



**The Province of the
Anglican Church in
South East Asia**

Archbishop of the Province of the Anglican Church in South East Asia,
The Bishop of Singapore:
The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung

The Bishop of Kuching: The Rt Revd Datuk Danald Jute
The Bishop Sabah: The Rt Revd Datuk Melter Jiki Tais
The Bishop of West Malaysia: The Rt Revd Dr Steven Abbarow

1 March 2024

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

We give thanks for the exemplary leadership of Bishop Melter Tais during his term as the 6th Archbishop of the Province of the Anglican Church in South East Asia. As we continue to serve together in humility, we seek to build on his good work of strengthening unity within our Province.

We remain steadfast in our commitment to obey the twin teachings of our Lord Jesus by fulfilling the Great Commandment and the Great Commission: we are to make disciples of all nations out of love for God and neighbour. This reminds us of the importance of our mission work in the deaneries of Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, Thailand, and Vietnam. Enabling our ministry in these countries to flourish is our shared responsibility.

Strong parishes make for a strong Diocese, and in turn, strong dioceses make for a strong Province. Our work in our local parishes therefore remains a foremost priority. We are fully committed to the pastoral care of our flock and will continue to invest resources to help our members grow as disciples of Christ.

We acknowledge that given recent developments, the relationship of our province with the Church of England (C of E) has been put in a fragile state. In November 2023, the General Synod of the C of E voted in favour of holding standalone services of blessing for same-sex couples, on a trial basis. We **strongly disagree** with this decision.

The motion was passed by 227 votes to 203-with 53% in favour. We would observe that many in the C of E remain faithful to Scripture and disapprove this move of same-sex unions. We must and should maintain our relationship with these orthodox believers, and continue to pray and support them during this challenging period. At the same time, we declare in the strongest terms our disaffiliation from those who do support it. This nuanced position reflects the complexity of the situation within the C of E, and indeed within the worldwide Anglican Communion. Those who stand upon the truth of God's Word must stay united more than ever before, while seeking God's wisdom for the road ahead.



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We understand that many members of our Dioceses are deeply concerned about the state of the Anglican Communion. We urge you to join us in prayer for God's truth and purpose to prevail. May He grant us discernment and use us to shine forth His light in a time of darkness. Glory be to God!

With every blessing in Christ,

The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung Khiam Boon
(Primate of the Province of the Anglican Church in South East Asia, Bishop of Singapore)

The Rt Revd Datuk Danald Jute
(Bishop of Kuching)

The Rt Revd Datuk Melter Jiki Tais
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The Rt Revd Dr Steven Abbarow
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