

**From above and the clouds bestow the gentle rain of righteousness:
let the earth reveal and bring forth the Saviour.**

The Entrance Antiphon for the Fourth Sunday of Advent takes us into the mystery of the Incarnation using images of heaven and earth in a perfect symmetry that reflects the Word made Flesh in Jesus Christ – Emmanuel, God with us. The heavens have opened up, not in anger or vengeance for the sins of men, but in such utter love that God Himself becomes the flesh that He created. And in reciprocation the earth opens up to receive Him, and having received Him brings Him forth, to give Him to the world as our Saviour, if only we shall open ourselves to receive Him.

Tomorrow, Christ is born in Bethlehem. It did not happen with august fanfare, nor with fear and trembling. In the days prior, there was no warning, no excitement, no expectation that the world would be forever changed. There were no crowds thronging the streets, no jubilee impatiently waiting to begin. God came among us with the softness of the dewfall in the night, barely perceptible as it falls, and yet clothing all in its shimmering mantle. Had we been forewarned of the date and the hour, we might have looked expectantly towards heaven only to see nothing. For this was not how God was to come.

For He came not on the clouds of Heaven, but forth from His own creation, changing us forever, though yet we perceived it not. The dust from which we were formed, imbued now with the dew of the heavens, its form unaltered but its essence forever transformed: not so that eyes in the darkness of night would see it, but that in Heaven's light we should see the glistening presence of the Emmanuel there, God with us in a manner we never dared even dream of. For it is in the Incarnation that we see the tenderness of God through the gentleness of His coming. Not destroying that which by its nature is corrupt but bestowing on it His own nature in a redemption, the only pain for which was to be His to bear.

For He loved that which at the dawn of time He brought into being, with a love that designed as our consummation a perfect union with Himself. And since we refused to become one with Him by returning the love we first received of His Spirit, He condescended to us, becoming one with us that we might be one with Him and with the Father who sent Him both to create and redeem, to originate and consummate the divine love for man.

So shall we be lifted high by this dew that fell upon the arid dust of our mortal flesh. For in the day of His return, His glorious light shall lift again the dew that fell in the twilight of man's days: the warmth of Christ the rising sun drawing love's dew back to its source, and with it, we who will receive Him as Saviour and King, as Love Incarnate, as God made man, on Christmas Day. †

Be Disciples of Hope

NEWBEC

24th December 2017
4th Sunday of Advent



Drop Down Dew, YE HEAVENS



CHURCH OF THE VISITATION
 85-A, Jalan Yam Tuan, 70000 Seremban
 Tel : 06-7624468 / 7634934 / 7677542 Fax : 06-7677544
 Email : serembanvisitation@gmail.com
 Website : www.visitationseremban.org
 Parish Pastor : Rev. Fr George Harrison
 Assistant Priest : Fr. Andrew Kooi

DISCIPLESHIP : BE DISCIPLES OF HOPE.
Hope : Christ the Hope (December)
Towards 170 years of the Parish of Visitation
(1848 - 2018)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
 Monday - Friday
 8.30am - 5.30 pm
 Saturday : 8.30am – 7.30 pm
 Sunday: 8.30 am - 3.00 pm
 Confessions in Church ½
hour before all Weekend
Masses at availability of
priests



OUR PROGRAMME THIS 23 - 31 DECEMBER 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B) : 2 Sam 7, 1-5, 8b-12 14a , 16 Ps 88, 2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 Rom 16, 25-27, Lk 1, 26-38
"I Will Sing Forever Of Your Love O Lord, I Will Sing Forever Of Your Love, O Lord" (Psalm 88)

Sat	23	5.00 pm 6.00 pm	Rosary : 5.30 pm : Novena; 5.45 pm: Benediction Eucharist (E) (Animation : St. Benedict)	
Sun	24	7.00 am 9.00 am 11.00 am 1.00 pm	Eucharist (T) (Animation : : Liturgy) Eucharist (E) (Animation : Liturgy) Eucharist (C) 4.30 pm : Titi (M) Eucharist (BM)	3rd February 2018 (170 yrs Anniversary Celebration) →
(Sun) 24/12 : CHRISTMAS EVE : 5.00 pm (E), 7.00 pm (T), 9.00 pm (M), 11.00 pm (E)				
(Mon) 25/12 : CHRISTMAS DAY : 7.00 am (T), 9.00 am : (E), 11.00 am (M), 1.00 pm (BM)				
Tues	26	7.00 pm	Eucharist	
Wed	27	7.00 pm	Eucharist	
Thur	28	7.00 pm	Eucharist	Holy Innocents (Blessing of Children)
Fri	29	7.00 pm	Eucharist	



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH (YEAR B) : Gen 15,1-6,21, 1-3 Ps 104, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 Hebr 11,11, 8, 11-12, 17-19, Lk 2, 22-40
"He, The Lord, Is Our God. He Remembers His Covenant For Ever" (Psalm 104)

Sat	30	5.00 pm 6.00 pm	Rosary : 5.30 pm : Novena; 5.45 pm: Benediction Eucharist (E) (Animation : : Liturgy)	31/12 : Special Blessing for Families at all Sunday Masses
Sun	31	7.00 am 9.00 am 11.00 am 1.00 pm	Eucharist (T)) (Animation : Liturgy) Eucharist (E) (Animation : Fmly Life Min) Eucharist (C) Eucharist (BM)	No RE Classes, RE resume on 07 January 2018 for registration RCIA (T) 9.00 -10.30 am ; RCIA (BM) 11.00 am -12.30pm RCIA (E) 11.00 -12.30pm ; RCIA(M) : 9.00 -10.30 am

31 December 2017 : New Year's Eve : 8.00 pm - Multi languages & Quiet Prayer till Midnight

We welcome new Parishioners/Students from University / Colleges in the vicinity of Seremban. Kindly register at the parish office or email us at: serembanvisitation@gmail.com. You will receive a Prayer Card (Magnificat). Pray it daily.

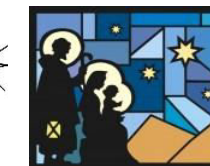
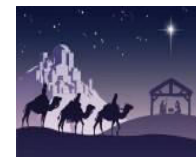
Thank you to : BECs – St. Benedict (Jln Labu) & Liturgical Team for Mass Animation this weekend

- i) Parish Weekend Collections :**
 16/ 17 December : RM9,112.90
God Bless All Generous Donors
- ii) Christmas Party for the Poor :** A word of Thanks to the PIHDM team, PMEIA & 170 yrs Anniversary team, Donors & Helpers who had offered their support and services. God Bless you all.
- iii) Religious Items for sale**
 - a) Liturgical Calendar 2018 : RM6.00 (E) / RM5.00 (T)
 - b) 2018 Bible Diary (English / Tamil) : RM20.00
 - c) Souvenir Book of Late Monsignor Anthony Thomas (1937 - 2017) @ RM5/- per copy

- **Church of the Visitation Seremban Facebook Page (@churchofthevisitationsban)**
 Please visit our Facebook page for interesting articles and timely updates and also to dialogue with other parishioners of all age groups on one universal platform.
- **iHero Charity Run** - co-organised by Aclac. Date : 21 Jan 2018. For more info and registration call Pamela : 016-6306196
- **CAGED** - Post Cards on Citizen Action Group on Enforced Disappearance to the Inspector General of Police. Please get them from the Hospitality team

Pray for the Departed soul of :
 a) Maria Tangah a/p Joseph (d.o.d : 14/12/2017)
 b) M. K. Murugiah @ Gabriel (d.pd. 21/12/2017)
May the Perpetual Light shine upon her

Parish office will be closed for Christmas on 24, 25 & 26 December 2017. For Emergency kindly called : Nathan : 012-6840750 or Stephen Sta Maria : 016-2056092



- **John Paul II Mission House** - No. 11 & 12 shoplots behind are undergoing a complete refurbishment. We pray for a successful completion
- **Cemetery at Sendayan** - the SCCA (Seremban Christian Cemetery Association) is seriously looking into the possibility to begin burial at this site at Sendayan soonest possible.. Any info call parish office. More updates to come.
- **For Marriages in 2018**, kindly make appointment to see parish priest. Dates of marriage course are available.
- **Help needed for Church Maintenance Fund**
 Kindly contribute generously towards this project to upkeep all repairs and maintenance of the Parish. All donations can be made at the parish office or through cheque payable to : CHURCH OF VISITATION. Thank you.
Note : For tax exemption kindly contact parish office.
- **Booking of Premises/rooms/Church** for meetings /activities /practices. Advance notice of booking required through parish office. No last minute booking.
- **Cleanliness in Church** : Keep the Church grounds (inside/outside) clean. **Grotto** - Candles tray and surroundings as well.

WISHING ALL PARISHIONERS A "SPIRIT FILLED, BLESSED MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018"
Frs. George, Andrew and Staff of Visitation

