

# THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIVING SAVIOUR

Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7

*Cathedral News - March 2019*



“Now, therefore,” says the LORD,  
“Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with  
mourning.” So rend your heart, and not your garments;  
Return to the LORD your God, For He *is* gracious and merciful,  
Slow to anger, and of great kindness.

*Joel 2:12-13*

## *Message from the Vicar of the Cathedral*

My dear Friends in Christ,

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

**Church:** On 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019, we join the Universal Church as we enter another solemn liturgical season of Lent. I encourage the use of this time creatively and meaningfully in order that it will help us make sense of our calling as Christ's disciples in extremely challenging times. I need not stress this any further but I am sure we at least grapple with this challenge in our national context.

In order to facilitate deeper reflection of these realities this Lenten season too, a series of Lenten reflections will be conducted. Therefore I encourage as many of you to make good use of this time in order that we grow in our walk with Christ. Growing in Christ is essential if we are to value and appreciate what Christ accomplished for us through His death and resurrection. I am certain that a deeper and meaningful understanding of this will no doubt contribute to a meaningful celebration of Easter.

**Nation:** The life of the Nation is very much like a Broadway musical with different actors taking center stage to play different roles. The example we have is too poor to mention. Therefore the plight of our nation is cause for shame and much sadness.

Our leaders have lost their credibility to govern and be respected for the office they hold. Day after day a new controversy or scandal seems to emerge. There is no sense of accountability. The leaders seem to be above the law! I have often asked myself if this would be the case with every citizen in the country.

I have observed the indifferent if not reluctant manner in which the media has given coverage to the capture of some of the most lethal and most wanted persons in the country. After the capture and killing of the separatist movement that caused havoc in this country I would go further as to say this individual has been THE most wanted person in Sri Lanka's post War times. The apprehension with which the media has dealt with this ongoing situation has raised many questions about media integrity. Someone may even be bold enough to ask if this is because media institutions have been 'taken care of' by persons connected directly or indirectly.

As the nation watches this closely, it is certainly the hope of every law abiding citizen that those who have erred on the side of the law will be dealt with according to the law.

## Life in the Cathedral

**Lent:** A series of Lenten reflections on **Faithful Living in Faithless Times** will be conducted in the Unity Chapel every Wednesday from the 13<sup>th</sup> March until the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019, at 6 pm. Your participation and prayers will be deeply appreciated and valued. Please also share this information with others and encourage as many to participate.

**Launch of Appeal – the late Rev. Mark Edwards:** I would like to continue to commend this appeal to your careful consideration and support. As a worshipping community we have begun to support this family. Initially this will be every month for a period of three years. If you need to have any information in this regard please speak to me.

**Outreach Fund:** I am extremely grateful to Rohan and Ishan De Lanerolle, also known as the De Lanerolle Brothers, for selecting our Cathedral as the venue for their offering of thanksgiving to God as they keep their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of performing together as a duo. Their generous gesture to offer the entire proceeds of their evening of Sacred Music titled **HOW GREAT THOU ART** for the outreach fund is appreciated and hereby acknowledged with grateful thanks.

Our outreach fund has also been supporting a vulnerable women's livelihood programme in Vaharai in the Eastern Province. Recently we were also able to support two children whose mother has been a beneficiary from the programme, with two lap tops for their higher education.

**Growing in Christ:** In addition to enhancing the element of worship in the Cathedral, I am also keen that we focus on our spiritual growth as persons that belong to a worshipping community. Preparations are being made to begin a process of training and equipping Lay persons in the congregation to teach, lead and conduct Cottage Prayer meetings. After the process of equipping of leaders has begun there will be an opportunity for you to make your home available to be used for such a purpose. I trust that you will respond positively at the right time.

**Visiting:** The Cathedral Pastoral Care team is available to visit you. If you have not been contacted by the Clergy in this regard and would appreciate a Pastoral visit, please contact Rev. Earnest or Rev. Ratnamalar at your earliest. In addition to this, you may contact the Parish office for help in this regard or leave a written request in the book left outside the vestry.

**Personal:** I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a meaningful Lenten Season.

Thanking You,

With Prayers and Blessings

Yours Sincerely,



**Ven. Perry Brohier**

Vicar



### Holy Days and Festivals – March 2019

6 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday
19 <sup>th</sup>	Cathedral Finance and Administration Committee Meeting
25 <sup>th</sup>	Feast of the Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary
31 <sup>st</sup>	Mothering Sunday

### Clergy at the Cathedral

Rt. Revd. Dhiloraj Canagasabey - The Bishop of Colombo  
Ven. Perry Brohier - Vicar of the Cathedral & Archdeacon of Colombo  
(0777541234)  
Revd. Earnest Nadeem - Curate (0777138831)  
Revd. Ratnamalar Ratnarajah - Curate (0779428297)

*Commemorating National Independence*  
*04<sup>th</sup> February 2019*



The students of Sunday school celebrated Independence Day on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February. They dressed up representing the 4 ethnicities in Sri Lanka. During

the service, they walked up the aisle in a procession holding the national flag and sang a beautiful song called, 'we are, we are Sri



Lanka' which expresses the unity of all communities living in Sri Lanka. The day was made more exciting as they were treated to a traditional Sri Lankan meal with Kiribath and Lunu-miris.



## Concept of Fasting

By its very nature, fasting seems to suggest that something is wrong. Eating is a normal part of human existence, so abstaining from eating implies a disruption in the very rhythm of life. John Wesley said, “Some have exalted religious fasting beyond all Scripture and reason, and others have utterly disregarded it.”

Fasting is mentioned over 40 times in the Bible. The Hebrew word for fasting means: to afflict soul or self, and self-denial (2 Sam 12:16). Fasting is always a mark of deep spiritual concern.

The Jewish fasts were observed with various degrees of strictness. When the fast lasted only a single day, from evening to evening, it was the practice to abstain from every kind of food, including water.

The duration of Fasts included: One day, sunrise to sunset, after sundown food could be taken (Judges 20:26). The king fasted one night, while Daniel was in the lions den (Daniel 6:18). Esther fasted for three days and nights (Esther 4:16). Seven days at the burial of Saul and Jonathan (1 Samuel 31:13). Forty days – Moses (Exodus 34:28); Elijah (1 Kings 19:8).

Prayer and fasting are frequently connected in Biblical texts.

Bible characters are often found fasting while in intercessory prayer for others (Neh 1:8-10); personal prayer (1 Sam 1:7-11); for success in battle (Judg 20:261); for relief from famine (Jer 14:1-12); for success in other endeavors, such as Ezra’s return from the exile or Esther’s success before the king (Ezra 8:21-23; Esth 4:16).

Fasting was primarily associated with the Day of Atonement, Lev. 16:29-31. People also fasted during sickness and/or death (David fasted for his son, 2 Samuel 12:16-23); When seeking God’s forgiveness, connected to repentance (Moses fasted 40 days because of the sin of Israel, Deut. 9:15.18).

Jesus said, “When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.” Matthew 6:16-18

<b>LECTIONARY - March 2019</b>		
<b>Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 – Transfiguration Sunday, Sunday Next Before Lent – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday Before Easter. Theme: Jesus Christ the Enlightened One</b>		
<b>Reading</b>	<b>Passage</b>	<b>Name of Reader</b>
Old Testament Lesson	Exodus 34: 29-35	Renuka Sadanandan
Psalm	99	Rachel Brohier
Epistle	2 Corinthians 3: 12 – 4: 2	Enosh Nadeem
Gospel	St. Luke 9: 28 - 36	Eshan De Mel
Intercessions		Sukanya Devarajan
Offertory		Sadanandan Family
<b>Date : 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – The Sixth Sunday before Easter ( First Sunday of Lent) Theme : Preparation for the Joys of Easter</b>		
Old Testament Lesson	Deuteronomy 26: 1 - 11	Ramola Sivasundaram
Psalm	91: 1 – 2, 9 - 16	Sashyani Rodrigo
Epistle	Romans 10: 8 - 13	Rajan Kannan
Gospel	St. Luke 4: 1 - 13	Ivyin Jesumaney
Intercessions		Shyamal Muthumudalige
Offertory		Rodrigo Family
<b>Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – The Fifth Sunday before Easter (Second Sunday of Lent) Theme : The Call to Transform</b>		
Old Testament Lesson	Genesis 15: 1 – 12, 17 - 18	Himani Pieris
Psalm	27	Shyalina Muthumudalige
Epistle	Philippians 3: 17 - 4: 1	Jason Senanayake
Gospel	St. Luke 13: 31 - 35	Charles Sanders
Intercessions		Jeanne Samuel
Offertory		Sanders Family
<b>Date 24<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – The Fourth Sunday before Easter (Third Sunday of Lent) Theme : Conversion and Love</b>		
Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 55: 1 – 9	Sharmini Derrick
Psalm	63: 1 - 8	Avani Wannakuwatte
Epistle	1 Corinthians 10: 1 - 13	Randeev David
Gospel	St. Luke 13: 1 - 9	Rohan Jayasinghe
Intercessions		Thyalan Gnanapragasam
Offertory		Derrick Family
<b>Date 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 – The Third Sunday before Easter (Fourth Sunday of Lent) Mothering or Parenting Sunday. Theme : Perseverance in Faith, Light and Love</b>		
Old Testament Lesson	Joshua 5: 9 - 12	In English
Epistle	2 Corinthians 5: 16 - 21	In Sinhala
Gospel	St. Luke 15: 1 -3, 11b - 32	In Tamil
Intercessions		
Offertory		

# Cathedral Lenten Meditations



*13th March to 10th April 2019*

Every Wednesday, at 6 pm

For Further Details, Please Contact:

The Vicar, Cathedral Office, Phone No.: 011-2671481, E-mail: [angcathedralcmb@gmail.com](mailto:angcathedralcmb@gmail.com)

