

Cathedral News December 2020



INCARNATION

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.
We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son,
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:14

THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIVING SAVIOUR

368, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7



CHURCH OF CEYLON

DIOCESE OF COLOMBO



Rt. Revd. Dushantha Rodrigo
Bishop of Colombo

Our Ref :
Your Ref :

Message for the Cathedral newsletter

It is strange isn't it that we have to get permission to gather? We never thought for a moment when we wanted to meet up but now we are made to think twice.

At the birth of Jesus there was a great movement of people. They moved in order that they could be counted. They were made to do so and everyone went to their own areas. Mary and Joseph went with the rest. We move because we have to. Today there is what is called unnecessary travel which people are discouraged from engaging in.

The most important lesson we learn from COVID 19 and the confinement of the movement of people is that we need an attitudinal change which will save lives. We want to break the rules and to move but that is at the risk of infecting someone we love and care because we do not go to the homes of strangers but to meet friends. God was moving against the tide to reach human beings in order as St. John tells us to tent among God's people. The restriction was not any political power clamping down on the movement of God, but the hardness of the hearts of people. But it is God's world and God was not ready to stand by and let human beings prevent God from working God's purposes in God's world.

Let us not fool ourselves by thinking that we can decide. COVID 19 has taught us that it is God alone that can break into human history and in doing so bring meaning to our lives and give us purpose.

Let us not be restricted by the virus to be socially engaged even though we are expected to be physically distant. Christmas is about God reaching out into God's world to save people.

+Dushantha Rodrigo



The Rt. Revd. Dushantha Rodrigo

Bishop of Colombo

8/12/2020



*Message
from the
Vicar of the
Cathedral*

My dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour!

Church & Nation: The Church continues to minister to people in these very testing and challenging times. Unlike in the instance of the March lockdown when everyone was compelled to remain indoors, this time many are really not aware of the extent to which the Covid 19 pandemic has affected the lives of people. With a fair number being able to move around freely in most areas, it is observed the economically weaker persons living in most parts of the cities have been extremely badly affected.

The Board of Social Responsibility of the Diocese and the Regional Boards of Social Responsibility have been working with people in order to meet their basic needs in these difficult times.

In the meantime, an effort is being made to draft a new Constitution in the country. The Church is also making use of the space provided by the State for citizens and groups of people to make their submissions. Our Diocese too has engaged in this process, facilitated by the Reconciliation and Peace Desk of the Diocese.

Annual Diocesan Council Sessions: While we find ourselves in this current situation called the “New Normal,” preparations are being made for the 135th Annual Sessions of the Diocesan Council to take place on Friday, 11th December 2020. It is planned to have the sessions on line.

Your prayers are requested for this, as having a gathering of this nature in a completely unfamiliar living context caused by Covid 19, the global health crisis will have its share of challenges. Please uphold our Bishop in prayer, as this will be his first Council as the Bishop of the Diocese, and also your Cathedral representatives to the Council and all other Parish representatives and Clergy as they take part, joining in this Council online.

Life in the Cathedral:

Farewell: At the end of this year we will say goodbye to Rev. Earnest Nadeem and his family who will be moving on transfer. I want to take this opportunity to thank Fr. Earnest for his valuable contribution to the ministry of the Cathedral, especially in the area of teaching; his academic discipline was clearly evident in all his undertakings. I take this opportunity to wish his wife, Maidhily, and their boys, Enosh, Enoch and Evans, God's choicest blessings as they move into a new appointment.

Welcome: I would also like to welcome Rev. S. I. Balakumar, his wife Selvie, and their family, as they become part of the worshipping community from 1st January 2021.

Like in the case of Rev. Earnest, Rev. Balakumar will be the person, parishioners will need to connect with in the event you would require any Pastoral Ministration.

I am also happy to inform you that Rev. Maxwell Doss who currently serves as the General Secretary of the National Christian Council of Sri Lanka and resides in the next compound, will assist the team of Clergy in the Ministry and Mission of the Cathedral from time to time. I wish to welcome him and his wife Damayanthi, in the Cathedral worshipping Community.

Notice to Worshipping Community: Meetings for public worship has recommenced. The 7.30 a.m. Service Commenced on the 25th November 2020 and worship on Sunday commenced on Advent Sunday, the 29th November 2020. At present the number permitted together as of 1st December 2020 is 25 persons. I wish to appeal to all those of you who are unable to attend worship on Sunday, to make use of the opportunity to join in public worship at the 7.30 a.m. service from Monday to Saturday.

The new normal will certainly impact the usual rhythm of life within the worshipping community at this time of the year. The Carol Service, the worship services on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Eve and New Years Day may also have to be held in ways and means different to the usual.

Youth Connect: The Youth forum Youth Connect is meeting regularly and I wish to place on record my appreciation to all the young people who join this forum regularly. I also wish to thank Fr. Earnest for journeying with the young people, for encouraging them and being a constant source of support to them.

Live Stream: The 8.30 a.m. Service continues to be live streamed for the benefit of those who choose to remain at home and not expose themselves to a health risk at this time.

Sunday School: The Sunday school that has met continuously online through these difficult times will take a short recess after they meet on the 6th December 2020. Sunday school will reopen for the New year on the 10th January 2021. While I thank all the teachers for their commitment to meet with the children, I also like to everyone a restful vacation. Children and teachers do stay safe.

Support for the Cathedral: I also wish to commend to your generous support the work that takes place even though Community Worship (the back bone of any worshipping Community) is not permitted due to the ongoing health crisis. The bank details of the Cathedral have been shared with you, should you wish to extend support through an online bank transaction.

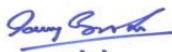
Pastoral Care: The Clergy of the Cathedral remain committed to intervene with the required Pastoral care if and where there is an emergency.

Finally, together with our support staff, the office staff, Fr. Earnest, Maidhily his wife, their children, Christina and Rachel join me in wishing you a Christ centered Christmas and a peaceful 2021.

Thanking You,

With Prayers and Blessings

Yours Sincerely,



Ven. Perry Brohier
Vicar

Holy Days / Festivals & Other Important Dates

21 st Dec	Martyrdom of St. Thomas the Apostle
25 th	Feast of the Incarnation or Christmas Day
28 th	Holy Innocents Day – the Slaughter of the Holy Innocents
31 st	Holy Family in Refuge in Egypt (World Hope Day)
1 st Jan	Holy Name of Jesus

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CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIVING SAVIOUR
368, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 00700 - Tel: 2671481
E-mail: anglican.cathedral@yahoo.com

2nd December 2020

My dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

APPEAL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS THIS CRISTMAS SEASON

As we approach the Christmas season, we need to acknowledge that our ability to remember and commemorate Christ's birth as we have been customarily is going to be severely constrained this year. Our regular Sunday 8.30 morning services continue to be live streamed (or pre-recorded services made available on-line if physical services are not permitted) whilst our committed team of teachers had been delivering their Sunday School classes to children on-line.

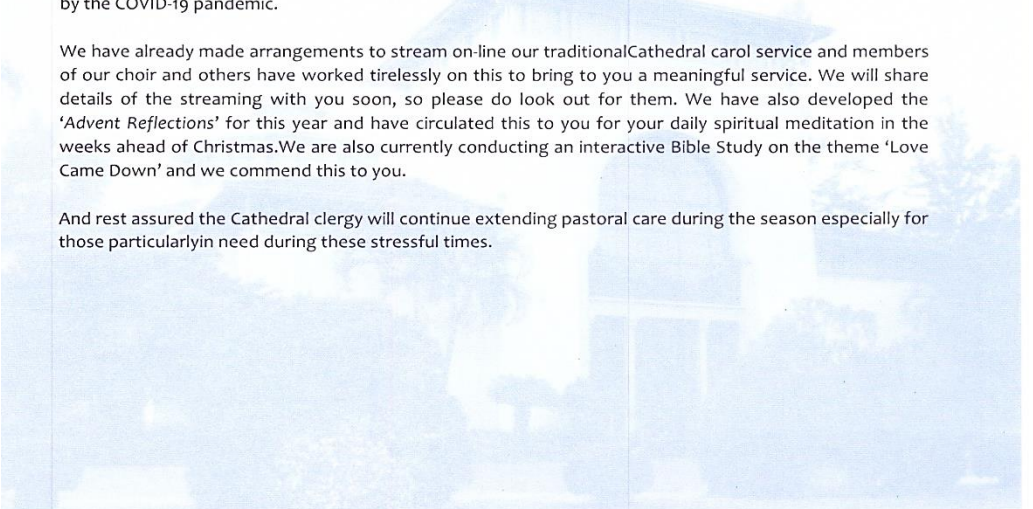
Various other external services (like school carol services, weddings etc) that were scheduled to be held in December though have been cancelled due the restrictions imposed by the authorities on places of worship.

These very same restrictions will no doubt affect our traditional Christmas-eve, Christmas-day, New Year's-eve and New Year-morning services as well.

However we at the Cathedral are committed to keep bringing you opportunities to participate in worship – either personally (subject to whatever the prevailing restrictions there might be) or via on-line streaming this Christmas season as we celebrate the Incarnation notwithstanding the social difficulties precipitated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have already made arrangements to stream on-line our traditional Cathedral carol service and members of our choir and others have worked tirelessly on this to bring to you a meaningful service. We will share details of the streaming with you soon, so please do look out for them. We have also developed the 'Advent Reflections' for this year and have circulated this to you for your daily spiritual meditation in the weeks ahead of Christmas. We are also currently conducting an interactive Bible Study on the theme 'Love Came Down' and we commend this to you.

And rest assured the Cathedral clergy will continue extending pastoral care during the season especially for those particularly in need during these stressful times.



Whilst we give you these assurances, we would also seek your understanding of the financial constraints we face as a consequence of our inability to receive normal tithes, collections, thank offerings, donations, income from third-party carol services, weddings etc. On the other hand there is no release from our obligations to meet commitments to stipends, staff salaries, statutory obligations, utility bills and other routine expenses all of which are required to keep the wheels of the Cathedral turning.

I therefore appeal to you to consider making a contribution towards defraying our costs to help tide over these challenging times for us.

All contributions may please be made as follows:

On-line (internet banking) transfers:

Beneficiary : **Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour**
Bank : **Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC, Reid Avenue Branch**
Account # : **1116019905**

For the purpose of properly identifying each remittance and accurately issuing receipts after a remittance is made, please send the following details via email to **anglican.cathedral@yahoo.com** with copy to **info@cathedral.lk**

- a) Name, Address and Telephone number of donor/remitter;
- b) Remitting Bank;
- c) Amount (Rs.);
- d) Date of Transfer;
- e) Purpose of remittance: 'Contribution toward Cathedral overheads';

Cheque payments

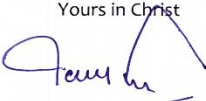
Beneficiary : **'Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour'**

Please indicate your details and purpose of contribution [as at a) and e) above] in a note attached to the cheque. Cheques may please be either mailed or delivered to the Cathedral office.

Please do give this appeal your kind consideration.

Thanking You

With Peace and Prayers
Yours in Christ



Vicar

LECTIONARY - December 2020 – 3rd January 2020

**Date: 6th December 2020 – Advent 2
(Third Sunday before Christmas – Bible Sunday)**

Theme: The Good News : The Holy Bible

Reading	Passage
Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 40: 1 - 11
Gospel	St. Mark 1: 1 - 8
Intercessions	

**Date : 13th December 2020– Advent 3 (Second Sunday before Christmas)
Theme : John the Baptist – The Joy of Preparing for Christ**

Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 61: 1 -4, 8 - 11
Gospel	St. John1: 6 – 8, 19 - 28
Intercessions	

**Date: 20th December 2020 – Advent 4 (Sunday before Christmas)
Theme : Love : The Annunciation**

Old Testament Lesson	2 Samuel 7: 1 – 11, 16
Gospel	St. Luke 1: 26 - 38
Intercessions	

**Date : 24th December 2020 – Christmas Eve
Theme : The Nativity – God with us**

Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 9: 2 - 7
Gospel	St. Luke 2: 1 - 14
Intercessions	

**Date 27th December 2020 – First Sunday after Christmas
Theme : Jesus Christ Divine and Human**

Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 63: 7 - 9
Gospel	St. Luke 2: 22 - 40
Intercessions	

Date : 31st December 2020– New Years Eve	
Theme : Thanksgiving	
Old Testament Lesson	Ecclesiastes 3: 1 - 13
Gospel	St. Matthew 25: 31 - 46
Intercessions	
Date : 1st January 2021– New Years Day	
Theme : Holy Name of Jesus	
Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 6: 22 - 27
Gospel	St. Luke 2: 15 - 21
Intercessions	
Date: 3rd Januarys 2021 - Second Sunday After Christmas	
Theme: Jesus Christ – The Manifestation of God for the Salvation of All People	
Old Testament Lesson	Jeremiah 31: 7 - 14
Gospel	St. John 1: 10 - 18
Intercessions	

The Bishop of Colombo

Rt. Revd. Dushantha Lakshman Rodrigo (0718460111)

Clergy at the Cathedral

Ven. Perry Brohier
The Vicar of the Cathedral & Archdeacon of Colombo (0777541234)

Revd. Earnest Nadeem
Assistant Curate (0777138831)



Sunday Worship Service Times

7:00 am - Sinhala

8:15 am - English

11:00 am - Tamil

Daily Eucharist - Monday to Saturday - 7:30 am

Every Second Sunday-Sinhala & Tamil Combined service- 7:00 am

Every Fifth Sunday- Tri-Lingual Service-8:15 am

Cathedral Office

Telephone: (011) 2671481

Email: angcathedralcmb@gmail.com or info@cathedral.lk

Website: www.cathedral.lk

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/cathedral-of-christ-the-living-saviour-sri-lanka-768180569905300/about>



CATHEDRAL ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

LOVE CAME DOWN

An interactive study of the theme of Love of God:

- God's Love Understood
- God's Love Examined
- God's Love Demonstrated

Every

Wednesday at 6pm

from

the 2nd December to the 16th December 2020

JOIN US VIA THE GOOGLE MEET LINK

For Further Details, Please Contact:

The Vicar: 0777541234

Cathedral Office,

Contact No: 011-2671481

Email: info@cathedral.lk

Cathedral Youth Connect



All young people are invited to join online meeting every Tuesday at 6:00 pm.

To interact and to share thinking and experiences on relevant topics.

Please send text to 0777541234 to receive link to join the online meeting.

ALL FOR KIDS

Sunday School - Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour, Colombo 07

Hi kids, we are happy to announce that we are presenting video series to be viewed through YouTube link, at 8:30 am every Sunday,



We have also started Sunday school lessons by a zoom link. You can join your online class at 9.00 am. Please connect with your teacher by joining the zoom meeting. The zoom link for each age group will be sent through Sunday School WhatsApp group.