



Conference of Catholic Bishops of India

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To all Archbishops, Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Religious, Catechists and Lay Faithful of
the Latin Catholic Church in India

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

In these days marked by growing unrest and violence in the Middle East, particularly in the context of the recent escalation of hostilities involving Iran and neighbouring countries, I earnestly invite the entire Latin Church in India to unite in prayer and supplication for peace.

The suffering caused by war and instability deeply wounds the human family. We are especially mindful that many of our sisters and brothers from India are living and working in various countries of the Middle East. Many of them support their families from afar and contribute generously both to the life of the Church and to our nation. In this hour of uncertainty, we commend them in a special way to the Lord's protection, praying for their safety, security and well-being.

We are called to entrust this critical moment to the mercy of God, who alone is our true and lasting peace. I therefore encourage all of you to observe **Sunday, 8 March 2026, as a Day of Prayer for Peace**. Please offer special prayers for peace in the Middle East, especially during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Special intentions may be included in the Prayer of the Faithful for the cessation of hostilities, for the protection of innocent lives and for wisdom and restraint among world leaders.

Furthermore, I invite all the people of God to offer a **Holy Rosary exclusively for peace each day from 8th March to 14th March**. United in this powerful Marian devotion, we shall implore the intercession of Our Lady, Queen of Peace, for reconciliation, dialogue and a just resolution to the present tensions.

I would also encourage everyone to observe a **day of fasting and prayer on Friday, 13th March**, offering their sacrifice for world peace and for the safety of all those affected by violence and conflict.

May our collective prayer, penance and solidarity become a humble yet fervent plea before Almighty God, that hearts may be converted, hostilities may cease and peace may prevail.

Given on 3rd March 2026, at the CCBI General Secretariat, New Delhi.



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President, Conference of Catholic Bishops of India

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