

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



Guatemala, August 29<sup>th</sup> 2017.

To His Holiness Mor Ignatius Aepfrem II Karim  
Patriarch of Antioch and All the East  
Supreme Head of the Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch

Your Holiness:

Barekhamor!

Thanks for your letter of August 26th 2017.

The cancelation of your Apostolic Visit to the Archdiocese of Central America for us it was a shocking and sad news, especially after you had confirmed on your letter of July 6th the visit and we had already prepared the program of the visit.

But we are aware that all our life, faith and hope are in the hands of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and only He knows what is better for His Holy Church and for His Archdiocese of Central America. Thus, we accept your decision with spirit of humility and interpreting that this decision reflects the Will of God for us and it is the best for the People of God that He has entrusted us to shepherd in His Holy Name and under His Guidance in the Archdiocese of Central America and its missions.

According to the program that we had prepared, we had planned that in Your Visit you will be able to meet at least 80,000 faithful, which represents around 10% of our faithful. They had the trust that they will have the opportunity to know you personally and doubtlessly they will be disappointed with the cancelation of the Apostolic Visit.

But I am totally convinced that the same spiritual understanding that the Lord has given to us, will be granted to our clergy and faithful, when they know that they will not be able to encounter you anymore.

In any case, you can be sure that even if our clergy and our faithful will no longer have the chance to meet you, you will be always in our prayers. We will be praying that the Lord may grant you always health, peace and blessings in your ministry.

We humbly ask you to, please, extend your Apostolic Blessing upon us all.

Barekhamor!



*+P. Aguirre O.*

Mor Yaqub Eduardo Aguirre Oestmann.  
Archbishop of Central America