#### THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIVING SAVIOUR

Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7

Cathedral News - April 2019

# HE IS RISEN MATTHEW 28:6

### Message from the Vicar of the Cathedral

My dear Friends in Christ,

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

**Church:** In the course of this month Christians around the world celebrate the feast of the Resurrection. This is a festival of immense significance to the Christian Community as it highlights something that makes our faith unique. In order that the resurrection of Jesus Christ comes to pass, Christ lives through some of the most critical moments of His life especially in the last week of His earthly life. We commonly refer to this week as Passion or Holy Week. It is here that Christ endures the pain of denial, betrayal and death. However the story does not end there as God had other plans in order to rescue or save humanity from eternal death. The resurrection destroys death's hold and opens the gateway for all who live in Christ to a fuller life in Christ after death. This is frequently referred to as eternal life. This is the fuller life that Jesus talked about and offered during His earthly ministry.

**Nation:** Our nation seems to go through one crisis after another. Right thinking citizens need to be aware of these diversions that politicians cleverly create in order that much more fundamental matters with less prominence will not get focused upon or addressed. It is more than sad to note that almost the entire political set up is corrupt and riddled with people having everything other than the welfare of the nation at heart. Therefore, once again I regret to state that yet another Political administration seems to be failing its people.

Sadly, in our country every citizen does not appear to be equal before the law. Being highly connected, having unprecedented wealth at your disposal and your profile seems to give people privileges before the law which no other average citizen enjoys. Considering all that has been exposed, most of the crimes remain unresolved with the people who should be held accountable for all of it still roaming around freely. What makes all this sad to hear and disappointing to know is that all these things happen in a country that has an adequate and robust legal frame work. Therefore, then this reality becomes a poor reflection of those in the country who are vested with the task of upholding, safe-guarding and exercising the law.

#### Life in the Cathedral

**Lent into Easter:** During our Lenten meditations this year, we have been focusing on the theme 'Faithful Living in Faithless Times.' In order that we make the connection between learning and experience, we have looked at the

lives of five biblical characters, namely Daniel, Noah, Esther, Stephen and Peter. I trust that these reflections have been mutually enriching to all of us.

**Growing in Christ:** I have had initial conversations with a few persons in this regard and the process of equipping will begin shortly.

**Confirmation Classes**: Confirmation classes will begin from the month of May. It is hoped that we will have two groups initially, namely where children and adults are prepared separately. I will be getting in touch directly with those who have enrolled for preparation.

**Electoral Roll 2019/2020:** The first posting has been made on 31<sup>st</sup>March 2019. The eligibility requirements for inclusion in the Electoral Roll are persons who are baptized and confirmed Anglicans over the age of 18 and whose names do not appear in any other Parish Electoral Roll.

Applications for, or objections against, inclusion, must be brought to the attention of the Vicar, in writing, within fourteen days of the first posting.

**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**: Lord God, this Easter take us just as we are and transform us in the power of your resurrection, and make us instruments of you Peace! Thanking You,

With Prayers and Blessings Yours Sincerely,

Joury Corth

Ven. Perry Brohier Vicar

#### Holy Days / Festivals & Important Dates

- 14<sup>th</sup> Palm or Passion Sunday
- 18<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday
- 19<sup>th</sup> Good Friday
- 20<sup>th</sup> Holy Saturday
- 21<sup>st</sup> Easter Day
- 24<sup>th</sup> Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist

#### "HOW GREAT THOU ART"

Featuring The De Lanerolle Brothers celebrating Ten Years of Magical Music with Neranjan De Silva the organist. The Choir of the Cathedral and the Choir Oktave held at the Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour, Colombo 7, on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7 pm.

The Power of God's music - Music is deeply rooted in our souls and for those who follow Jesus it is a powerful means of encouraging each other along our journey of faith. The power of music which exalts God, raises our spirits and grants us peace. This was the power that swept through the Cathedral when the De Lanerolle brothers presented "HOW GREAT THOU ART."



We thank Ishan for being the conductor of our Cathedral Choir and Rohan who shared his wonderful talents that evening, and Neranjan, who is always willing to play the organ for us on special occasions. It gave us immense joy to have our own Cathedral Choir together with the Choir Oktave join in harmony at this celebration. We are greatly indebted to Ishan and Rohan for so kindly offering to dedicate this recital as a fund-raiser for the Cathedral outreach projects.

When the name of the De Lanerolle Brothers is mentioned crowds gather in unimaginably LARGE numbers! With a congregation of around 1,350, the Cathedral was completely filled in no time at all! Shortly before the event commenced Neranjan played some wonderful music which were enjoyed by all!

At 7 pm Neranjan began playing "All Hail the Power of Jesus's Name" and the

congregation rose to sing this hymn. During the hymn a procession led by Arun Gamalathge, Bishop Dhiloraj Canagasabey, the Vicar of the Cathedral, Rev. Perry Brohier, Curate Rev. Fr. Earnest Nadeem followed by the Choir of the Cathedral, the choir Oktave and the De Lanerolle brothers walked up the aisle to the front of the Altar

where the choir took their places.

Rohan and Ishan stood facing the Choir where they sang their solos/duets/combined arrangements and also from where Ishan conducted the two Choirs.

The Vicar Rev. Perry Brohier welcomed all those present and thanked Ishan, Rohan, Niranjan and the Choirs for so willingly sharing their talents with us. He then led the congregation in prayer with a quotation from Psalm 150.

#### --- AND THUS THE PROGRAMME BEGAN ---

Some of the hymns were sung only by Rohan and Ishan, the Choirs joined in some, and the congregation participated in some others. This created a diversity of voices which made the recital very inspiring.

The first two songs 'Bless this House' and 'You'll Never walk alone' were sung by Rohan and Ishan who, as always, rendered them in a most meaningful way, each playing his part to perfection. They also gave a most memorable rendition of 'Ave

Maria'. The combination of tenor and bass in their individual voices descended upon us with a great sense of spiritualism and peace. 'The Prayer' 'The Lord's Prayer' and 'I'll Walk with God' also gave us the wonderful combination of their voices and here too the songs were presented with great emotion and sensitivity.

'As the Deer Pants" "My Tribute" the voices of Rohan and Ishan and the brilliant Choir blended in



perfect harmony and brought out the true meaning of the words through Neranjan's wonderful accompaniment.

'O Worship the King' and 'To God be the Glory' was shared by the De Lanerolle brothers, the Choirs and the congregation. The choirs were absolutely dazzling and the congregation joined in with great gusto! A special version of 'To God be the Glory' had been arranged for this service by Neranjan, where the last chorus repeat



'Praise the Lord' was set in different harmonies - some difficult - portraying the difficulty of following the Father, but as it progressed to reach the lines of 'coming to the Father through Jesus the Son' the harmonies got smoother.

'The Holy City' is a very moving hymn and here too the combination of voices made it a meaningful and fervent portrayal of the power of God and the love He has for us His children. The congregation joined

in with great enthusiasm to sing the chorus of this hymn.

## And the GRAND FINALE- 'How Great Thou Art' sung by the De Lanerolle Brothers, the Choir and the congregation.

This was indeed the Grand Finale! Everyone joined in the singing – the verses were taken in turn and sometimes the congregation joined in, with the ladies and gents taking turns to sing. The magic of the words and music inspired the congregation to

join in the singing with great gusto and passion. The wonder of God descended upon the entire Cathedral and we could feel the presence of our precious Saviour – and we could say in true faith – **"HOW GREAT THOU ART!"** 

The lighting played an important role. Long lines of lights in various colours streamed down from the Altar towards the congregation and sometimes the other

way around. This was an effective way of highlighting the meaning of the hymns while they were sung. The concert had taken its final turn



and when the music stopped Bishop Dhilo offered the closing prayer and thanked all those present and those who assisted in bringing this wonderful recital together, and asked God to bless all of us. Neranjan played the organ while the procession of the Clergy and Choristers walked down the aisle towards the entrance of the Church. It

was the end of a memorable and inspiring evening. We are most grateful to those who organized this magnificent event: to the De Lanerolle Brothers, Neranjan de Silva, the Cathedral Choir and Oktave for their absolutely divine rendering of the hymns. We are thankful to our Lord for blessing them with their wonderful talents which they so generously shared with us. As we left the Cathedral that evening the words and music of 'How Great Thou Art' continued to play in our minds and hearts. We were filled with the wonder of God who is our Greatest Creator and we know that when we reach that heavenly home we will fullv understand the greatness of God and will bow in humble adoration saying to "OH LORD MY GOD. HOW Him – GREAT THOU ART!" Anthea & Sriyantha Senaratna



LECTIONARY - April 2019 Date: 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2019 - Second Sunday Before Easter - (5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent) Theme: Sanctification – A New Life in Christ		
Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 43: 16 - 21	Tamara Jayasinghe
Psalm	126	Anithra Yatawaka
Epistle	Philippians 3: 4 - 14	Shyalina Muthumudalige
Gospel	St. John 12: 1 - 8	Chitra Simithraaratchy
Intercessions		Arun Gamalatge
Offertory		Yatawaka Family
Date: 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2019 - Pa Sunday Next Before Eas Theme: The Way of the	ster - ( Sixth Sunday of Lent)	
Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 50: 4 - 9	Cyril Amarasekera
Psalm	31: 9 - 16	Jayanthi Amarasuriya
Epistle	Philippians 2: 5 - 11	Neville Weerasekera
Gospel	St. Luke 22: 14 – 23: 56	Derrick William
Intercessions		Sukumar Rockwood
Offertory		William Family
Date: 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2019 – Ea Theme : Christ is Arisen	ster Day or The Feast of the	Resurrection
Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 65: 17 - 25	Shanaz De Lanerolle
Psalm	118: 1 -2, 14 - 21	Enosh Nadeem
Epistle	1 Corinthians 15: 19 - 26	Irene Boco
Gospel	St. Luke 24: 1 - 12	Mohan Mendis
Intercessions		Daphne Charles Rutnam
Offertory		De Lanerolle Family
Date 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2019 – Se Theme : My Lord and My	cond Sunday After Easter	
New Testament Lesson	Acts 5: 27 - 32	Tara Ramanayake
Psalm	118: 14 - 29	Anton Edema
Epistle	Revelation 1: 4 - 8	Caroline Kannan
Gospel	St. John 20: 19 - 31	Easwaran Rutnam
Intercessions		Anthea Senaratna
Offertory		Rutnam Family
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#### 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)

