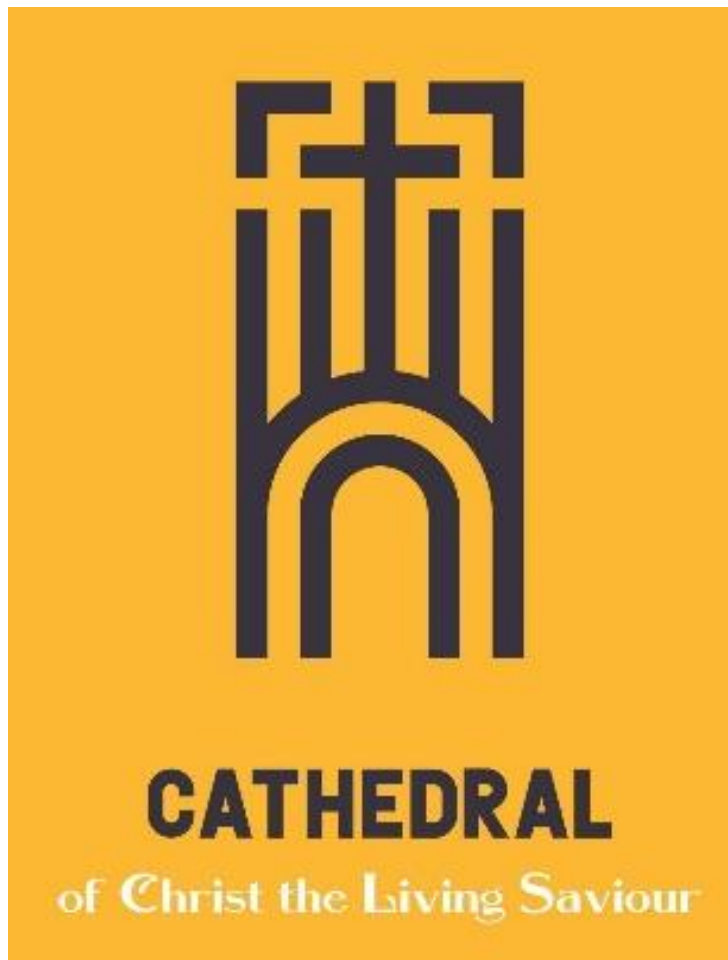


# CATHEDRAL NEWSLETTER

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November 2023

**The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**



**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:** As a Faith Community, the Church is being challenged to reach out to the world grappling with the terror and violence taking place in the Middle East and Europe.

History tells us that violence will not bring lasting solutions to age-old conflicts. Therefore we pray for the leaders of the nations of the world that they will have the courage to make decisions that will usher peace to all people.

The month of November is traditionally observed by many as the month of remembrance. While our Cathedral will keep the 50th anniversary of its consecration on the 7th of November with the Service of Thanksgiving scheduled for the 18th of November 2023, we also remember the saints and martyrs of our land on the 8th of November and join with people across the world in observing Remembrance Sunday on the 12th. Finally, on the 30th of November, the Church observes St. Andrew's Day and with it, we are reminded of our responsibility to introduce others to Christ in keeping with the life and example of Andrew the disciple of Jesus.

**Nation:** Our nation continues to remain in a state of chaos. While the prayers of all responsible citizens would be for an end to the chaos and confusion that would appear to be the usual order of the day, questions could also be asked if our leaders are committed to resolving the issues that the people of our nation grapple with or whether they are interested in politically securing themselves instead.

**New Archdeacons:** Rev. Christopher Balaraj and Rev. Charles David have been named the 24th Archdeacon of Colombo and 8th Archdeacon of Nuwara Eliya respectively. We assure them and their families as they prepare to undertake this responsibility in the New Year.

**New Vicar of the Cathedral:** I am happy to inform you that Rev. Laksman Daniel has been appointed the Vicar of the Cathedral from 1st January 2024. On behalf of the worshipping community, I wish to welcome him and his wife Anne and wish them a blessed and fulfilling time of ministry with you.

**Diocesan Council Sessions 2023:** We have just completed our Annual Diocesan Council Sessions and the Cathedral representatives will share their report with you as soon as it is ready.

## **Life at the Cathedral**

**Labour of Love II:** I would like to invite as many of you to join us as we come together as a worshipping community to clean and prepare the Cathedral for the anniversary service that will take place later this month. Labour of Love last took place in 2018. **All hands-on deck on Saturday 11th November at 9 am!** As many people are requested to join this effort.

**Special Remembrance Sunday Service:** There will be a special remembrance Sunday service that will take place on Sunday 12th November 2023 at 8.30 a.m. This service will be of special significance as it takes place in the backdrop of so much conflict and strife taking place in the Middle East and Europe.

### **50th Anniversary of the Cathedral:**

**Thanksgiving Service:** As we celebrate our 50th Anniversary at the Diocesan Cathedral later this month, please be informed that the main Service of Thanksgiving will take place at 9.30 am on Saturday 18th November 2023. Those planning to attend are requested to be in their seats by 9.15 a.m. The service will be presided over by the Bishop of Colombo.

**Cathedral 50th Anniversary Publication (Limited Edition):** I am delighted to inform you that this book will be launched at the 50th Anniversary Thanksgiving service. As this is a limited edition, you could place your order by making the payment in full with the Cathedral office. The book will cost Rs.5000/-. There are a few more details in this edition of the newsletter.

**Community Kitchen (CK):** Our Community Kitchen now feeds 600 people a week. I am grateful to all those of you who keep supporting the ministry generously and those of you who faithfully volunteer your time to help with the distribution of food on Monday and Friday evenings. I continue to appeal to you to support the CK fund financially. For those who are unable to support financially and can give of your time with the distribution of food, your assistance is most welcome too.

**Infrastructure Improvements:** Having completed the installation of the solar panels, I am now happy to inform you that we have been able to complete the installation of 14 CCTV cameras within the Cathedral building and one external camera at a strategic location in the garden.

The Architectural Committee of the Diocese has authorized the installation of an awning at the main door.

The work will commence as soon as we receive a report that we are expecting from the Structural Engineer who has examined the building at the recommendation of the Diocesan Architectural Committee. I hope that we can complete the installation of the awning soon.

**Support for the Cathedral:** Despite our having to contend with many challenges I am extremely grateful to many of you who support the work of the Cathedral generously. Your support is greatly appreciated and valued.

The bank details of the Cathedral could be obtained by getting in touch with the Cathedral office (0112671481), speaking to me or by request made via email to [info@cathedral.lk](mailto:info@cathedral.lk).

The use of online banking facilities for this purpose is encouraged.

**Live Stream:** The live stream continues to be watched by a large segment of people both locally and internationally. If you have not done so up to now, you are encouraged to subscribe to the Cathedral YouTube Channel by pressing the subscribe button.



**Pastoral Care:** I would like to place on record my appreciation to Rev. Canon Jubilee Ponniah for helping me and the worshipping community by undertaking some specific areas of Pastoral Care after the passing away of the late Rev. Balakumar in November last year.

I also wish to reassure you of my commitment to assisting you with Pastoral Ministrations at times of Pastoral emergencies. I am only a phone call away from you.

Thanking You,  
With Prayers and Blessings,  
Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Perry Brohier". Below the signature are three small blue dots.

**Ven. Perry Brohier**  
Vicar

# HOLY DAYS/ FESTIVALS & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	All Saints' Day
2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	All Souls' Day
7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Saints of Our Diocese  Anniversary of the Church of Ceylon and the Diocese of Colombo  50th Anniversary of the Consecration of our Cathedral in 1973
8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Saints and Martyrs of our Land
12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Remembrance Sunday
18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	50th Anniversary of the Consecration of our Cathedral Service of Thanksgiving
30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	St. Andrew's Day





**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12 2023**  
**AT 8:30AM**

## Special Remembrance Day Service.

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

# LECTIONARY - NOVEMBER 2023

**Date: 5th November 2023 - 8th Sunday Before Christmas – All Saints' Sunday**  
**Theme: "Citizenship in Heaven"**

Reading	Passage	Name of Reader
Old Testament	Jeremiah 31: 31 – 34	Cyril Amarasekera
Psalms	34: 1 – 10, 22	Farah Daniel
Epistle	1 John 3: 1 - 3	Ivanka Thampapillai
Gospel	St. Matthew 5: 1 - 12	Himani Peiris
Intercessions		Amanda Vincent

**Date: 12th November 2023 – 7th Sunday Before Christmas – Remembrance Sunday**  
**Theme: "Vigilant Preparation for Death"**

Old Testament	Joshua 24: 1 - 3, 14 - 24	Eshan De Mel
Psalms	78: 1 - 7	Keshiya Lakshendrakumar
Epistle	1 Thessalonians 4: 13 - 18	Amrith Samarasinhe
Gospel	St. Matthew 25: 1 - 13	Sharmini Sambandan
Intercessions		Shyamal Muthumudalige

**Date: 19th November 2023 – 6th Sunday Before Christmas**  
**Theme: "Armour Against Hell"**

Old Testament	Judges 4: 1 - 7	Renuka Sadanandan
Psalms	123	Darren William
Epistle	1 Thessalonians 5: 1 - 11	Trehan Jayawardane
Gospel	St. Matthew 25: 14 - 30	Anagi Wannakuwatte
Intercessions		Jill Macdonald

**Date: 26th November 2023 – 5th Sunday Before Christmas**  
**Theme: "Reign of Christ Against Secularism and Consumerism"**

Old Testament	Ezekiel 34: 11 – 16, 20 - 24	Promise Boco
Psalms	100	Ashane Rodrigo
Epistle	Ephesians 1: 15 – 23	Shalini Fernando
Gospel	St. Matthew 25: 31 - 46	Shanti Gnanapragasam
Intercessions		Mahen Perera



The Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour  
of the Diocese of Colombo

# 50th Year of Consecration

(Date of Consecration: 7th November 1973)

Service of Thanksgiving  
18th of November 2023 | 9.30 a.m.

Procession at 9.15 a.m.  
(Please be in your seat by 9.15 a.m.)



#### **FIVE COLUMNS**

5 Marks of Mission as set out by the Anglican Communion.  
5 decades of worship & mission of the Cathedral.



#### **AN ARCH WITHIN AN ARCH**

Depicts the gradual growth of spirituality which deepens as it progresses through prayer, study, reflection & action.



#### **TWO ARROWHEADS POINTING OUTWARD FROM THE CROSS**

Indicates the Cathedral is a place of inspiration for the Diocese & is influenced by the struggles that goes on in the lives of people.



#### **THE TOP SEMI CIRCLES OF THE ARCH**

Depicts a rainbow which speaks of hope, diversity, inclusivity & God's protection & presence.



#### **COLUMNS SURROUNDING THE SANCTUARY**

From the table of the Lord flows the alternate system where everyone is fed. Those who approach the table are expected to go in peace to love & serve in the name of Christ.



**CATHEDRAL**

of Christ the Living Saviour

# Cathedral 50th Anniversary Publication

A commemorative volume released for the jubilee of the Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour in November 2023, this 8”x 8” 100-page coffee table book printed on art paper will be a limited edition.

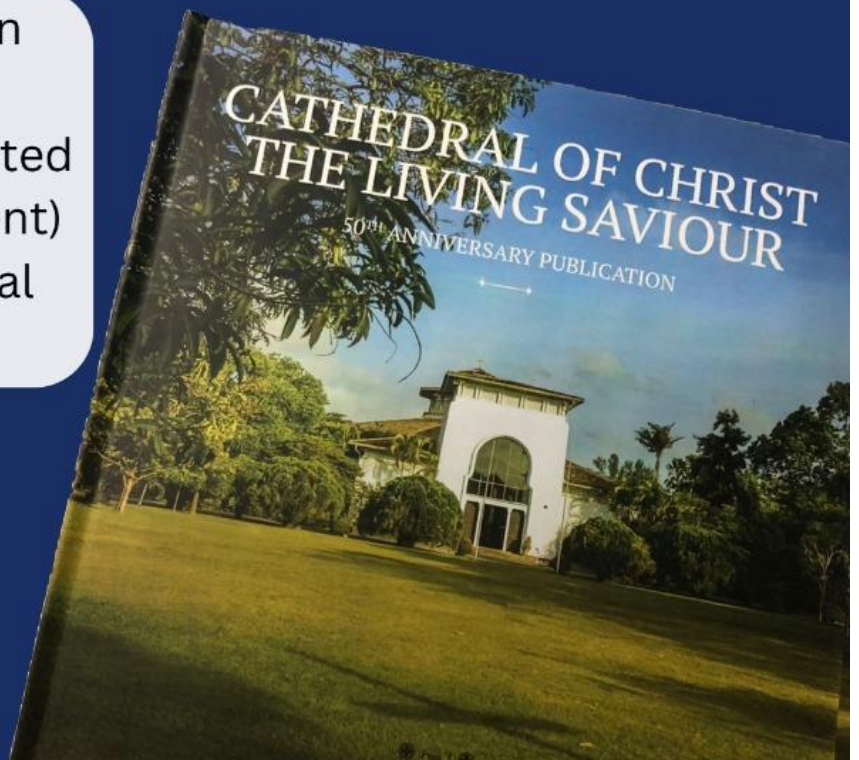
Drawn from archival material and replete with rare photographs, the book presents a compelling portrait of how the Cathedral came to be – the visionary Bishops and priests who planned a people’s church, its distinctive architecture and its wonderful garden which many liken to an urban forest.

While offering snapshots of significant events in the past 50 years, the book also looks at the life of the Cathedral and how it has grown to be a vibrant and integral part of the larger community in its mission to serve.

Limited Edition

Rs. 5000/=

Preorders accepted  
(with full payment)  
at the Cathedral  
office





# 138TH DIOCESAN COUNCIL SESSIONS

The 138th session of the Diocesan Council, held from the 26th to the 28th of October 2023, was a significant gathering for the Diocese. The overarching theme for this event was "God, Renew us in Your Spirit, Restore the Creation and Make us Agents of Change." The council aimed to address a wide range of important topics and issues, both within the Church and in the broader community.

The event kicked off with an evensong service on the first day, featuring a vibrant program that included choral performances by the Ladies College choir, a captivating dance performance by the School for the Deaf, and active participation from individuals representing various communities in society. Additionally, the launch of three books marked a literary milestone during this occasion. They were:

1. The 175th Anniversary Publication of the Diocese of Colombo of the Church of Ceylon - Diocesan Publication which was compiled by a team appointed by the 175th anniversary celebrations Committee.
2. Beyond Checkpoints by Bishop Duleep de Chickera
3. Citizenship & Discipleship by Bishop Duleep de Chickera

The core sessions of the council began soon after, with distinguished guests Ven. Justine Allain-Chapman and Thomas Allain-Chapman serving as the chief guests. Ven. Justine shared her personal experiences in Sri Lanka and addressed topics like resilience and the practice of meditation within the Christian faith. Meanwhile, her husband, Thomas, discussed his work in publishing and the transition to digital media and communication. He highlighted the Daily Prayer app, launched by the Church of England, which has become a valuable tool for people worldwide in their daily prayer practices.

On the second day, one of the highlights was the debate on the report by the Standing Committee. Issues like the Church's mission and the shortage of clergy in rural areas were raised. The need to encourage more individuals within the community to serve as ordained clergy was emphasised. Suggestions were made to allow ordained clergy to focus on dedicated missions, such as education, rather than juggling multiple roles. Concerns about the shortage of divinity teachers in schools were also discussed.

Another important concern raised was the need for improved communication within the Diocese. Many parishioners were unaware of the broader work carried out by the Diocese. To address this, there was a suggestion to establish a dedicated communications team, which would also assist in reaching out to the community to encourage ordained service.

The council also called for nominations for various leadership positions, including the Standing Committee, Incorporated Trustees, and other statutory committees and councils within the Diocese.

Afterwards, the new method for the election of a bishop was ratified by the council. This was followed by a resolution calling people to identify and speak against evil and corrupt systems and mafias in society that aim to exploit the weak and vulnerable. It encourages us to confront these unjust systems by embracing the principles of servant leadership.

Another resolution was approved, denouncing the systematic discrimination and exploitation of any individual, emphasising that every person is created in the image and likeness of God. The resolution urges the Church to actively recognize and eliminate such practices from our Diocesan communities. It calls for a deliberate reevaluation of our beliefs and values to identify and eliminate any biases and discriminatory behaviours.

The third day began with a motion condemning the violence and conflict in the Israel/Palestine region and calling for peaceful negotiations. The council also acknowledged the ethnic conflict in the past and ongoing issues in our own country. Voting took place for the election of nominees to the Standing Committee for the year 2023/2024 for which the results were announced towards the close of the day's proceedings.

A resolution was adopted, recognizing that the Prosperity Gospel's theological perspective runs counter to and contradicts the life-affirming spirituality of Christ. The resolution encourages all members of our community to assess their personal and collective lives in alignment with this spiritual approach. It emphasises that the notion that acquiring health, wealth, and prosperity depends on faith and obedience, essentially creating a transactional faith, is not in line with the beliefs of our Church. Instead, the Church affirms that while we acknowledge prosperity as a blessing from God, we also acknowledge suffering as an integral part of our spiritual journey.

A unique aspect of this council session was that all meals were prepared in-house by a team of cooks, resulting in significant cost savings for the event.

The next sessions of the Diocesan Council were scheduled for the 24th, 25th, and 26th of October 2024, promising to continue addressing important issues and promoting positive change within the Church and the community.

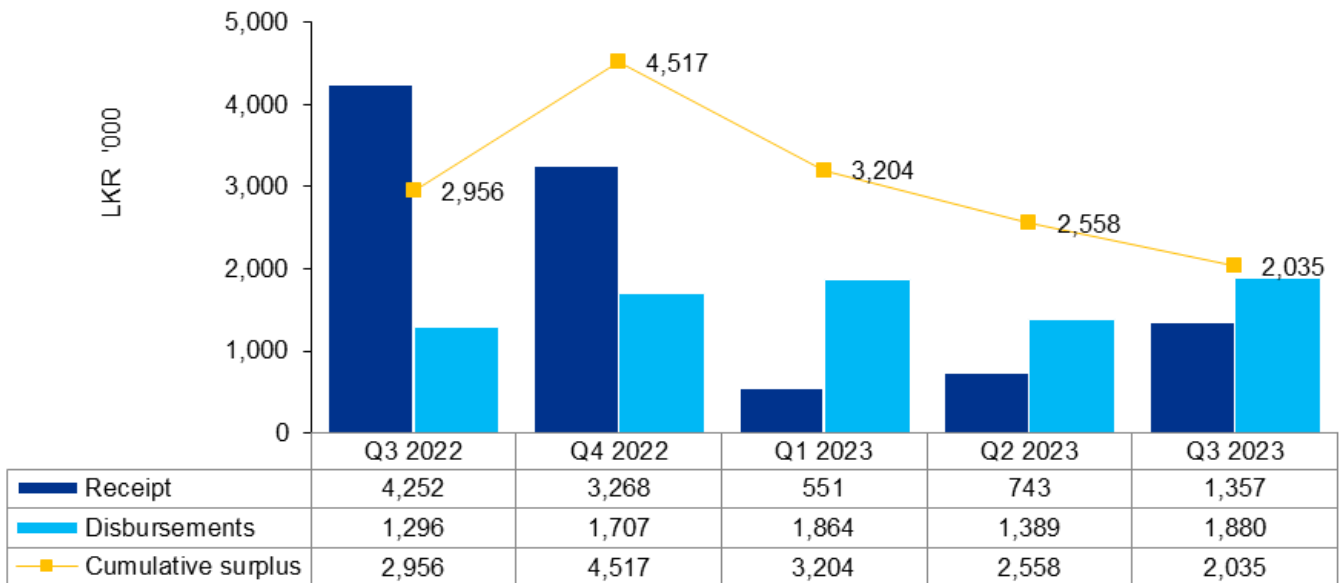
# THE CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY KITCHEN

As you are aware, Sri Lanka faced an unprecedented economic crisis in the year 2022 that led many households to skip their meals and left thousands of people severely food insecure. The Cathedral, thanks to the generous contributions by the members of the worshipping community and other well-wishers, responded to the crisis and initiated the Community Kitchen (CK) Project. The project involves distribution of food packets to the needy twice a week. It still continues and is much looked forward to by the needy where approximately 600 food packets at a cost Rs.160,000/- are distributed per week.

As of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023, 30,542 food packets at a cost of Rs. 8.1 million had been distributed as given in the chart. However, the disbursements for the food packets during the year 2023 far exceeded the contributions received for the CK Project during the corresponding period as depicted in the bar chart. Thereby, the cumulative surplus available from donations received to fund the food packets declined to just over Rs. 2.0 Mn. The donations received will cover the cost of the food packets up to 31 December 2023.

Hence, the Cathedral wishes to re-launch the appeal to our worshipping community and well-wishers for voluntary contributions to help the Cathedral continue to feed the needy through the CK Project.

## Community Kitchen Project Status as of 30th September 2023



	<b>Cumulative surplus</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Receipt</b>	<b>No. of food packs</b>
Q3 2022	2,956	1,296	4,252	5,105
Q4 2022	4,517	1,707	3,268	6,046
Q1 2023	3,204	1,864	551	6,991
Q2 2023	2,558	1,389	743	5,285
Q3 2023	2,035	1,880	1,357	7,115
	<b>2,035</b>	<b>8,136</b>	<b>10,171</b>	<b>30,542</b>

Thank you!!!

“God loves a Cheerful Giver”



## THE CATHEDRAL

# Community Kitchen

**THE PROJECT  
FEEDS OVER 400  
PEOPLE WEEKLY**

**WITH THE HELP OF VOLUNTEERS FROM THE CONGREGATION, MEMBERS OF THE CATHEDRAL WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY HAVE BEGUN TO RESPOND TO AND AID THOSE AFFECTED BY THE PRESENT CRISIS.**

If you feel moved to support this initiative, you may make your contribution to the Cathedral office by indicating Community Kitchen or CK on the envelope. Alternatively, you may make a bank transfer to the Cathedral.

If you would like to contribute by volunteering, please get in touch with the vicar and express your interest in doing so.

### **BANK DETAILS:**

Beneficiary:  
Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour

Bank:  
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC, Reid Avenue Branch

Account Number:  
1116019905

Bank Code: 7056  
Branch Code: 116  
Swift Code: CCEYLK LX

Reference:  
"Community Kitchen"  
or  
"CK"

**THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIVING SAVIOUR**

368, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7

# 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

Name	Contact Numbers		Email
	Mobile	Landline	
Ven. Perry Brohier	077 754 1234	011 269 6363 (R) 011 269 0878 (O)	<a href="mailto:dnigelp@gmail.com">dnigelp@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:adcmb@dioceseofcolombo.lk">adcmb@dioceseofcolombo.lk</a>

### Cathedral Office

Staff	Address	Office Contact	Email
Wesley Bastianpillai	368, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo – 07	011 267 1481	<a href="mailto:angcathedralcmb@gmail.com">angcathedralcmb@gmail.com</a>
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 ~