



NETWORKING THE BAPTIST FAMILY TO IMPACT THE WORLD FOR CHRIST

### **In Prayer at the Passing of Pope Francis**

To the Catholic Church and to all whose lives were impacted by Pope Francis,

In this time of sorrow, we extend our heartfelt condolences on behalf of the entire Baptist World Alliance (BWA) family, a Christian World Communion of 53 million baptized believers in 134 countries and territories. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as we stand together in our Christian faith and the promise of eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ.

As the Scriptures remind us in II Corinthians 1:3-4, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

Pope Francis impacted the lives of countless individuals with his dedicated service and commitment to his faith. He leaves a legacy of love, compassion, and faithfulness that will continue to touch many people.

Pope Francis will be remembered by the BWA for his consistent call to accompany Jesus in serving the poor and those who are suffering from the wounds of this world, listening to one another in a spirit of discerning the work of the Holy Spirit, and in humble service to God. As Pope Francis asked myself and many others in various BWA visits with him, "Pray for me." In his dedication to God, humble life of service in Christ, and personal humor and care, Pope Francis gave witness to the world that the Kingdom of God is a matter of "righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17).

May God's peace and comfort be present through this season of mourning. May the promise of eternal life give hope and assurance. On this Easter Monday, may there be resurrection peace in the Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God.

With heartfelt condolences,

Rev. Dr. Elijah M. Brown, PhD  
General Secretary and CEO  
Baptist World Alliance