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இலங்கை தேசிய கிறிஸ்தவ மன்றம்  
National Christian Council of Sri Lanka

**“Farewell to the voice of compassion, peace and justice.....”**

The **National Christian Council of Sri Lanka** joins the global Christian community in mourning the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis, a true shepherd of God’s flock, who embodied Christ’s compassion, humility, and courage.

Pope Francis was a living witness to the Gospel—walking alongside the poor, uplifting the marginalized and tirelessly advocating for justice, peace and reconciliation in a broken world. His unwavering commitment to ecological justice and his deep love for creation reminded us all of our shared responsibility to care for our common home.

Through his words and deeds, he nurtured a legacy of hope, unity and inclusive love that transcends borders and denominations. His life was a beacon of simplicity and servant leadership, inspiring millions to live with compassion and conscience.

The **National Christian Council of Sri Lanka** gives thanks for his profound witness and prays that his vision for a just, reconciled and loving world will continue to guide the Church and inspire humanity. May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory.

**“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”**

– 2 Timothy 4:7

**Signed:**

Rt. Rev. Nishantha Fernando - Bishop of Kurunegala - Church of Ceylon,  
Chairperson of the NCCSL,  
Rt. Rev. Dushantha Rodrigo - Bishop of Colombo - Church of Ceylon,  
Rt. Rev. Dr. V. Pathmathayalan - Bishop of Jaffna Diocese - The Church of South India (C.S.I),  
Rev. Kingsley Weerasinghe - President of Methodist Church of Sri Lanka,  
Associate Pastor Lakmal Wijeratne - President of Christian Reformed Church of Sri Lanka,  
Rev. Wilee Ranasinghe - President of Sri Lanka Baptist Church,  
Rev. Saman Perera - Moderator, Presbytery of Sri Lanka,  
Col. Nihal Hettiarachchi - Territorial Commander of the Salvation Army Sri Lanka,  
Pastor Romesh Bulathsinhala - President of Foursquare Gospel Church,  
Rev. Dr. Chrisso Handy - Superintendent/Chair - Assemblies of God

**Ecumenical Organizations:**

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  
Youth for Christ,

Rev. Sujithar Sivanayagam - General Secretary of the NCCSL

Date: 25th April 2025

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