. May the grace of God be with you all.