



**CATHEDRAL**  
of Christ the Living Saviour

# CATHEDRAL NEWSLETTER

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**February 2023**

**I N D E P E N D E N C E**



**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:** The people of God need to be united in prayer as the nation continues to struggle with the multiple crises it faces. In the midst of these realities, our Diocese together with the Diocese of Kurunegela, the Methodist Church of Sri Lanka and the National Christian Council has commenced a series of events that will recognize the sacrificial contribution made by the “*Malaiyaga Makkal*” people of the plantation community to our country and its economy.

Even though the tea industry is one pillar that sustains the economy of our country, the people who toil towards making that a reality live in conditions that are far from satisfactory.

Successive governments have exploited these people for their political ends but very little has been done to ensure a process of empowerment and social transformation.

Their basic rights need to be ensured by those who depend on them for their own survival as a matter of urgency.

**Nation:** The people of our nation are keeping the 75th anniversary of our independence this year amidst much shame and pain. The fact that we have been at the mercy of successive regimes that have been corrupt is evident. Besides the economic debacle that we are forced to contend with, the distinctly repressive efforts by the incumbent government to impose themselves on the people is a poor reflection of the quality of political leadership.

Those in political leadership appear more reluctant to have a system in place to hold those in positions of responsibility accountable for their misdeeds while in office.

The extravagant state expenditure being incurred for non-essentials and curbs on some of the essentials that a large number of our people depend on like medications and imposing of unreasonable taxes on the majority of the people is testament to this fact.

## Life in the Cathedral

**50th Anniversary of the Cathedral** – The New Jerusalem: On Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of February, the De Lanerolle Brothers together with Neranjan de Silva and Oktave present an evening of music to mark their contribution towards the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the Cathedral.

Invitations for the programme could be obtained from the Cathedral office and it has 6 different functions. Please request that you are made aware of the different features at the point of collection.

A brief list of events being planned in connection with the 50th Anniversary can be found in this Newsletter.

**Community Kitchen (CK):** Our community kitchen continues to function twice a week. I am extremely grateful to God for His provision to sustain this initiative amidst the current economic crisis.

We need the help of volunteers to assist with the distribution of food. If you are able to be with us on Monday and Friday between 4 pm and 5.45pm you are welcome to join. **I commend this appeal to you support.**

**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:** Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me in case of a pastoral emergency. Every effort is being made to ensure that the pastoral care extended by the Cathedral continues despite a few practical challenges we face.

Thanking you,  
With Prayers and Blessings,  
Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Perry Brohier".

**Ven. Perry Brohier**  
Vicar



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இலங்கை தேசிய கிறிஸ்தவ மன்றம்  
National Christian Council of Sri Lanka

**STATEMENT BY THE NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SRI LANKA  
ON THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF OUR COUNTRY – SRI LANKA**

As we prepare ourselves to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Independence of our country and its people, The National Christian Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL) with Thanksgiving to God, offers its greetings in solidarity with the hopes and aspirations of the people, drawing the attention of its leaders to the following.

We gratefully remember all our past leaders, who with life commitment, campaigned and contributed towards the realization of Independence of our beloved country – Sri Lanka. Hence, it is our desire and hope that our present leaders, from the political, religious and civil society too will work with the same courage, wisdom and foresight to uphold and sustain the hallowed principles of a United Sri Lanka.

Acknowledging the rich diversity and intrinsic values of our beloved nation in the fabric of its existence, it is of foremost importance that the fruits of genuine freedom and dignified unity is acutely expressed and adequately exhibited in the lives of its people. This calls for political stability with a new constitution promoting 'power sharing' guaranteeing the protection and rights of the identities of race, religion, class and culture so that all citizens may live and have their being as 'One People' of Mother Lanka.

The commemoration of the 75 years of Independence of our country, coincides with the commemoration of 200 years of existence of our brothers and sisters among us -The Malaiyaha Makkal; one of the first and major foreign exchange earners in our nation. However, despite their unreserved sacrifices of 'sweat and blood' for the country and its people for over the two centuries; their lives depict a 'modern day slavery' and thus, the demand and challenge to institute justice for this side-lined community.

In the ensuing economic crisis; the pangs of which are evident in almost every sector of activities of 'health, education, finances, employment, agriculture, livelihood etc.' and the unified effort to address and overcome the said calamity; we call upon the Government to lead by example by curtailing and putting an end to corruption, extravagant spending, expansion and appointment of ministers, which are highly unnecessary, unproductive and a huge burden on the people.

The National Christian Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL) as a faith -oriented body, is mindful, alert and deeply conscious of the prevailing situation of the country in the on-going cries of- Whither Freedom? Hence, we strongly advocate for the cause of Justice, Truthfulness and Goodwill to be manifested and instituted, in order to celebrate and experience a meaningful Unity and Freedom of our Nation.

***'What does the Lord require of you; to do justice, love kindness and to walk humbly with your God'***

**Micah 6:8b**

Signed:

Rt. Rev. Dr. V Pathmathayalan – Bishop of the Jaffna Diocese of South India and Chair- NCCSL, Rt. Rev. Dushantha Rodrigo – Bishop of Colombo, Church of Ceylon, Rt. Rev. Keerthisiri Fernando – Vicar General, Diocese of Kurunegala, Church of Ceylon, Rev. Ebenezer Joseph – President, Methodist Church of Sri Lanka, Rev. Shirley Faber – President, Christian Reformed Church, Rev. Heshan De Silva – President, Sri Lanka Baptist Sangamaya, Rev. Saman Perera - Moderator, Presbytery of Sri Lanka, Col. Nihal Hettiarachchi – Territorial Commander, Salvation Army Sri Lanka, Rev. Chrisso Handy – Superintendent/Chair – Assemblies of God, Rev. Harim Peiris – Acting President, Foursquare Gospel Church, Sri Lanka, Rev. Sujithar Sivanayagam – General Secretary, NCCSL, Back To The Bible Broadcast, The Ceylon Bible Society, Christian Literature Society, Student Christian Movement, Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association, Theological College of Lanka, Colombo Theological Seminary and Youth for Christ.

#368/6, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka.

Telephone: +94 (11) 2671723 Fax: +94 (11) 2671721

E-Mail: info@nccsl.org | Website: www.nccsl.org



# Malayaga Makkal – From A Seed to a Tree

The Sacrificial Journey of 200 Years  
1823-2023

## MALAYAGA MAKKAL

The 'Malayaga Makkal' will commemorate two hundred years of their existence in this country this year, 2023.

The tea plantations were one of the first foreign exchange earners for our country and laid the foundation for developments in the fields of education, health and infrastructure development that benefitted all communities in the country.

The Malayaga Makkal community, which over the years was referred to as the "Indian Tamil" or "Upcountry Tamil" community, for many years served as sacrificial labour, exploited and living in sub-human conditions despite being the backbone of the island's economy. We recall that this community cleared the treacherous jungles, courted danger and sacrificed their lives to firstly establish the plantations and thereafter worked under torrid conditions to make the plantations viable and ultimately a sector that was not only crucial to the country's economic development, but also an internationally recognized brand name for the country.

It is a matter of regret, however, that the vital contribution made by this community was not recognized and appreciated and that for decades the members of this community were subject to systemic discrimination. The Citizenship Acts deprived them of citizenship; they were denied other basic human rights related to their dignity, privacy, economic security and educational opportunities. Though they have historically worked on the land, their rights to access and own land is severely curtailed. There is a shortage of public officers who speak the Tamil language in divisional secretariats and other governmental offices that are meant to cater to the needs of the people in the areas in which they live.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Tomoya Obokata, who visited Sri Lanka in December 2021, in his report to the Human Rights Council in 2022 noted that

*"The Malayaga Tamils- who were brought from India to work in the plantation sector 200 years ago-continue to face multiple forms of discrimination based on their origin."*



# Malayaga Makkal – From A Seed to a Tree

The Sacrificial Journey of 200 Years  
1823-2023

On this historical occasion, the Church, as the Christ Community commits itself to journey together with this community towards its legitimate and deserved goals and objectives. As Sri Lanka celebrates the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence from colonial rule, the Church of Ceylon calls upon the Government and people to take steps to eliminate the multiple forms of discrimination faced by the Malayaga Makkal community so that they can become equal citizens of a truly multi-ethnic and multi-religious Sri Lanka.

Signed by:

**The Rt. Revd. Dushantha Rodrigo**  
Bishop of Colombo  
Church of Ceylon

**The Revd. W.P. Ebenezer Joseph**  
President  
Methodist Church Sri Lanka

**The Rt. Revd. Keerthisiri Fernando**  
Vicar General  
Diocese of Kurunagala  
Church of Ceylon

**The Revd. Sujithar Sivanayagam**  
General Secretary  
National Christian Council of Sri Lanka

**29/01/2023**





# CHURCH OF CEYLON YOUTH MOVEMENT SUNDAY

Church of Ceylon Youth Movement Sunday was observed at the Cathedral and in most parts of the Diocese on Sunday 29th January 2023.

The members of the Cathedral youth forum, Youth Connect took an active part in leading the service, worship, reading the lessons and the intercessions. One of the young people from the group preached.

The Vicar wishes to thank all the young people for their keen participation in the service.





## THE JUBILEE CYCLE PARADE



The Jubilee Cycle Parade to mark the historical transition from the Old Cathedral to the New Cathedral at its present location on Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7, took place on Saturday 14th January 2023.

The journey was flagged off by the Bishop after the opening prayers were offered by Rev. Upul Fernando, the present Vicar at Christ Church Mutuwal (the Old Cathedral).

With the participation of about 36 cyclists and safety marshals, the group made their way via Armour Street, Maradana junction and Punchi Borella to St. Paul's Church, Kynsey Road.

After a brief break, the group made their way via Wijerama Road to Bauddhaloka Mawatha.

It was encouraging for the cyclists to have the Bishop and a few Clergy participate in this.

After a presentation that explained the story behind the relocation, the proceedings were brought to a close with prayer offered by the Bishop.

The 50th Anniversary Committee wishes to thank all who supported with numerous sponsorships, the team of safety marshals and the Sri Lanka Police for their support to make this possible.









**CATHEDRAL**  
of Christ the Living Savior

# THE NEW JERUSALEM

*The De*  
*Lanerolle*  
BROTHERS

WITH  
**NERANJAN DE SILVA**  
AT THE ORGAN AND

oktave

**CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST  
THE LIVING SAVIOR**

BAUDDHALOKA MAWATHA, COLOMBO 7

FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7PM  
INVITATIONS AVAILABLE AT THE COMMONS COFFEE  
HOUSE AND THE CATHEDRAL OFFICE

Invitations printed to determine Logistics





1

Hymns to be sung by the Congregation are available ; - take your phone, open the camera and hold it on the QR code above

If you are moved to support the Cathedral Outreach programmes, please make a contribution to the following account

2

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 CCEYLKLX

3

**THE OFFER IS VALID ONLY IF IT IS HANDED TO AN USHER ON THE EVENT DAY  
AND VERIFIED BY A STAMP ON THE CARD**

4

*The bayleaf*

Colombo's finest Italian Restaurant

79 Gregory's Road,  
Colombo 7

Minimum spend Rs 3500

Valid: Feb 10th - 17th

**The New Jerusalem  
De Lanerolle brothers**

**15% Discount**

5

**THE COMMONS**  
COFFEEHOUSE

Your Cozy Hang out

39A Flower Road,  
Colombo 07

Minimum spend Rs 2500

Valid: Feb 10th - 17th

T&C applied

Excluding promotions and special offers



# **KIDS IN CHRIST**



**CATHEDRAL**  
of Christ the Living Saviour

**THE STUDENTS OF THE CATHEDRAL  
SUNDAY SCHOOL WARMLY WELCOME  
THE CHILDREN OF ST. JOHN'S GIRLS  
HOME TO CELEBRATE THE 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF OUR CATHEDRAL**

**26TH MARCH 2023  
FROM 8.30AM TO 12.30PM**

**"CHILDREN ARE A GIFT  
FROM THE LORD; THEY ARE  
A REWARD FROM HIM."**

**PSALM 127:3**





# LECTIONARY - FEBRUARY 2023

**Date: : 5th February 2023 – 9th Sunday before Easter / Presentation Sunday (5th Sunday after Epiphany)**

**Theme : “Jesus Christ the New Authority”**

| Reading              | Passage                  | Name of Reader         |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Old Testament Lesson | Isaiah 58: 9 - 12        | Thayalan Gnanapragasam |
| Psalm                | 112: 1 - 9               | Daniella Derrick       |
| Epistle              | 1 Corinthians 2: 13 - 16 | Dhilan Mitchelle       |
| Gospel               | St. Matthew 5: 13 - 20   | Vrai Raymond           |
| Intercessions        |                          | Sukanya Devarajan      |

**Date: 12th February 2023 – 8th Sunday before Easter (6th Sunday after Epiphany / 2nd Sunday before Lent)**

**Theme: “Christ the Guru”**

|                      |                         |                       |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Old Testament Lesson | Deuteronomy 30: 15 - 20 | Jenaya Jeewakumaran   |
| Psalm                | 119: 1 – 8              | Niranjala William     |
| Epistle              | 1 Corinthians 3: 1 - 9  | Shriyantha Senaratne  |
| Gospel               | St. Matthew 5: 33 – 37  | Yanithra Ferdinando   |
| Intercessions        |                         | Shyamal Muthumudalige |

**Date: 19th February 2023 – 7th Sunday before Easter (7th Sunday after Epiphany / Sunday before Lent) - Transfiguration Sunday**

**Theme: “Jesus Christ the Light of the World”**

|                      |                       |                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Old Testament Lesson | Exodus 24: 12 - 18    | Renuka Sadanandan |
| Psalm                | 2                     | Radhika Salgado   |
| Epistle              | 1 Peter 1: 16 – 21    | Cyril Amarasekera |
| Gospel               | St. Matthew 17: 1 - 9 | Chemali Herath    |
| Intercessions        |                       | Daphne Charles    |

**Date: 26th February 2023- 6th Sunday before Easter (1st Sunday in Lent)**

**Theme: “Preparations for the Joys of Easter – The Temptations”**

|                      |                       |                     |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Old Testament Lesson | Genesis 3: 1 - 7      | Indranee Senanayake |
| Psalm                | 32                    | Pranavan Rockwood   |
| Epistle              | Romans 5: 12 - 19     | Charles Sanders     |
| Gospel               | St. Matthew 4: 1 - 11 | Roshan Wijesinghe   |
| Intercessions        |                       | Mahen Perera        |

# HOLY DAYS/ FESTIVALS & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb  | Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | Saints and Martyrs of the Far East                |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb | St. Stephen the First Martyr                      |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb | The Arrival of Anglicanism in Sri Lanka           |



## 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)<br>011 269 0878 (O) | <a href="mailto:dnigelp@gmail.com">dnigelp@gmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:adcmb@dioceseofcolombo.lk">adcmb@dioceseofcolombo.lk</a> |

### Cathedral Office

| Staff                | Address  | Office Contact | Email  |
|----------------------|--|----------------|--|
| Wesley Bastianpillai | 368,<br>Buddhaloka<br>Mawatha,<br>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><br><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 ~