



St. Andrew's Cathedral

THE DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

11 ST. ANDREW'S ROAD, SINGAPORE 178959

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Bishop of Singapore & Dean: The Rt Revd Dr Titus Chung

Vicar: The Revd Canon Dr Lewis Lew

22 August 2022

Dear Members of St. Andrew's Cathedral,

At his National Day Rally speech on 21 Aug 2022, PM Lee announced the government's decision to repeal Section 377A of the Penal Code, as well as the intention to constitutionally safeguard the institution of marriage between a man and a woman in Singapore. We are thankful for the PM's assurance that the government will protect the definition of marriage from legal challenges.

Following PM's speech, Bishop Titus Chung issued a pastoral letter to our parishioners to state the views and positions of our Diocese on this matter. The National Council of Churches of Singapore (NCCS) also released a statement on behalf of the Protestant church in Singapore. Both are attached for your perusal.

While we wait for this matter to be debated in parliament, what is of foremost importance at this point, is for us to put aside our personal views and opinions, and instead come together as one people united by the blood of Christ, to pray for our national leaders. Pray for God's divine wisdom and guidance, and pray for godly courage to do what is morally right and necessary to protect families and marriages.

As Bishop Titus mentioned, this matter highlighted a glaring gap in our church, in our understanding of marriage and sexuality. To address this, our Christian Education (CE) department, together with our Family Life Ministry (FLM), will be organising dialogue sessions for members to have a better and holistic understanding of marriage and sexuality from a scriptural perspective. Special dialogue sessions specifically for youths will be organised, and resources to aid parents in having meaningful discussions with their young children on the topic of sexuality will also be made available.

Let's unite as one in Christ, as Cathedral continues to uphold the clear truth of Scripture, and minister this truth with love and compassion, to His praise and glory!

Revd Canon Lewis Lew
Vicar
St. Andrew's Cathedral



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亲爱的圣安德烈座堂的弟兄姐妹:

主里平安。在刚过去的2022年8月21日的国庆集会演讲中，李显龙总理宣布了政府拟废除《刑事法典》第377A节条文的决定，以及给与一男一女的婚姻制度在宪法层面的保障。感谢总理对目前婚姻定义的维系免受法律上的挑战所作的努力。在总理致辞后不久，教区章剑文主教向教区属下各牧区致书面牧养信函，以传达教区对此议题的看法和立场。而新加坡全国教会理事会(NCCS)也代表新加坡新教教会发表了一份书面声明。上述两份文件也随本函件附上供您参阅。

在我们等待国会将就此事进行议会辩论的同时，最重要的是提请一点，容让我们把个人的观点和意见暂放一边，而不是以我们是因基督的宝血救赎而成为一个群体的姿态坚持己见。请为我们的国家领袖祈祷，祈求上帝神圣的智慧和他的指引，赐予政治领袖们圣洁的勇气去做道德上正确的决定。

的确，保护家庭和婚姻制度是必要的，正如章主教在牧养信函里所强调的，这件事凸显了教会和我们的信仰对婚姻和性的诠释。为了消化这个问题，我们的基督教教育(CE)、我们的家庭生活部(FLM)将组织相关对话会，以便让信徒从一个整体的角度在对婚姻和性的认识上持有更整全的圣经观点。此外，也会为青少年举办特别的对话活动，以帮助父母与他们年幼的孩子如何谈及性的话题，且在彼此进行相关讨论的时候有适切的资源可供参考。就让我们在基督里团结一致，座堂将继续持守圣经的真理，用爱心和怜悯服事真道，使上帝的名得着颂赞和荣耀!

此致

圣安德烈座堂牧正
柳文聪法政牧师

座堂华语部主任牧师
安跃进牧师（译）

2022年8月22日