

# CATHEDRAL NEWSLETTER

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December 2023

## **Feast of the Nativity**



**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 we commence another season of Advent, I would like to take this opportunity to remind ourselves that Advent is traditionally not about Christ's first coming as a baby but about His second coming in judgment, vindication and mercy. This season has also inevitably come to be seen as a period of preparation for the celebration of the Feast of the Nativity. Therefore, it's a space that we could also make use of creatively for the benefit of the worshipping community. .

**Nation:** In the last few weeks, we seem to be hearing of some scandal or corruption on a daily if not weekly basis. What is fundamentally disappointing to note is that no one appears to be responsible for what has taken place. But with the passage of time, those responsible for this will be revealed, as history often shows.

This was evident in the recent landmark judgment by the Supreme Court as it names those responsible for the collapse of the nation's economy.

**New Archdeacons:** Ven. Christopher Balaraj and Rev. Charles David have been named the 24th Archdeacon of Colombo and 8th Archdeacon of Nuwara Eliya respectively. The date for the service of installation and institution is still to be decided at the time of this publication.

**New Vicar of the Cathedral:** Rev. Lakshman Daniel will assume duties as your shepherd and Vicar on the 1st of January 2024. I wish to extend a warm welcome to him and his wife Anne as he commences his work with you.

## Life at the Cathedral

**Carol Service:** The Cathedral Carol Service will take place on Saturday 9th December 2023 at 6pm.

**Sunday School:** The Sunday School will make their annual seasonal presentation during the Sunday service on 10th December 2023. This will also be their last day of term for the year. Sunday School will reopen for the New Year on 14th January 2024.

As the children are really working hard to make a presentation with a difference, I would like to encourage members of the worshipping community to take a little time after the service and walk around to see their craft work that will also be on display.

**Labour of Love II:** I place on record my thanks to all those of you who took the time to join us in the Labour of Love II on 11th November 2023.

**Remembrance Sunday Service:** We were also able to observe Remembrance Sunday this year amidst a very good gathering.

**Cathedral 50th Anniversary Publication (Limited Edition):** The limited edition Anniversary Publication was launched on 18th November 2023. If you have still not purchased a copy for yourself, please do so without delay. You could contact the Cathedral office on 0112671481 for more details.

**50th Anniversary of the Cathedral – A Moment in Time:** Our 50th Anniversary Celebrations came to a close with a very well attended service of thanksgiving held on 18th November 2023. It was such a joy to be in the presence of such a cross section of people to whom the Cathedral has been their diocesan cathedral. With the Church of Ceylon moving towards becoming a Province, this Cathedral will not be the diocesan cathedral soon to some as new diocesan cathedrals are created and existing diocesan boundaries are redefined. Hence, this, one could say, was a historic gathering for many reasons.

I wish to place on record my appreciation to the Anniversary Committee for their commitment and dedication as we have worked together through the last 15 months planning 10 events, programmes and activities leading up to the final celebration of God's faithful provision in and through 50 years of ministry and mission.

**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 of you who are unable to support financially and can give of your time with the distribution of food, your assistance is most welcome too.

**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.



**Moving On – Good bye:** As we prepare to move on and out from the worshipping community, I wish to place on record my gratitude to Almighty God especially for His faithfulness, grace, mercy and provision. Over the last 9 years we have lived through times that we hope we will never have to experience and see again as individuals or as a community. From political instability, to the current economic crisis, the unceremonial ousting from power of a President, to the impeachment of a Chief Justice, to the Easter bombings, the visit of the Pope, the solidarity visit of the Metropolitan and the pandemic to name a few. There will be some details concerning the immediate events after the Easter bombings which will only remain known to me and remain with me. I thank God for His amazing grace to face all that was our portion and look back with a grateful heart and say, 'Thank you, Lord!'

I also wish to thank successive Cathedral Finance and Administration Committees (CFAC), sextons, the choir and its director, Sunday School teachers, the youth group, the media team, Ishan de Lanerolle our former choir director, our organists Neranjan de Silva and Blodweyn Weeratunga, the Cathedral office staff, the many assistants who have served over the last 9 years and many retired clergy for their support offered over the years.

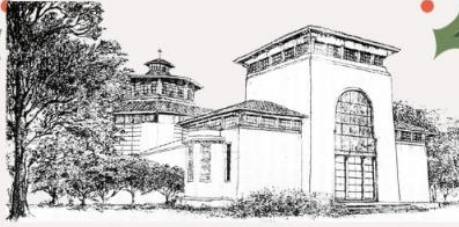
Finally, I thank my wife Christina and our daughter Rachel for patiently bearing with me over these many years and making many sacrifices in order that my work with you was not compromised. The last year has also been a different experience with Rachel being away overseas. 2024 will hopefully help me spend more time with them as I enter a new season in life.

The Lord, bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you and give you Peace.

Thanking You,  
With Prayers and Blessings,  
Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Perry Brohier". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a blue line.

**Ven. Perry Brohier**  
Vicar



# Christmas *at the* Cathedral

**CAROL SERVICE: 9TH DEC 2023 AT 6.00 PM**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESENTATION: 10TH DEC 2023 AT 8.30AM**

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: 11.15PM (ENGLISH)**

**CHRISTMAS DAY:**

7.00 AM (SINHALA & TAMIL)

8.30AM (ENGLISH)

**NEW YEARS EVE WATCH NIGHT SERVICE: 11.15 PM**

**NEW YEAR DAY:**

7.00 AM (SINHALA & TAMIL)

8.30AM (ENGLISH)

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*Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour  
Buddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07.*

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# REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY





# SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CATHEDRAL

The service was presided by the Bishop of Colombo, Rt. Revd. Dushantha Rodrigo, while the preacher was the Rt. Revd. Kenneth Fernando.









# 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.

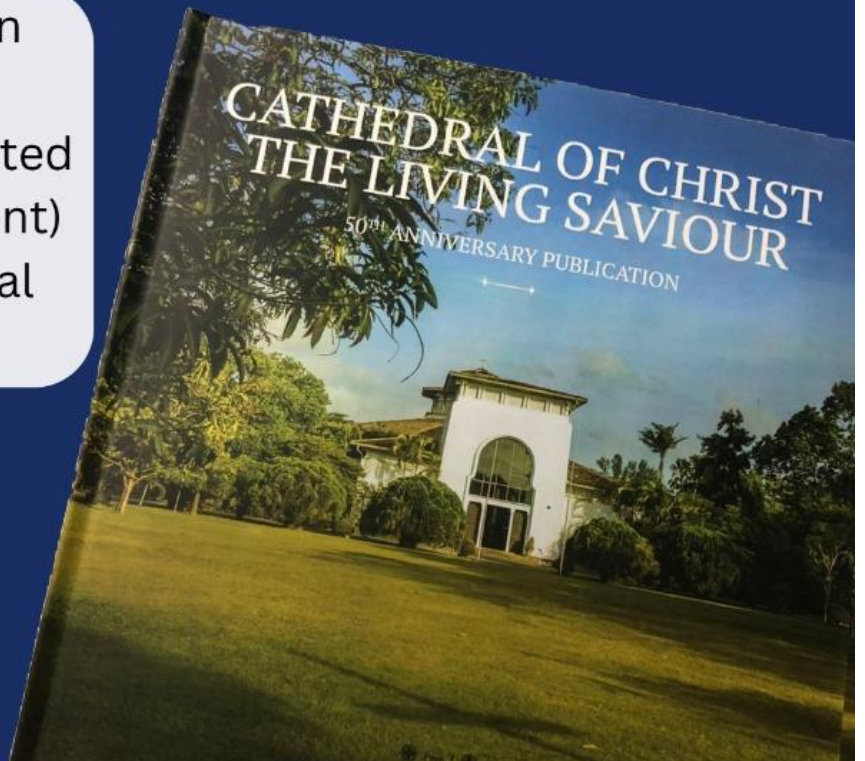
Drawn from archival material and replete with rare photographs, the book presents a compelling portrait of how the Cathedral came to be – the visionary Bishops and priests who planned a people’s church, its distinctive architecture and its wonderful garden which many liken to an urban forest.

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



# LECTIONARY - DECEMBER 2023

**Date: 3rd December 2023 – First Sunday of Advent (Fourth Sunday before Christmas)**  
**Theme: “Be Awake Waiting for the Lord with Hope on the day of Wrath”**

Reading	Passage	Name of Reader
Old Testament	Isaiah 64: 1 - 9	Keziah Lakshendrakumar
Psalms	80: 1 – 7, 17 - 19	Shyan Muthumudalige
Epistle	1 Corinthians 1: 3 - 9	Ivanka Thampapillai
Gospel	St. Mark 13: 24 - 37	Eshan De Mel
Intercessions		Thayalan Gnanapragasam

**Date: 10th December 2023 – Second Sunday of Advent (Third Sunday before Christmas also Bible Sunday)**

**Theme : “Listen to the Good News from One Coming out, the Penitential Voice”**

Old Testament	Isaiah 40: 1 - 11	Rohan Salgado
Psalms	85: 1 – 2, 8 - 13	Akash Daniel
Epistle	2 Peter 3: 8 - 15	Rohini Rockwood
Gospel	St. Mark 1: 1 - 8	Shalini Fernando
Intercessions		Amanda Vincent

**Date: 17th December 2023 – Third Sunday of Advent (2nd Sunday before Christmas)**

**Theme : “The Joy of Preparing for the Christ, the Lord of Might, the Expectant Voice”**

Old Testament	Isaiah 61: 1 – 4, 8 - 11	Derrick William
Psalms	126	Anushka Tennekoon
Epistle	1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 24	Dr. Chandani Perera
Gospel	St. John 1: 6 – 8, 19 -28	Indranee Senanayke
Intercessions		Sukanya Devarajan

**Date: 24th December 2023 - Fourth Sunday of Advent (Sunday Before Christmas)**

**Theme : “Love, Full of Grace: The Annunciation”**

Old Testament	2 Samuel 7: 1 – 11, 16	Shriyantha Senaratne
Psalms (Instead)	The Magnificat	Farah Daniel
Epistle	Romans 16: 25 - 27	Radhika Salgado
Gospel	St. Luke 1: 26 - 38	Jeanne Samuel
Intercessions		Jill Macdonald

**Date: 24th December 2023 – Christmas Eve**

**Theme: “The Nativity – God with Us”**

Reading	Passage	Name of Reader
Old Testament	Isaiah 9: 2 - 7	Warren White
Psalms	96	Daniella Derrick
Epistle	Titus 2: 11 - 14	Trehan Jayawardane
Gospel	St. Luke 2: 1 - 14	Anika Gamalathge
Intercessions		Shamara Herat

**Date: 25th December 2023 – Christmas Day**

**Theme: “The Nativity – God with Us”**

Old Testament	Isaiah 52: 7 - 10	Himani Peiris
Psalms	98	Avani Wannakuwatte
Epistle	Hebrews 1: 1 - 4	Niroshala Manuel
Gospel	St. John 1: 1 - 14	Amrith Samarasinhe
Intercessions		Dharshini Masilamaney

**Date: 31st Dec 2023 – Christmas One or First Sunday after Christmas**

**Holy Family Sunday**

**Theme: “The Holy Family”**

Old Testament	Isaiah 61: 10 – 62: 3	Renuka Sadanandan
Psalms	148	Ayush Abraham
Epistle	Galatians 4: 4 - 7	Daphne William
Gospel	St. Luke 2: 22 - 40	Promise Boco
Intercessions		Sonali Amarasekera

**Date: 31st December 2023 – New Year’s Eve or Watch Night Service**

**Theme: “Jesus Christ: Salvation to All People”**

Old Testament	Isaiah 60: 1 - 6	Patrick Bulner
Psalms	72: 1 – 7, 10 - 14	Chemali Herath
Epistle	Ephesians 3: 1 - 12	Evan Jayawardane
Gospel	St. Mathew 2: 1 - 12	Vrai Raymond
Intercessions		C. Jeewakumaran

**Date: 1st January 2024 - New Year's Day**

**Theme : "New year"**

Reading	Passage	Name of Reader
Old Testament	Ecclesiastes 3: 1 - 13	Aaron Nilojan
Psalm	8	Aanya Samarasinhe
Epistle	Revelation 21: 1 - 6	Dhilan Mitchell
Gospel	St. Mathew 25: 31 - 4	Hadasha Randunubandara
Intercessions		Andrew Joseph

## **HOLY DAYS/ FESTIVALS & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES**

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



## 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 077 200 8070 (24x7)	<a href="mailto:angcathedralcmb@gmail.com">angcathedralcmb@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:info@cathedral.lk">info@cathedral.lk</a>
Chandrika Wijesinghe		<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 077 200 8070.

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

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

~ Compiled and edited by the Cathedral Media Team ~