

March-April 2025

## Message from the Moderator



This year, 2025, holds special significance for the global Church as we commemorate the 1700th anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea (325 AD). It was at Nicaea that Church leaders from across the Christian world gathered in prayer and discernment to affirm a unified confession of faith—the Nicene Creed—which declared with clarity and conviction our belief in the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

"For we believe that Jesus died and rose again..."
– 1 Thessalonians 4:14 (NRSV)

## Dearly beloved in Christ,

Christian greetings to you all in the name of our risen Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

As we move through this blessed season of Eastertide, I take this opportunity to greet you with joy, hope, and peace. I praise God for the powerful and prayerful observance of Easter across the dioceses, parishes, and communities of the Church of Bangladesh. The Resurrection of Christ is the heart of our faith—it affirms that death is not the end, and that life, light, and love triumph in God's eternal plan.

As the Apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Thessalonians 4:14, our belief in Christ's death and resurrection gives us both a foundation and a future. This truth brings comfort to the grieving, courage to the weary, and strength to the Church to keep proclaiming the Good News in all circumstances.

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The Nicene Creed is not merely a doctrinal statement—it is a living declaration of our identity and mission as the Body of Christ. It binds us with the historical and global Church, and centres our worship on the mystery of salvation through Christ.

In honour of this milestone, I am calling upon all bishops, clergy, deacons, and members of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood, as well as our congregations, to use the Nicene Creed throughout the year 2025 in all Eucharistic services across the Church of Bangladesh. Let this Creed be our unifying voice, our shared testimony, and our spiritual anchor in these times of both challenge and opportunity.

Let us also use this year to deepen our understanding of what we confess:

- That God the Father is the Creator and Sustainer of all.
- That Jesus Christ is both fully God and fully human—crucified for our sins and raised for our salvation.
- That the Holy Spirit empowers us to live holy lives and build God's Kingdom on earth.
- That the Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic—called to witness, serve, and proclaim the Gospel until Christ comes again.

As we engage in worship, mission, theological reflection, and community outreach, let us be anchored in this Creed. Let our children learn it, our youth explore it, our pastors preach it, and our churches embody it in faithful witness.

Beloved people of God, let us be united in heart, mind, and spirit. Let the resurrection hope lead us to renew our commitment to peace, justice, care for creation, and love for our neighbours.

May the light of the Risen Christ shine upon you and your families. May your hearts be stirred by the Holy Spirit to live boldly, love deeply, and walk humbly with God.

With thanks giving and blessings in Christ,

The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin