

DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

The Mar Thoma Church

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To: **The Parishes & Congregations in the
Diocese of North America of the Mar Thoma Church**

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

We are all aware that many people throughout the state of California (USA) have been gravely affected by the recent wildfires. Particularly, the intense fires and fierce winds have produced devastating effects and have damaged thousands of structures and homes, leaving many families displaced. As a result of these fires, several people have lost their lives and many others are struggling in these challenging circumstances.

In this time of great difficulty, let us remember and take to heart the words that God spoke through the prophet Isaiah, "When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze" (Isaiah 43:2b). Let us be assured of God's presence and continue to trust in His providence during these challenging times.

Let us uphold our Christian responsibility to extend a helping hand to our brethren as well as to the larger community during this time of need. As a mark of our solidarity with those who are suffering, the Diocese is setting apart **Sunday, January 19, 2025, as a day of prayer for those affected by the California wildfires**. Let us prayerfully uphold all those who are hurting and distressed and pray that God may bring relief and alleviate the devastation caused by the fires.

May God Almighty provide comfort, healing, and renewal, leading to restoration and empowering the people to rebuild with hope and peace.

Yours in His Ministry,

Dr. Abraham Mar Paulos
Diocesan Episcopa

