



CATHEDRAL NEWSLETTER

September 2024



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope

(Rom 8:19-25)

THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIVING SAVIOUR

368, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7

MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR OF THE CATHEDRAL

Friends,

In the month of September, the focus of the church moves towards creation. The period of 1st September till the 4th of October (St. Francis of Assisi Day) is known as the season of creation. This season is kept ecumenically throughout the world, to enable us to have continuous focus on the relationship between human beings and nature and to come together to pray, act and protect this inhabited earth - our common home..

This year the theme is ***"To hope and act with creation"*** based on Romans 8:19 - 25, and the symbol reflects the ***"first fruits of hope"***. It is our responsibility as disciples of Jesus Christ, to keep our focus on God's creation every day, and work and live in a manner that creation is protected and sustained for us and for the generations to come.

Look around the country and the world, and there are many who are suffering and affected by human impact on nature. What is going to be the response of the church? Do we carelessly go along with people who are destroying nature, or do we make a difference? If we make a difference, not only will we enjoy the fruits of creation, but even generations to come will enjoy them. As a Cathedral worshipping community we have begun a process of response, with the implementation of solar power and reducing the use of paper. But we must continue to build on this.

As Christians we have a responsibility towards creation. The earth and everything in it belongs to God (Psalm 24:1) and we are called to be stewards of God's creation (Gen 2:15).

Our failure will affect our families present and future too. If we work together with creation, we will see the "***first fruits of hope***" born. Hence, every individual needs to take conscious decisions, however challenging it maybe to break with the popular trends of the world that doesn't care about the earth and become change makers.

This month we also focus on the home and family, an important structure in society, which can make a big impact on society. This Sunday helps us to highlight the importance of the home and emphasise prayer and bible reading and good practices of the home. If Christian values and good practices to be instilled in our homes, then God must take the center most place in our homes. When Christian families emphasize this, then we permit God to build our homes (Psalm 127:1a) with values, practices and behavior that satisfies God. This happens when families come together to read the scriptures, pray and learn to discern God's, which becomes the foundation of our homes.

So, as people of God we have a challenge before us. To build up our homes and families and be responsible stewards of creation. Good practices that are learned in the home will also have a positive impact on creation and can be the foundation for society and nation.

May our activities of the coming month help us to become responsible followers of Christ, having the courage to make the necessary changes in our homes as well as "to hope and act with creation".

God bless you all
Fr. Lakshman

An Environmental Reading from *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis

Pope Francis (b. 1936) is a Jesuit from Argentina. Laudato si' (Praise Be to You) is his first original encyclical with the subtitle "on care for our common home". In it, the pope critiques consumerism and irresponsible development, laments environmental degradation and global warming, and calls all people of the world to take "swift and unified global action."

When we speak of the “environment,” what we really mean is a relationship existing between nature and the society which lives in it. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it. Recognizing the reasons why a given area is polluted requires a study of the workings of society, its economy, its behavior patterns, and the ways it grasps reality. Given the scale of change, it is no longer possible to find a specific, discrete answer for each part of the problem.

It is essential to seek comprehensive solutions which consider the interactions within natural systems themselves and with social systems. We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature.



REGISTRATION OPEN

A CATHEDRAL
FAMILY EVENT

**SUNDAY
29 SEPTEMBER**

**GROWING TOGETHER
IN FAITH**

Register by clicking on the link below

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc18x6ZEZKExrDUXqs0tRrT3akSGQvjB0TQXg70sJDDDClcVQ/viewform?usp=sharing>

LECTIONARY - SEPTEMBER 2024

Date: 1st September 2024 – Proper 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Creation tide – 01
Theme: “To hope and act with Creation”

Reading	Passage	Name of Reader
Old Testament Lesson	Song of Solomon 2 : 8 - 13	Navyya Wannakuwatte
Psalms	45 : 1 - 2 & 6 - 9	Renuka Sadanandan
Epistle	Romans 8:19-25	Niroshala Manuel
Gospel	St. Mark 7 : 1 - 8, 14,15 & 21 - 23	Patrick Bulner
Intercession	Jill Macdonald	

Date 8th September 2024 – Proper 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Creation tide – 02
Theme: “Economy: God’s rules for our Common Home” / “Learn”

Old Testament Lesson	Proverbs 22;1-2; 8-9, 22-23	Treasure Boco
Psalms	125	Andrew Joseph
Epistle	James 2:1-10; (11-13)	Fara Daniel
Gospel	Mark 7:24-37	Darren White
Intercession	Eshan De Mel	

Date 15th September 2024 – Proper 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Holy Cross Sunday) / Creation tide – 03
Theme: “Ecology: Protecting our Common Home” / “Act”

Old Testament Lesson	Proverbs 1 : 20 - 33	Darren William
Psalms	19	Enoch Daniel
Epistle	James 3 : 1 - 12	Devesh Ahangama
Gospel	St. Mark 8 : 27 - 38	Shalomi Gnanasekaram
Intercession	Jenaya Jeewakumaran	

Date 22nd September 2024 – Proper 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Creation tide - 04
Theme: “Ecumenism: The family of God in our Common Home” / “Advocate”

Old Testament Lesson	Proverbs 31 : 10 - 31	Cyril Amarasekera
Psalms	1	Jean Samuel
Epistle	James 3 : 13 - 4 : 3, 7 - 8a	Vrai Raymond
Gospel	St. Mark 9 : 30 - 37	Indranee Senanayake
Intercession	Sukanya Devarajan	

LECTIONARY - SEPTEMBER 2024

Date 29th September 2024 – Proper 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time / Creation tide - 05 (Church of South India Sunday)

Theme: “Pray and act for our Common Home – growing together in faith” / “Bless”

Reading	Passage	Name of Reader
Old Testament Lesson	Esther 7 : 1 -6, 9 - 10, 9: 20 - 22	Dr. Chandani Perera
Psalm	124	Anthea Senaratne
Epistle	James 5 : 13 - 20	Derrick William
Gospel	St. Mark 9 : 38 - 50	Himani Peiris
Intercession	Sonali Amarasekera	

HOLY DAYS / FEAST DAYS IN SEPTEMBER

9 th Sep	Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith,
13 th Sep	John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher of the Faith,
14 th Sep	Triumph of the Holy Cross
21 st Sep	St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
29 th Sep	St. Michael and All Angels

English classes for the under privileged children

The English classes which were commenced for underprivileged children towards the beginning of this year continues with 24 children and 7 teachers.

To sustain this ministry and continue to give of our best we need the following human resources.

- 1. **A few more teachers.** This will enable us to separate the children into different classes.*
- 2. **Volunteers** to help co-ordinate the children and parents who come.*

For more details please contact: Charmini Derrick – 077 342 0800

From our Diocese A response to the Malayaha Makkal call

One of the “calls” that were made by the Malaiyaha Makkal community to the Government at the end of the walk last year was for the “the affirmative action on education”. Taking into consideration the role that the church has played in education in the past 175 years and the fact that we have a school for girl children of the Malaiyaha Makkal, the Diocese, as its response has set up a scholarship fund to educate the children of the Malayaha Makkal. While we thank those who have made contributions to this cause, we encourage you to support this initiative by the Diocese, help the children of the Malayaham receive “quality education” (the 4th Sustainable Development Goal by the UN) and a bright future. Your contributions can be sent to the following bank details.

Name of account - Bishop of Colombo Miscellaneous Fund

Account Number - 002010002875

Name of the Bank - Hatton National Bank PLC

Swift Code - HBLILKLX001

Branch - City Office

Bank branch code - 7083-002



THE CATHEDRAL

*Community
Kitchen*

**THE PROJECT
FEEDS OVER 600
PEOPLE WEEKLY**

**THE GENEROSITY OF OUR
CONGREGATION OVER THE PAST FEW
MONTHS HAS ALLOWED THE
CATHEDRAL TO OPERATE THE
COMMUNITY KITCHEN TO RESPOND
TO, AND AID THOSE IN NEED WHO
HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE
ECONOMIC 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.

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

A MESSAGE FROM CEMET

Dear friends

For some time, we have not been able to send you messages from CEMET. We would like to remind you that our vision is to help each parish become a Green Church. In the beginning of this year we shared a document about how we can do this.

WHAT IS A GREEN CHURCH?

Green church is a premises which attempts to reduce its carbon footprint. It also develops good practices to reduce pollution and promote stewardship of God's creation among parishioners.

Why should Christians take the leadership?

The book of Genesis tells us how God Created the world. It tells us that God created man to cultivate and tend the earth. In order to perform this task God gave man shared dominion over the earth. It does not give us the freedom to do as we like, but rather restricts us to do things which are within God's plan. Thus, all followers of Christ become stewards of God's creation now bestowed unto the rulership of Christ.

What are the benefits to a parish?

- Reduces carbon footprint and contribute to the national policy.
- Caring for God's creation is showing our love.
- Contributing to healing of the environment is showing our love for neighbors.
- Savings from utility bills can be diverted to the mission.
- Church buildings and garden is well maintained.

A MESSAGE FROM CEMET

- Enables the whole congregation to actively serve God.
- Create unity and purpose among parishioners through participation.
- Teach youth and children to care for the environment.
- Create interest among the parishioners to adopt the concept to their homes and workplaces.
- Interest other religious groups to adopt, creating unity and peace.
- Show our countrymen that we care for them.

Sent by Sharmini of CEMET

From the Season of Creation Celebration Guide 2024

“In the face of the climate crisis, protecting God’s Creation is a spiritual imperative for Christians throughout the global Church. The Season of Creation has inspired us to come together in prayer and action – to safeguard, sustain and renew the life of the Earth. That is why, inspired by the Orthodox Church’s leadership, the Anglican Communion enthusiastically supports this ecumenical season. I encourage Anglicans around the world to pray for the unity of the Church, as we follow Christ’s call to protect and renew what God has entrusted to us.”

Most Revd Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, Anglican Communion

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.



Weekly Services at The Cathedral

Every morning, at 7.30 a.m, a short Holy Communion service is held at the tranquil little Chapel (the Chapel of St. Joseph the Worker) at the right side at the entrance of the Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour.

If you are marking a special day in your life, a day you would like to remember with prayers and thanksgiving to God, this service provides the perfect opportunity to do so with a special blessing. Be it a birthday or wedding anniversary, a commemoration of the death of a loved one, even a day when you began a new chapter in your life and you want to spend a few moments in quiet reflection, come to this morning service. It is where you can pray and worship in the company of a few and have a special prayer said for you.

The morning service is also ideal for elders who may prefer a shorter worship service than the regular Sunday Eucharist. The quiet confines of the Chapel offer a place for peaceful reflection.

The following morning services are held every day (Monday to Saturday)
7.00 am Morning Prayer
7.30 am Holy Eucharist

HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICE TIMES

07.00am – Sinhala & Tamil

08.30am – English

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CONTACT DETAILS

Cathedral Pastoral Care Team

Name	Contact Numbers		Email
	Mobile	Landline	
Rev. Lakshman Daniel	0777 377 270	011 269 6363 (R) 011 269 0878 (O)	lakshmandaniel@outlook.com

Cathedral Office

Staff	Address	Office Contact	Email
Wesley Bastianpillai	368, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo – 07	011 267 1481	angcathedralcmb@gmail.com
Chandrika Wijesinghe			info@cathedral.lk anglican.cathedral@yahoo.com

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

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

