



Diocese of Colombo



Church of Ceylon

368/3A, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07, Sri Lanka
Tel : 011 – 2696208 / 011- 2684810 Fax : 011 – 2684811
Email : ps@churchofceylon.com



Diocese of Kurunegala

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We congratulate Mr. Anura Kumara Dissanayake who has been chosen by the people to be the next President of Sri Lanka. The people of this country have given a clear mandate for change which is the culmination of struggles over the last 2 years. It is our fervent hope that the new President will uphold the Constitution and democratic traditions while being mindful of the trust placed in him by the majority of this country. As such, we expect a smooth transfer of power and a speedy return to normalcy of civil life, enabling our people to get on with their normal lives.

The new President must be mindful that he is now the President of all the people of this country including those who did not vote for him. This includes racial and religious minorities as well as many who are marginalized in society. It is now an opportunity for the new President to elevate himself from the position of a politician to that of a statesman, and work for inclusion and national unity.

It is commendable that this election will go down in history as one of the most peaceful, calm and fair elections where people had the opportunity to exercise their franchise without fear or intimidation. We express our gratitude to the Election Commission, the police and armed forces, the large number of public servants, local and foreign election monitors and civil organizations for their efforts in ensuring a free and fair election.

The noticeable reduction in the use of polythene, cut-outs and posters also indicated a positive improvement in care for the environment and respect for our planet. The period leading up to the election and the election day, were a testimony to the maturity of our people and the country's continuing democratic tradition. The new President is now charged with the responsibility of guaranteeing the safety of all in the post-election period and building on our democratic values by ensuring free and fair parliamentary elections in the future.

The mandate given to the new President clearly indicates the rejection of nepotism, cronyism, corruption and the switching of sides by opportunistic politicians, close to elections. The new president will do well to be mindful of this reality and further the cause of, equal opportunity, the Rule of Law, good governance and transparency in public affairs.

The people of this country continue to struggle to make ends meet due to our heavy debt burden and the lack of opportunity for gainful economic activity. We hope that the new administration will commence its work with a sense of commitment and urgency and grapple with the challenges of addressing the core issues that face the country. It is now the time to walk the talk.

+ Dushantha Rodrigo


The Right Reverend Dushantha Rodrigo
Bishop of Colombo

+ Nishantha Fernando

Rt. Revd. Nishantha Fernando
Bishop of Kurunegala
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