



World Council of Churches

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Geneva, 21 January 2025

"If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord." Romans 14:8

Dear sisters and brothers of the Episcopal Anglican Church of Brazil and of the National Council of Christian Churches,

We received with deep sorrow the news of the passing of Bishop Flávio Augusto Borges Irala on 9 January 2025. His contributions to the church and society have left a lasting impact, particularly in advancing ecumenical dialogue and social justice in Brazil.

Throughout his ministry, Bishop Irala was committed to social issues, advocating for the marginalized and promoting inclusivity within the church. He was known for addressing topics such as poverty, human rights, and environmental concerns, reflecting the church's mission to be an instrument of social change.

With a life marked by dedication to Christian service and the church, his work as the diocesan bishop of the Anglican Diocese of São Paulo left a profound mark on pastoral work and inspired many around him.

His passion for music and liturgy led him to compose hymns that remain alive in the memory and in the church services.

We give special thanks for his ecumenical ministry, standing out as president of the National Council of Christian Churches between 2015 and 2017, and representative of his church in the network of ecumenical officers of the member churches of the World Council of Churches.

May God bless you all in this hour and may the assurance of eternal life keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of Christ through the working of the Holy Spirit.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pillay". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'P' being particularly large and stylized.

Rev. Prof. Dr Jerry Pillay
General Secretary
World Council of Churches