



## THE VICAR WRITES

REVD CHRISTOPHER CHAN

Writing to you a few weeks after my institution and induction as the Vicar of St Andrew's Cathedral, I remain thoroughly amazed by the work of God's grace in my life and ministry. It still feels somewhat surreal to be in this position. It's beyond doubt that I've received from God much more than I could possibly deserve, and my heart is filled with thanksgiving for His goodness and generosity.

I'm also very grateful for the support that many of you have shown me, not only in view of my appointment, but throughout my time here in SAC. I pray that your support will not simply come in the form of expressions of encouragement (although those are very much appreciated), but through a ministry partnership that will see us collectively pursue God's purpose for SAC. What is this purpose? It is for us to grow as a community of disciples on mission for God.

Strengthening discipleship will be our primary focus in this season. However, it mustn't be regarded as a "flavour of the season". Disciple-making is, after all, the core purpose of the church; Jesus made this very clear in the Great Commission. It is a biblical imperative that we, as disciples, are to make disciples. Our participation in church life must result in spiritual growth: we're expected to grow and also to help others grow with us. This mandate isn't only

given to those who have been appointed as leaders. This is expected of all Christians, and it's an integral part of following Christ.

One of the ways in which the church leadership will seek to facilitate spiritual growth in our community is by our preaching. In 2026, we will conduct catechism through the pulpit. Catechism refers to foundational spiritual instruction; it teaches the basics of Christian belief. Next year, sermons will be preached on the three traditional components of Christian catechism—the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and the Apostles' Creed. This series will deepen our understanding of our faith, thereby helping us to live it out more effectively. The goal of these sermons isn't merely information. What we want to see is *transformation*. Our aim is to grow in our knowledge and love of God, so that through this we will make an impact on the lives of those around us, both within and without the church community. I sincerely believe that 2026 will be a year of growth in SAC, and I urge you to join us on this exciting journey!

