



A CALL TO PRAYER AND SOLIDARITY AMIDST THE DEVASTATING FLOODS IN PAKISTAN

As Pakistan endures one of the most destructive seasons in recent memory. We invite you to join us in prayer and action. Since June of this year the nation has been ravaged by a relentless monsoon. Flashfloods, overflowing rivers and landslides have devastated homes and livelihoods.

More than 805 people have died and thousands injured in the carnage. Entire families killed in this devastation (confirmed by the National Disaster Management Authority). Some bodies will take a long time to find as rescue workers make their way through the wreckage of destroyed homes and disrupted lives. Roads and bridges across the country lie in ruins.

The urgency continues as warnings go out that flood waters from Chenab, Ravi and Sutlej continue to overflow toward the Indus, risking wider inundation, through August and beyond.

At this time, I urge you to join us in crying out to God for Pakistan, particularly those severely affected at this time, the frailest, the most vulnerable: homeless, grieving and lost. As the flood waters spread out and drown vast parts of the country, we are reminded that God is with us.

May your prayers spread out like a vast tent, covering the nation. The struggle will continue as we try once again to recover from the damage and move towards restoration.

As I urge you to pray, I ask you to remember the rescue services and those in positions of authority and governance as they strive day and night to serve those who are affected. We are blessed by brave first responders, aid workers, pastoral care teams across the land.

May God grant wisdom and a heart of compassion to our leaders as they help us navigate these troubled waters.

**THE MOST REV DR AZAD MARSHALL,
Moderator/President Bishop Church of Pakistan &
Bishop of Raiwind
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