# Chancellor's Speech

*Hon. Prof. Margaret Kobia, PhD, EGH*

CHANCELLOR, ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

REMARKS BY HON. PROF. MARGARET KOBIA, PhD., EGH, DURING THE 34TH GRADUATION CEREMONY HELD ON FRIDAY, 7TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT THE GRADUATION SQUARE IN LIMURU MAIN CAMPUS.

***Theme: "Empowering Ethical Leaders through Faith, Innovation, and Lifelong Learning"***

## SALUTATIONS:

Guest Speaker**, Ms. Juliana Rotich,** Fintech Leader and Tech Entrepreneur, Chief Executive officer Electronic Citizen Solutions Company;

The Chair Board of Trustee and the Moderator of the 24th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa**, The Rt. Revd. Thegu Mutahi**

The Council Chair and the Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Kenya, **His Grace The Most Revd. Dr. Jackson Ole Spait,**

Members of the University Governing Council and Board of Trustee

The University Vice Chancellor, **Revd. Canon Prof. James Kombo**

Members of the University Management Board and Senate,

Members of Faculty and Staff,

The Graduating Class of 2025,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen in your respective capacities,

**Good morning.**

It is always a profound honor and joy to stand before you on this defining day in our academic calendar. There's a beautiful saying that goes, *"Wisdom is like a baobab tree; no one individual can embrace it."*

Today, my heart is full of joy as I witness yet another important occasion in the life of St. Paul's University. Indeed, this graduation square is filled with graduates, mentors, parents, and scholars who have all contributed to this great moment.

To the graduating class of 2025 if your hats feel a little heavier today, it's because you carry not only the weight of knowledge but also the expectations of a nation that is counting on you. Congratulations on reaching this profound milestone. You have made yourselves, your families, and your university proud!

Let me begin with thankfulness.

I sincerely thank the University leadership the Governing Council, ably led by His Grace the Archbishop; the Vice Chancellor and his team of Deputy Vice Chancellors, Deans, Heads of Departments, faculty, and staff, for their unwavering commitment to academic excellence and to the mission of St. Paul's University. Your collective effort has kept this great institution not just alive, but vibrant, relevant, and competitive in a rapidly evolving higher education landscape.

**As Chancellor, I am deeply proud to be part of a university whose legacy is grounded in both academic rigor and spiritual depth.** St. Paul's University is not just another institution; it is a sanctuary where minds are challenged, values are nurtured, and futures are shaped with purpose. We are a faith-based university that continues to raise ethical leaders — men and women who will influence society with integrity, service, and innovation.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In our current educational landscape, regulations continue to evolve, and institutions must respond to both national and global standards. St. Paul's University remains deliberate in aligning with the policy frameworks of all regulatory bodies, ensuring that our graduates not only meet but exceed expectations of quality and relevance.

But we are not content with compliance alone. We are pushing boundaries, strengthening governance, embracing emerging technologies, deepening community engagement, and cultivating ethical leadership rooted in faith.
While the quality of education at St. Paul's University is widely recognized, our true focus is not on ticking boxes, but on transformation, transformation of individuals, systems, and society.

**Dear Graduands,**

You are stepping into a world of complexity where truth is challenged, shortcuts are often rewarded, and ethical compromise can masquerade as progress.
But you are not ordinary graduates. You are *St. Paul's University graduates.*
You are the kind of leaders this country and continent need, those who walk in faith, think with clarity, act with compassion, and innovate with conscience.

As this year's theme reminds us — *"Empowering Ethical Leaders through Faith, Innovation, and Lifelong Learning"* — let your faith be your compass, your integrity your foundation, and your curiosity your lifelong teacher.
True leadership is not about titles or power, but about using innovation and wisdom, guided by faith, to make a difference wherever life places you.

Carry the torch of St. Paul's wherever you go as ambassadors of integrity, faith, and innovation.

**In conclusion,** remember that learning never stops. Graduation is not the end of learning, but the beginning of applying wisdom with courage, faith, and purpose. Let your creativity be guided by ethics, and your innovation inspired by faith — that is how you turn challenges into opportunities.

And if ever you doubt your ability to make a difference, remember this:

*"Even the smallest candle still shines in the darkest cave."*

May you be that light.

Congratulations once again, Class of 2025.

May you go forth to illuminate the world with your knowledge, your faith, and your unwavering commitment to truth.

May God bless you all, and may St. Paul's University continue to rise in excellence and purpose.

**Hon. Prof. Margaret Kobia, PhD, EGH**

**Chancellor, St. Paul's University**

**– Thank you –**