



02 March 2022

Wars do not benefit anyone!

Appeal for Prayer and Fasting for Peace and Justice

Dear Catholic faithful of Malaysia-Singapore-Brunei,

Like you, the Catholic church in this region is deeply concerned over the war in Ukraine and its impact on global peace and justice, affecting the lives of peoples everywhere. The history and causes of war may be complex, but wars in the long term do not benefit anyone, including us. On the contrary, it only brings destruction and leaves a trail of immense suffering and displacements.

Therefore, we join the chorus of Christian churches and leaders across Asia, together with all people of Faith and Goodwill, in humbly appealing for peace and justice. We call upon Russia, Ukraine and all interested parties to put a stop to the madness of violence and war and come to the table of peace and justice. Mutual respect, acceptance of differences among all sides, and integrity of nations, are crucial to lasting peace and justice for mutual co-existence. Wherever there is conflict, the world urgently needs to put in place a recovery plan including now for the peoples of Ukraine; and strengthening every effort at peace and reconciliation.

We join the call of Pope Francis to all Catholics and people of Faith and Goodwill, to dedicate this first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday and beyond, as Days of Fasting and Prayer for Peace and Justice in Ukraine and in the world. May the Lord touch the hearts of all leaders, decision makers and the people of God, to stop this war and establish peace and justice. May Mary, the Queen of Peace and Justice, turn our steps towards peace and fraternity.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+ Bishop Sebastian Francis D.D.

President

Catholic Bishops Conference of Malaysia-Singapore-Brunei

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