



## Episcopal Epistle by the Bishop of West Malaysia on the Death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022

It is with sincere and deep sadness that we, together with all the members of the Synod of the Diocese of West Malaysia, mourn the loss of the much loved Titular Head of the Church of England, Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Until the Anglican church in West Malaysia, Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore became a Province of its own, independent of the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1996, Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was the Titular Head of the churches here. She was much respected and loved by the members of the Anglican Diocese of West Malaysia for her graciousness, her devotion to God and His Church and her exemplary reign as a true servant 'King'.

We are most thankful that she embodied a spirituality that reflected a Jesus-Shaped Life. All those who met her during her two visits to the Diocese of West Malaysia, during the Episcopacy of the Rt. Rev. Tan Sri John Gurubatham Savarimuthu, and the Rt. Rev Tan Sri Dr. Lim Cheng Ean, fondly remember her for her humility to listening, mindfulness, thoughtfulness, deep spiritual awareness, calmness and caring demeanor. During each of those visits, Her Late Majesty attended a Holy Eucharist Service in St. Mary's Cathedral after which she and His Late Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh spent time conversing with the congregation. There are two copper plaques on the walls of the Cathedral to commemorate Her Late Majesty's visits.

We encourage all our members to convey their condolences through a digital book accessible online at [www.royal.uk](http://www.royal.uk). If you wish to pen your tributes in person, you may do so at the British High Commission in Menara Binjai, Jalan Binjai, Kuala Lumpur, from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September from 8.00 am to 4.30pm.

We would like to offer some guidance for all our churches who wish to show their heartfelt love and thanksgiving for the life and ministry of Her Late Majesty;

1. For churches that have bells, you may wish to ring them an additional 10 times every Sunday before services begin, until the day thanksgiving services are held. You may commence this as of 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2022, the 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.



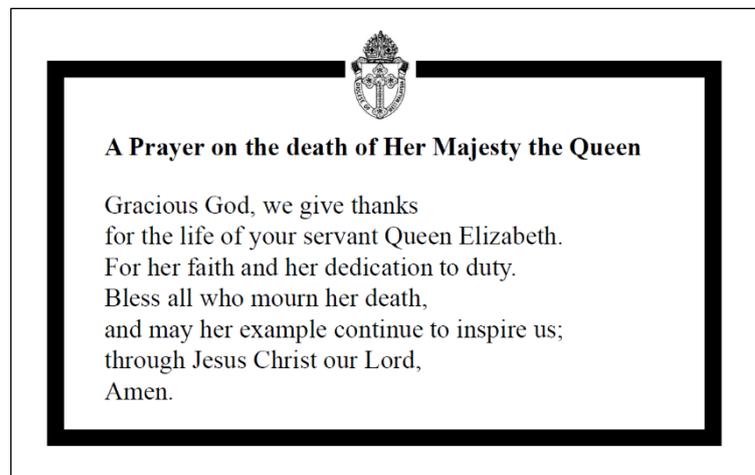
“Behold, I am making all things new”  
Revelation 21:5



2. The Diocese is planning thanksgiving and memorial services in the coming days. This will be held after the funeral of Her Late Majesty has taken place. Local churches should therefore refrain from holding such services before the official funeral service is over.
3. These thanksgiving services will be coordinated by the Suffragan Bishops for their respective Regions together with their Archdeacons. Each Suffragan shall decide according to their capacity if the Service is to be virtual/online, or hybrid, or onsite.
4. St. Mary's Cathedral will specifically organise the service for the Central and Eastern Region. The Dean will provide more information in the near future. We hope to make it available for the whole Diocese.

In the meantime, we invite our members to write prayers for this occasion, and we hope to select some of them to be used in our intercessory prayers in our services and prayer groups. Do send these to us (Bishop's Secretary [bishopsecretary.dwm@gmail.com](mailto:bishopsecretary.dwm@gmail.com)) as soon as possible.

Let us uphold in prayer the family of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at this time of great loss and sorrow. We take consolation in the confidence we have in our Lord Jesus Christ of the Resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.



Thank you.

Veni Sancte Spiritus,

The Rt. Rev. Dr. D. Steven Abbarow  
Bishop of West Malaysia



“Behold, I am making all things new”  
Revelation 21:5

