



# Christian Conference of Asia

• Payap University, Muang, Chiang Mai 50000 Thailand  
Tel: +66-(0)53-243906, 243907 Fax: +66-(0)53-247303

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## **CCA General Secretary's statement on demise of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI**

It is with great sadness that the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) received the news of the demise of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI of the Roman Catholic Church. The CCA expresses deep gratitude for the life and ministry of Pope Emeritus Benedict who passed away on 31 December 2022 at the age of 95.

Pope Emeritus Benedict was an ardent defender of Roman Catholic teaching in the face of rising secularism and its intolerance of religious belief.

We cherish the profound and lasting contributions of Pope Emeritus Benedict to dialogue and peace among Christians and in the world at large. Pope Emeritus Benedict will forever be remembered as a renowned and prolific theologian and academic, as someone who initiated a new chapter of involvement and unity among Christians through his affirmation and promotion of the wider involvements of the Roman Catholic Church in the ecumenical movement.

Pope Emeritus Benedict leaves behind a legacy of ecumenical dialogue and important theological contributions along with his strong advocacy for refugees and migrants and commitments to interfaith harmony and peace.

May his memory be eternal.

Mathews George Chunakara  
General Secretary,  
Christian Conference of Asia