

# CATHEDRAL NEWSLETTER

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May 2022

*Pentecost and Environment*



**THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIVING SAVIOUR**  
368, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7

# MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR OF THE CATHEDRAL

My dear Friends in Christ,

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

**Church:** Having observed the Feast of the Ascension a few days ago, the Church celebrates the Feast of Pentecost on the 5th of June. Many would like to refer to this feast as the birth of the Church. Whatever our views or perceptions of this may be, we cannot get away from the fact that God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church is what energizes, drives, sustains and sanctifies the Mission, Ministry and Witness of the Church.

Recalling the conversations that took place between Jesus and his disciples (St. John 14), we note Jesus' assurance to his perhaps distraught and disturbed disciples, that he will not leave them comfortless but in fact that his ascension to be with God will in fact be a tremendous blessing, one beyond measure or comprehension.

We in the contemporary Church will do well to draw on this precious gift as we by God's grace take forward the work of God's kingdom here on earth. It is this fact that makes us that much more conscious that we are stewards of what has been placed in our care. It is a timely reminder especially as World Environment Day is observed.

**Nation:** The people of our nation are in pain, hurting because of the misery and hardship heaped on us by our leaders who sadly have lost touch with the people whom they are responsible for and accountable to. The cry of the people being articulated, expressed and heard is loud and clear. However, our leaders do not appear to hear it. Instead of addressing the critical issues that confront the people of our nation, our leaders seem intent on securing themselves. There is breakdown on all sides: be it the economy, governance or law and order. The struggle to survive is driving people to the brink and people are desperate.

As a faith community we need to realise that our primary battle in this regard must be fought on our knees. Our spirituality will move us thereafter to be in solidarity with those who struggle for change and reform in the front lines and those who provide for the physical needs of people, by supporting the afflicted and strengthening the faint hearted.

As a Church we affirm that violence is never an option to suppress dissent, neither is it a means to an end to further a cause in any civilised community. Violence only heaps more pain and results in further strife and hatred. Our leaders need to exercise humility and demonstrate that they are willing to listen to reason, restoration and healing.

**Cathedral Prayer Group:** I encourage as many of you to join with the Cathedral prayer group from wherever you may be in upholding our nation in prayer. While prayers are offered continuously by this group of prayer partners, the specific times suggested for community prayer from your own locations is 6 am, 12 noon and 6 pm daily.

If there is anyone who would wish to be a prayer partner with this group that also prays for a variety of needs, please do connect with me and I will help you join it.

**Annual General Meeting:** Our Annual General Meeting this year is scheduled to take place soon after our Service of Holy Eucharist on the 26th of June 2022. The agenda will be circulated shortly and the audited statement of accounts will be made available 10 days before the meeting, in keeping with the constitutional provisions. I have already shared with the congregation details of an important item that we will need to discuss at our gathering. It is about the Church of Ceylon moving toward a Province. Therefore you are encouraged to read and now make an effort to educate yourself about this matter that has been looked at for the last few years.

**Confirmation Classes:** I have received a few names of persons who are to be prepared for confirmation. I will be in touch with them directly and commence the process of preparation. The process of preparation will commence soon.

**Support for the Cathedral:** I am grateful to all of you despite our being in challenging times caused by the pandemic, you have made an effort to support the work of the Cathedral that has been taking place even during these times. Your support is greatly appreciated and valued.

Please call the Cathedral office (0112671481), speak to me or send us an email requesting the Cathedral bank account details to [info@cathedral.lk](mailto:info@cathedral.lk) and we will be only too happy to share the required details with you. We encourage you to make use of online banking facilities for this purpose.

**Live Stream:** The live stream will continue to take place. If you have not done so and you wish to, please subscribe to the Cathedral YouTube channel by pressing the subscribe button.



**Pastoral Care:** If there is any need for urgent Pastoral interventions that require attention, please contact either Fr. Balakumar or me and we will do the needful.

Thanking you,  
With Prayers and Blessings  
Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Perry Brohier". Below the signature are two small black dots.

**Ven. Perry Brohier**  
Vicar

## HOLY DAYS/ FESTIVALS & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

4 <sup>th</sup> June	Thanksgiving for the Holy Eucharist
5 <sup>th</sup> June	World Environment Day
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Founding of the Denipitiya Medical Mission (1924)
11 <sup>th</sup> June	Barnabas, Apostle
24 <sup>th</sup> June	Birth of John the Baptist
29 <sup>th</sup> June	St. Peter the Apostle
	Arrival of CMS Missionaries (1818)
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Martyrdom of St. Paul

# Diocesan Missionary Conference - Diocese of Colombo

God's Church for God's World-Missions Conference-4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

## Lessons Learnt

- The whole world is God's Creation and all mankind (not merely Christians) are made in His image. **His love extends equally to all.**
- From the beginning of time though, man was disobedient. God called chosen people and made progressive revelations of himself to them, eg. Noah, Abraham, Moses, the judges, Kings, Prophets.
- The future of mankind and their fallen condition can only be arrested by knowing Jesus Christ as the saviour from their individual situations.
- So, God took human form himself and lived sinless amongst us and suffered death on a cross to pay the price for the sins of **all.**
- The final command of Jesus Christ to his 11 remaining disciples was **to go out to the people and make them my disciples. The Latin term for this sending out is- "DeoMissio"**
- The disciples having been commanded and then vested with the authority by Jesus before he ascended into heaven were waiting in prayer in fear behind closed doors when they received the power as promised to be **emboldened to go out by being baptized with the Holy Spirit.**
- With the power of the Holy Spirit, the 12 (with the inclusion of Mathias) and 120 followers formed the core group that met in prayer.
- The 120 soon became 3000 and then another 5000 were added and progressively after 2000 years today it is around 3 billion who count as Christians in 2022. However that number is in a world of 8 billion people. **Numbers matter.**
- **The Church is the only institution established not to serve its members and adherents alone but more to serve those outside.**
- Our prime duty as a Colombo based congregation would be to be mission carriers to those in Colombo first, understanding Sri Lankan society and examining mission strategies used in parishes in the past and presently practiced by others including by other denominations.

- The Framework for our Mission which is God's mission is outlined in the Anglican 5 Marks of Mission with a sixth added.
  1. **TELL** - To proclaim the Good News.
  2. **TEACH** - Baptize and nurture new believers
  3. **TEND** - To respond to human needs by loving service
  4. **TRANSFORM** - To challenge every form of violence
  5. **TREASURE** - To protect the Environment and Nature's capital
  6. **TRANSCEND** - Initiating dialogue and transcending barriers.
- The Friends of the Cathedral are required to formulate mission strategies for our communities. The church is the place where we prepare ourselves to go out. We need teaching, training and continuous prayer.
- The Book of Acts are the Acts of God through the Apostles and outlines the Compass for Mission.
- Do we continue to believe traditionally or rather experientially.
- **Without the guidance of the Holy Spirit we cannot expect results.**

When the day of Pentecost had arrived, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like that of a violent rushing wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were staying. They saw tongues like flames of fire that separated and rested on each one of them. Then they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them.

Acts 2:1-4 CSB

# STATEMENT BY THE CHURCH OF CEYLON



Diocese of Colombo



## Church of Ceylon

368/3A, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07, Sri Lanka  
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Diocese of Kurunegala

May 19, 2022

### STATEMENT ON RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

We note with disappointment and deep concern the unfolding of events after the resignation of the former Prime Minister. What we have experienced is not a system change, but merely a change of Prime Minister. Apart from this change, the Cabinet remains almost the same, and it is politics as usual: what, in the present grave economic crisis, was an almost farcical parliamentary battle over the post of Deputy Speaker and the Prime Minister quibbling about parliamentary procedure. In the past few days Parliament clearly demonstrated the validity of the claims of young protesters and civil society: that Sri Lanka's politicians are out of touch with reality and therefore Sri Lanka needs a system change.

The people of this country are yearning for a radical reform of the legislative and executive structure and radical change in the politics of the country. The call for the resignation of the President and the government was based on the fundamental premise that the existing governance structures had failed the people and impoverished the nation. The appeal from the protesters, religious leaders, professional organizations, civil society, trade unions and the wider public was for the formation of a broad coalition of political forces as an interim measure to address these burning issues. They called for constitutional reforms to abolish the overmighty executive presidency, strengthen independent institutions, promote accountability, and protect the rights of the minorities. They also demanded accountability from those directly and indirectly responsible for the economic debacle. However, it is becoming increasingly clear that what has now emerged, apart from a change in Prime Minister, is a "new" government that will not address the basic demands of the people and will brush aside the factors that led to this situation in the first place.

The focus of Parliament seems to be on how to ensure that its members whose properties were damaged in the recent indefensible violence are compensated; how MPs obtain fuel, and the return of the former Prime Minister (or de facto Prime Minister?) to Parliament. One wonders what the costs incurred by tax payers for such a return are. Meanwhile, many parents and students in our schools are anxious about whether and how they will travel to examination centres for the GCE Ordinary Level examinations that remain scheduled to commence on 23 May. **The shocking disconnect between our elected politicians and the people continues despite the extraordinary political developments of the last two months.**



Diocese of Colombo



# Church of Ceylon

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Diocese of Kurunegala

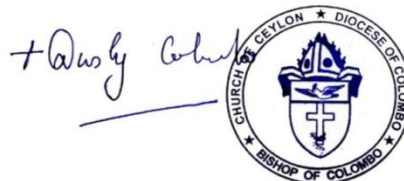
We wish to remind the Legislature and the Executive that the cry of our people has not stopped demanding the following;

1. The resignation of the President who has to be held accountable for actions or inaction which resulted in the country becoming bankrupt.
2. The institution of a genuine multi-party interim government that is capable of devising public policy which is agreed between all parties as the foundation for economic revival and stability and sustainability.
3. Enacting urgent constitutional reforms on the lines outlined above and which will also change the political culture so that educated, respected persons of integrity will once again become involved in active politics for the greater good of the nation.
4. The public declaration of the assets and liabilities of all elected political leaders.

The people are tired of watching parliamentary proceedings which have now descended to the level of teledramas at huge public expense. We question the good faith of the President and Prime Minister with respect to the manner in which the new administration was established. They owe it to the public to be transparent in the understanding that they have reached regarding support and corporation. It is difficult to fathom how an individual who was rejected by the people and who failed to get elected by a popular vote was thrust to such high office because of the support of a political party which overthrew his administration not so long ago. The country needs, at this time of crisis, true leaders who can respond to the clear demands of the people and the present crisis, in good faith. The events of the past week, sadly, demonstrate that we are missing an opportunity for meaningful change once again.



**The Right Reverend Keerthisiri Fernando  
Presiding Bishop of The Church of Ceylon  
& Bishop of Kurunagala**



**The Right Reverend Dushantha Rodrigo  
Bishop of Colombo**



# LECTIONARY - JUNE 2022

**Date: 5th June 2022 – Pentecost Sunday**

**Theme: “The Spirit Poured Out”**

Reading	Passage	Name of Reader
New Testament Lesson	Acts 2: 1 - 21	Shamara Herat
Psalm	104:24 – 34, 35b	Shanaya Kalutotage
Epistle	Romans 8: 14 - 17	Cyril Amerasekera
Gospel	St. John 14: 8 - 17	Jeanne Samuel
Intercessions		Thayalan Gnanapragasam

**Date: 12th June 2022 – Trinity Sunday**

**Theme: “God the Holy Trinity”**

Old Testament Lesson	Proverbs 8:1 – 4, 22-31	Mohan Mendis
Psalm	8	Daphne Charles
Epistle	Romans 5: 1 - 5	Dhiranjan Canagasabey
Gospel	St. John 16: 12 - 15	Yanithra Ferdinando
Intercessions		Shyamal Muthumudalige

**Date: 19th June 2022 – Proper 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Theme: “The Church for All People”**

Old Testament Lesson	1 King 19: 1 – 4, 8- 15	Dineth Kannangara
Psalm	42 & 43	Amanda Vincent
Epistle	Galatians 3: 23 - 29	Patrick Bulner
Gospel	St. Luke 8: 26 - 39	Ramola Sivasundaram
Intercessions		Anthea Senaratne

**Date: 26th June 2022 – Proper 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Theme: “Commitment to the Christ of God”**

New Testament Lesson	2 Kings 2: 1 – 2, 6 - 14	Daphne William
Psalm	77: 1 – 2, 11 - 20	Menash Gamalatge
Epistle	Galatians 5: 1, 13 - 25	Roshen Wijesinghe
Gospel	St. Luke 9: 51 - 62	Dilsarah Derrick
Intercessions		Sonali Amerasekera

# HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICE TIMES

**07.00am – Sinhala & Tamil**

**08.30am – English**

- All services will be held physically while the 8:30AM service will also continue to be livestreamed. The link for the livestream will be shared weekly.

## CONTACT DETAILS

### Cathedral Pastoral Care Team

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	Mobile	Landline	
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Chandrika Wijesinghe			<a href="mailto:info@cathedral.lk">info@cathedral.lk</a> <a href="mailto:anglican.cathedral@yahoo.com">anglican.cathedral@yahoo.com</a>

### Cathedral Prayer Circle

- A Prayer Circle is now operational as a WhatsApp group. If you wish to join, please send your name and mobile number to 077 726 0862

**Website:** [www.cathedral.lk](http://www.cathedral.lk)

**Social Media:** <https://www.facebook.com/CathedralCMB/>

~ Compiled and edited by the Cathedral Media Team ~