

## ANTILLES EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE



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### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Statement on the Death of His Holiness Pope Francis**

It is with deep sorrow that we receive the news of the death of His Holiness Pope Francis, the Bishop of Rome and Supreme Pontiff of the Holy Catholic Church.

We have lost a true shepherd—a man of incomparable depth and unwavering commitment to Christ. He was a faithful disciple who kept the joy of the Gospel alive in the hearts of the faithful, even as he called us to a deeper love: within the family, for our common home, for the poor and marginalised, and for one another across every boundary and division.

Pope Francis showed us how to walk together toward Christ in one of the most challenging and complex periods of human history. He made synodality—walking together in communion, participation, and mission—constitutive of the Church's very identity. Through his life, his ministry, and his courageous witness, he called the Church to become ever more the field hospital of mercy and the sacrament or sign of hope in the world.

We give thanks to God for the gift of his papacy, for his example of humility and strength, and for his unwavering devotion to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Well done, good and faithful servant. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

With Gratitude

Most Reverend Charles Jason Gordon  
President  
Antilles Episcopal Conference

