



**THE DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE  
26<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF SYNOD (5<sup>th</sup> MEETING)  
16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2025**

**PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS  
CALLED TO BE A LIVING MYSTERY**

Good evening brothers and sisters in Christ, I bring greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and welcome you to the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of Synod. It is a joy and blessing to gather once again as we reflect on the life and direction of our Diocese. I am especially encouraged by the presence of our clergy from the mission deaneries. Your presence reminds us of the wider body of Christ to which we all belong, and in which we serve together to bring the Gospel to the ends of the world.

I wish to take a moment to thank a few of our fellow clergy. My heartfelt appreciation goes to Revd Dino Thangamany and Revd Michael Teh, who retired in the first quarter of this year, and to Revd William Mok, who will retire at the end of this month. We thank God for their faithful and dedicated service over the years, and believe that our Lord will continue to bless them richly as they enter a new season of life and ministry.

It is with deep sorrow that we remember our dear brother, Revd Yusnoveri Chung from the Deanery of Indonesia, who was called home to the Lord on 24<sup>th</sup> April due to health complications. We give thanks for his faithful witness and ministry, and his passion in preaching the Word of God. I encourage you to uphold his family in prayer, in particular his wife, sister Juliana, and may the work he began continue to flourish in the years ahead.

**Holding Fast**

As we look back on the past 6 months, we give thanks to God for His grace and His works among us.

In our Healthcare and Community Services arm, we are looking forward to the opening of St. Andrew's Community Hospital (Bedok) in August 2025. Located at Bedok South, this new facility will help meet the rising healthcare needs in the East.

Singapore Anglican Community Services (SACS) recently opened the Anglican Youth Centre at Sengkang; this reflects our commitment to support the mental well-being of young people.

Beyond our shores, we are heartened by what God is doing in our mission deaneries. In Thailand, ACT (Anglican Church in Thailand) is seeing a fresh influx of young adults—many drawn by our liturgy, heritage, and warmth of her community. We pray that as these young adults join our church, they will be well nurtured and disciplined to become future leaders of the deanery.

We also wish to uphold Revd Prem Tamang and Revd Stevanus Mudjiyanto in prayer. Revd Prem has taken over from Bishop Kuan Kim Seng as the Dean of Nepal, and Revd Stevanus has been appointed Associate Dean to support Revd Dr Timothy Chong in the work in Indonesia. These appointments are a tangible expression of our vision to raise local leadership

from within the deaneries, and we praise God for making this possible. Let us continue to pray for them—for wisdom, grace, and courage as they lead, disciple others, and advance the Gospel in their respective nations.

Here in Singapore, we are encouraged to see our parishes growing stronger. Many Area Groups have begun to develop organically, finding their own rhythm of collaboration and mutual support. Even amidst challenges, we see God's hand at work—renewing and strengthening His Church.

I am also thankful for the recent launch of Vocare, our diocesan initiative to help members discern their calling and explore full-time ministry. I wish to extend my deep appreciation to the Vocare Planning Committee and the DCA (Diocesan Central Administration) for their commitment in bringing this vision to life. But there is more to be done. The next and most vital step is to encourage those whom God is stirring, to take that courageous step forward, sign up for the retreat, and consider the internship. I understand that several have already signed up, but with your encouragement and support, even more can be raised up for the work ahead.

Let me clarify, Vocare is not a replacement of your parish's effort to raise full-time workers. Indeed, many of you are already faithfully raising labourers for the harvest— please continue to do that. The goal of Vocare is to offer another way to reach that person in your pew who is quietly wrestling with God's call. If Vocare can help them say "yes" to that call and they later return to serve in your parish, then our effort is worth it.

May I humbly urge you, both clergy and lay leaders, to give your full support to this initiative; encourage, identify, and walk alongside those whom the Lord may be calling. Let us be faithful in raising up the next generation of full-time workers for His Church and His Kingdom.

"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few" (Matthew 9:37), let us do our part in sending labourers into the harvest field.

## **Forging Ahead**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, at the heart of the Church's life are two inseparable purposes: to reflect the love of Christ and to make God known (the twin teaching of Jesus – The New Commandment and The Great Commission). My prayer is that every parish will grow intentionally in both helping members experience God's love deeply, love one another genuinely, and share the Gospel beyond the walls of the church.

I am encouraged by the creative ways many of our parishes are showing in reaching out—some embracing what is called "unreasonable hospitality." This generous, open-hearted welcome is a beautiful way to help people feel at home and valued in our churches. And as the Lord draws more people into our midst, we must ask: what kind of witness are we to them?

When we live out our faith with integrity and grace, we become powerful witnesses of Christ. St Teresa of Avila once said, "Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours." And as C.S. Lewis reminded us, "A Christian is a little Christ. The same Spirit that filled Jesus fills you."

As disciples today, we are not lacking in power or ability—for the same Holy Spirit who filled the Apostles fills the Church today. Therefore, Christ continues to reveal Himself through us, His people.

True Christianity is not just about church attendance or theological knowledge; it is about Christ being formed in us. It is about living with authenticity, integrity, and boldness—in our homes, our workplaces, and wherever God places us.

Our faith calls us to a life the world may not understand—to live as a living mystery. The French Cardinal Emmanuel Suhard described it this way: “To be a witness... means to live in such a way that one’s life would make no sense if God did not exist.” That is what it means to embody the Gospel—to live a life shaped by Christ, filled with His Spirit, and marked by His love.

As leaders of the Church, we must ask ourselves: Are we being shaped into true disciples of Christ? Are we building communities that reflect His love, embody His truth, and extend His grace? When people encounter us, can they say, “I have seen a glimpse of Jesus, because I met someone who truly follows Him?”

As a Diocese, let us renew our commitment to be a disciple-making and Christ-centred Church. Let us love deeply, serve faithfully, and lead courageously, so that others may see Christ in us.

To do this, let us be living mysteries for God—bearing the fruit of the Holy Spirit as individuals, as parishes, and as a Diocese. And when the world looks at us, may they, too, believe.

As we begin this Synod session, may our hearts be united in Christ, open to the leading of the Holy Spirit, and committed to the mission entrusted to us as His Church.

To God be the glory!

Amen.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "++ Titus Chung ++". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with decorative flourishes at the beginning and end.

The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung  
The Bishop of Singapore