

IGLESIA CATÓLICA APOSTÓLICA SIRO-ORTODOXA DE ANTIOQUÍA
ARQUIDIÓCESIS DE CENTRO AMÉRICA
IGLESIA CATÓLICA ECUMÉNICA RENOVADA - ICERGUA
MOR SANTIAGO EDUARDO AGUIRRE OESTMANN
ARZOBISPO



Guatemala, December 22nd 2017.

To Their Eminences, the members of the Holy Synod of Antioch

Your Eminences, My Brothers in Christ:

Barekhamor!

I want to express to Your Eminences, on my behalf and on behalf of the clergy and faithful of the Archdiocese of Central America and its missions, our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year!

For us, Christmas is not only the remembrance of the birth of Jesus two thousand years ago, but the joyful celebration that, through His Church and specially through the Sacraments and the Holy Spirit, He continues being alive in our midst and He continues to be born constantly in our hearts and in the heart of all the people of good will.

We see also with hope and joy the signs that, with the Lord's help, in the near future Christians will be able to return to a certain kind of peace in the Middle East and that the presence of our Holy Church, even if diminished, it will be able to be reorganized and to shine and be a sign of the Good News of the presence of the Kingdom of God for all people.

Here, at the Archdiocese of Central America, during the current year 2017, even in the midst of problems and challenges, our parishes and communities continue to grow in their identity as part of the Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch and also, through the continued missionary outreach, the number of conversions continues slow, but steadfast.

Every day, we continue feeling extremely grateful to the Lord and to every one of you, my Brothers in Christ, members of the Synod of the Holy Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch for having received us into the ranks of the Church and for letting us be part of the Holy Church, the Mother of all Churches; and we are aware of our duty to preserve in its fullness the Apostolic Faith, to fully implement the Liturgy according to the specific rituals blessed and confirmed for the Archdiocese of Central America; and, in accordance with the mandate of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we continue proclaiming the Gospel and making disciples of all people, that we may all "become one flock with one shepherd" (John 10:16).

You can be sure that, every one of You, your ministry and the whole Church are always and constantly present in our daily prayers. Please keep us also in yours.

Have a blessed and peaceful Christmas and New Year 2018!

Barekhamor!



+ Santiago E. Aguirre O.

Mor Yaqub Eduardo Aguirre Oestmann.
Archbishop of Central America