



Archdiocesan Board of Education (ABE)

A HEARTFELT TEACHERS' DAY GREETING

Dearly Beloved Fathers, Sisters, Heads of the Institution, Teachers, Admins and Non-teaching Staff,

On this Teachers' Day, on behalf of **Most Rev. Dr. Peter Machado, President of the Archdiocesan Board of Education, Rt. Rev. Dr. Arokia Raj Sathis, Vice President, and the entire Archdiocesan Board of Education**, we extend our heartfelt greetings, gratitude, prayers, and warmest wishes to each one of you. Today, we do not wish merely to say **"Happy Teachers' Day."** We wish to say something much deeper: **Thank you for the lives you touch. Thank you for the dreams you nurture. Thank you for the hope you give. Thank you for the children you never give up on. And thank you for giving a part of your life to shaping the lives of others.** Every morning, when you enter your classroom, you may see a group of children and young people. But God sees something more. **He sees the future you are helping to build.** Among those students may be future doctors who will save lives, engineers who will build a better world, scientists who will make discoveries, entrepreneurs who will create opportunities, lawyers who will stand for justice, leaders who will serve society, priests and religious who will serve God and humanity, and, above all, men and women who will make this world a more compassionate and humane place. And somewhere behind each of those lives will be **a teacher who believed, guided, corrected, encouraged, inspired, and cared.**

YOUR SERVICE IS A SACRED TRUST

Teaching is not simply a profession. **It is a trust placed in your hands.** Every child entrusted to you carries a story, a dream, a fear, a struggle, and a God-given potential. Sometimes, you may be the first person to recognise that potential. Sometimes, you may be the only person who tells a child, **"You can do it."** Sometimes, your few words of encouragement may give a discouraged student the courage to continue. Sometimes, your patience may heal a wounded heart. Sometimes, your correction may prevent a young life from taking the wrong path. And sometimes, a simple act of kindness from you may remain in the heart of a child for the rest of his or her life. **You may forget the child tomorrow. But the child may never forget what you did for him or her today.** That is the beauty—and the sacred responsibility—of your vocation.

The Lord reminds us in Scripture: ***"Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever."*** — Daniel 12:3. Dear teachers, **you are those stars.** You may not always stand in the spotlight. You may not always receive recognition. Your sacrifices may often go unnoticed. But you continue to shine. And the light you give today may illuminate someone's life many years from now.

WE KNOW THE WEIGHT YOU CARRY

As the Archdiocesan Board of Education, we also wish to acknowledge something that perhaps is not said often enough: **We know that teaching today is not easy.** You carry responsibilities far beyond the classroom. You teach, You guide, You listen, You counsel, You encourage, You discipline, You comfort, You prepare, You organize, You manage, You solve problems, and often, you carry the concerns of your students long after the school day has ended.



There are days when you are tired, yet you still smile. There are days when you are discouraged, yet you still encourage others. There are days when your efforts seem unnoticed, yet you continue to give your best. **This is the greatness of a teacher's heart.** And today, we want you to know: **We see you, We value you, We appreciate you, We stand with you, and we are grateful for you.**

YOU ARE MORE THAN TEACHERS

In our ABE institutions, you are not merely teaching subjects. **You are forming persons.** You are helping young people learn not only *what to think*, but *how to think*. You are teaching them not only to succeed, but to live with integrity. Not only to compete, but to care. Not only to achieve, but to serve. Not only to ask, “**What can I become?**”, but also, “**What can I do for others?**” This is at the heart of education. And this is what makes your service so precious to the Church, to society, and to humanity. As Mother Teresa beautifully reminded us: “**Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.**” Dear teachers, every lesson taught with love, every student encouraged with love, every correction given with love, every tear listened to with love, and every difficult day endured with love becomes something great in the eyes of God.

ONE DAY, YOU WILL SEE THE HARVEST

Perhaps today you do not see the full fruit of your labour. A seed does not become a tree overnight. Likewise, the influence of a teacher cannot always be measured at the end of a school year. **Years from now, when your students become successful, when they serve society, when they care for their families, when they stand for truth, when they help the poor, when they become good citizens and compassionate human beings—you will realise that your classroom was never just a classroom.** It was a place where futures were being shaped. It was a place where dreams were being born. It was a place where character was being formed. It was a place where God was quietly working through you. As St. Paul reminds us: “**Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.**” — *Galatians 6:9* So, dear teachers, **do not grow weary.** Your work matters, Your presence matters, Your patience matters, Your sacrifice matters, **You matter.**

OUR GRATITUDE TO YOU

Today, we offer our deepest gratitude to every Manager and Correspondents, Principal, Headmaster, Headmistress, teacher, coordinator, administrator, and member of the educational family serving in our **Archdiocesan Board of Education institutions.** Thank you for walking with our children. Thank you for believing in them. Thank you for carrying their burdens. Thank you for celebrating their victories. Thank you for correcting their mistakes. Thank you for giving them another chance. Thank you for staying when things were difficult. Thank you for serving even when appreciation was not immediate. And thank you for giving not merely your knowledge, but **your time, your patience, your heart, and a part of your life.** **The world may count your salary, the world may count your workload, the world may count your achievements, but God counts the lives you have touched.** And that is a far greater measure.

OUR PRAYER AND BLESSING

On this special day, we pray that the Lord may bless every Staff in our ABE family. May He give you **wisdom when you are uncertain, patience when you are tested, courage when you are discouraged, strength when you are tired, compassion when you encounter difficult situations, and joy when you see your students grow.** May He bless your families for the sacrifices they make because of your vocation. May He protect your health, strengthen your spirit, and renew your enthusiasm every morning. And when you have moments, when you wonder whether your work is making a difference, may God gently remind you: “**Your labour is not in vain.**”

Perhaps you may never know the full number of lives you have changed. Perhaps you may never hear every word of gratitude you deserve. But somewhere, sometime, a former student will look back and say: **“There was a teacher who believed in me.”** And that one sentence will be worth a lifetime of service.

WITH OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION

Dear Fathers, Sisters, Heads of the Institutions, Teachers, **You are not simply teaching the next generation, you are preparing the next generation to transform the world.** You are not simply filling young minds with knowledge, **You are helping young hearts discover purpose.** You are not simply preparing students for examinations, **You are preparing them for life.** And therefore, today, with profound gratitude and affection, we say: **Thank you all for your noble service. Thank you for your tireless commitment. Thank you for your sacrifices. Thank you for your patience. Thank you for your love. Thank you for believing in the children entrusted to your care.**

May every classroom you enter be filled with hope. May every word you speak plant a seed. May every child you teach discover his or her God-given potential. And may every sacrifice you make return to you as a blessing far greater than you could ever imagine. **You teach today. Your students carry it tomorrow. And humanity benefits for generations.** With **prayerful gratitude, deep appreciation, and heartfelt affection**, we wish every member of our ABE teaching and Non-teaching fraternity a very

HAPPY AND BLESSED TEACHERS' DAY!

May God bless you, strengthen you and reward you. And may God continue to work through you to shape minds, from hearts, and transform lives.

WITH PRAYERS AND WARMEST WISHES,

Most Rev. Dr. Peter Machado - President, Archdiocesan Board of Education

Rt. Rev. Dr. Arokia Raj Satis - Vice President, Archdiocesan Board of Education

Fr. Rayappa M- Secretary, Archdiocesan Board of Education

Staff of the Archdiocesan Board of Education

