

## **Pope Francis**

*(Jorge Mario Bergoglio; 17 December 1936 – 21 April 2025)*

### **Dear Students and Staff,**

Today we stand in silence to pay our respects and pray for the departed soul of Pope Francis, the 266<sup>th</sup> leader of the Catholic Church since 2013, who passed away yesterday in Rome after a prolonged illness

We remember and lift our hearts to God with gratitude for a leader who stood tall and clearly spoke fearlessly with courage, in response to the needs of the ever-changing world in the context of climate change, gender, migration and even urged world leaders to respond with love, peace and compassion.



Throughout his papacy Pope Francis emphasized respect for the laity and sought to empower ordinary people everywhere by simplifying the messaging of the church.

Pope Francis will be remembered for not only reshaping the institution as a whole but also for his unwavering dedication to Catholic faith and community and his unprecedented look to the future in an ever-changing world.

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon him.

May his soul rest in peace, Amen!

**s/d**

**Principal, Staff & Management of Nirmala Niketan Institute**