



## ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE

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AUXILIARY BISHOP OF BALTIMORE  
OFFICE OF THE NEUMANN VICAR

September 22, 2016

Mr. Rateb Y. Rabie, President  
Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation, Inc.  
6935 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 518  
Bethesda, MD 20815

Dear Rateb,

All good greetings to you and all gathered to celebrate this 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference and Awards Banquet of the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation.

I am grateful for your ongoing efforts to help our Christian brothers and sisters of the Holy Land. These are the people who are enduring increasing opposition and trials, all too often because they are Christians. They merit the appreciation and prayers of all Christians as they keep a witness to the Christian faith in the land of our common heritage.

The struggle for peace in the Holy Land may seem without end, but your work proves that there is much that we can do to support those who are there. I am grateful for the help and encouragement that you give to those who persevere day by day.

May I also take this opportunity to congratulate all the honorees who will be recognized at this 18<sup>th</sup> Awards Banquet for their efforts to promote peace and justice in the Holy Land.

I pray that God will continue to bless you and the Foundation for your many good works and that God's blessings will be with you always.

With warmest best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Denis J. Madden  
Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore