



Pastoral letter from the Moderator



July – August 2025

Pastoral Message from the Moderator

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

(Romans 12:2)



Beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

As we step into the months of July and August, we reflect on the powerful words of the Apostle Paul in Romans 12:2. These words remind us that the life of a Christian cannot be shaped by worldly pressures, but must be renewed by the Spirit of God to reveal His good, acceptable, and perfect will.

Our nation's interim government has now completed its first year. While many challenges remain, we continue to pray with hope for progress and justice to prevail. The people of Bangladesh still long for fulfilment of their aspirations, and we trust in God's timing that justice and peace will be established.

As the country prepares for the upcoming election, we pray for stability, fairness, and integrity in the political process. We remember the ordinary people who bear the weight of daily struggles and ask God to bless families, communities, and our Church with courage, unity, and renewed strength. May the Spirit guide our leaders towards decisions that bring healing, security, and prosperity for all.

The Church's Situation

With sadness, we recognise that even within the Church, some members are conforming to the ways of the world instead of being transformed by the renewal of their minds and souls. Many are not seeking God's will nor walking in the perfect way shown to us by Jesus Christ.

The early Church, to whom Paul first wrote, stood firm in faith, unity, and holiness—even in times of persecution. Today, we must ask: are we following that same example?

We also face internal challenges: some leaders of the Church, instead of leading with humility, are influenced by the political situation, spreading division and even encouraging mob justice through social media. Such actions are against the Spirit of Christ and weaken our witness.

Our Call as Bishops, Clergy, and Leaders

Now, more than ever, we as Bishops, Clergy, and Leaders must stand united. Silence in the face of evil is not an option. We must live according to Romans 12:2:

- **Not conforming to the world**, but standing firm in faith.
- **Transforming ourselves** through repentance and renewal in Christ.
- **Renewing our minds** daily through prayer, worship, and Scripture.
- **Seeking the will of God**, which alone is good, acceptable, and perfect.

As Jesus prayed in John 17:21, *“that all of them may be one,”* we must seek unity, for it is through unity that the Church remains a true witness of Christ.

A Call to Renewal

Let us open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, that He may descend upon us afresh and renew our Church, our leadership, and our congregations. Only then we can walk faithfully, living lives that are pleasing to God, showing Christ’s light in a broken and searching nation.

We echo the timeless words of Rabindranath Tagore’s hymn, praying that God would purify us and make our lives worthy for His service:

Tagore’s Hymn

Touch My Soul with the Fire of Purity

Touch my soul with the fire of purity,
Touch my soul with the fire of purity.

Make this life holy,
Make this life holy,
Make this life holy,
Make this life holy through the gift of sacrifice.

Touch my soul with the fire of purity.

Lift up this body of mine,
Make it a lamp in Your temple,
Let the flame of light burn day and night in song,
Let the flame of light burn day and night in song.

Touch my soul with the fire of purity.

Upon the darkened sky let Your touch fall,
May the stars blossom through the night, new and new.
Upon the darkened sky let Your touch fall,
May the stars blossom through the night, new and new.

The darkness will fade from my eyes,
Wherever I look there will be light.

My pain will rise in burning flame,
Upward, heavenward it will rise.
My pain will rise in burning flame,
Upward, heavenward it will rise.

Touch my soul with the fire of purity.

Make this life holy,
Make this life holy,
Make this life holy,
Make this life holy through the gift of sacrifice.

Touch my soul with the fire of purity.

Final Blessing

May the Lord grant us courage, wisdom,
and unity to live out Romans 12:2
faithfully in these months. May the Holy
Spirit come upon us and renew us, so that
we may live lives that are acceptable to
God, perfect in His sight, and a witness to
Christ in this time of trial.

In Christ’s service,

The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin
Moderator, COB

